

#### Elettra and FERMI lightsources

SEARCH Q

SITEMAP 🕤

PHONEBOOK S

# Introduction to X-ray microscopy and - spectroscopy







An Invitation to Enter a New Field of Physics &

<u>Material Science</u> Richard P. Feynman - **1959!!!** <u>There's Plenty of Room at the Bottom</u>



'NANO' By nature, design or externally-induced changes

•Materials have properties varying at various depth and length scales and are usually laterally inhomogeneous at atomic, nano or meso scales.

•Structure and chemical composition usually is different at the surface and in the bulk.

•New properties expected with decreasing the dimensions stepping into nanoworld.

#### What we NEED:

Chemical sensitivity, spatial resolution & morphology & structure, varying probing depth, temporal resolution when possible.

Majority of these methods are based on interaction of the matter with <u>photon</u>, electron or ion radiation.



#### Why Microscopy needs Synchrotrons



#### **Synchrotron light advantages**

- Very bright, wave-length tunable (cross sections and atomic edges), multiply polarized (dichroic effects, bonding orientation), partly coherent.
- Great variety of spectroscopies elemental, chemical, magnetic information
- Variety of imaging contrasts based on photon absorption, scattering or spectroscopic feature.
- Higher penetration power compared to charged particles less sensible to sample environment.





All methods using SR are based on the interaction of photons with the matter and find applications in all domains of science and technology





## Spectroscopies @ synchrotron light sources: XPS-AES, XRF, XAS, RIXS

Photoelectric effect & de-excitation processes = chemical specific spectroscopies



#### Sampling depths: depend on the detected signal (electrons or photons)











#### X-ray focusing optics: zone plates, mirrors, capillaries



Zone Plate optics – circular grating with decreasing width: from ~ 200 to ~ 10000 eV <u>Monochromatic:</u> <u>Resolution achieved 15 nm in</u> <u>transmission</u>



KP-B mirrors each focusing in one direction: soft & hard Xrays: ~ 100 nm <u>Soft & hard x-rays!</u> <u>achromatic focal point, easy energy tunability, comfortable working distance <u>Resolution ≤ 100 nm</u></u>



Normal incidence: spherical mirrors with multilayer interference coating (Schwarzschild Objective) Monochromatic, good for <u>E < 100eV</u> <u>Resolution: best ~ 100 nm</u> Capillary: multiple reflection concentrator



Hard x-rays ~ 8-18 keV Resolution: > 3000 nm





Hard x-rays ~ 4-70 keV Resolution: > 1000 nm



Zone plate: circular diffraction grating of N lines with radially decreasing line width operating in transmission





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Important parameters:

Finest zone width, dr<sub>N</sub> (10-100 nm) - determines

the Rayleigh resolution (microprobe size)  $\delta t$ =0.61  $\lambda$ /( $\theta$ ) =1.22  $\delta r_N$ 

Diameter, D (50-250  $\mu$ m), dr<sub>N</sub> and  $\lambda$  determine the focal distance f.

Efficiency % of diffracted x-rays: 10-40% (4-25%)

**Monochromaticity required:**  $\lambda/d\lambda \ge N$  (increases with dr  $\downarrow$  and D  $\uparrow$ ).

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#### X-ray transmission microscope (TXM-FFIM)

Full-field X-ray imaging or "one shot" X-ray image acquisition can be considered as the optical analog to visible light transmission microscope.

Aperture:

removes (i) unwanted diffraction orders and straylight, and serves (ii) with condenser as monochromator

Condenser

illuminating the object field

Günther Schmahl, 1st experiment DESY 1976



Objective ZP to magnify the image onto the detector

X-ray light from a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> generation light source Specimen environment: to be adapted to application



**CCD** camera

**Resolution achieved better than 15 nm.** 

## Following dynamic processes during temperature treatment, applying magnetic/electric field or pumping with optical lasers X

<sub>706eV</sub> Fe

E

circularly polarized x-rays 719eV

#### Fe38Rh62 nanoparticles

after annealing

10 nm

as-deposited

## 10 mm



#### XAS-XMCD X-Ray Magnetic Circular Dichroism







#### **Cryogenic 3D imaging of biological cells**





#### X-ray Scanning microscopy: uses focusing x-ray optics (preferred zone plates)

Works in Transmission and Emission + microspot spectroscopy

#### Janos Kirz, 1st operating STXM 1983 SPEM 1990





#### Can use all detection modes!

Resolution achieved 25 nm in transmission.



#### Microscopy Approaches @ ELETTRA storage ring: X-ray or electron optics; X-ray or electron detection



#### The image contrast can provide:

- > Morphology: density, thickness (transmission)
- Element presence and concentration- e<sup>-</sup>, hv;
- Chemical state, band-bending, charging e<sup>-</sup>;
- > Magnetic spin or bond orientation  $e^{-}$ , hv

<u>Microspectroscopy:</u> μ-XPS, μ-XANES, μ-XRF in selected areas from the images: detailed characterization of the chemical and electronic structure of coexisting micro-phases.



#### Layout of SPEM: Focusing optics (ZP, SO or K-B), sample and positioning systems





Spatial resolution in electron emission limited by the sample-to-optics distance !  $f_m = D_x dr_x E_{ph} / 1240$ ~10 mm for soft X rays

$$DOF = \frac{\delta r}{D} f_m$$

Typical: 5-15 μm







#### SPEMs energy-filtering electron analyzers MCD developed @ ELETTRA



#### Model catalyst systems studied with SPEM: single

crystals and supported metal particles on MgO



#### **Correlation of the µm-particle reactivity to its complex** surface structure: **SPEM - LEEM**



<u>'Inhomogeneous' reactivity in μ-Ps related to the surface morphology;</u>
<u>Structural evolution upon oxidation ends with a disordered oxide</u>

M. Dalmiglio, JPC-C 114, 2010, 16885.

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#### Degradation of organic light emission devices: mechanism revealed by 'in-situ' SPEM



#### OLED exposed to ambient: moisture? supposed to be the damaging factor



Chemical imaging & µ-XPS revealed anode material (In and Sn) deposited around the hole created in the AI cathode of OLEDs.





#### 'In-situ' imaging of the local deformation and fracturing of the OLED cathode surface

"Clean" failure experiment: OLED growth and operated in the SPEM (UHV ambient)



Lateral variations of the surface topography and chemistry of the InSn oxide anode films suggested as the major reasons for the device failures.

P. Melpigniano et al, APL 86, 41105, S. Gardonio, Org.Electr. 9, 253





#### Exploring the properties of individual and freestanding nano-structures





#### SPEM characterization of MoS<sub>2</sub>-nanotubes



SPEM revealed I (used as a carrier) in interstitial positions between the tubes bonded to the outer S atoms. <u>? Is the role of I ??</u>



#### GaAs NWs conductivity measured with SPEM: non-ohmic behavior with reducing diameter, environment

effects, effect of growth conditions









F. Jabeen, Nano Res. 2010, 3(10): 706-713



#### SPEM - $\mu$ -ARUPS

#### NANO LETTERS

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#### Nitrogen-Doped Graphene: Efficient Growth, Structure, and Electronic Properties

D. Usachov,\*\* O. Vilkov,\* A. Grüneis,\*\*.<sup>5</sup> D. Haberer,\* A. Fedorov,\* V. K. Adamchuk,\* A. B. Preobrajenski,<sup>III</sup> P. Dudin,\* A. Barinov,\* M. Oehzelt,<sup>III</sup> C. Laubschat,\* and D. V. Vyalikh

#### μ-ARPES of quasi-free standing N-doped graphene: EVIDENCE OF COEXISTENCE OF AT LEAST TWO DOMAINS ROTATED BY 30 deg: found T-dependence and extinctions of the B-domains.



## Metal-insulator transition in Cr-doped V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> with decreasing T, microscopic domains become metallic and coexist with an insulating background.



S. Lupi et al., Nature Comm. 1, 105 (2010)







Onogoing µ-PES developments

#### THE CHALLENGE:

### In-situ measurements of nano-structured matter under realistic ambient conditions needs to overcome the UHV limitations





#### Static high pressure XPS



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Classical X-ray imaging and spectromicroscopy: brief outline

#### SURFACES & INTERFACES: XPEEM and SPEM

PHOTON-IN/ ELECTRON-OUT (probing depth=f(E<sub>el</sub>) max ~ 20 nm)

Spectroscopy (XPS-AES-XANES) ONLY CONDUCTIVE SAMPLES

<u>Total e<sup>-</sup> yield</u> (sample current) XANES

 ➢ Chemical surface sensitivity: Quantitative µ-XPS (0.01 ML)
 ➢ Chemical & electronic (VB) structure BULK Information STXM/SPEM & TXM

PHOTON-IN/PHOTON-OUT (probing depth = f (E<sub>ph</sub>) > 100 nm)

(Spectroscopy – XFS or XANES)

<u>Total hv yield,</u> Transmitted x-rays

Chemical bulk sensitivity Quantitative μ-XFS Trace element mapping



#### Imaging: spatial and temporal limitations

Classical XRM (scanning & full field): acquire information in real space

BUT: (1) <u>limited in resolution</u> and focal depth <u>by the optical elements</u>; (2) dynamics of non-periodic systems > ns; (3) radiation damage: serious issue.

Algorithn

computationally

demanding phase

retrieval

The optics depth and spatial resolution limitations can be overcome by image reconstruction from measured <u>coherent</u> X ray scattering pattern visualizing the electron density of non-crystalline sample:.





CDI acquire data in <u>reciprocal space</u>: Resolution:  $\delta = \lambda$ /sin $\theta$ 



Ultra-short (fs) and ultra-bright FEL pulses allow imaging with single pulse before the radiation damage manifests itself !









#### **Chemical specificity and resolution using SR**







#### Imaging-resolution-penetration-time

- Scanning microscopes monitoring electrons <u>limited to</u> <u>surfaces</u>.
- Transmission electron microscopes can resolve even atoms but are <u>limited in penetration</u> (samples thinner than ~ 30 nm).
- X-ray crystallography reveals the globally averaged 3D atomic structures based on the diffraction phenomenon, but requires crystals.
- Classical x-ray microscopy <u>limited in resolution</u> and focal depth by the optical elements. Temporal resolution ≥ ns

The optics depth and resolution limitations can be overcome by image reconstruction from measured <u>coherent</u> X ray scattering pattern visualizing the electron density of non-crystalline sample.





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<u>Imaging</u>

## Since the sectors of the sectors of

X-ray microscopy: absorption, phase contrast, ptychography (Lecture Gianoncelli)

- 2D/3D morphology
  - High resolution.
- Density mapping.

Hard X-ray Imaging and tomography (Lecture Tromba)

Photoelectron imaging and Spectromicroscopy with XPEEM : (Lecture: Locatelli)

- Chemical state
- Chemical and magnetic mapping.
  - Surface sensitive.

X-ray (Coherent) Scattering (A. Madsen) •Structure: stress/strain/texture 2D/3D mapping. • Chemistry at resonances

#### SXM – XRF and XAS (Lecture: Gianoncelli)

- Elemental quantification
  - Elemental mapping
    - Bulk sensitive

Infrared Spectromicroscopy (Lecture: Vaccari)

- Molecular groups and structure
  - •High S/N for organic matter
  - •Functional group imaging.

• Modest resolution but non-destructive radiation.

