



The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics



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**Joint ICTP-IAEA Advanced School on the Role of Nuclear Technology
in Hydrogen-Based Energy Systems**

13 - 18 June 2011

**Scanning photoemission microscope:
A powerful tool for studies on Fuel cells and catalysis supporting material**

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Trieste

Scanning photoemission microscope: A powerful tool for studies on Fuel cells and catalysis supporting material

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Sincrotrone Trieste SCpA



The Microscopy Section at Elettra

Elettra
Synchrotron
Light Source
laboratory



- ESCAmicroscopy: 400-1200 eV XPS spectro-microscopy
- SPECTROMicroscopy: 20-90 eV XPS, ARUPS spectro-microscopy
- NANOspectroscopy: LEEM, X-PEEM spectro-microscopy
- TwinMic: X-ray transmission and absorption spectro-microscopy
- SISSY: infrared spectro-microscopy

X-ray photoemission microscopy at synchrotrons: methods

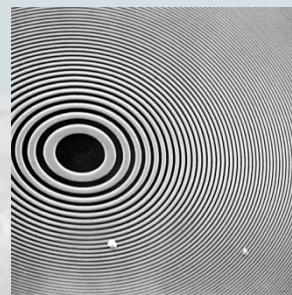
Scanning

SPEM

Zone Plates lenses

- Elettra (ESCA B.L.)
 - ALS
 - SRRC
 - PAL

Focusing mirrors



Kirkpatrick-Baez

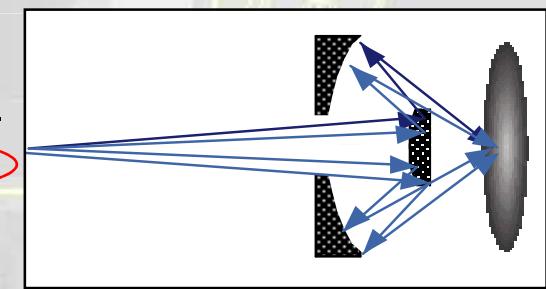
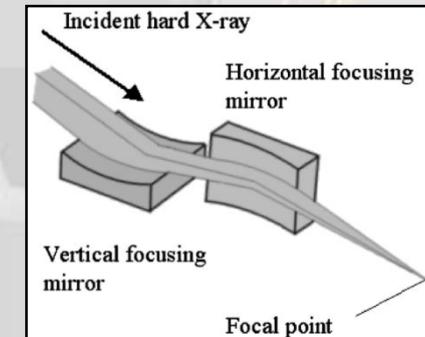
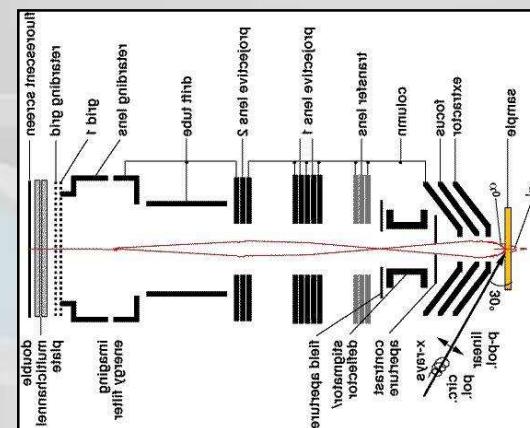
- Max-Lab

Schwarzschild mirrors

- Elettra (SpectroMic B.L.)
 - Madison

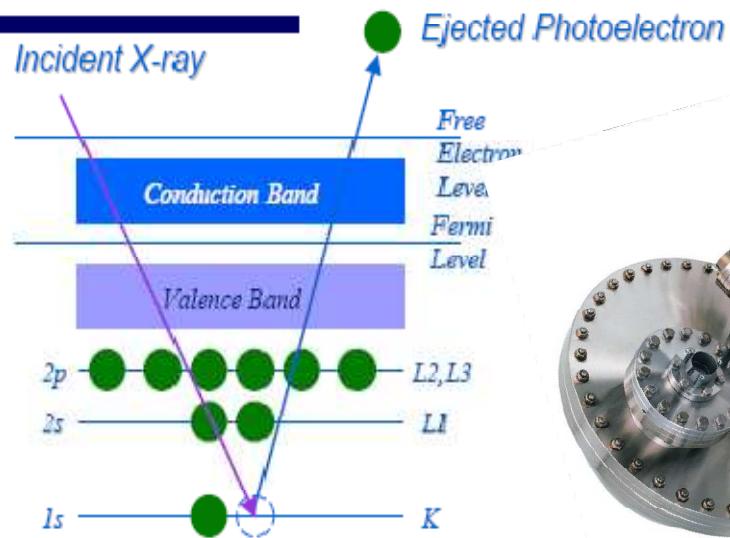
No scanning

XPEEM (XPEEM, SPELEEM)



- Elettra
(Nanospectro B.L.)
 - SLS
 - MAX-lab
 - BESSY
 - Madison
 - Spring8

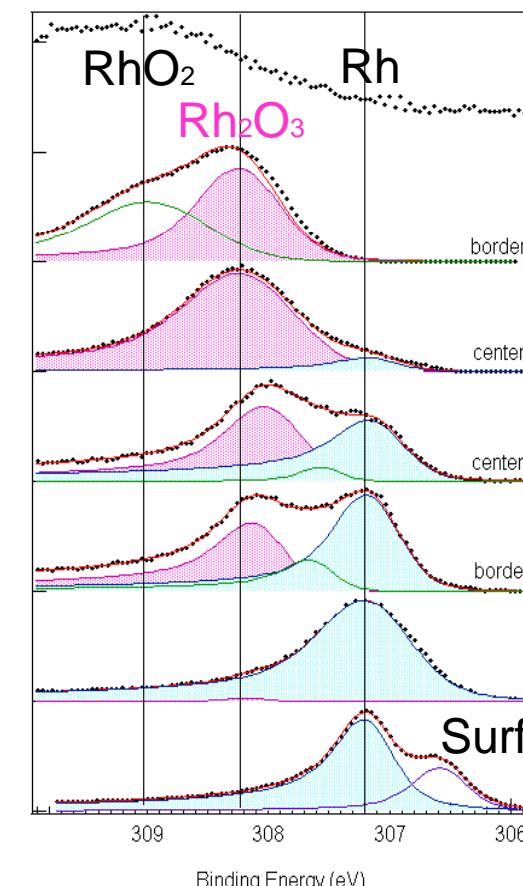
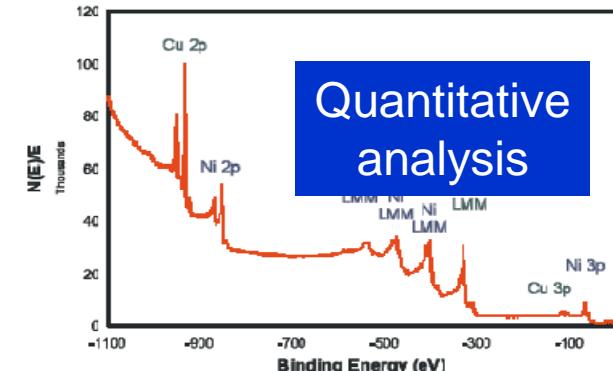
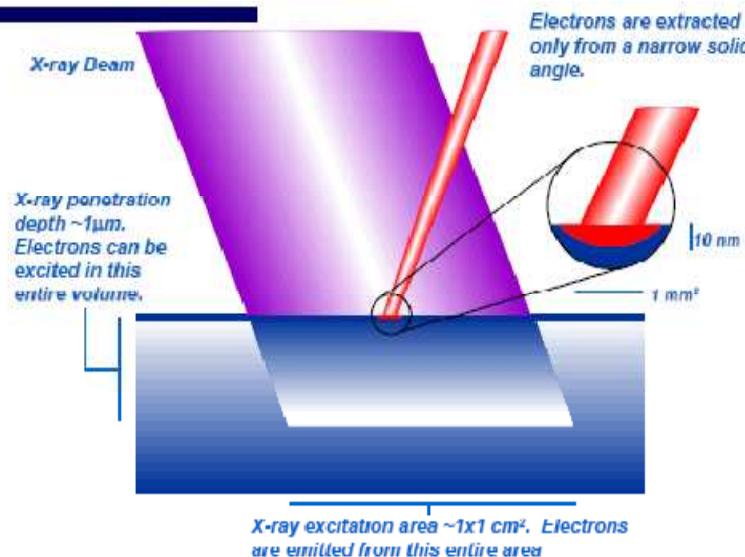
The Photoelectric Process



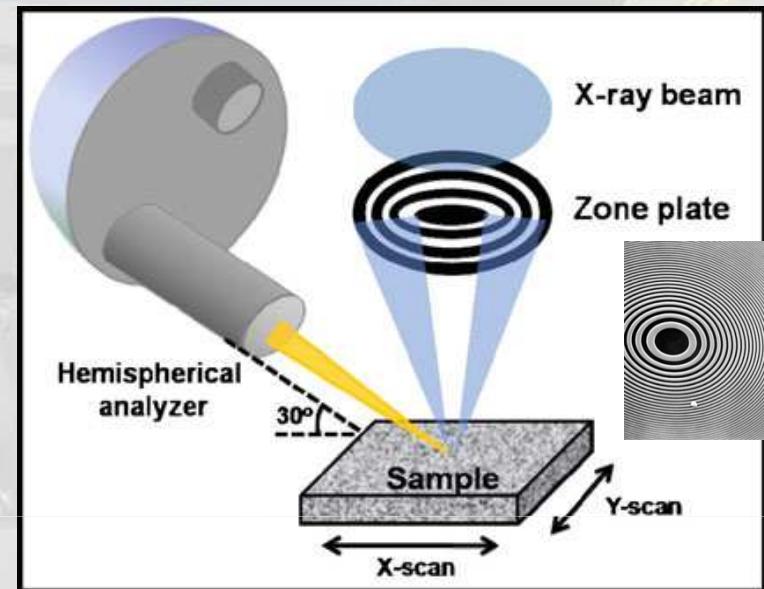
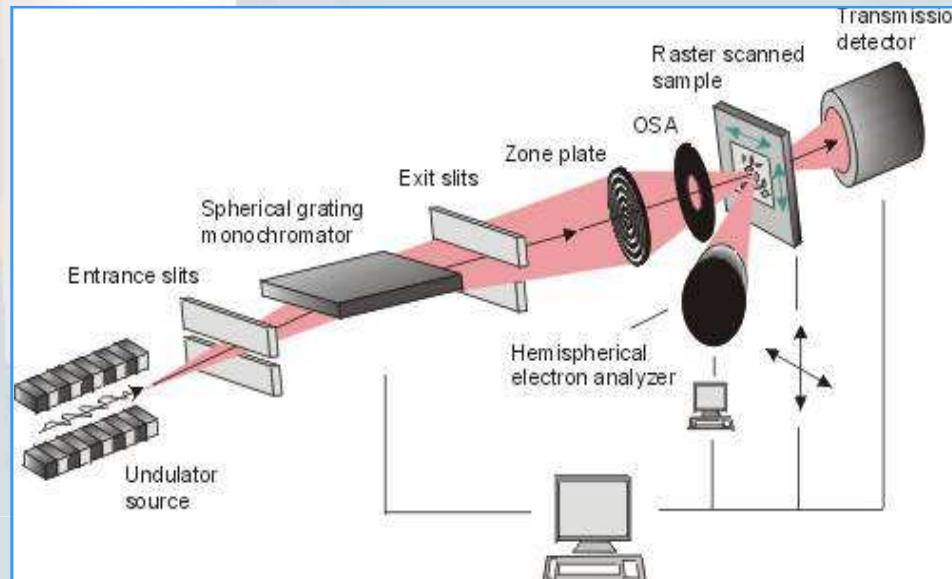
Fine
Chemical
analysis

X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy

Small Area Detection



SPEM layout and performance

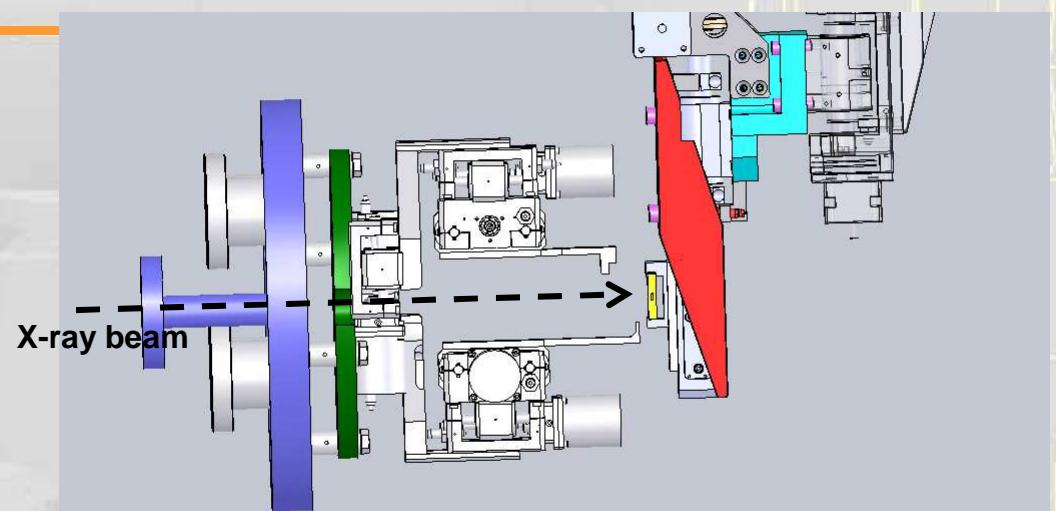


Spatial resolution

- **Imaging:** < 50 nm
- **Microspectroscopy:** 120 nm

Overall energy resolution

- **Energy resolution:** ~180meV
- **Standard conditions**
- **Room Temperature**
- **Photon Energy:** 500 eV



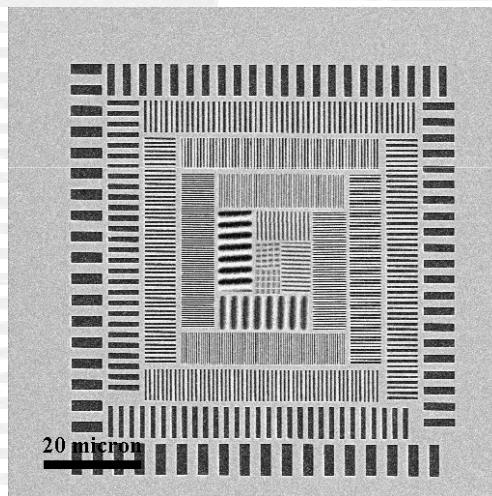
Spatial resolution

Zone plate used: 



Best ZP: D=200 μm , dr=50 nm

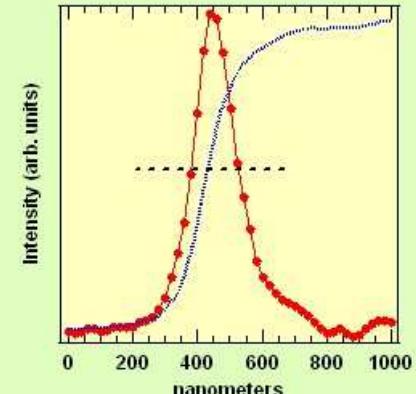
Other sizes: D=250 μm , dr=100nm
D=250 μm , dr=80nm



50 nm test object

Spectromicroscopy:
real beam size and shape

135 nm

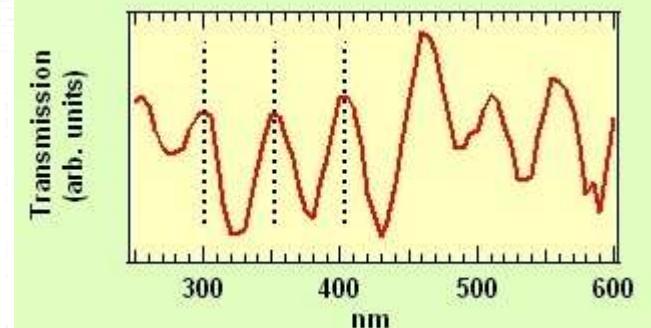


Imaging:
effectice resolution

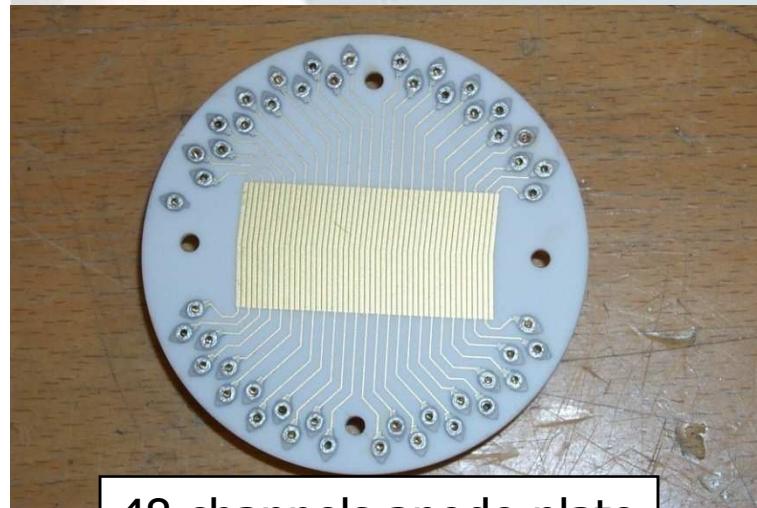
< 50 nm



Horizontal scan



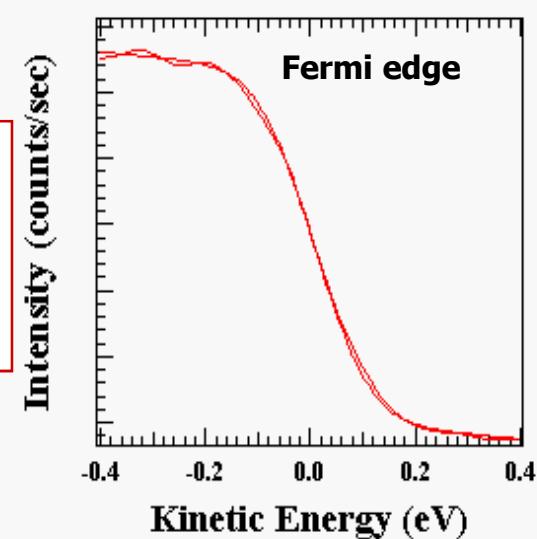
Energy resolution



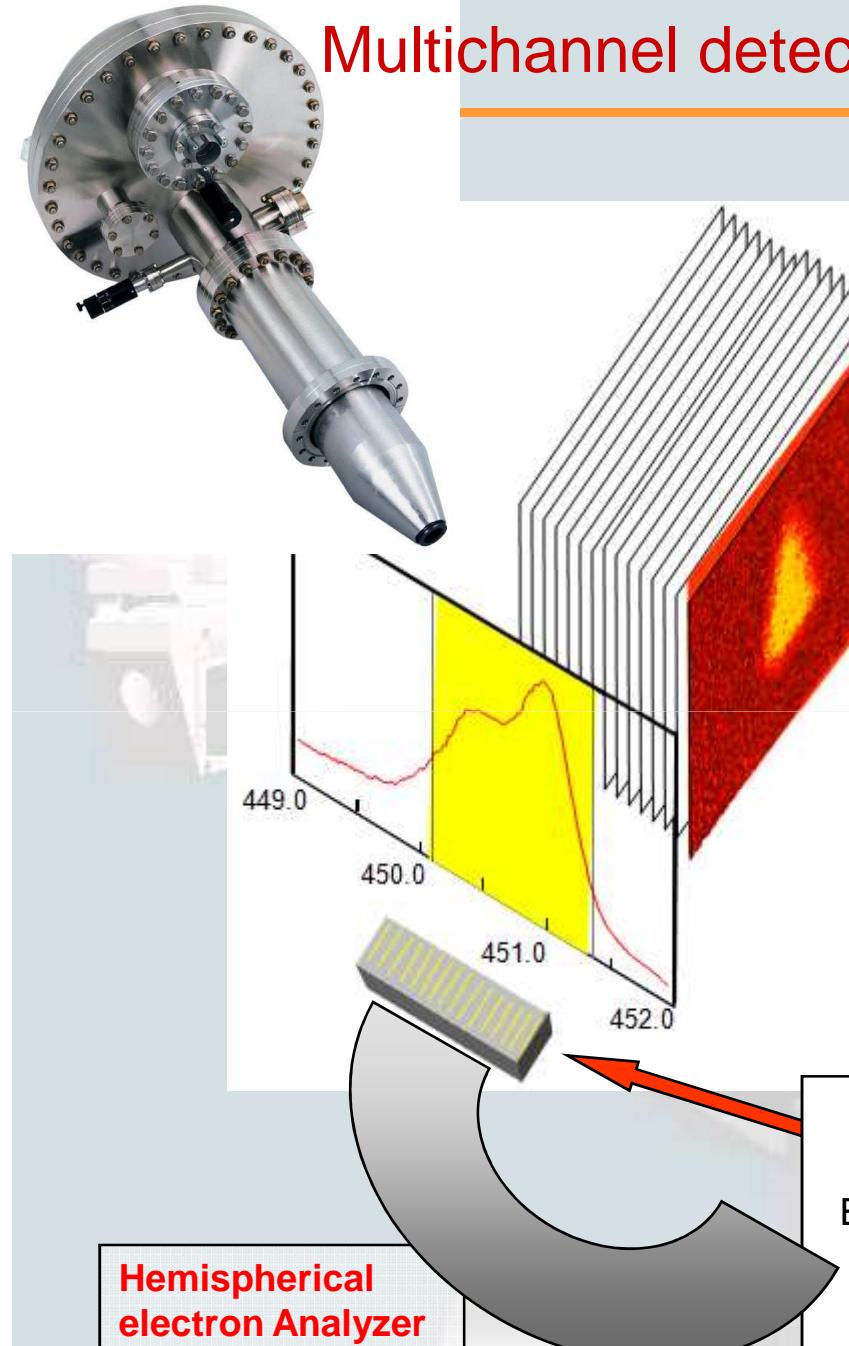
- HEA: S P E C S® PHOIBOS 100
- Detector: 48 channels anode designed at Elettra



- Energy resolution: ~180meV
- Standard conditions
- Room Temperature
- Photon Energy: 500 eV

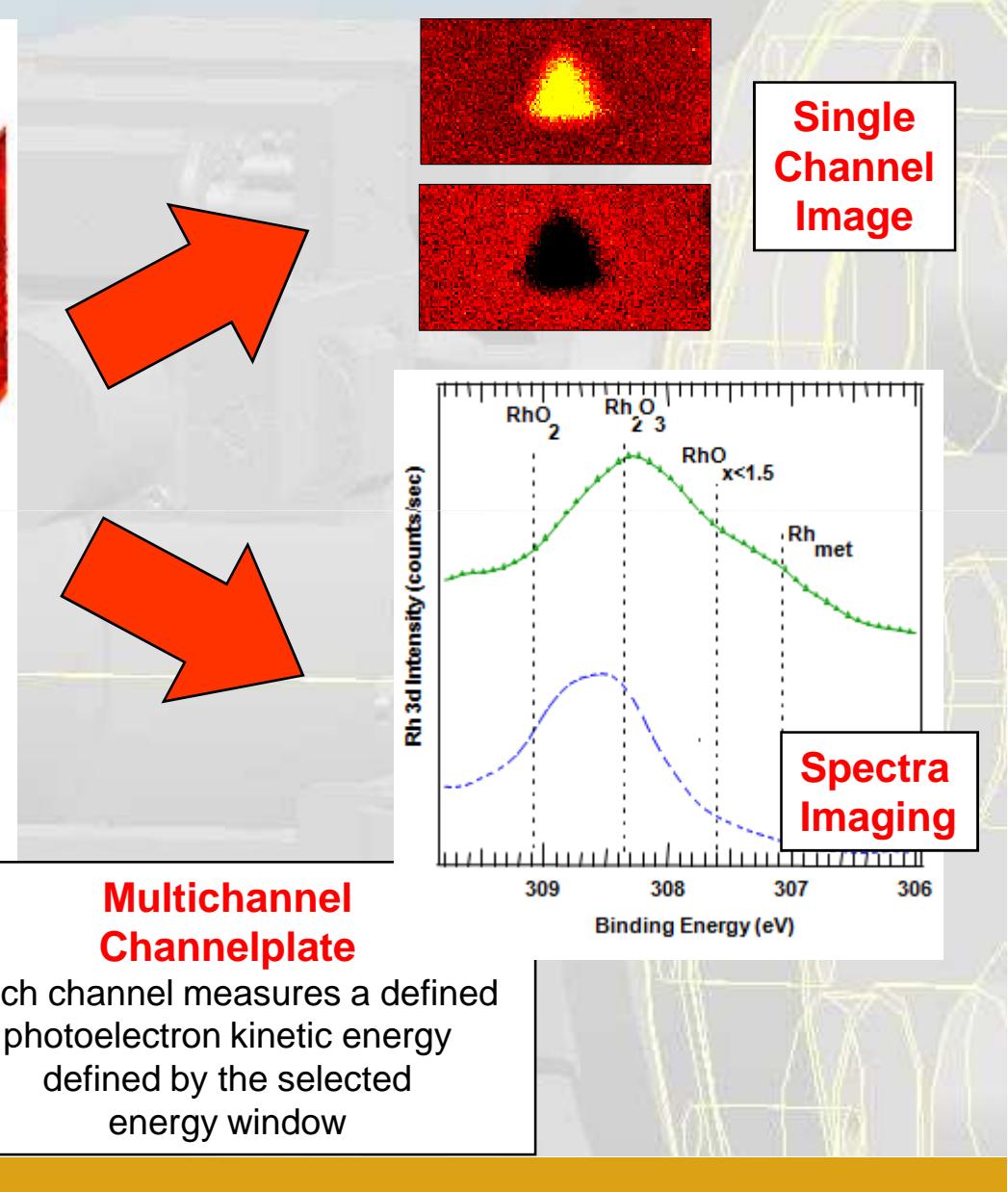


Multichannel detection: spectro-imaging mode



Hemispherical
electron Analyzer

**Multichannel
Channelplate**
Each channel measures a defined
photoelectron kinetic energy
defined by the selected
energy window



Spectra
Imaging

Single
Channel
Image

SPEM experiments: main topics

Nanostructures/devices characterization

- MWCNTs mass transport and reactivity
- e-noses
- Size dependent electronic properties of semiconductors

Electrochemistry/SOFC

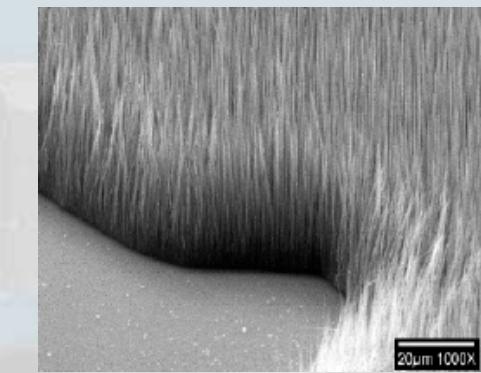
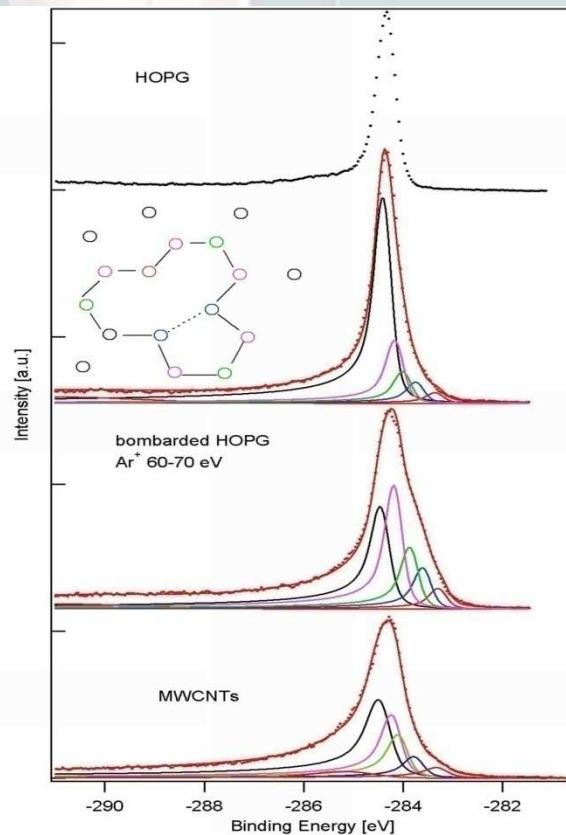
- Electrochemical stability of materials
- Challenging experiments: high temps, biasing, low concentrations

Catalysis

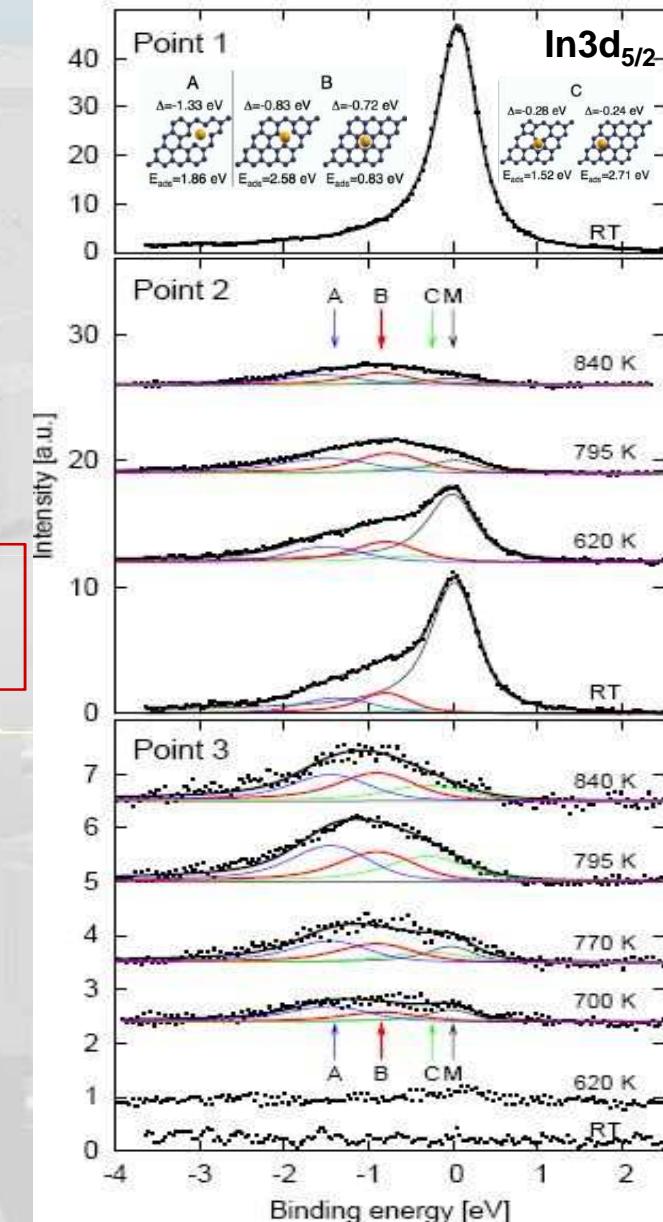
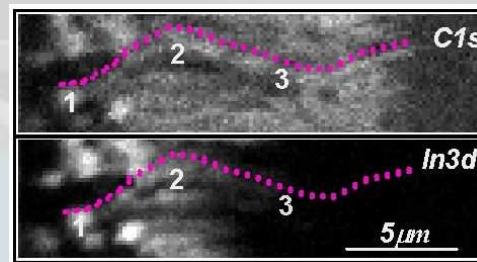
- 'Material' gap: from model crystalline materials to metal nano-particles on metal oxide.
- In situ PLD particle deposition

Imaging and spectroscopy from metal adsorbate on MWCNT array with SPEM (in collaboration with the *theory@elettra* group)

Characterization of MWCNT surface; analysis of C1s photoemission in comparison with clean and defective HOPG surfaces

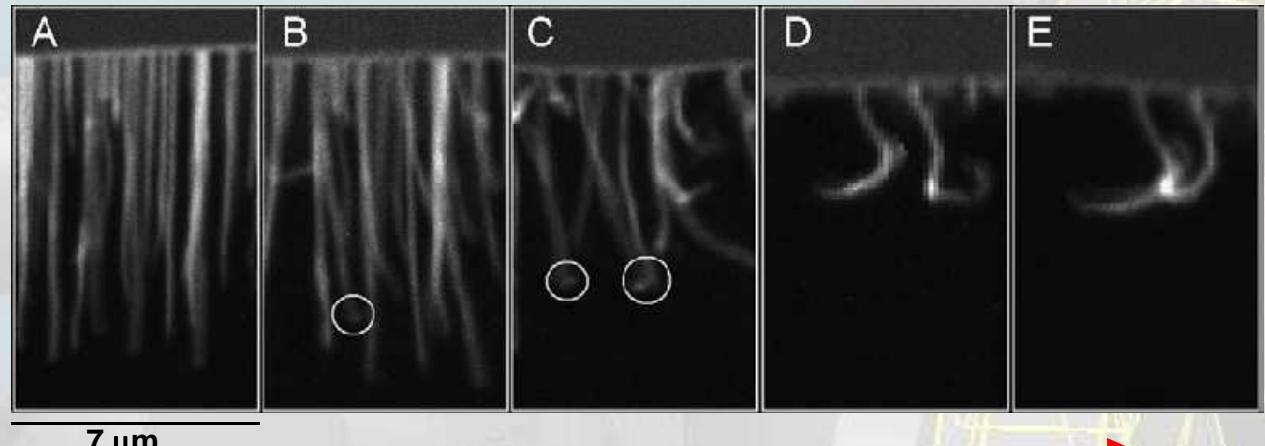
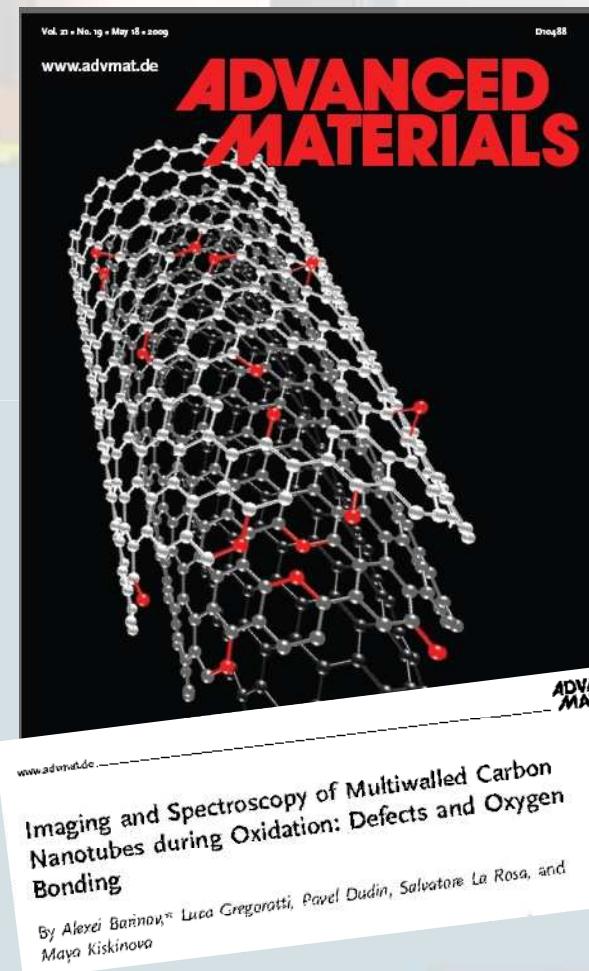


SPEM imaging of temperature evolution of In deposits on the surface of MWCNT array



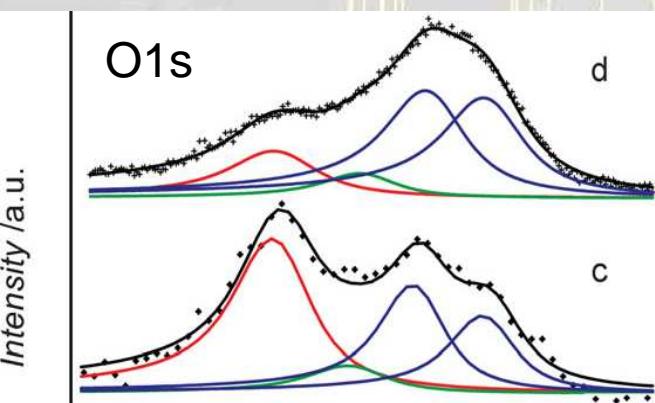
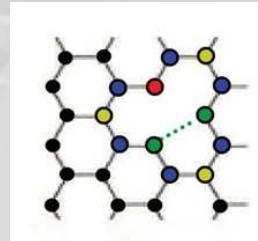
Gas phase oxidation of MCNT

CNT

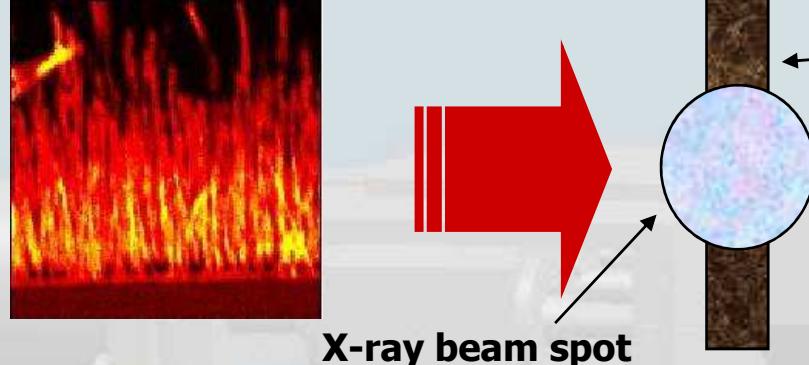


Increasing oxygen dosage

- Gas phase oxidation with atomic oxygen
- Advanced oxidation stages
- Investigation of the formation of oxygenated functional groups and morphological changes
- Non linear consumption of the CNT



1 From high density to low density MCNT arrays



X-ray beam spot

CNT diameter: 60-70 nm

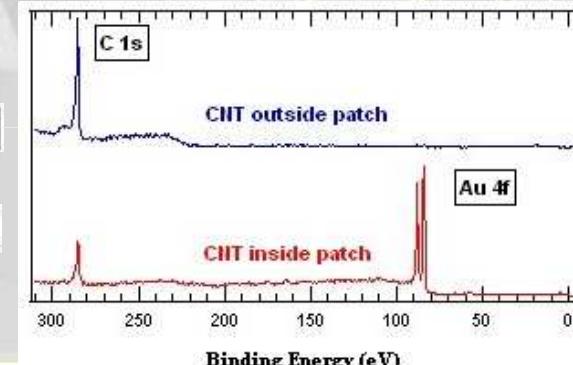
2 Confined patches on single nanostructure



C

Au

1.5 μm



C 1s

Au 4f

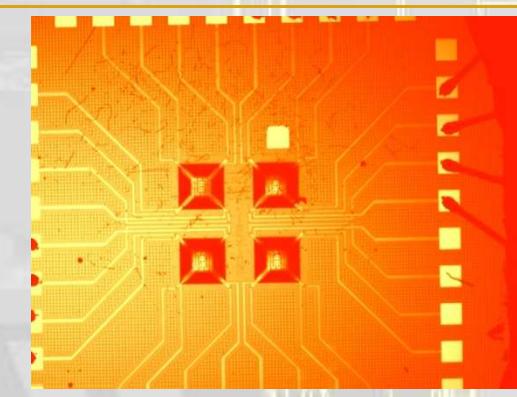
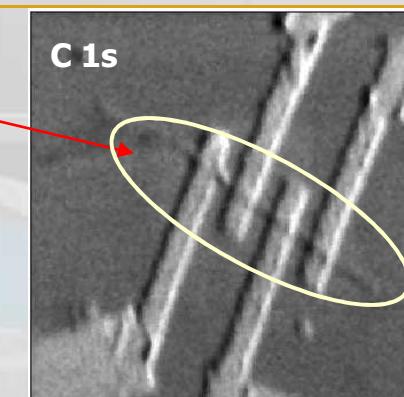
CHT outside patch

CHT inside patch

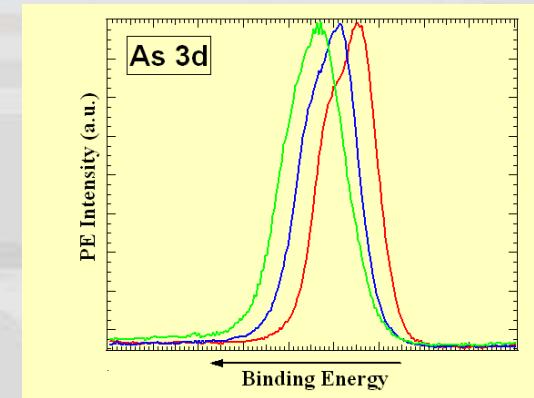
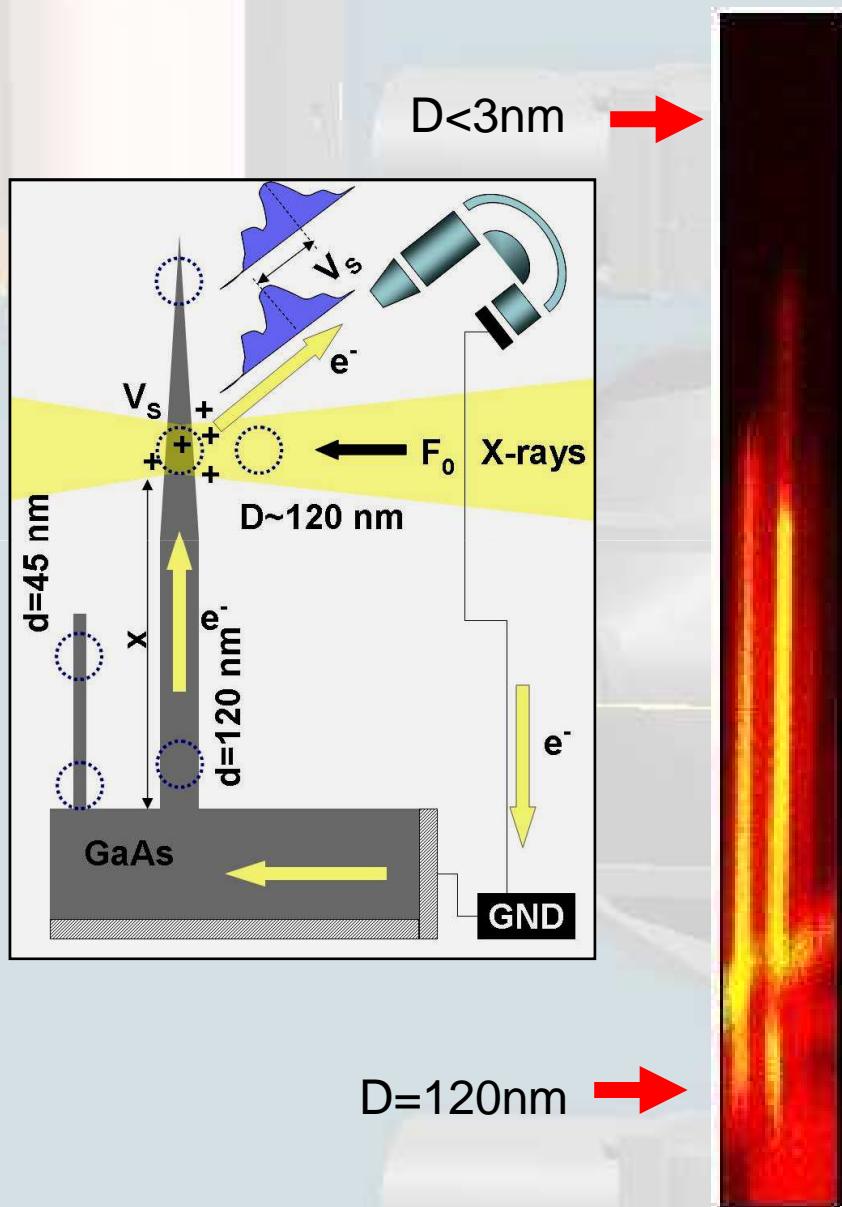
Binding Energy (eV)

3 MCNT

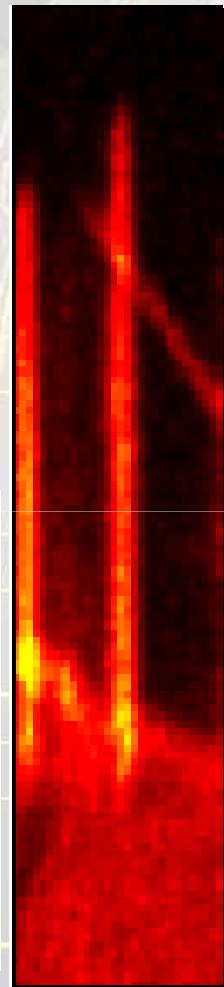
Electric transport/biasing



Effects on size and surface chemistry on the conductivity of MBE-grown GaAs nanowires *(in collaboration with S. Rubini – TASC Laboratory - Italy)*



- Increasing surface-to-volume ratio
- Size dependence of the depletion width, band gap widths, recombination barriers, etc.
- i.e. Debye length comparable to the radius of NW

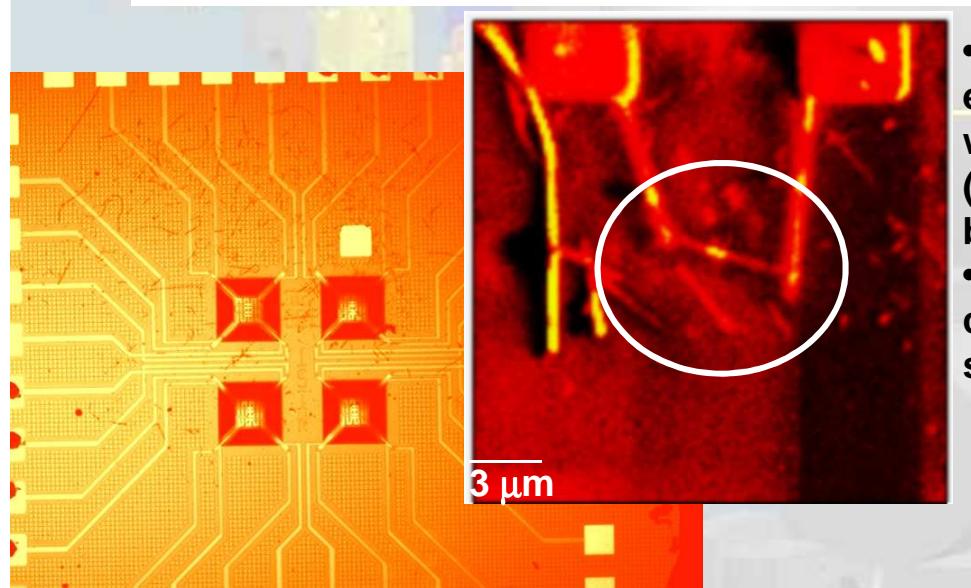
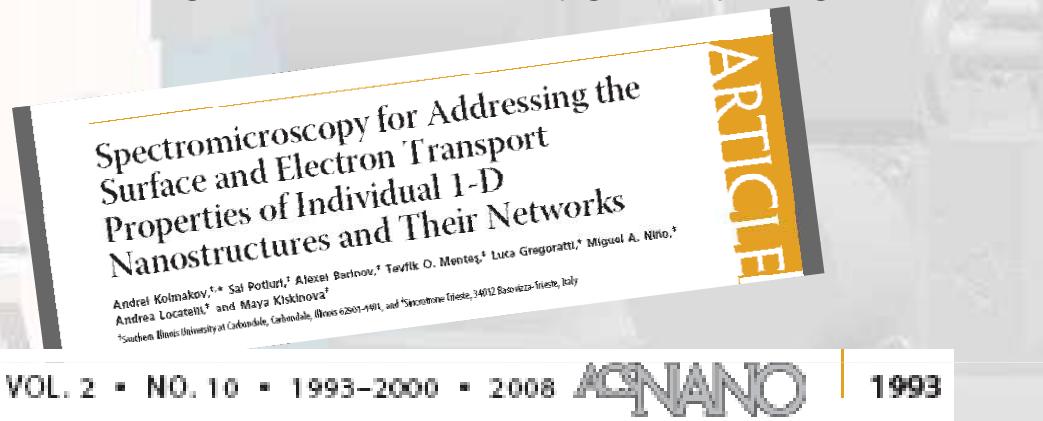


45 nm width
GaAs wires!

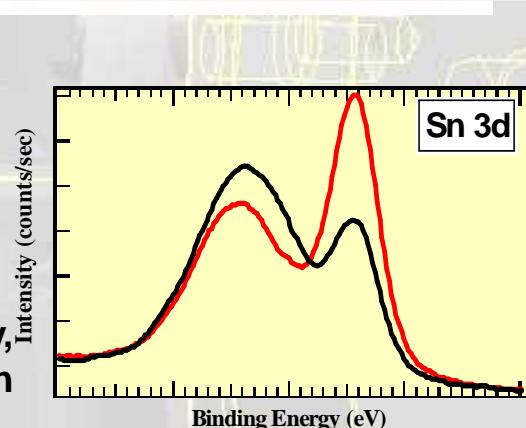
Chemical and electronic characterization of nanosensors

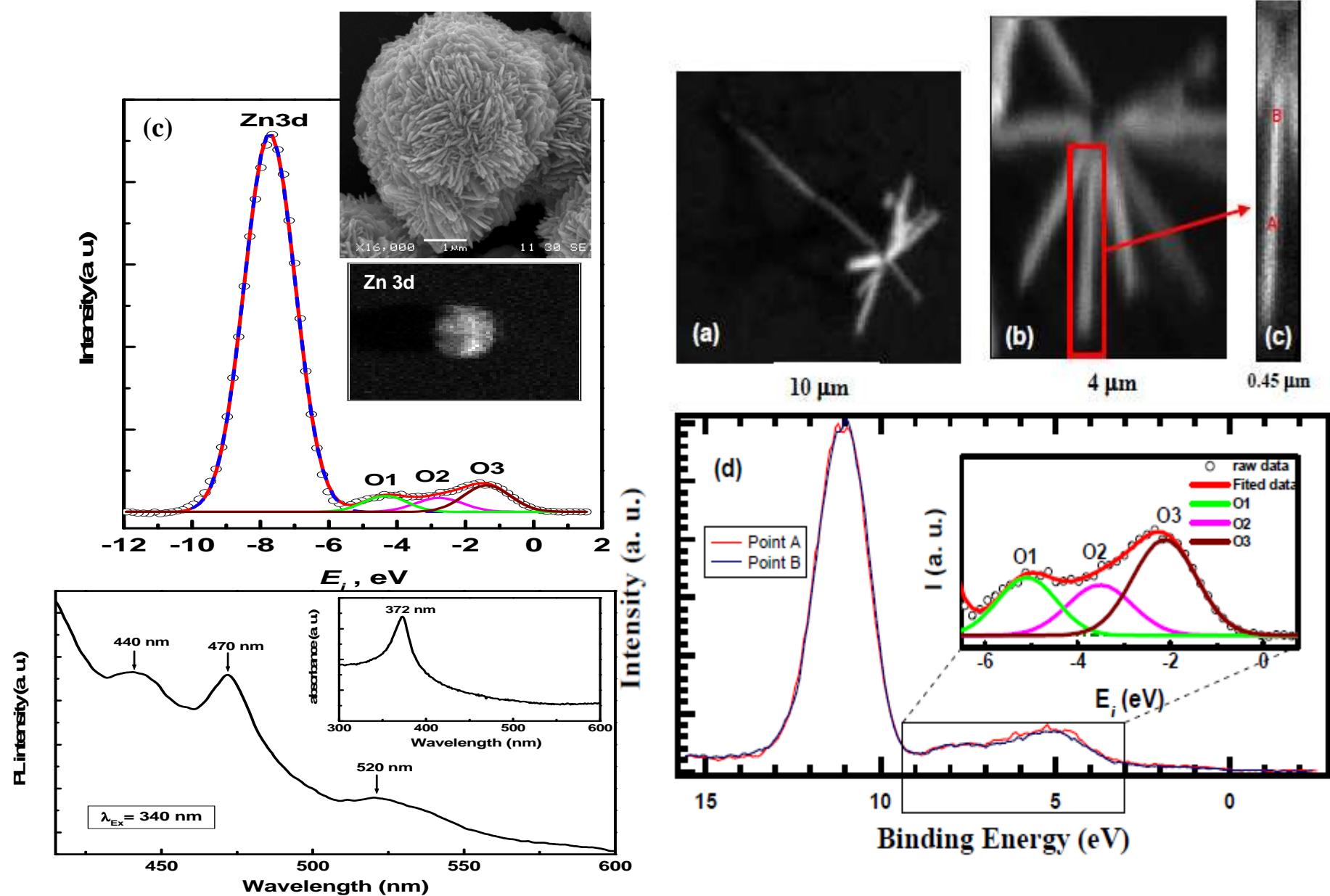
(in collaboration with A. Kolmakov – Souther Illinois Uni. - USA)

- Chemical & electronic characterization under working conditions
- SnO_2 , VO_x , ...
- Sensing properties vs oxygen, hydrogen, ...



- Addressing the electron transport in a working device (temperature, close biasing, etc.)
- Surface stoichiometry, coordination, oxidation state, etc.





Structure of the composite material

SEM

Get access to the interfaces

Sample lapping at grazing angle

SEM

SPEM

Ti 2p

Al 2p

C 1s

Ti 3p

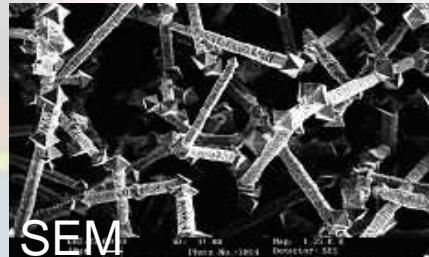
Arbitrary units

Binding Energy, eV

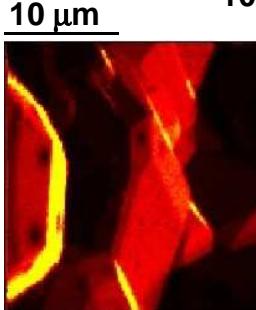
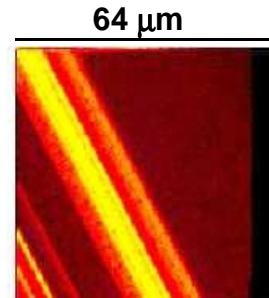
Compositional and electronic study of TCO nano and microtubes

(in collaboration with A. Cremades - UCM - Spain)

- Catalyst free growth of TCO structures ($\text{Sn}_x\text{O}_y/\text{In}_x\text{O}_y/\text{In}_x\text{N}_y/\text{Ge}_x\text{O}_y$, etc.)
- SPEM characterization of morphological complex structures difficult with other PEM



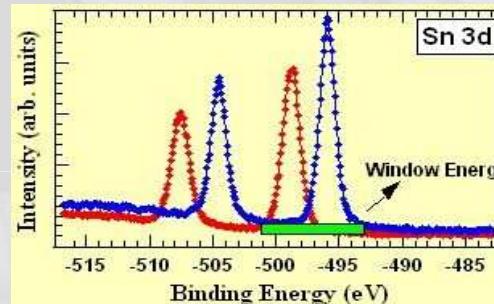
SPEM images



D. A. Magdas et al. *Superlat. and Microstr.* 45 (2009) 429-434
D. Maestre et al. *Journ. of Appl. Phys.* 103, 093531 (2008)
D. Maestre et al. *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2010, 114 (27), pp 11748-11752

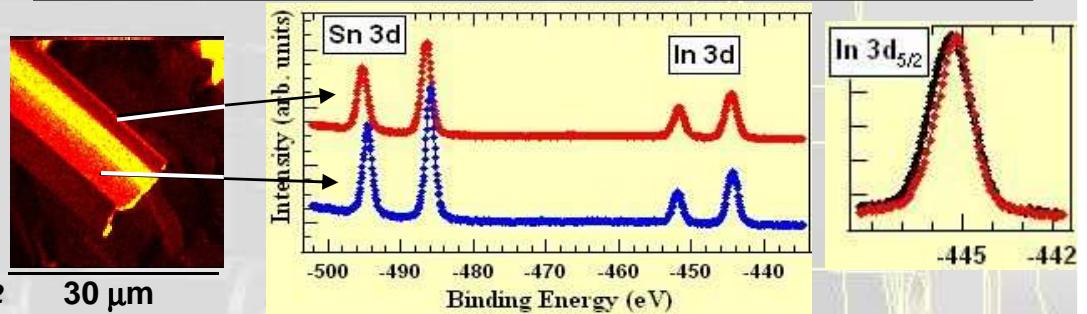
Electronic behaviour of a single structure

- Charging due to differences in the electronic structure
- Mapping of the charging with the multichannel acquisition



Local chemical composition of the structures

- Heterogeneous elemental distribution locally defined
- Fine chemical analysis

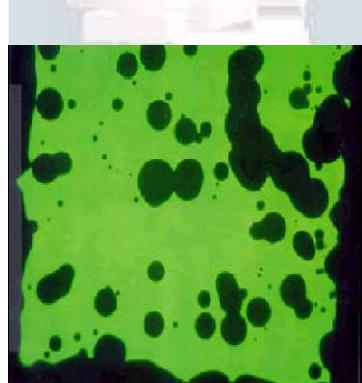


Degradation of light emitting diodes: a SPEM analysis

(in collaboration with P. Melpignano CRP, R. Zamboni CNR-ISMN)



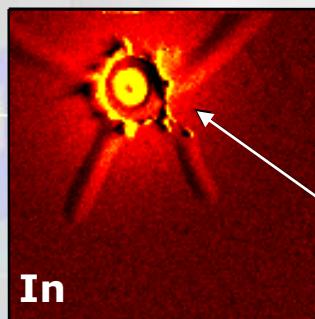
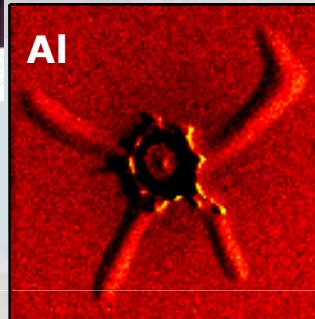
OLED Display Screen (from Universal Display Corp.)



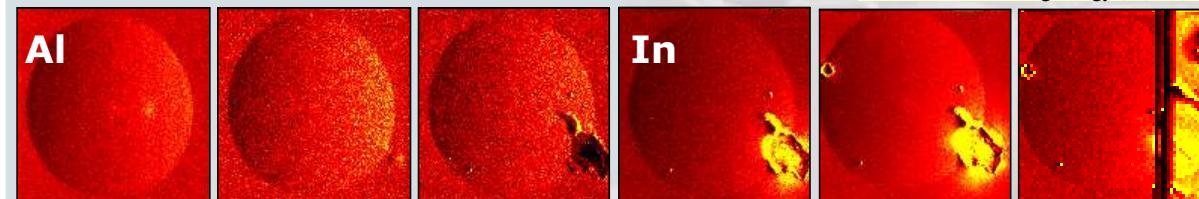
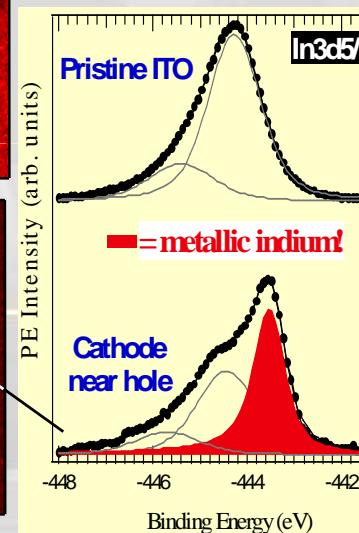
Dark spot in OLED

OLED exposed to atmospheric moisture:
failure due to light emission

64 μm

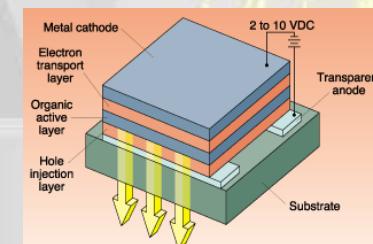


•Decomposition
of ITO

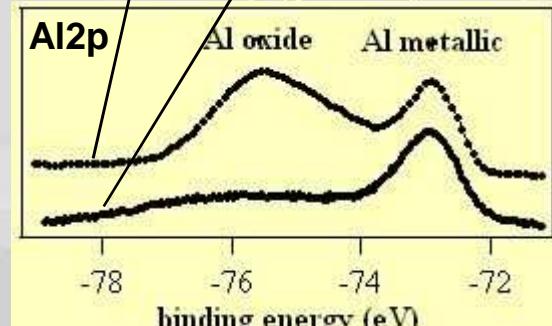
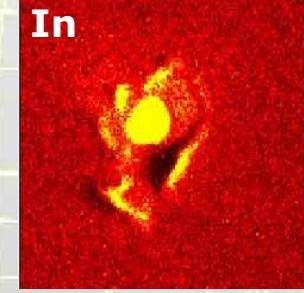
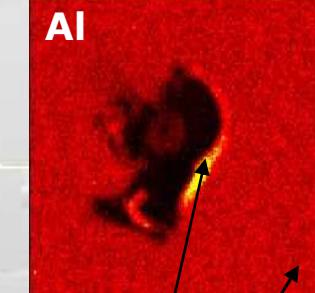


increasing voltage and operating time

“Clean” experiment: OLED growth and operated in the SPEM (UHV ambient) : failure due to light emission



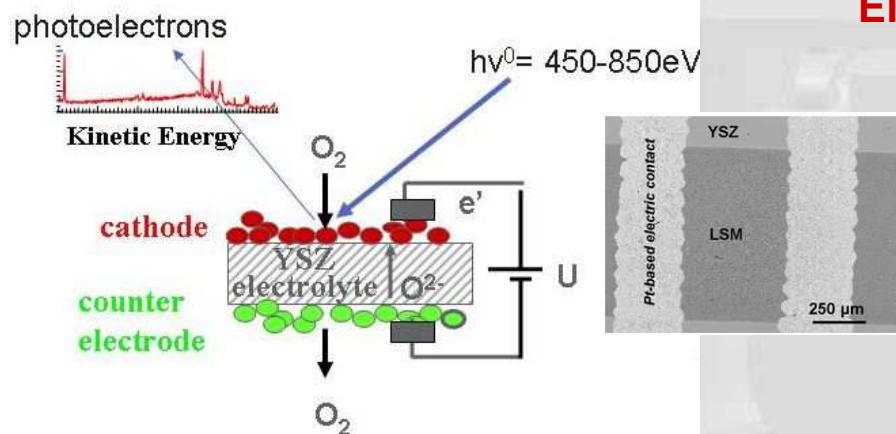
64 μm





Operating SOFC: mass transport

(in collaboration with M. Backhaus- Corning Inc. - USA)

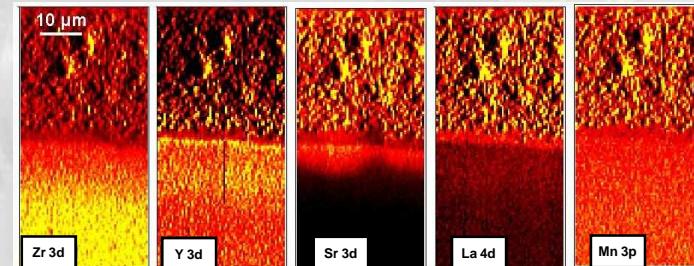


Strongly constraining experimental setup

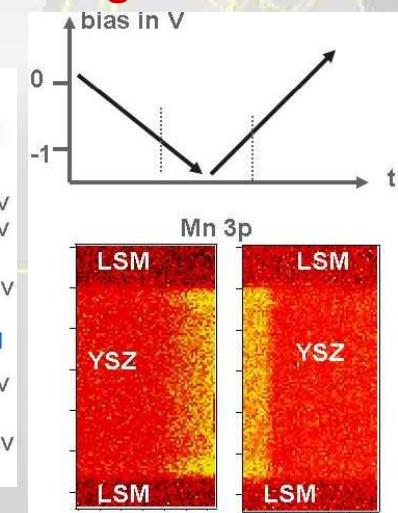
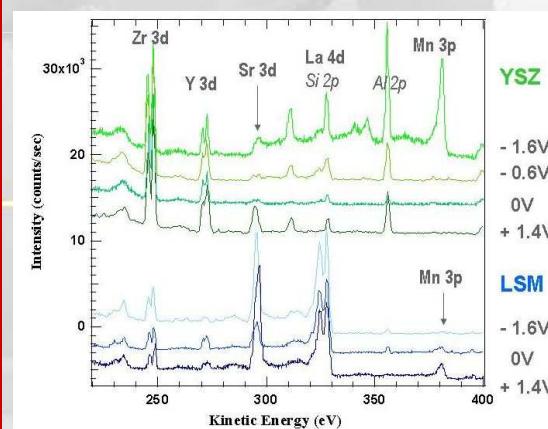


- Real samples
- High T = 650-700°C
- $pO_2 = 1 \times 10^{-6}$ mbar
- Applied potentials
-2V < U < +2V
- Surface sensitive technique
- High lateral resolution

Elemental distribution at electrolyte/LSM interface



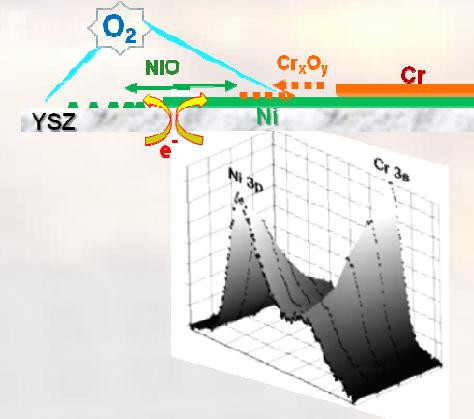
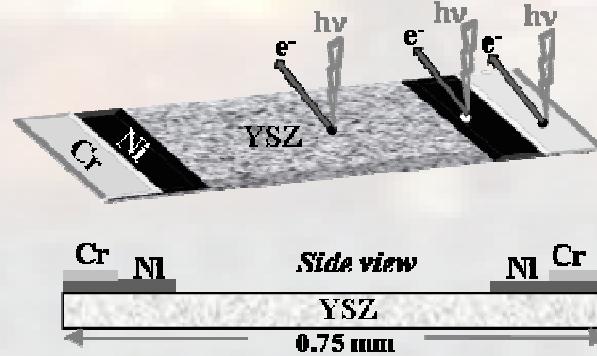
Surface composition change with bias



Observation and explanation of electrochemical cathode activation

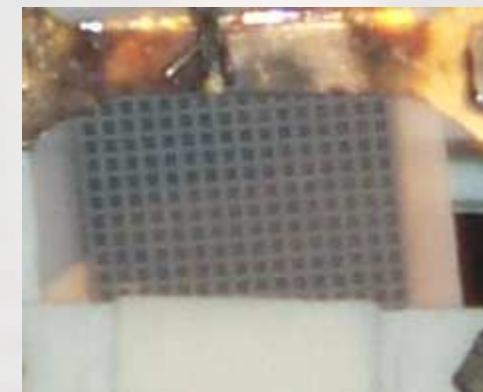
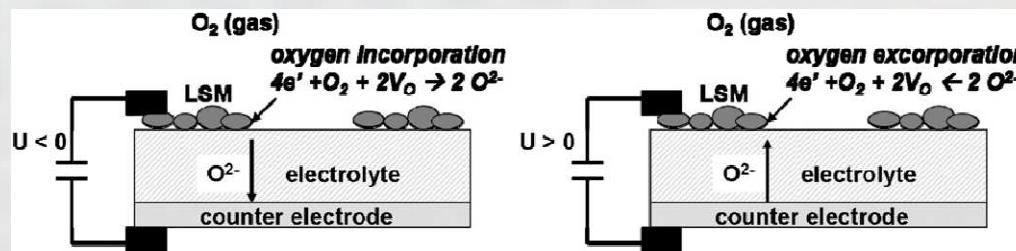
- Strong current increase under negative bias when Mn spreads on electrolyte
- Mn^{2+} electrolyte surface enrichment → electrolyte surface conductivity → direct oxygen incorporation into electrolyte
- Oxygen incorporation extends under bias from TPB to the entire electrolyte surface

B. Bozzini

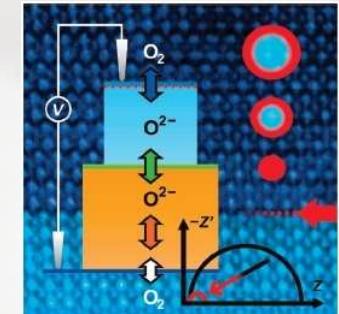
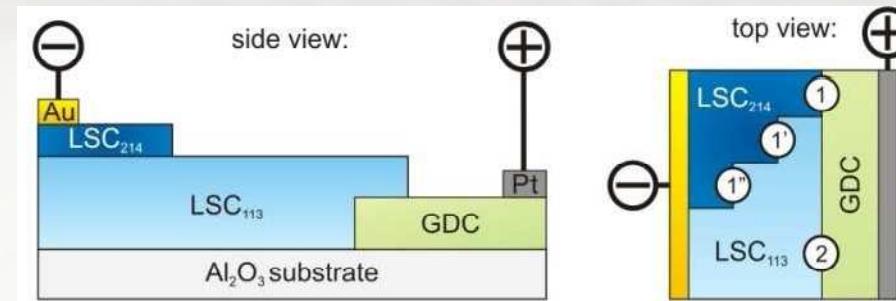


M. Backhaus

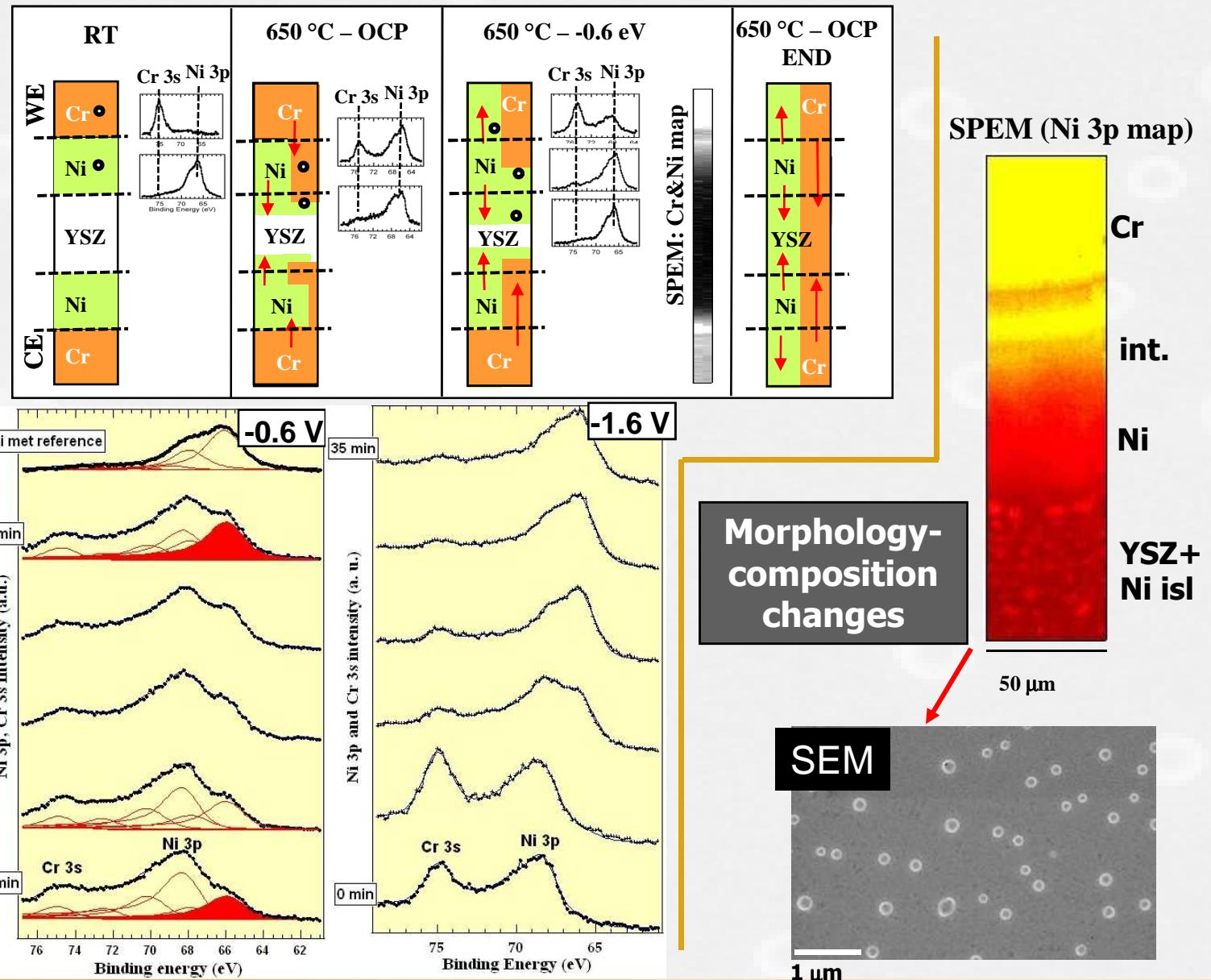
CORNING



E. Mutoro

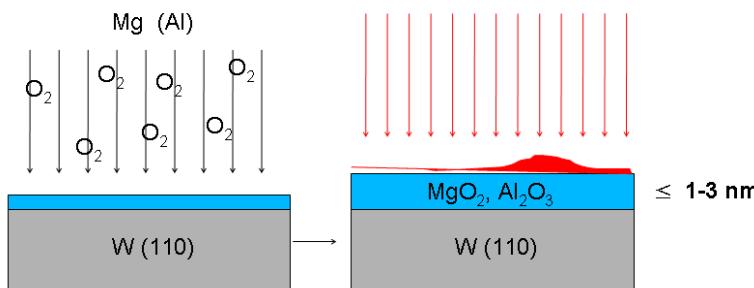


Temperature-induced and potential-induced diffusion of Ni and Cr



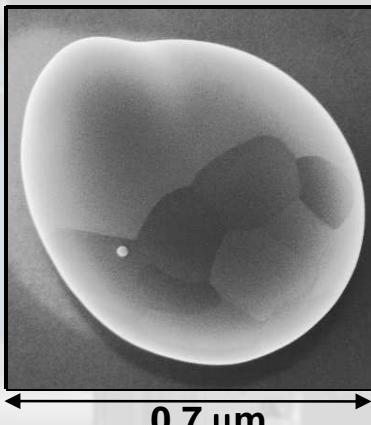
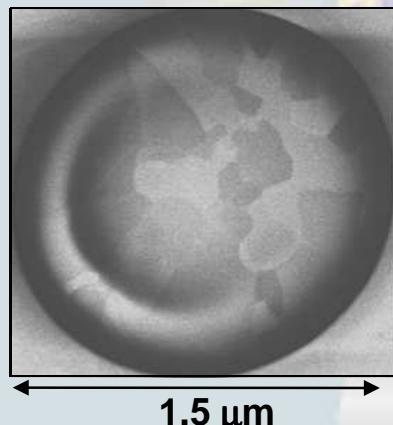
'Material' gap: from model crystalline materials to metal nanoparticles on metal oxide. In situ PLD particle deposition

PLD from a $\text{Pt}_{50}\text{Rh}_{50}$ target

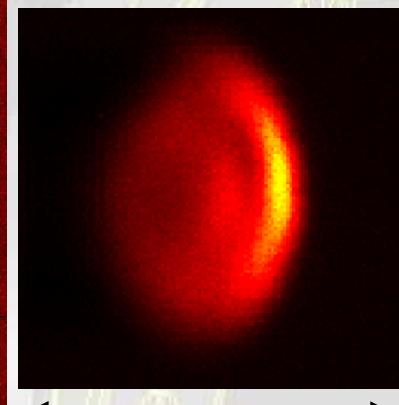
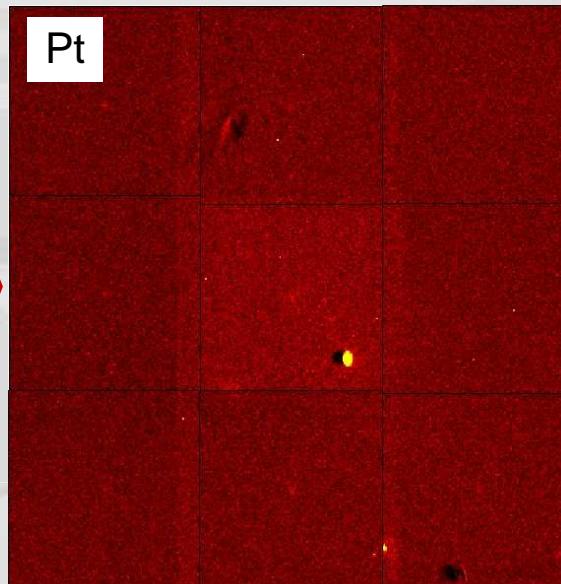


No charging of the substrate because of the low thickness, XPS and SPEM are possible

SEM



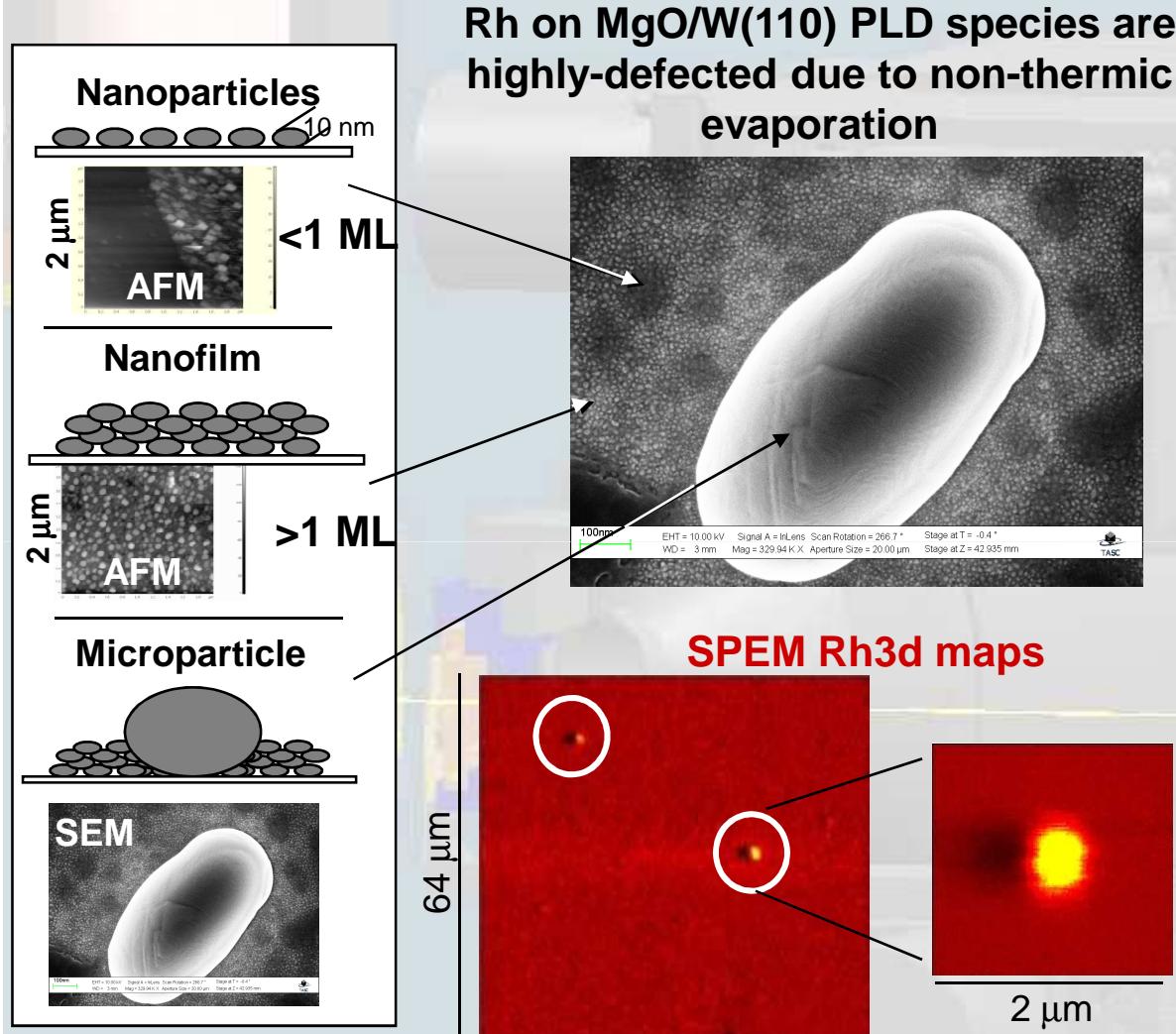
SPEM



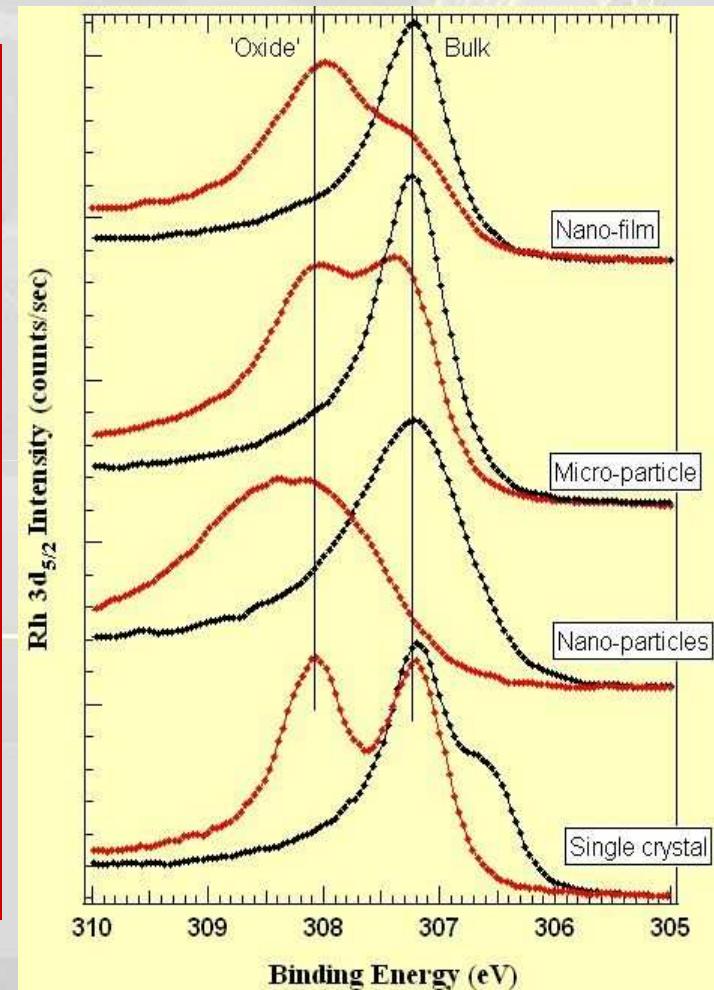
Low density of micron sized particles

- Poly-crystalline nature of the particles
- Size effects during chemical reaction
- Proximity effects
- Simple model reaction: O₂ (+H₂)
- Unconventional procedure for particle generation (thermodynamics)

'Material' gap: from model crystalline materials to metal nanoparticles on metal oxide. In situ PLD particle deposition



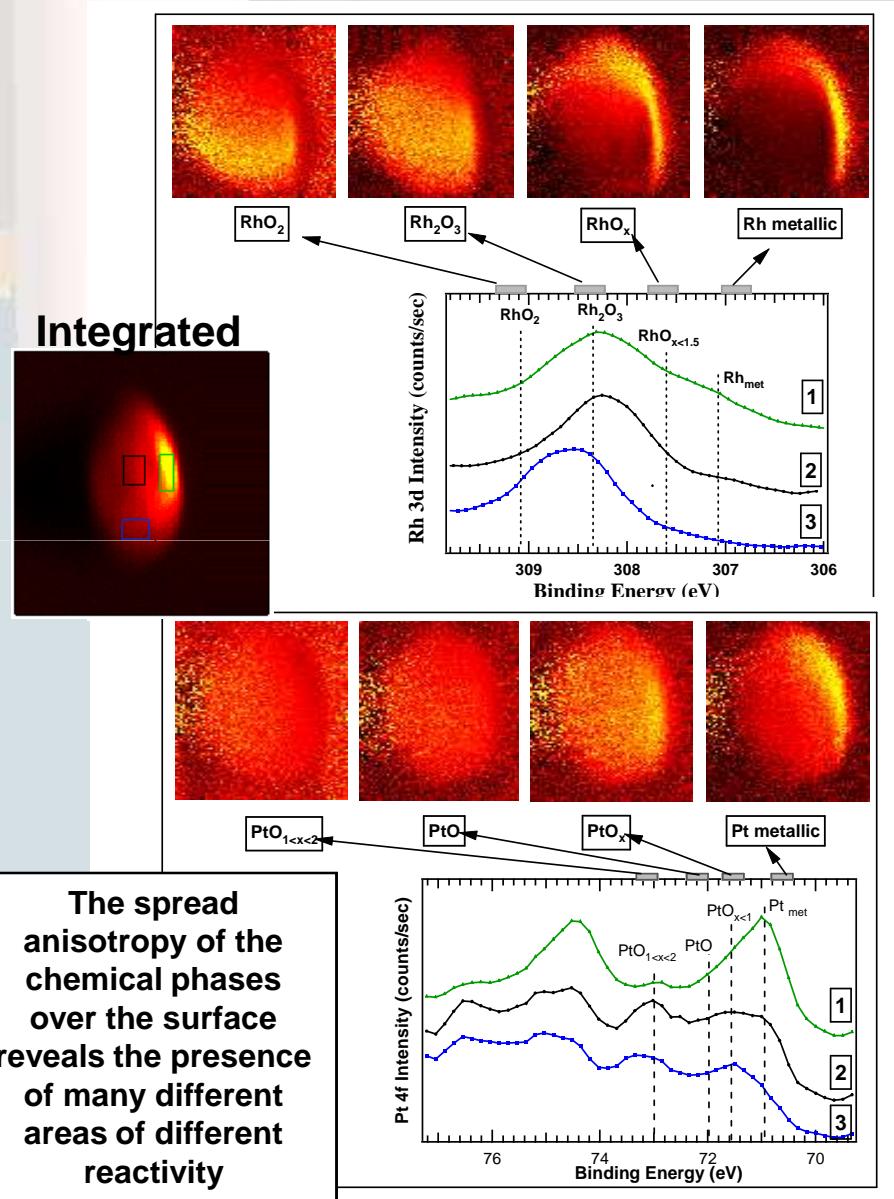
Oxidation/reduction reactions



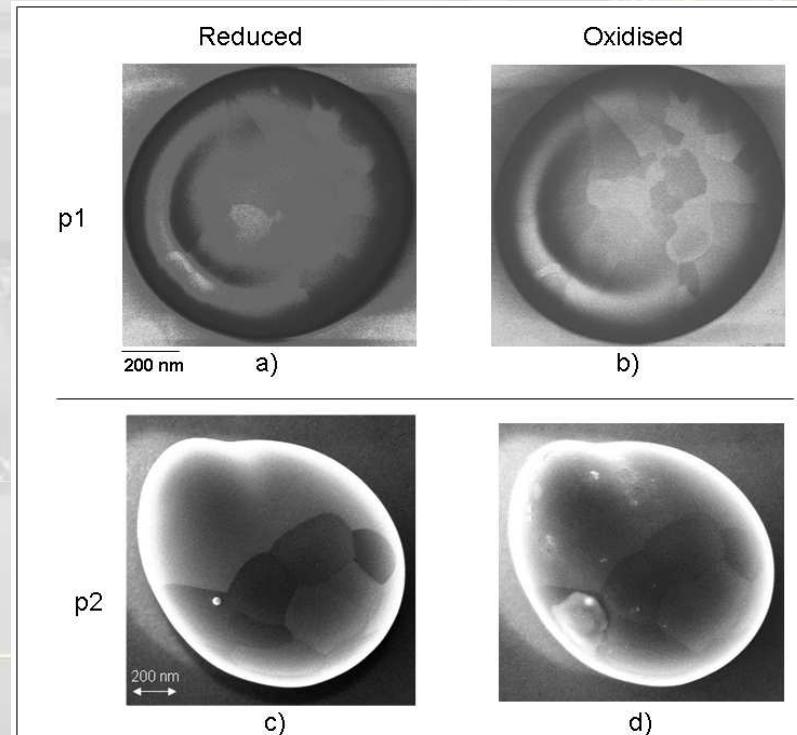
- The nanoparticles/nanofilm possess different oxidation/reduction ability than the microparticle
- Reducing rate: Micro-part.> Nano-crystalline film > Nano-particles
- Micro-particles of similar sizes show variation in the reactive properties: different structure, local environ.

Oxide phase distribution on the particles surface

SPEM



SEM

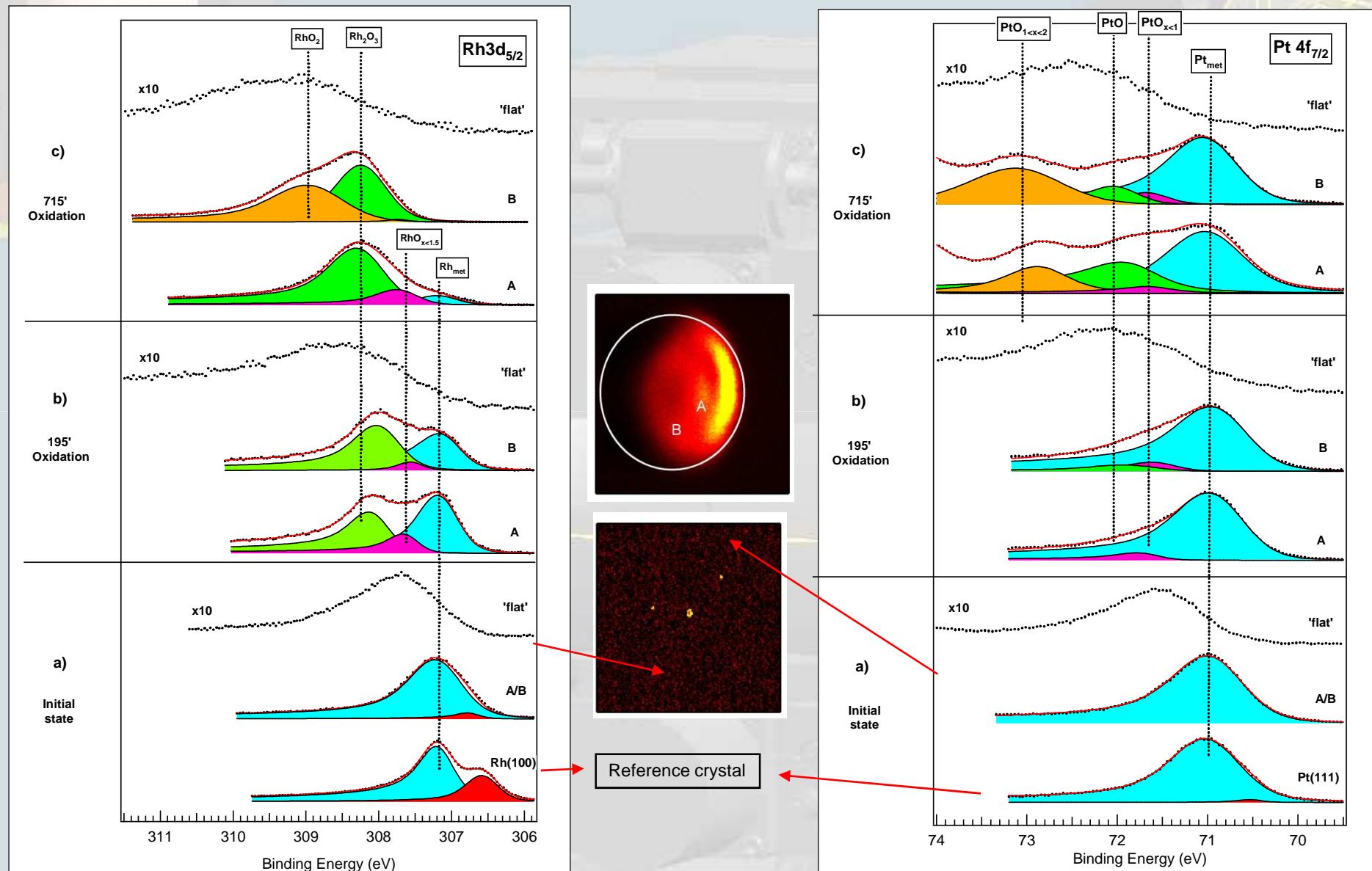


How to correlate chemical reactivity to structural changes?



SEM to LEEM

'Material' gap: from model crystalline materials to metal nanoparticles on metal oxide. In situ PLD particle deposition



Thank You



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