

Reference-free X-Ray spectrometry – principles and selected application

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**Joint ICTP-IAEA Workshop on Advanced Synchrotron Radiation Based
X-ray Spectrometry Techniques, April 22-26, 2013 Trieste, Italy**

- **analytical challenges for nanotechnologies**
- **reference-free x-ray spectrometry**
- **nanolayer characterization**
- **depth profiling at grazing incidence**
- **chemical speciation at buried interfaces**

Analytical challenges for nanotechnologies

- dozens of **new nanoscaled materials** appear every month
- **technology R&D cycles** for new materials down to 4 months
- **need for correlation** of material properties with functionality
- **requirements** on sensitivity, selectivity and information depth
- most **analytical methodologies** rely on **reference materials** or calibration standards but there are only few at the nanoscale
- usage of **calibrated instrumentation** and knowledge on atomic data enables **reference-free techniques** such as SR based XRS

Challenges for nanotechnologies – RMs and reference-free methodology



X-ray and IR spectrometry

Nanoscaled reference materials may be required when

- *critical dimensions* (CD) of specimens and / or
 - the analytical *information depths*
- are in the 1 nm to 100 nm range.

Applications:

- (buried) *nanolayered systems* to be analysed by GIXRF or XRF
- *low energy ion implantations* in silicon or advanced materials by GIXRF
- analysis of *nano-scaled objects* (SWNTs, MWNTs, etc.) by GIXRF
- *lateral resolution* of XRF reaching 100 nm at 3rd generation SR facilities

... and below 1 nm CD:

- analysis of *surface contamination* (< 0.4 nm) by TXRF
- analysis of *buried interfaces* and contamination by GIXRF

Nanoscaled Reference Materials (in line with ISO/TC 229 Nanotechnologies)

„Reference materials are the key to guaranteeing reliability and correctness for results of chemical analyses and technical measurements.“

Categories:

- flatness
- film thickness
- single step , periodic step, step grating
- lateral X-Y-axis, 1-dim
- lateral X-Y-axis, +2-dim,
- critical dimensions
- 3-dimensional
- nanoobjects/nanoparticles/nanomaterial
- nanocrystallite materials
- porosity
- depth profiling resolution

Every month several tens new nanoscaled materials appear.

The number of nanoscaled reference materials is considerably lower.

Reference-free methodologies can address this increasing gap.

www.nano-refmat.bam.de/en/

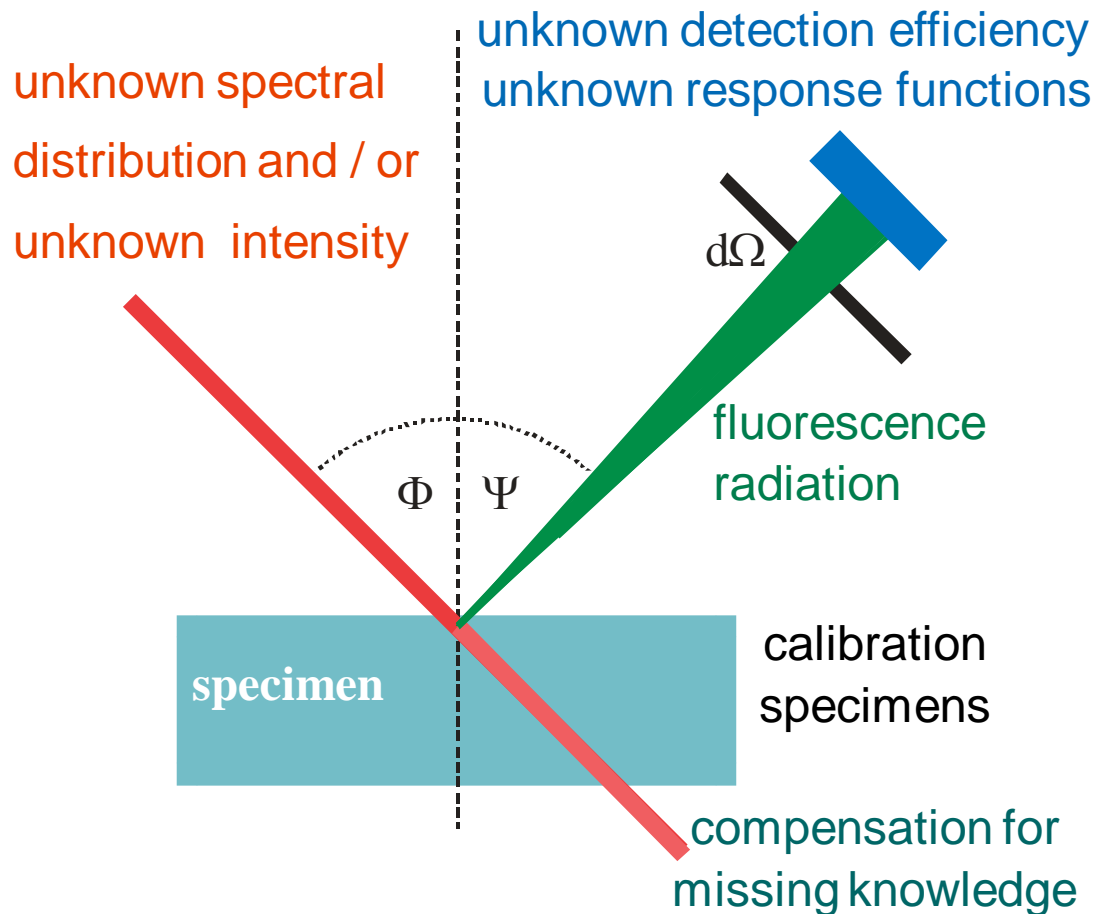
Analytical challenges for nanotechnologies

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X-ray spectrometry methodologies:

reference-based versus reference-free approaches

reference-based technique
based on well known calibration
specimens or reference materials



X-ray spectrometry methodologies:

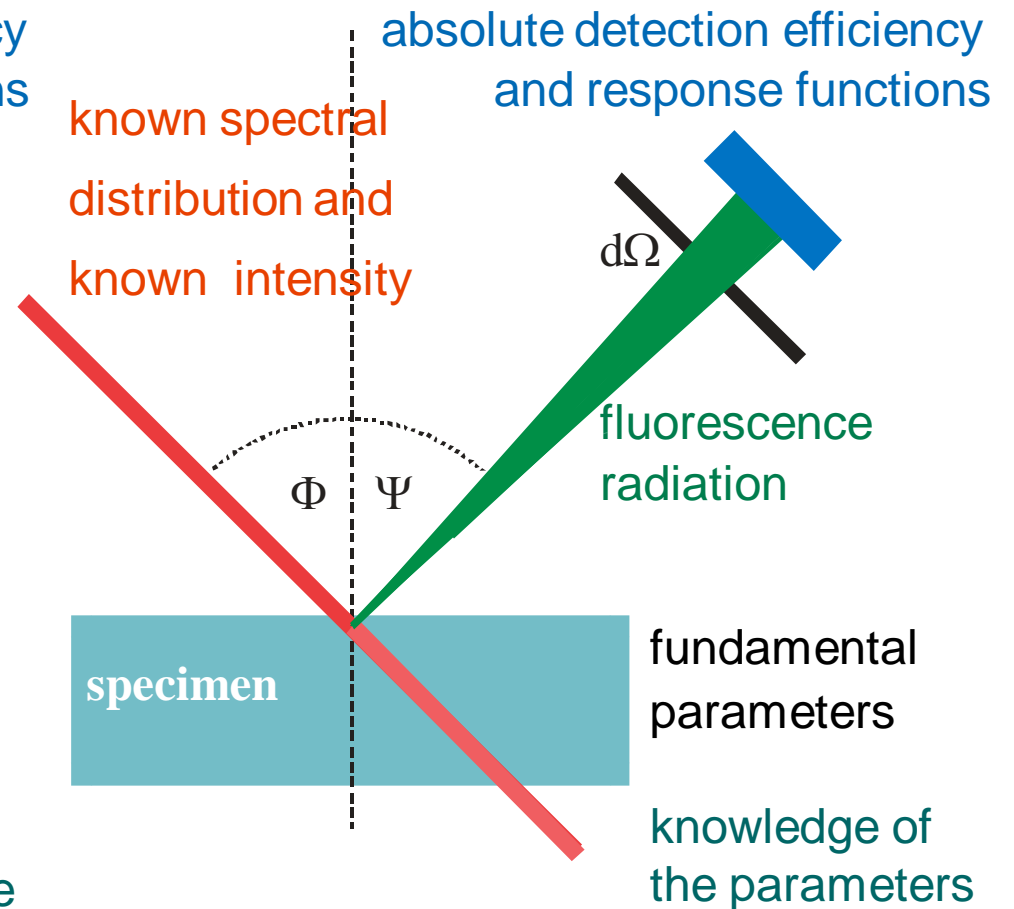
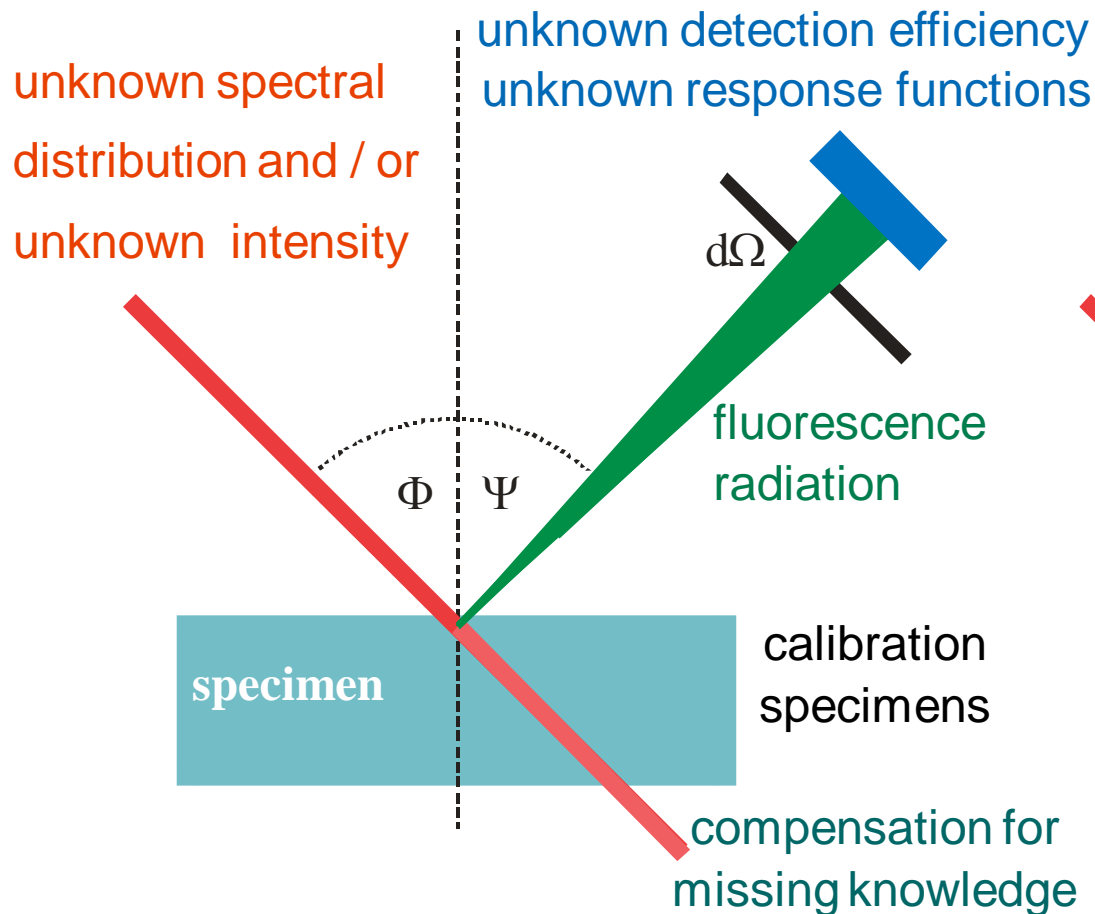
reference-based versus reference-free approaches



X-ray and IR spectrometry

reference-based technique
based on well known calibration
specimens or reference materials

reference-free technique
based on calibrated instrumen-
tation and fundamental parameters

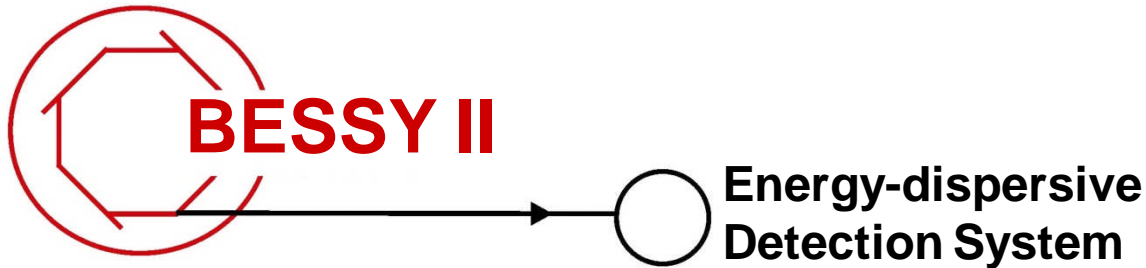


PTB laboratory at BESSY II: well-known synchrotron radiation for x-ray radiometry and x-ray spectrometry

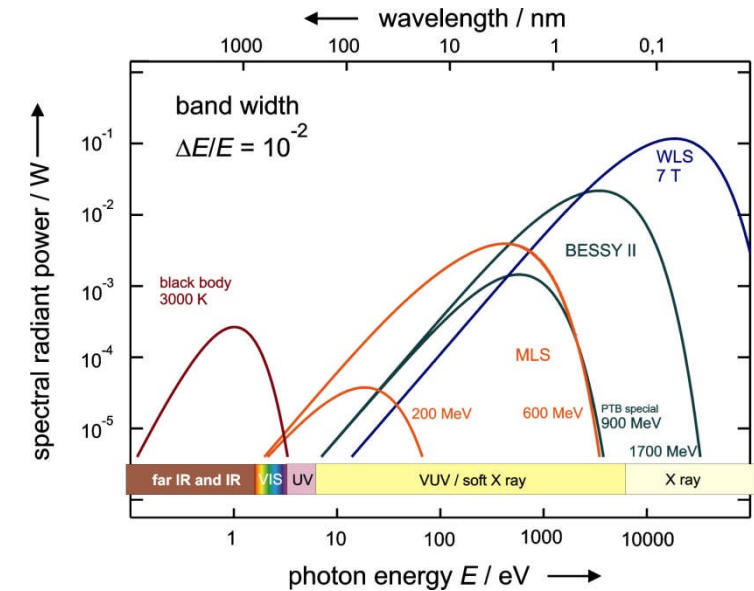


Metrology with SR

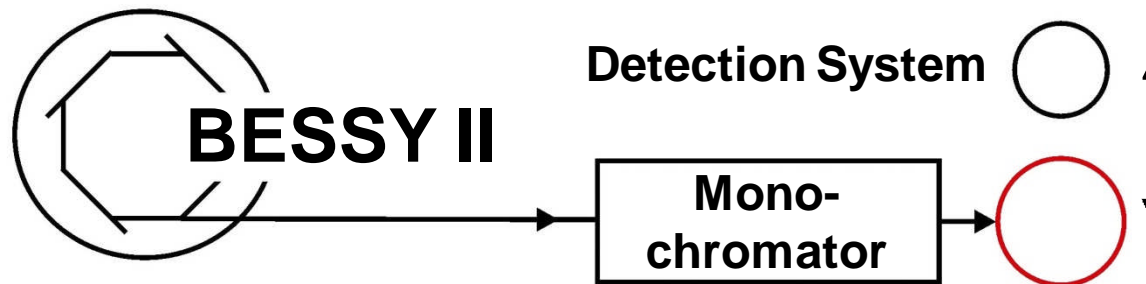
Source-based Radiometry:



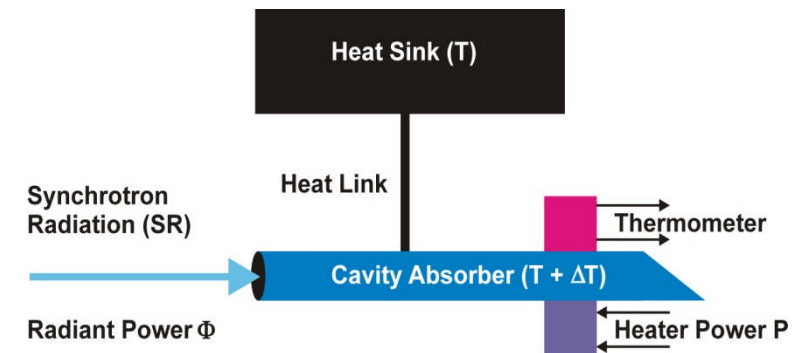
Primary Source Standard
(Relative Standard Uncertainty: $u = 0.1 \%$)



Detector-based Radiometry:



Primary Detector Standard
(Cryogenic Radiometer, Relative Standard
Uncertainty: $u = 0.1 \%$)



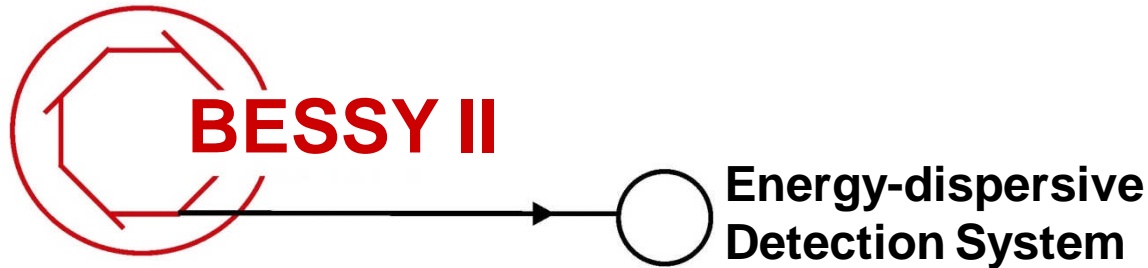
For constant absorber temperature $T + \Delta T$:
 $\Phi = P_{SR\ off} - P_{SR\ on}$ (Electrical Substitution)

PTB laboratory at BESSY II: well-known synchrotron radiation for the calibration of x-ray instrumentation

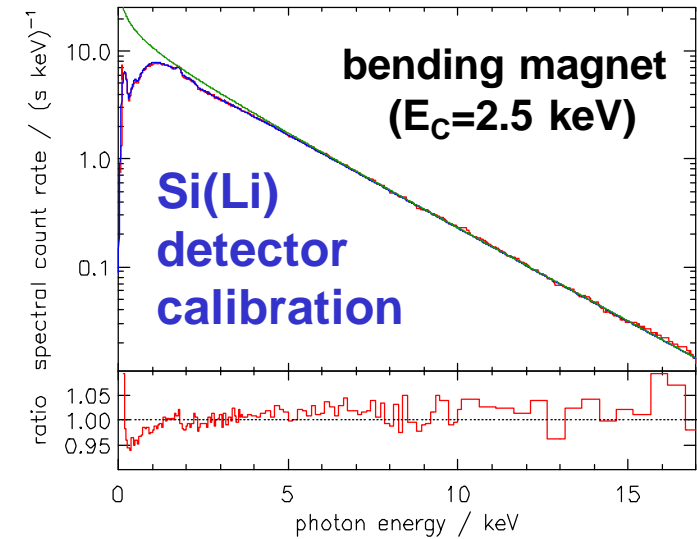


Metrology with SR

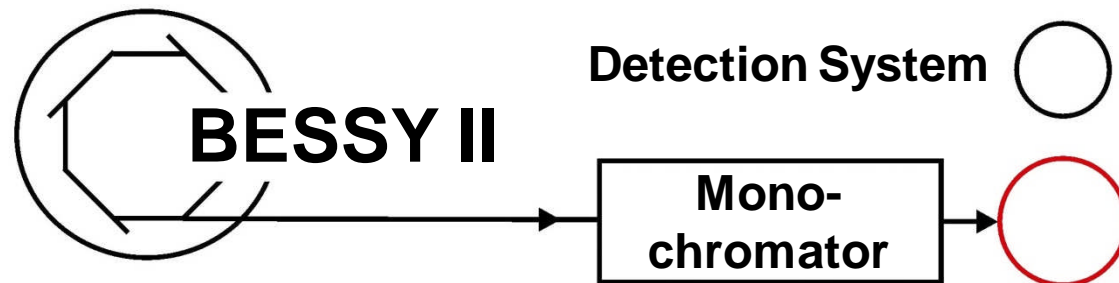
Source-based Radiometry:



Primary Source Standard
 (Relative Standard Uncertainty: $u = 0.1 \%$)

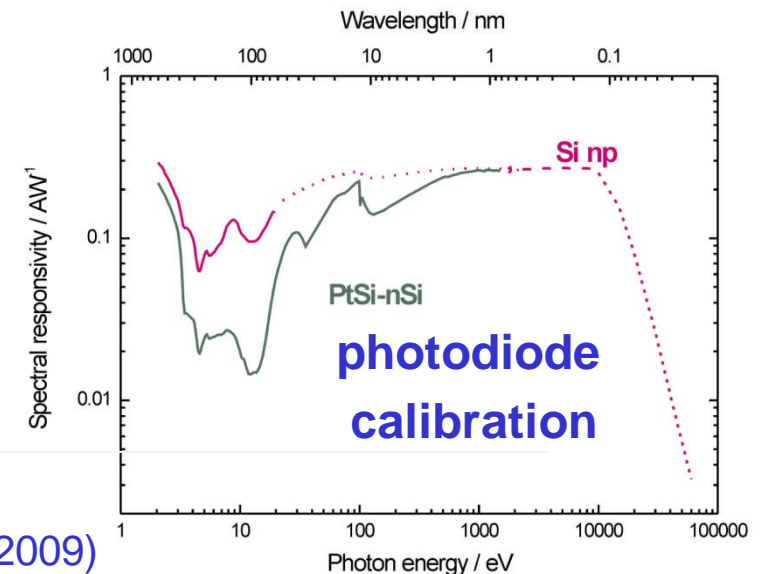


Detector-based Radiometry:



Primary Detector Standard
 (Cryogenic Radiometer, Relative Standard
 Uncertainty: $u = 0.1 \%$)

Phys. Stat. Sol. B 246,1415 (2009)



Synchrotron radiation based x-ray spectrometry



X-ray and IR spectrometry

XRS excitation channel:

well-known spectral distribution
and a well-known radiant power

XRS detection channel:

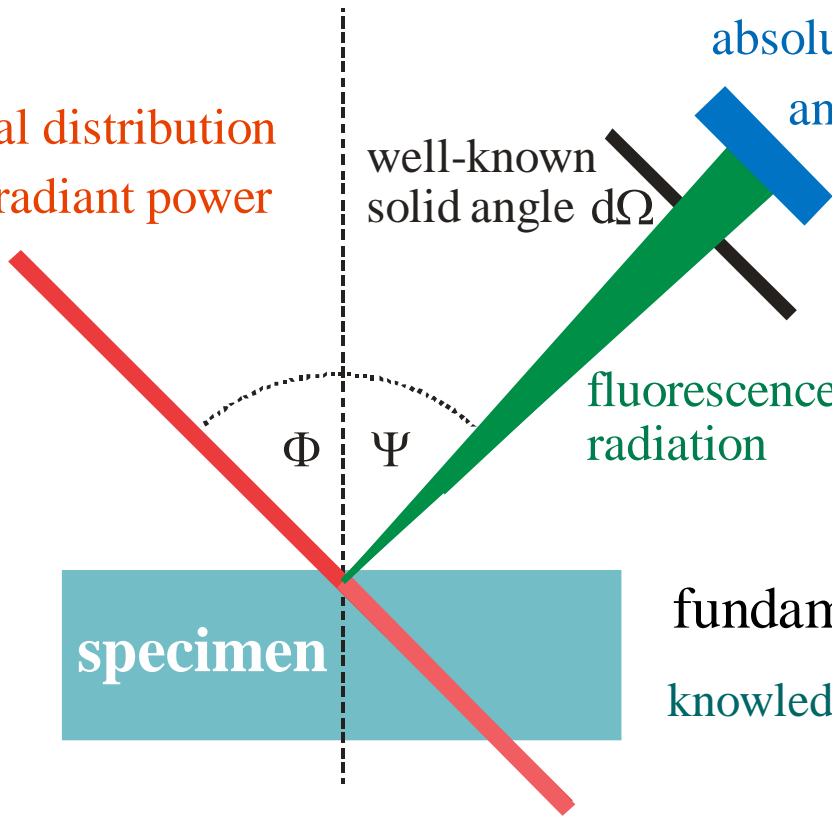
absolute detection efficiency
and response functions

well-known
solid angle $d\Omega$

fluorescence
radiation

PTB capabilities:

- characterized beamlines
- calibrated photodiodes
- calibrated diaphragms
- calibrated Si(Li) detectors



fundamental parameters
knowledge of the parameters

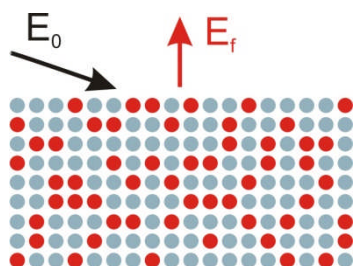
transmission measurements
absorption correction factors

Tuning the analytical sensitivity and information depth by means of appropriate operational parameters



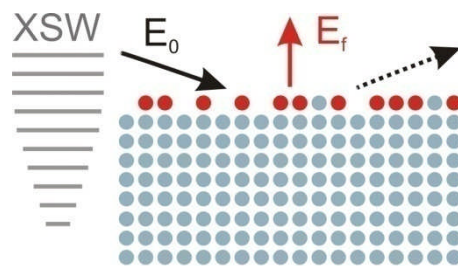
X-ray and IR spectrometry

excitation conditions



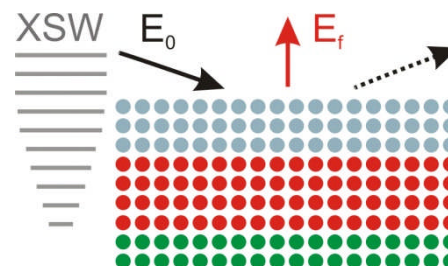
concentration

total-reflection



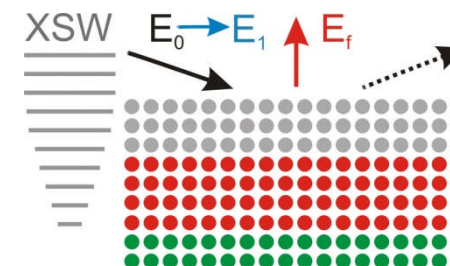
contamination

tunable incident angle



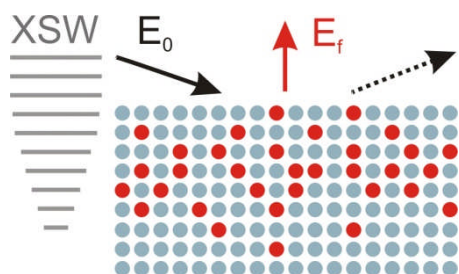
nanolayer

tunable photon energy



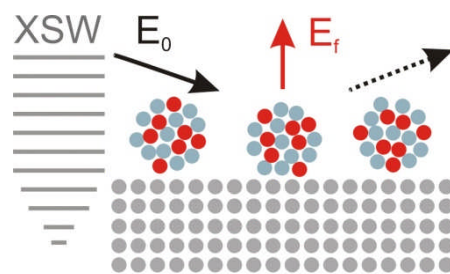
nanolayer speciation

tunable incident angle



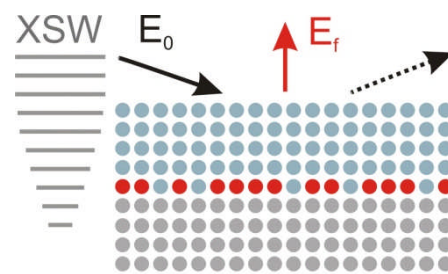
depth profile

total-reflection



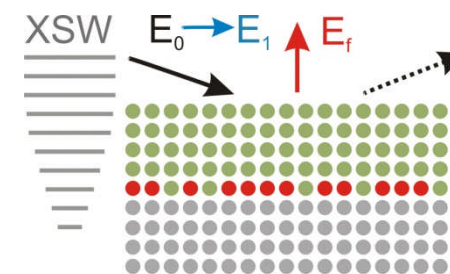
nanoparticles

tunable incident angle



interface

tunable photon energy



interface speciation

E_0 = photon energy of excitation radiation

E_1 = photon energy above absorption edge

E_f = photon energy of fluorescence radiation

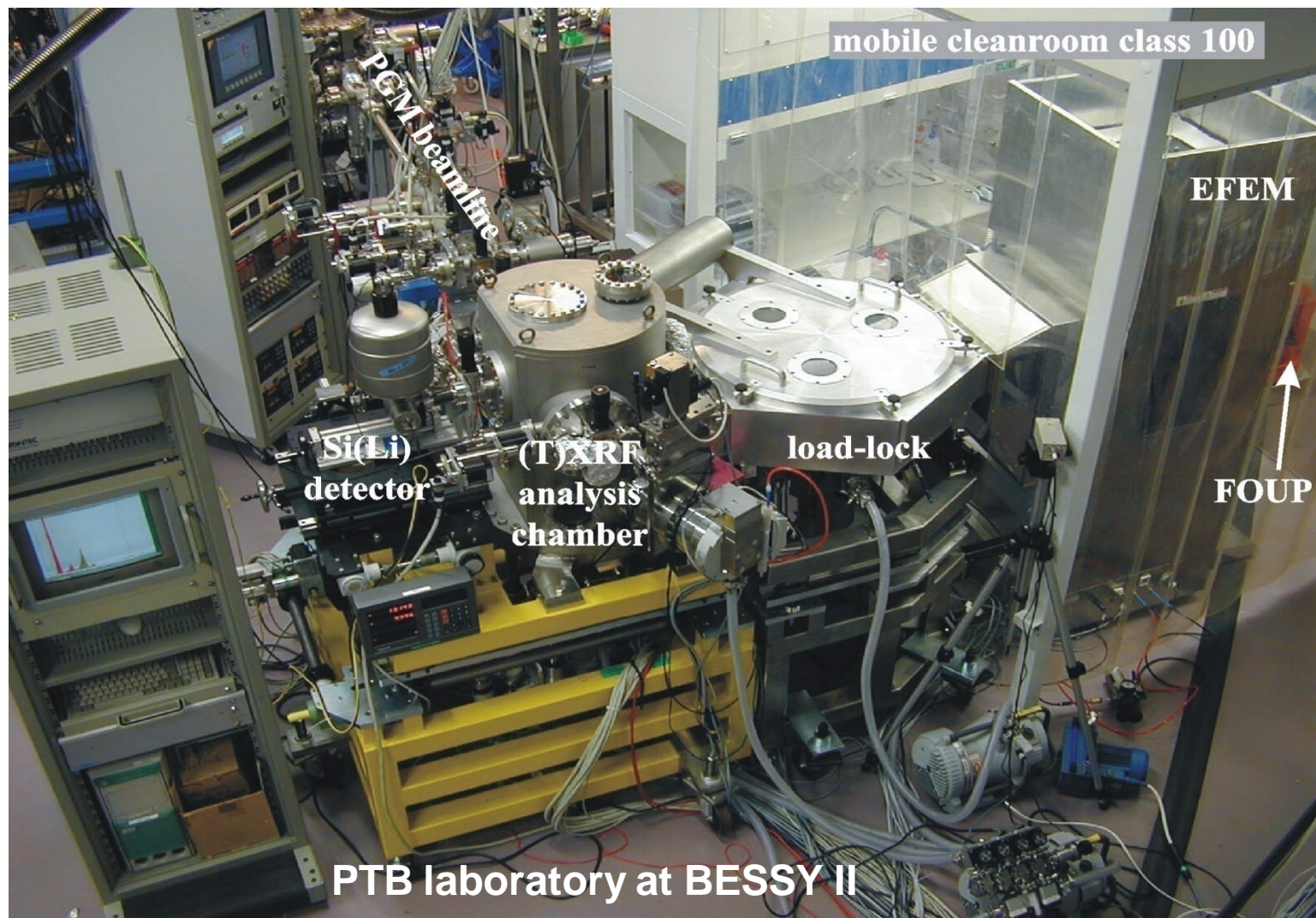
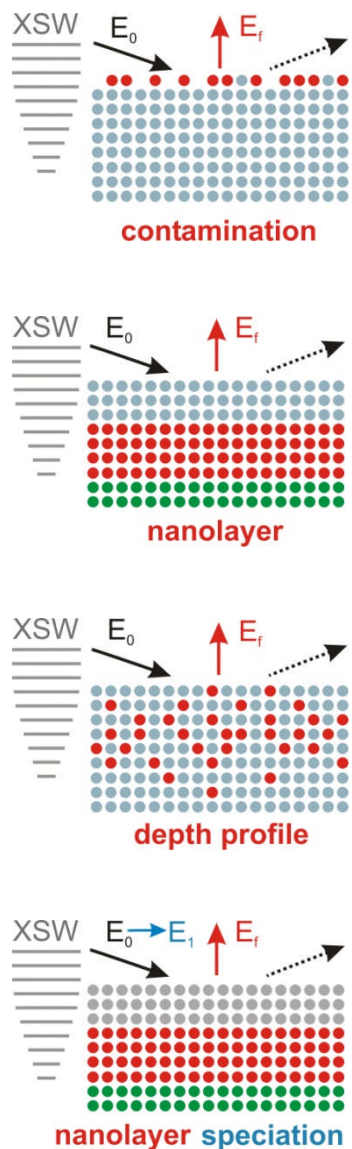
XSW = X-ray Standing Wave field

JAAS 23, 845 (2008)

Total-reflection X-Ray Fluorescence (TXRF) facility for 200 and 300 mm Si wafers using synchrotron radiation



X-ray and IR spectrometry



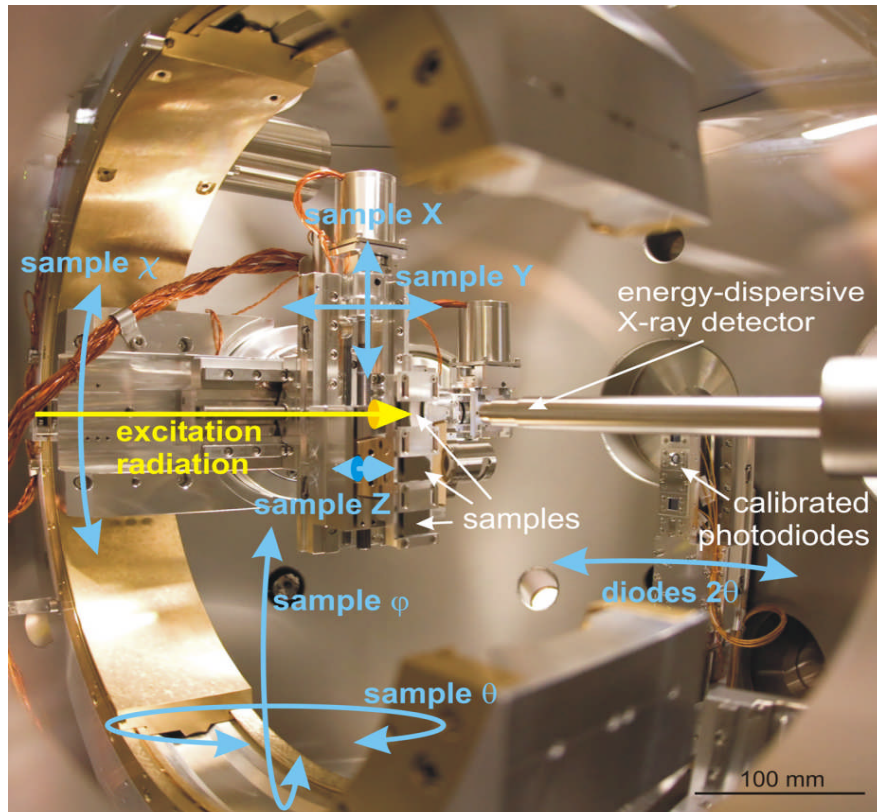
Analytical Chemistry **79**, 7873 (2007)

Novel XRS instrumentation for advanced materials characterizations with SR



X-ray and IR spectrometry

PTB XRS instrumentation at BESSY

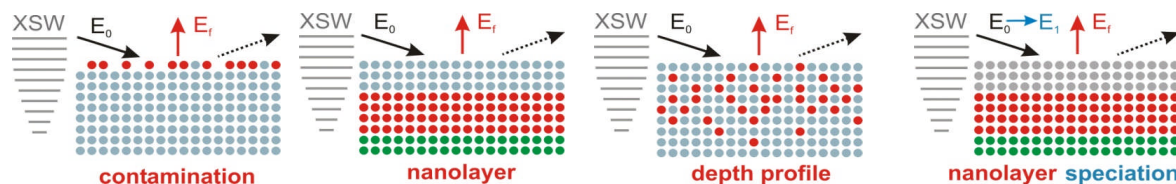


9-axis manipulator and chamber ensuring

- the entire TXRF, GIXRF and XRF regime
- polarization-dependent speciation by XAFS
- combined GIXRF and XRR investigations
- movable aperture system for reference-free XRF and atomic FP determinations

Transfer of modified instrumentation to

- TU Berlin for a **plasma source**
- LNE/CEA-LNHB for **SOLEIL**
- IAEA (UN) for **ELETTRA**



Janin Lubeck et al.,
Rev. Sci. Instrum. **84**, 045106 (2013)

Novel XRS instrumentation for advanced materials characterizations with SR

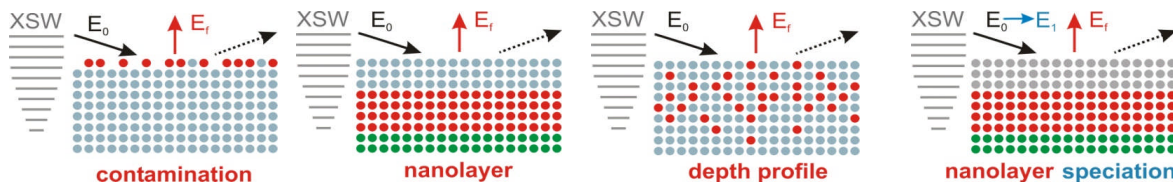
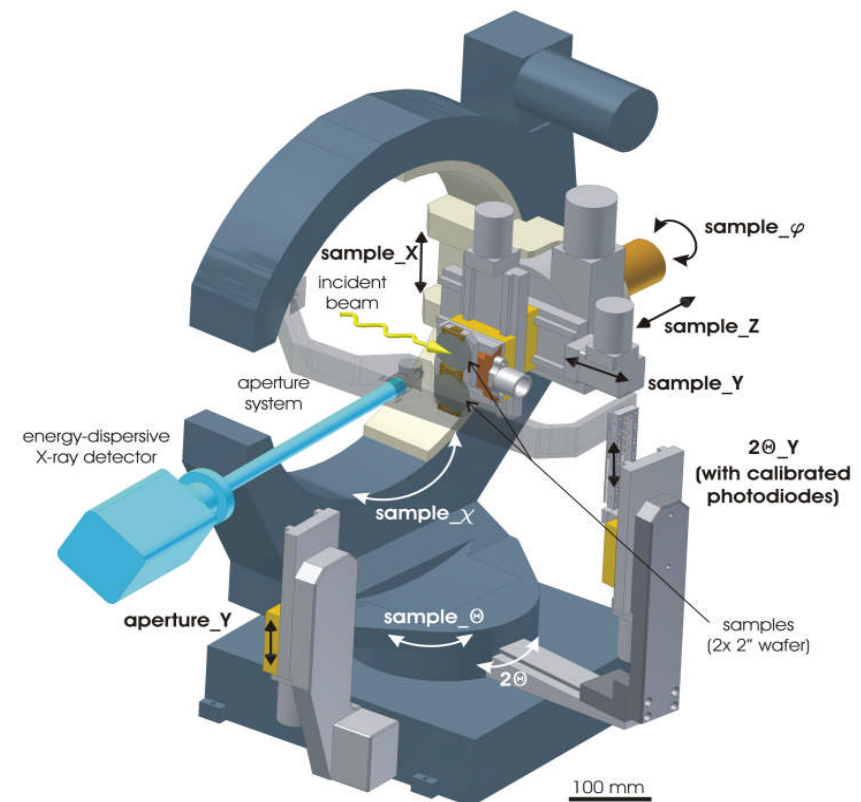
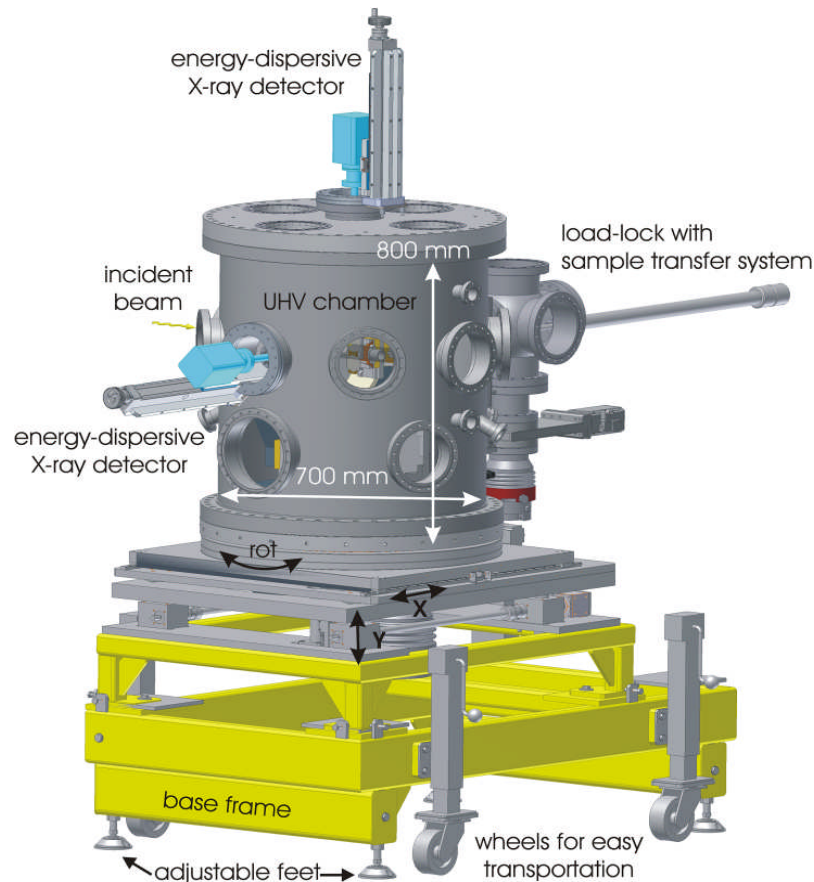


X-ray and IR spectrometry

PTB XRS instrumentation at BESSY

9-axis manipulator and chamber ensuring

- the entire TXRF, GIXRF and XRF regime



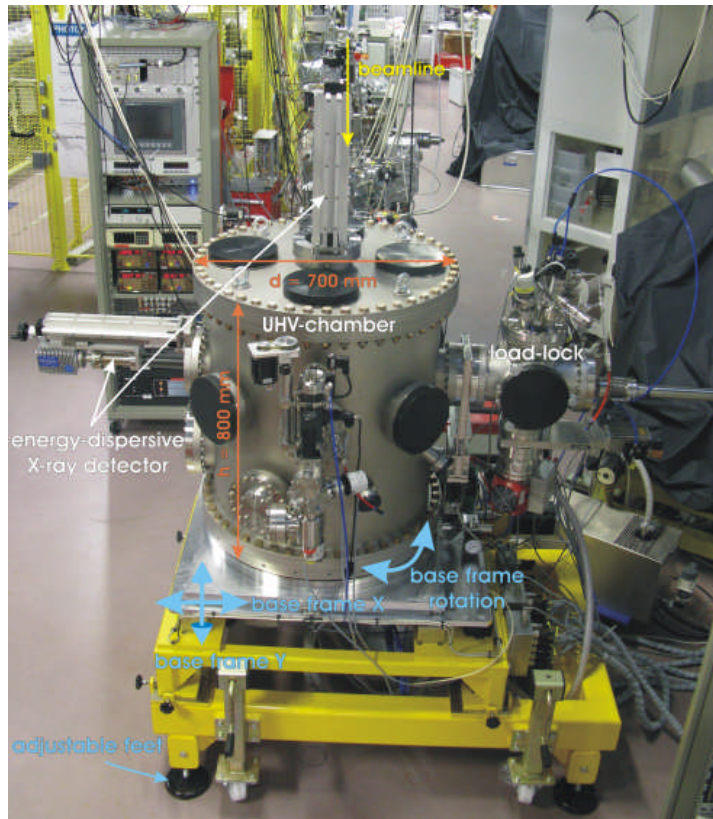
Janin Lubeck et al.,
Rev. Sci. Instrum. **84**, 045106 (2013)

Novel XRS instrumentation for advanced materials characterizations with SR



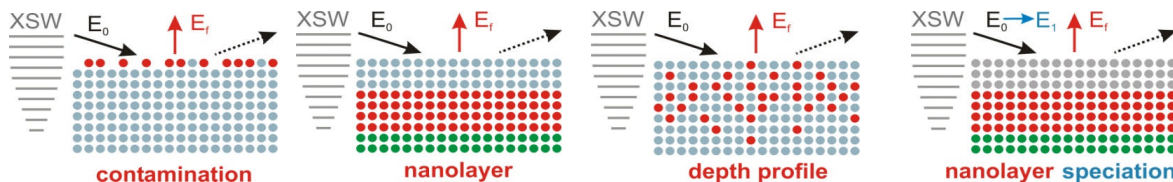
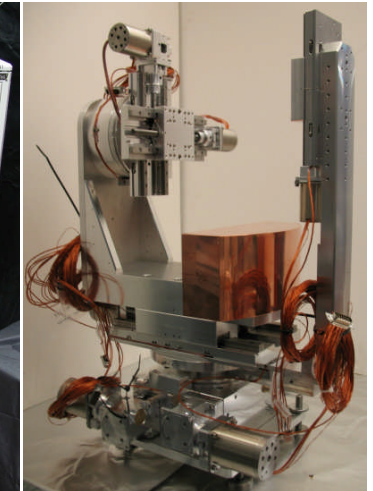
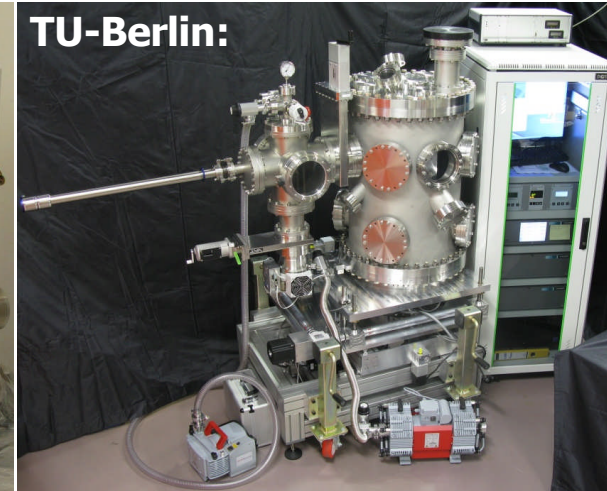
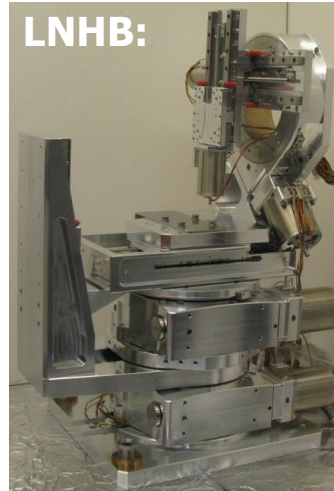
X-ray and IR spectrometry

PTB XRS instrumentation at BESSY



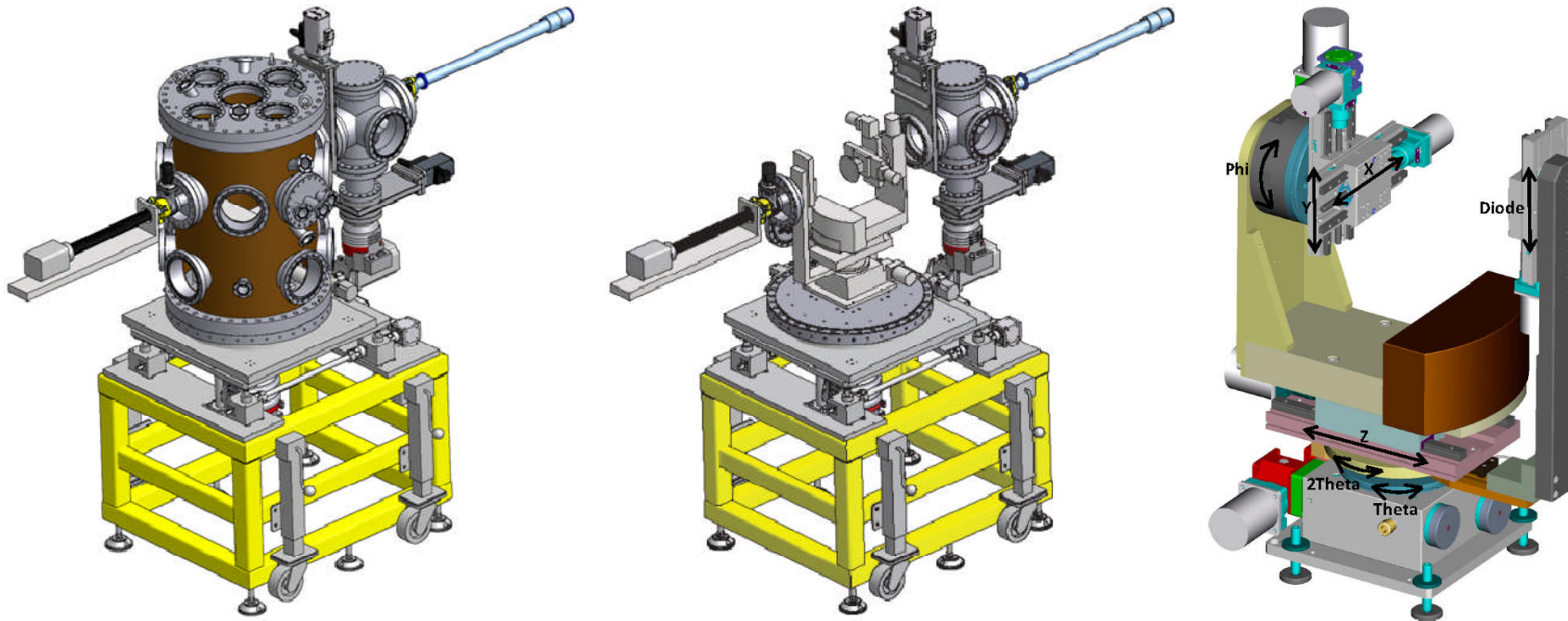
Technology transfer to and together with TU Berlin, to LNHB as well as to IAEA

- transfer to TU Berlin completed
- Characterization and first commissioning for IAEA and LNHB will be completed by the end of 2013

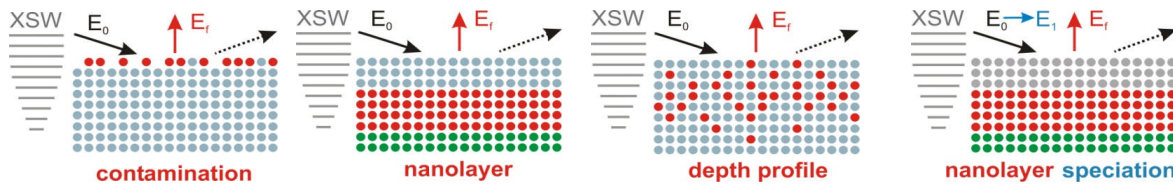


Janin Lubeck et al.,
Rev. Sci. Instrum. **84**, 045106 (2013)

Development of the novel XRS instrumentation for IAEA to be operated at ELETTRA

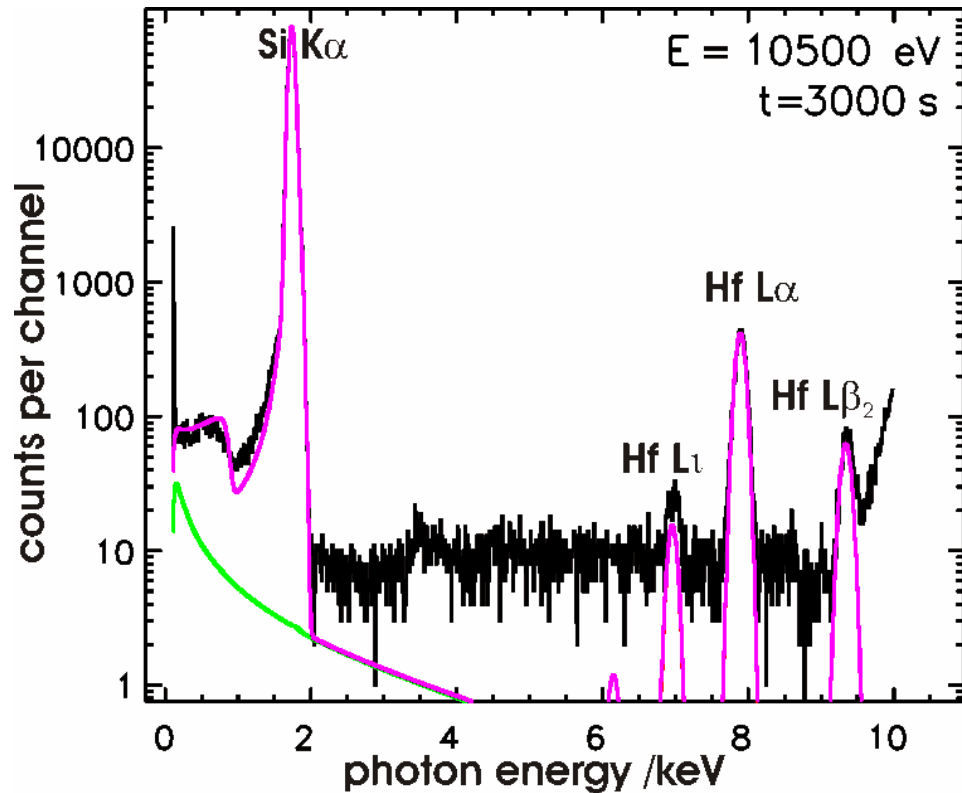


- UHV-chamber with load-lock
- moveable and motorized base frame (2x linear, 1x rotational)
- motorized 7-axis manipulator (4x linear, 3x rotational)



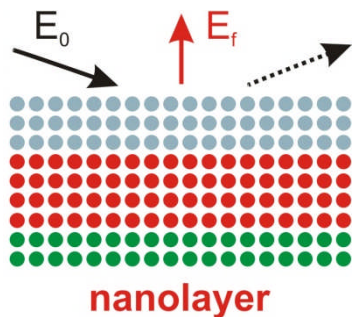
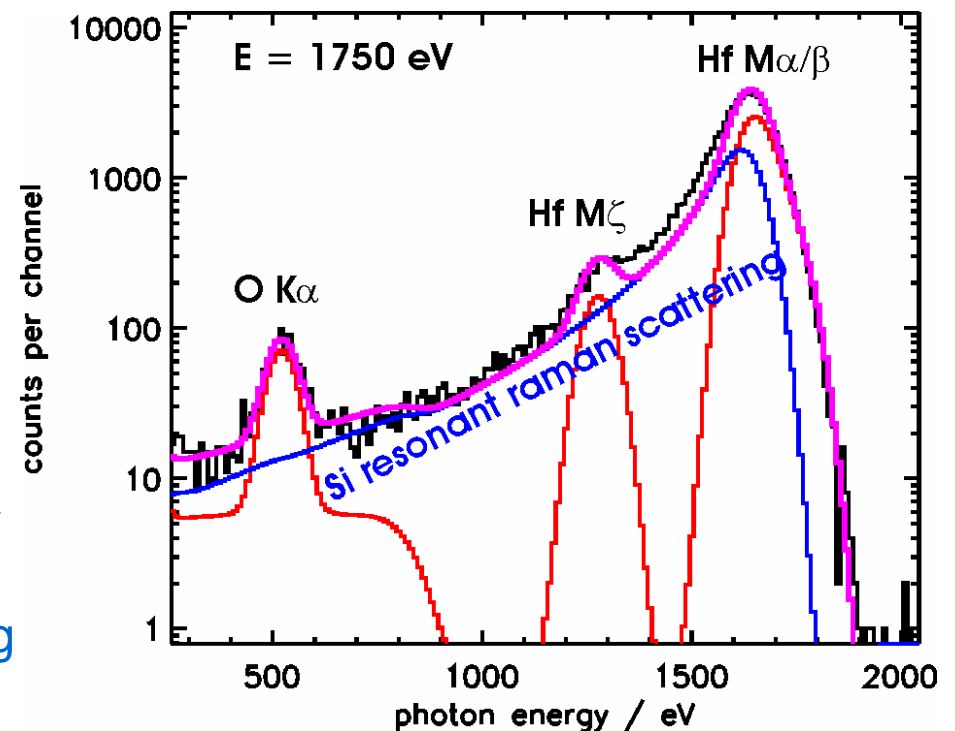
Janin Lubeck et al.,
Rev. Sci. Instrum. **84**, 045106 (2013)

X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) analysis of various Hf containing oxide nanolayers on Si substrate



Different excitation energies 10.5 keV and 1.75 keV

Different reliability of fundamental parameters depending on energy range

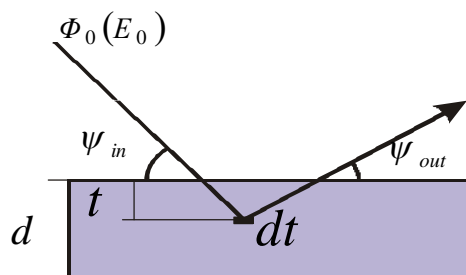


www.ANNA-i3.org

M. Kolbe

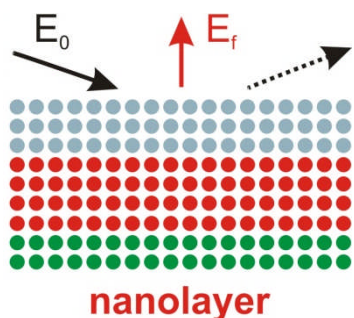
High-k nanolayers (Hf oxide / silicon oxide) layer thickness

X-ray and IR spectrometry



$$\Phi_i^d(E_0) = \Phi_0(E_0) \tau_i(E_0) W_i \frac{1}{\sin \psi_{in}} \omega_{K,i} \frac{r_{K,i} - 1}{r_{K,i}} f_{i,K\alpha} \frac{\Omega}{4\pi} \times \frac{1}{\frac{\mu(E_0)}{\sin \psi_{in}} + \frac{\mu(E_i)}{\sin \psi_{out}}} \left(1 - \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\mu(E_0)}{\sin \psi_{in}} + \frac{\mu(E_i)}{\sin \psi_{out}} \right) \rho d \right] \right)$$

		excited mass Hf from La counts	excited Hf atoms	calculated mass of Si	calculated mass of O	Layer thickness /nm
		/ ng/cm ²	/ cm ⁻²	(stoichiometric) / ng/cm ²	(stoichiometric) / ng/cm ²	density 9.7 / 6.7 g/cm ³
D04	5nm HfO2	3680 ± 390	1.243E+16		660.5	4.5 ± 0.7
D05	2nm HfO2	1170 ± 120	3.947E+15		209.7	1.4 ± 0.25
D06	2nm HfO2	1040 ± 110	3.520E+15		187.1	1.3 ± 0.2
D07	2nm HfSiOx (60% Hf)	790 ± 80	2.676E+15	124.8	403.9	1.8 ± 0.3



DO4:

(4.3 ± 0.2) nm
XRR

(4.5 ± 0.7) nm
ref.-free XRF

Quantitation in SR-TXRF routine analysis on Si wafers

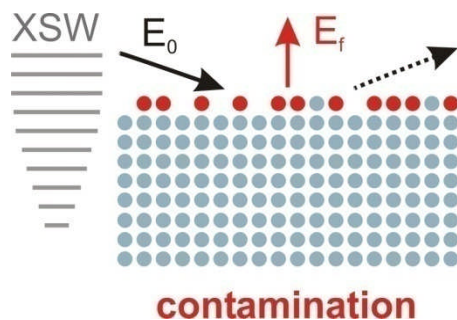
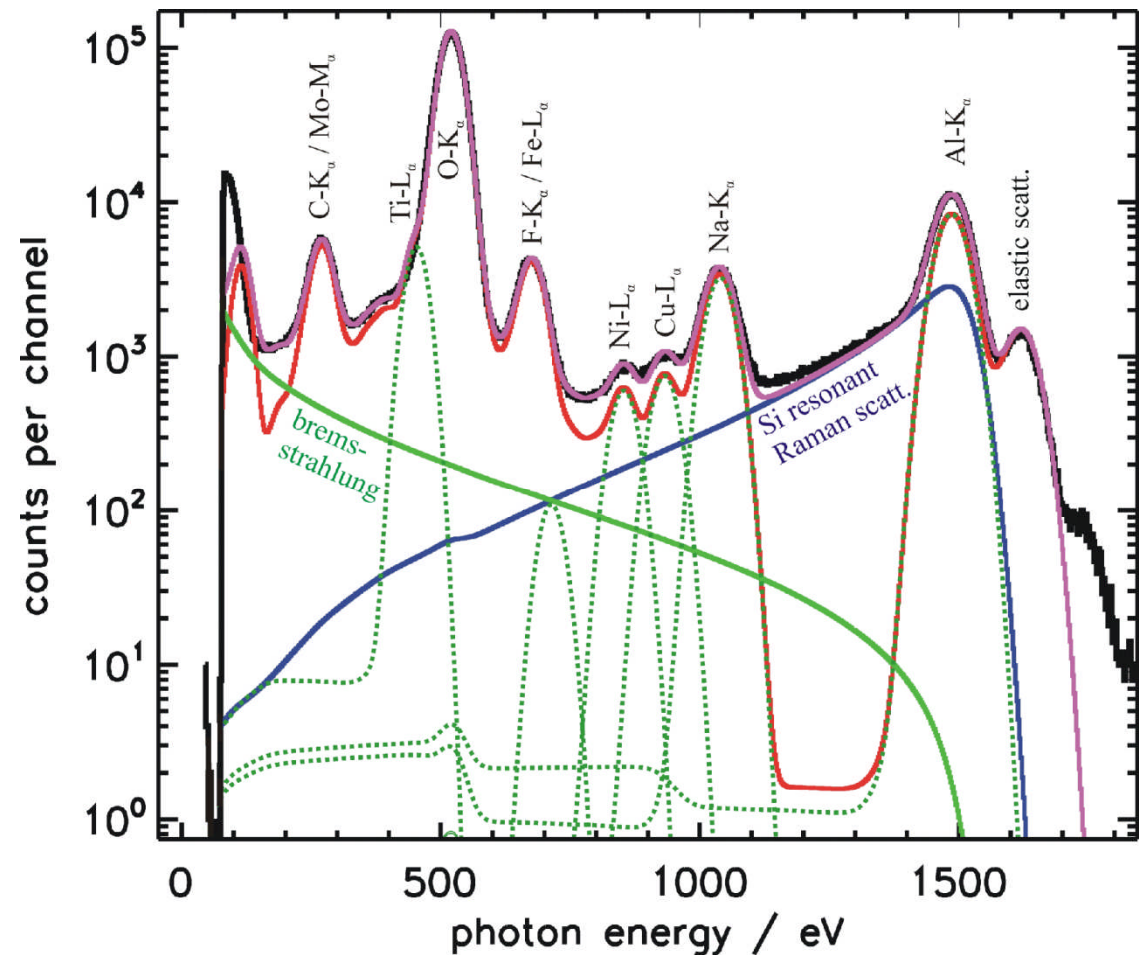
TXRF spectra deconvolution

including Si(Li) detector response functions, RRS, and bremsstrahlung contributions.

reference-free TXRF

quantitation: known incident flux, detector efficiency and solid angle.

spin-coated wafer with 10^{12} cm⁻² of various transition metals



Reference-free quantitation in SR-TXRF analysis

mass deposition m_i / F_I of the element i with unit area F_I

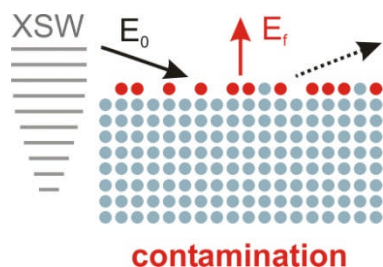
$$\frac{m_i}{F_I} = \frac{-1}{\mu_{tot,i}} \ln \left\{ 1 - \frac{P_i}{P_{0,Wsurf} \tau_{i,E_0} Q \frac{\Omega_{det}}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\sin \psi_{in}} \frac{1}{\mu_{tot,i}}} \right\}$$

E_0 photon energy of the incident (excitation) radiation

$P_0 = S_0 / \sigma_{diode,E_0}$ radiant power of the incident radiation

S_0 signal of the photodiode measuring the incident radiation

σ_{diode,E_0} spectral responsivity of the photodiode



Reference-free quantitation in SR-TXRF analysis

mass deposition m_i / F_I of the element i with unit area F_I

$$\frac{m_i}{F_I} = \frac{-1}{\mu_{tot,i}} \ln \left\{ 1 - \frac{P_i}{P_{0,Wsurf} \tau_{i,E_0} Q \frac{\Omega_{det}}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\sin \psi_{in}} \frac{1}{\mu_{tot,i}}} \right\}$$

I_{Wsurf}

relative intensity of the X-ray standing wave field¹ at the wafer surface

$$P_{0,Wsurf} = P_0 I_{Wsurf}$$

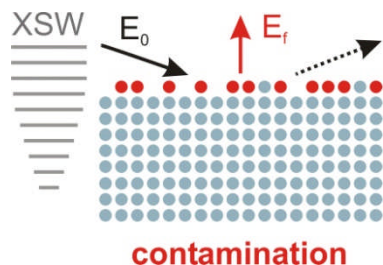
¹ software package IMD: D. Windt, Computers in Physics **12**, 360-370 (1998)

ψ_{in}

angle of incidence with respect to the wafer surface

E_i

photon energy of the fluorescence line l of the element i



Reference-free quantitation in SR-TXRF analysis

mass deposition m_i / F_I of the element i with unit area F_I

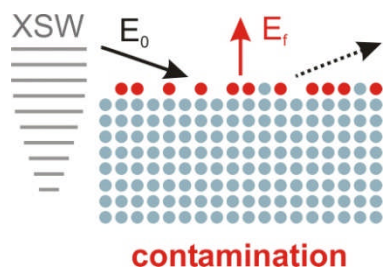
$$\frac{m_i}{F_I} = \frac{-1}{\mu_{tot,i}} \ln \left\{ 1 - \frac{P_i}{P_{0,Wsurf} \tau_{i,E_0} Q \frac{\Omega_{det}}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\sin \psi_{in}} \frac{1}{\mu_{tot,i}}} \right\}$$

R_i detected count rate of the fluorescence line l of the element i

ε_{det,E_i} detection efficiency of the Si(Li) detector at the photon energy E_i

$$P_i = R_i / \varepsilon_{det,i}$$

Ω_{det} effective solid angle of detection



Reference-free quantitation in SR-TXRF analysis

mass deposition m_i / F_I of the element i with unit area F_I

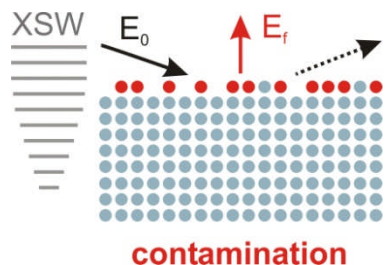
$$\frac{m_i}{F_I} = \frac{-1}{\mu_{tot,i}} \ln \left\{ 1 - \frac{P_i}{P_{0,Wsurf} \tau_{i,E_0} Q \frac{\Omega_{det}}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\sin \psi_{in}} \frac{1}{\mu_{tot,i}}} \right\}$$

ψ_{out} angle of observation which equals 90° in a typical TXRF geometry

τ_{i,E_0} photo electric cross section of the element i at the photon energy

$\mu_{i,E}$ absorption cross section of the element i at the photon energy E

$$\mu_{tot,i} = \mu_{i,E_0} / \sin \psi_{in} + \mu_{i,E_i} / \sin \psi_{out}$$



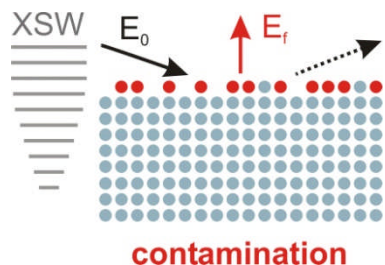
Reference-free quantitation in SR-TXRF analysis

mass deposition m_i / F_I of the element i with unit area F_I

$$\frac{m_i}{F_I} = \frac{-1}{\mu_{tot,i}} \ln \left\{ 1 - \frac{P_i}{P_{0,Wsurf} \tau_{i,E_0} Q \frac{\Omega_{det}}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\sin \psi_{in}} \frac{1}{\mu_{tot,i}}} \right\}$$

- ω_{Xi} fluorescence yield of the absorption edge Xi (of the element i)
- $g_{l, Xi}$ transition probability of the fluorescence line l belonging to Xi
- j_{Xi} jump ratio at the absorption edge Xi

$$Q = \omega_{Xi} g_{l, Xi} (j_{Xi} - 1) / j_{Xi}$$



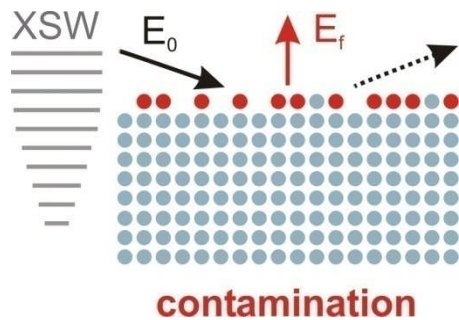
Analysis of contamination on novel materials
(Ge, SOI, InGaAs, ...) or of nanolayered
systems (buried interfaces – photovoltaics)
→ calculation of the x-ray standing wave field

reference based TXRF - Ni surface contamination

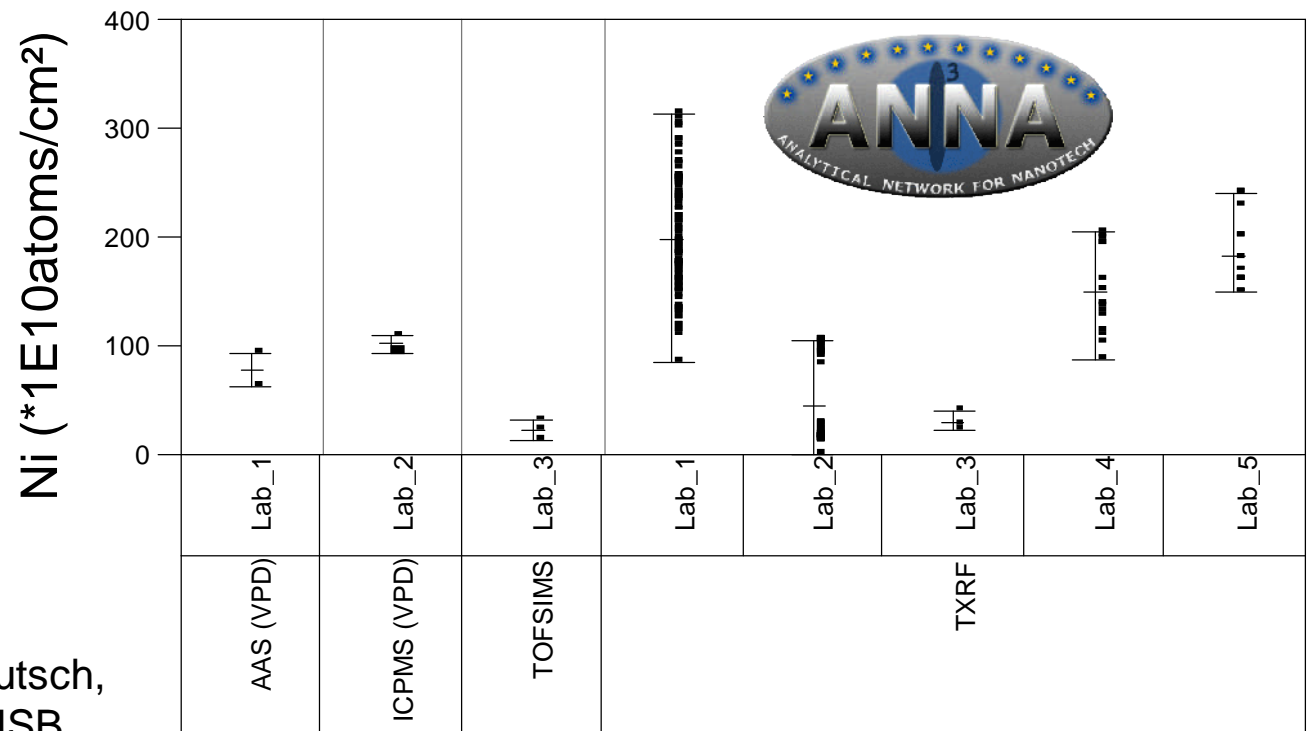
Total-reflection X-ray Fluorescence (TXRF) analysis:

- non-consistent results from round robin tests (differences up to a factor of ten)
- reason: problems with employed calibration samples (droplet depositions)

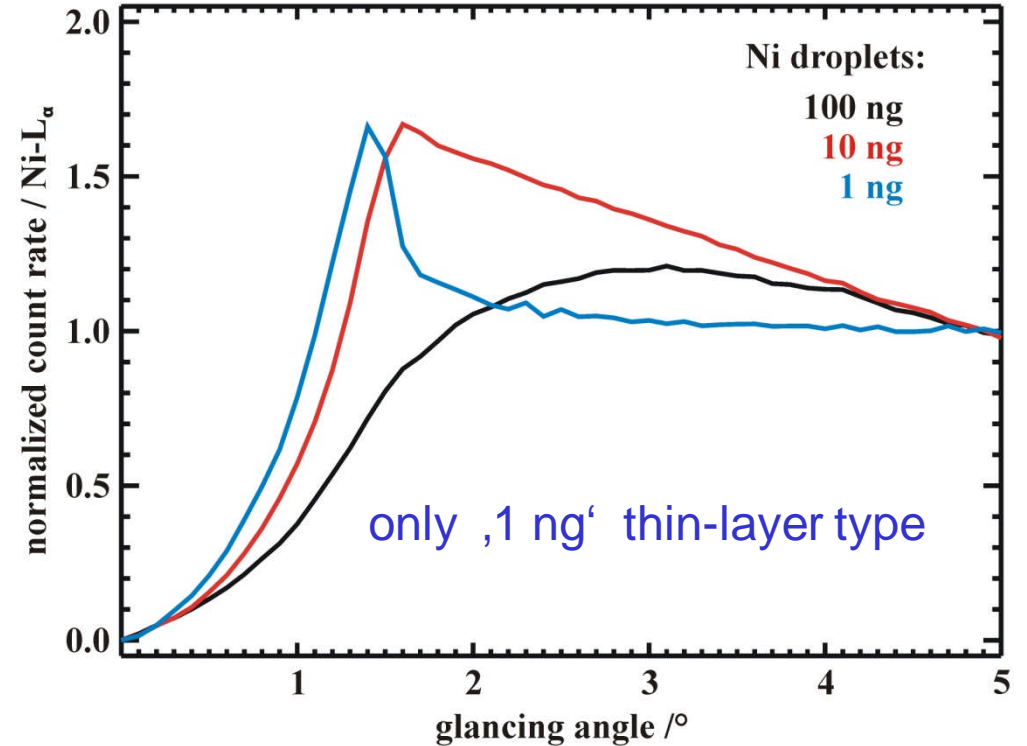
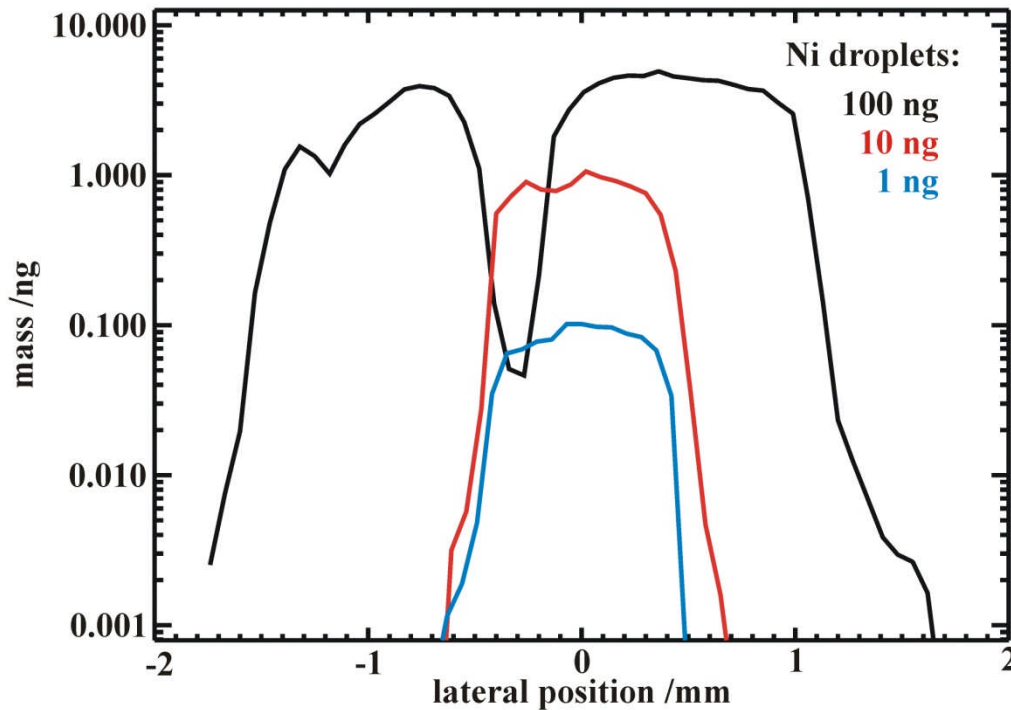
spin coated contamination:
 metals 1×10^{12} atoms/cm²
 and light elements (Na, Al)
 1×10^{13} atoms/cm²



A. Nutsch,
FhG IISB



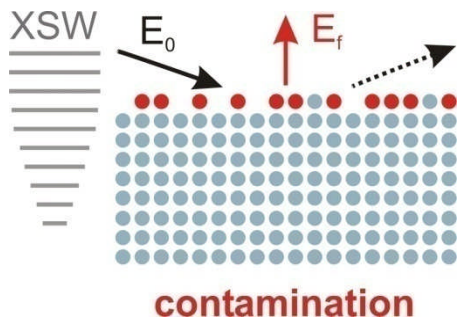
Assessment of TXRF calibration samples for Ni surface contamination



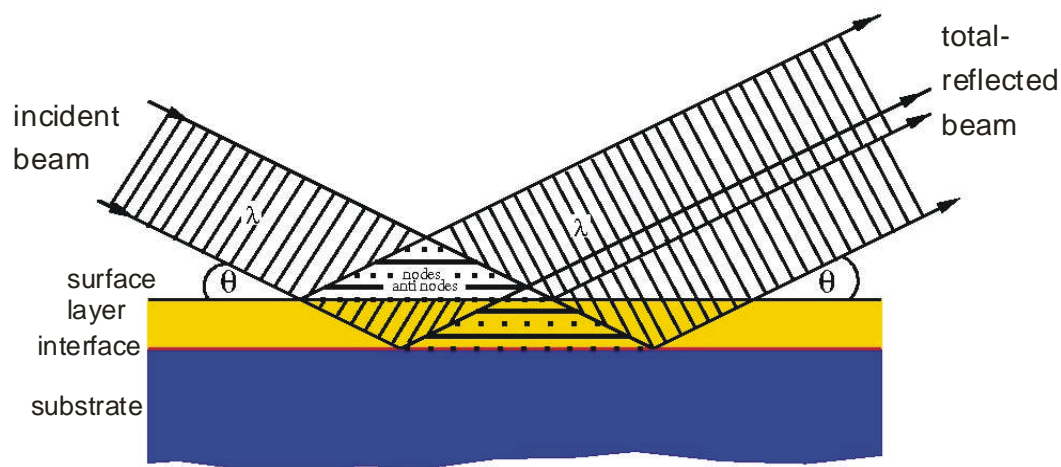
Reason for deviations in contamination results: inhomogeneities

and absorption saturation of TXRF calibration droplets

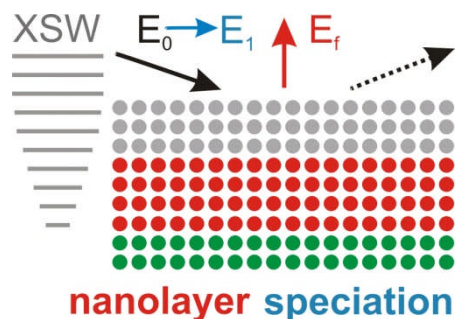
→ “slicing” and “angular scanning” of calibration droplets by reference-free TXRF as validation technique



Speciation of buried nanolayers by GIXRF-NEXAFS



- composition and speciation of buried nanolayers
- higher information depth ($\gg 5\text{nm}$) than XPS
- parallel variation of incident angle and photon energy

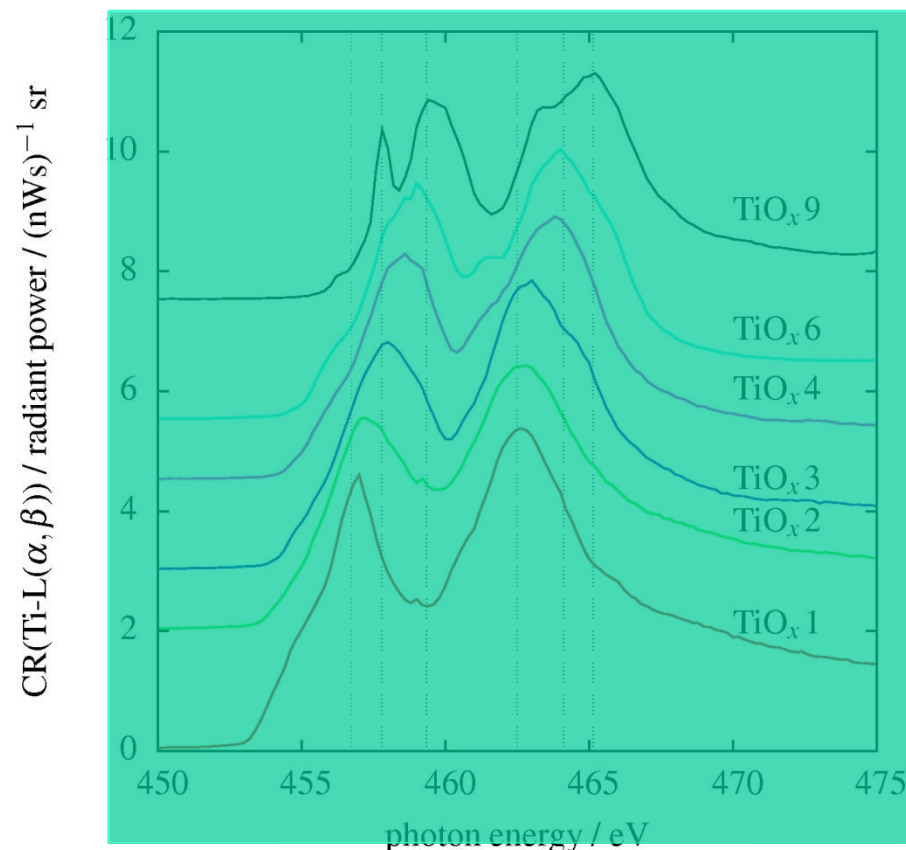


B. Pollakowski

Phys. Rev. B **77**, 235408 (2008)

Anal. Chem. **85**, 193 (2013)

GIXRF-NEXAFS at the Ti-L_{iii,ii} edges



speciation of buried Ti oxide nanolayers
(the degree of oxidation scales with indices)

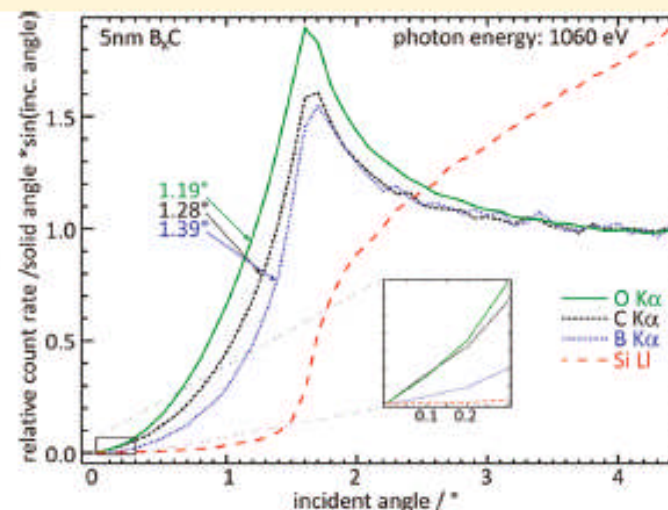
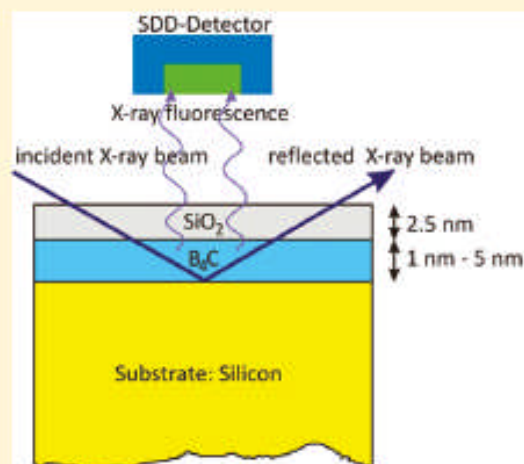
Reference-free XRF and grazing-incidence XRF of buried nanolayers

Complementary Characterization of Buried Nanolayers by Quantitative X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry under Conventional and Grazing Incidence Conditions

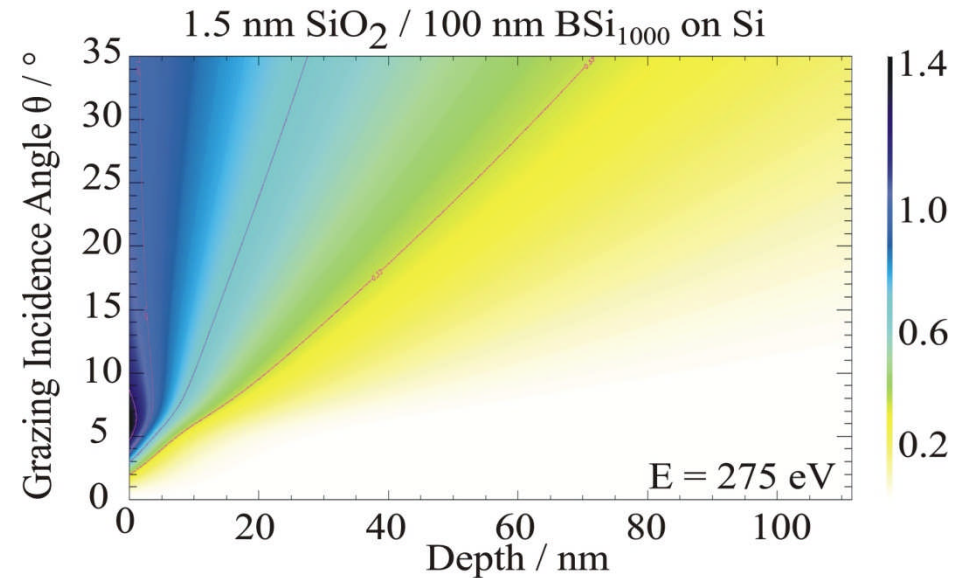
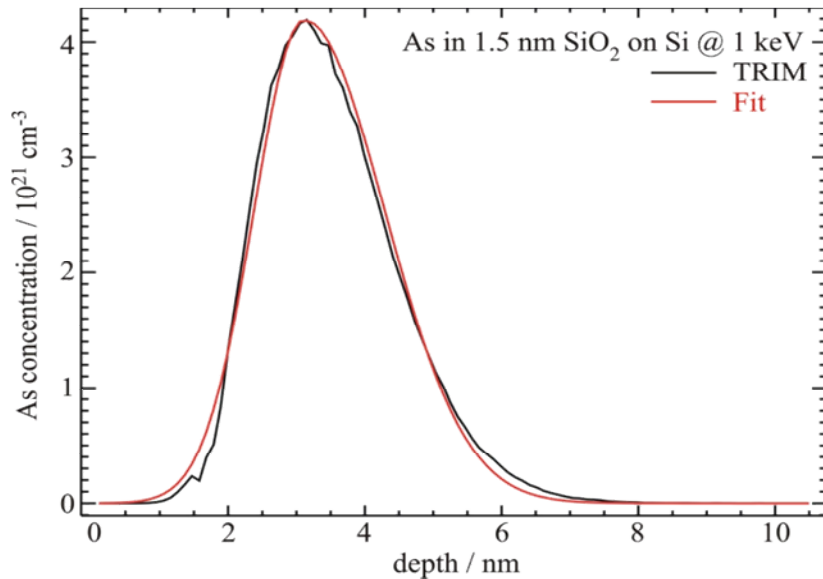
Rainer Unterumsberger,* Beatrix Pollakowski, Matthias Müller, and Burkhard Beckhoff

Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, Abbestr. 2-12, 10587 Berlin, Germany

ABSTRACT:



GIXRF analysis of B and As implantation profiles

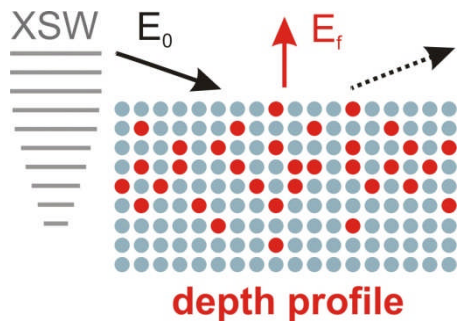


fundamental and instrumental parameters

depth distribution of the implant

X-ray Standing Wave field distribution

absorption term



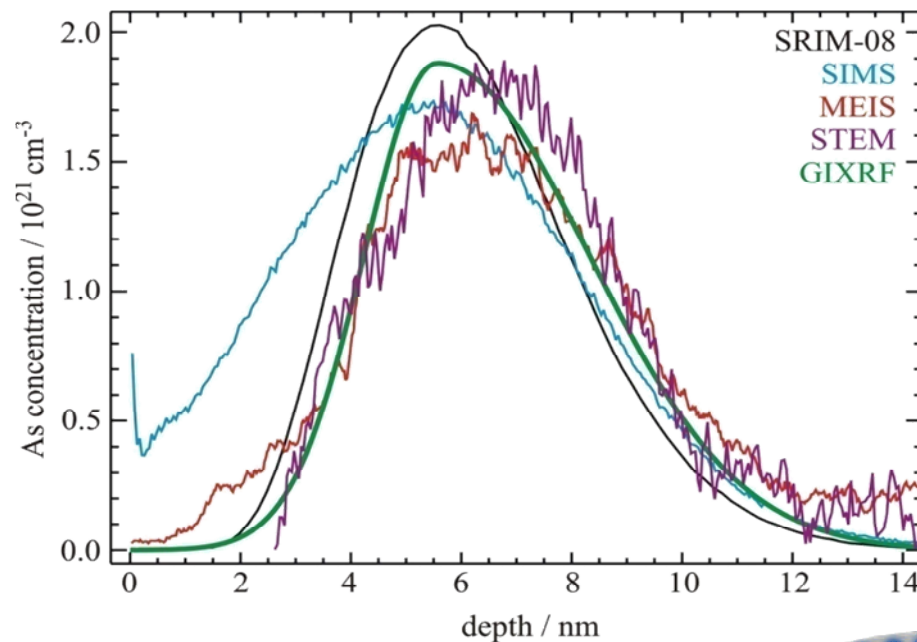
$$F_{Imp}(\theta) = G \int_0^{t_{max}} P_{Imp}(t) \cdot I_{XSW}(t, \theta, E_0) \cdot \left(e^{-\frac{t \mu_{tot}(t)}{\sin \theta_{det}}} \right) dt$$

P. Hönicke

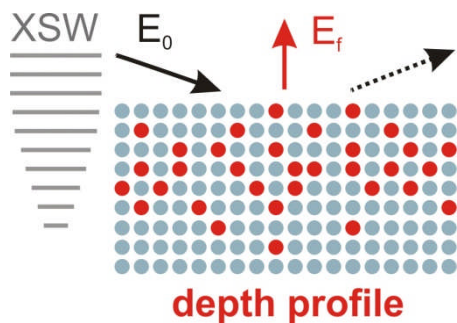
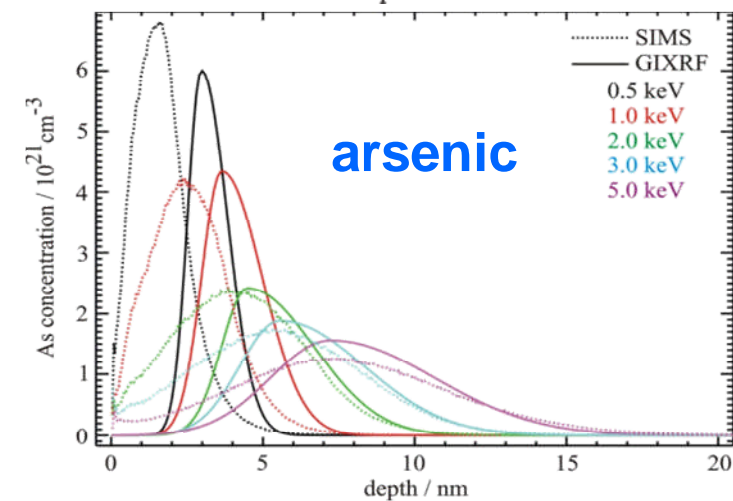
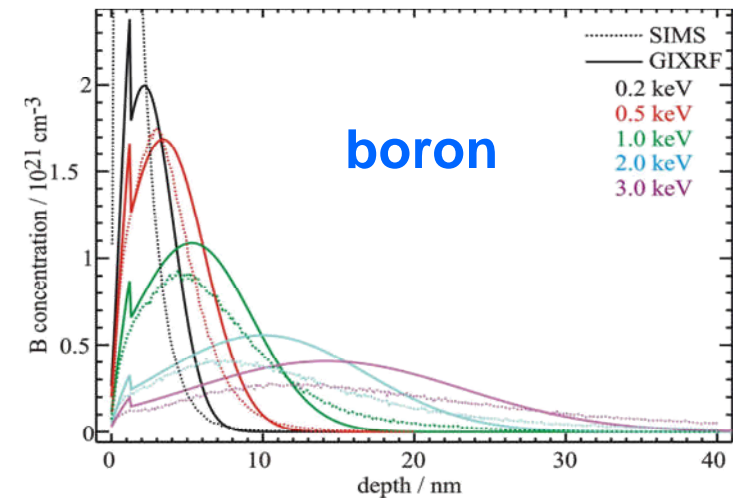
Anal. Bioanal. Chem. **396**, 2825 (2010)

GIXRF analysis of B and As implantation profiles

Comparison of GIXRF results on arsenic samples to SIMS, MEIS and STEM



Comparison of GIXRF results to SIMS



D. Giubertoni (FBK)

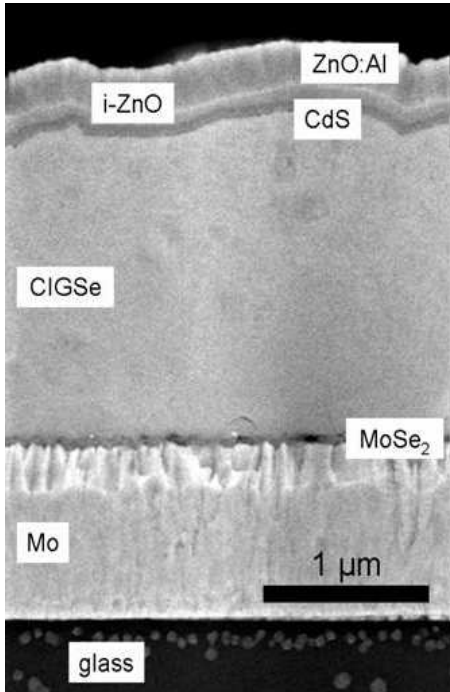
J. van den Berg (Univ. Salford)

P. Hönicke

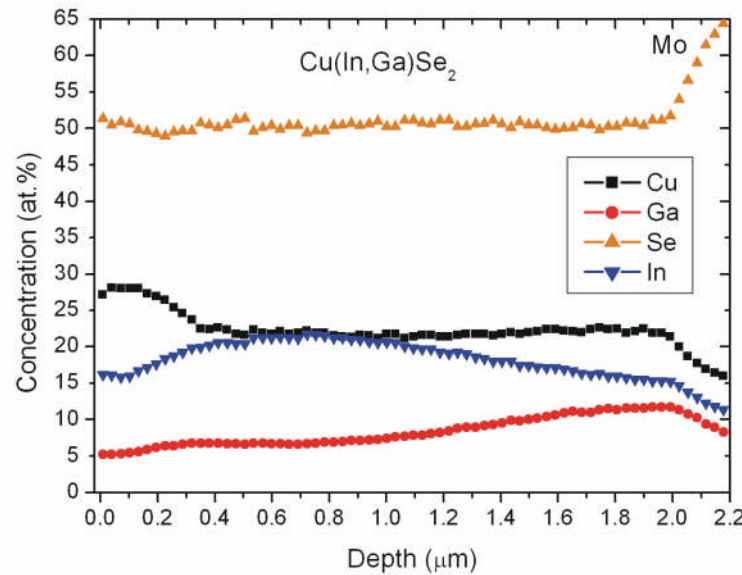
Anal. Bioanal. Chem. **396**, 2825 (2010)

Characterisation of CIGS photovoltaics

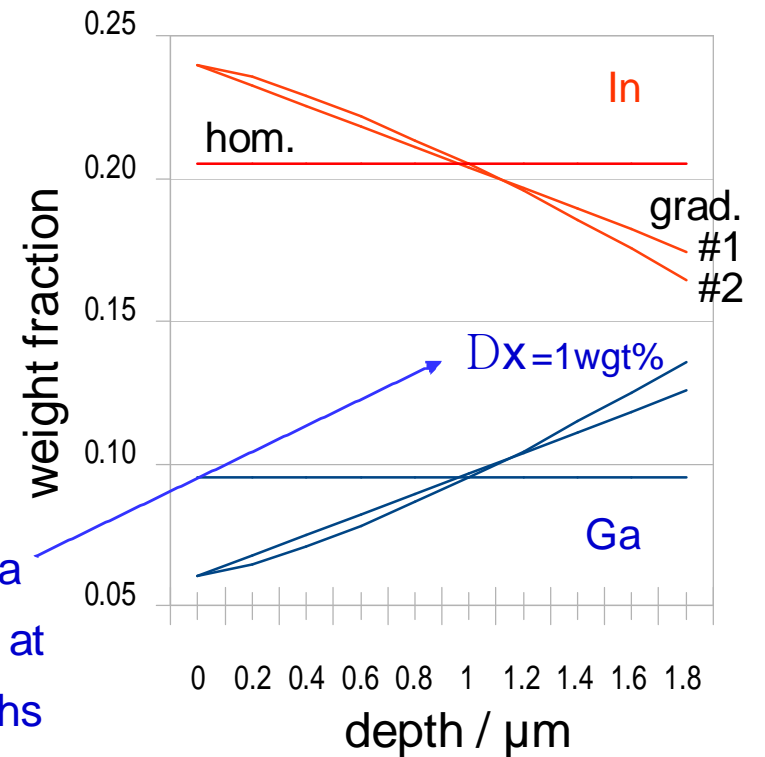
Cu(In,Ga)Se₂ system



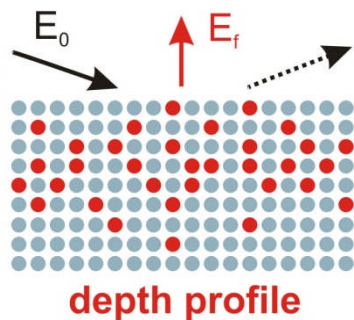
Elemental depth profiling by SIMS



Discrimination requirements



difference in Ga weight fraction at maximum depths

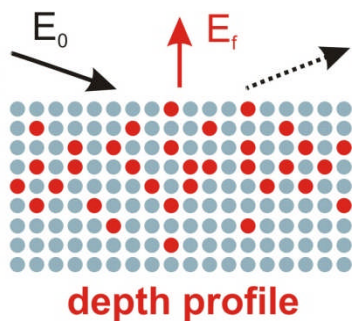
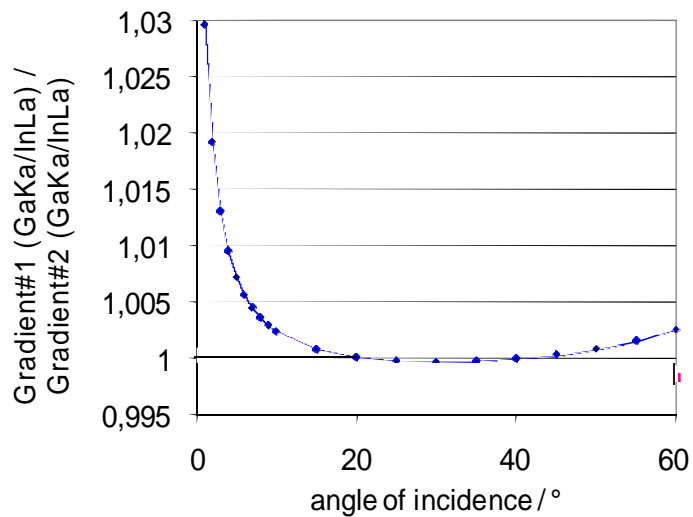


C. Streeck,
HZB / TUB

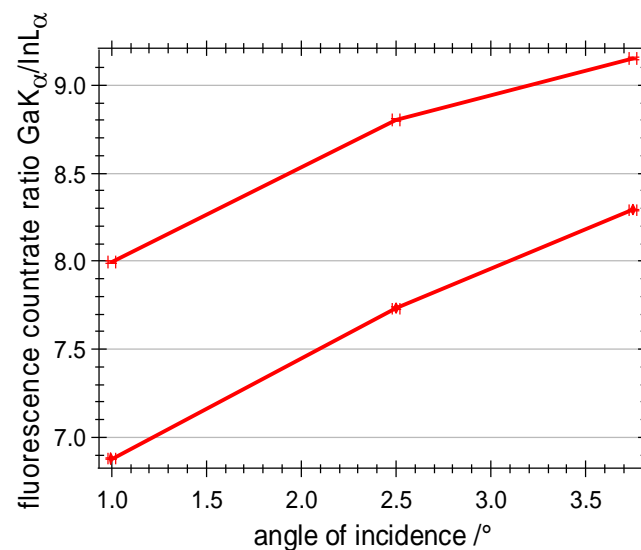
NIMB 268, 277 (2010)

GIXRF analysis of CIGS photovoltaics

Predicted discrimination potential of GIXRF for 2 absorbers differing by 1 wgt. % at maximum depth



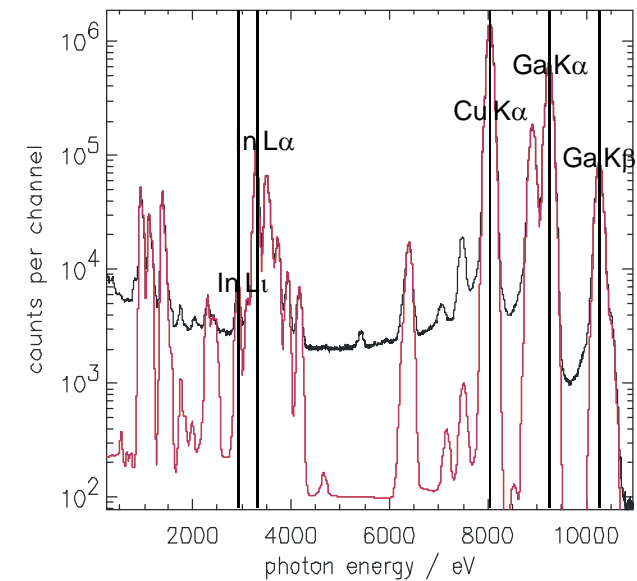
Experimental discrimination of two different CIGS absorbers



C. Streeck,
HZB / TUB

NIMB 268, 277 (2010)

Deconvolved GIXRF spectrum ($E_0 = 10.5$ keV)



GIXRF-NEXAFS at thin-film Si photovoltaics: probing the chemical state of buried interfaces

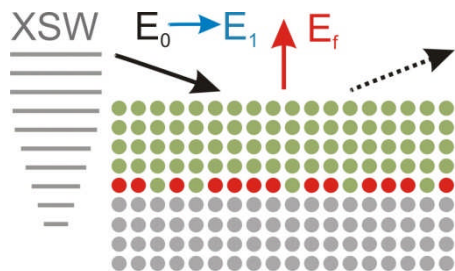
GIXRF-NEXAFS requirements:

- transmission through a-Si layer
- total reflection at interface

Si:P - Si doped with 0,2 at% P

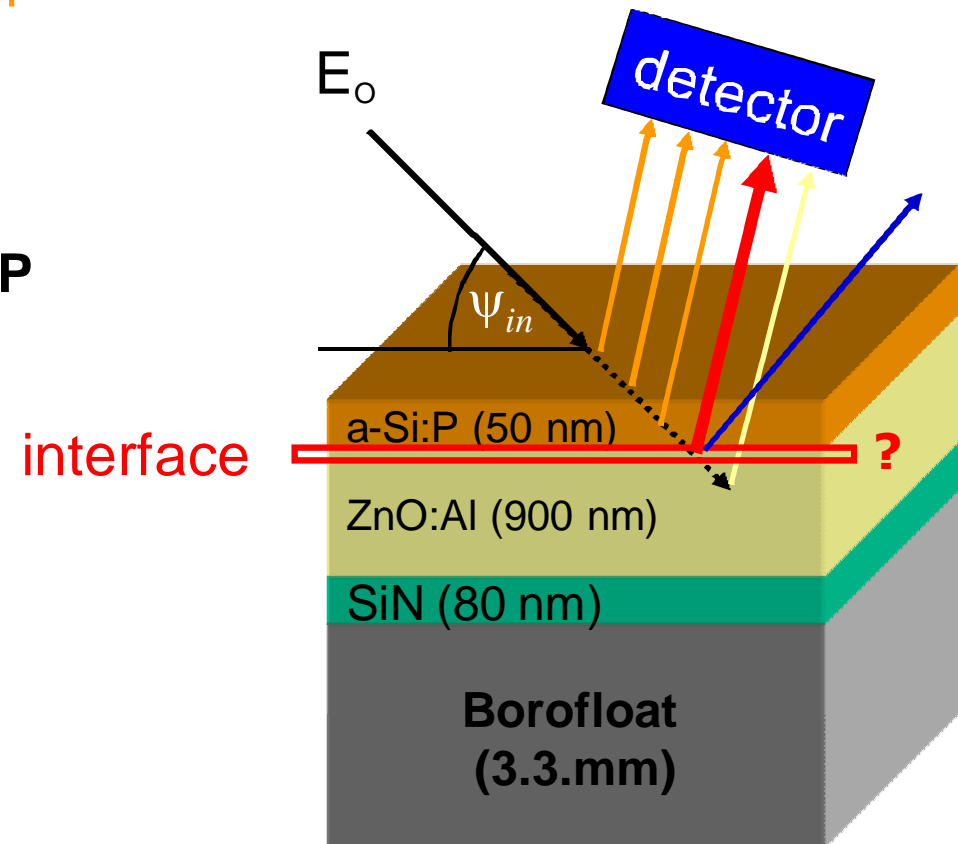
ZnO:Al - ca. 2 at.% Al

SiN - Si:N = 3:4



interface speciation

M. Pagels,
TUB / HZB

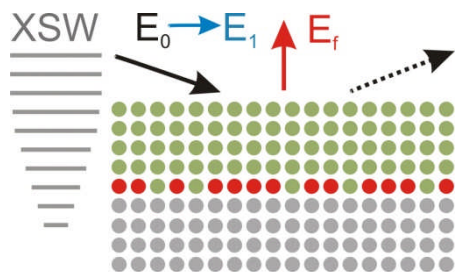
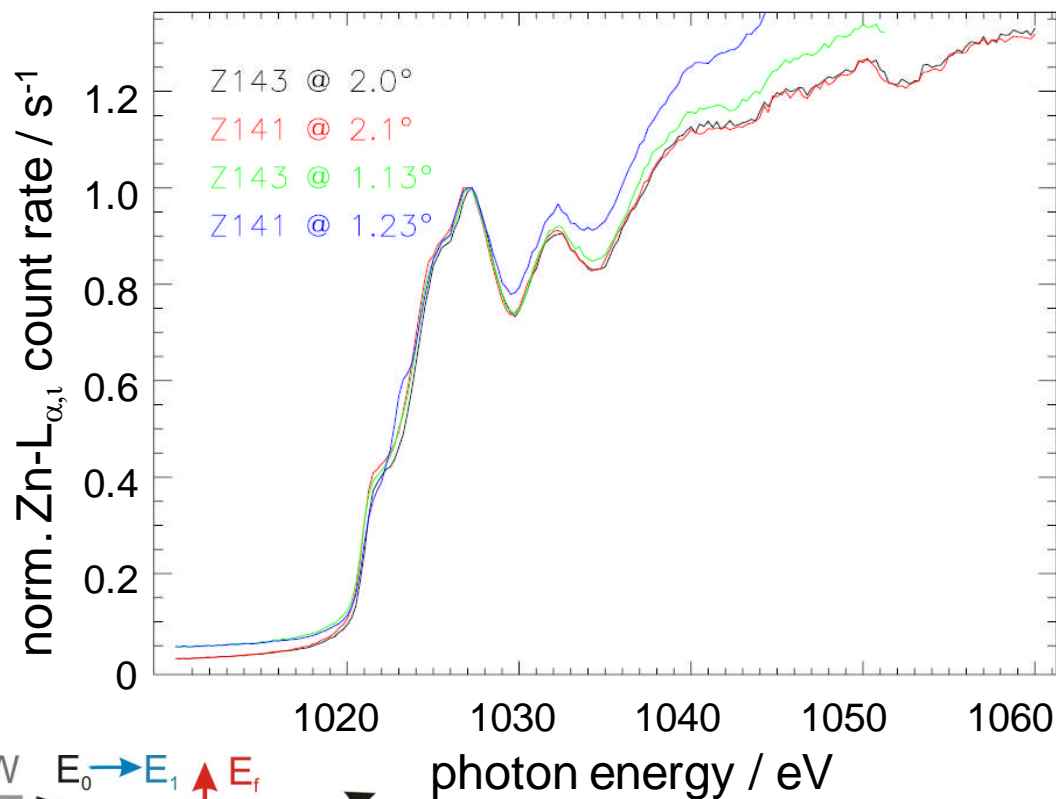


GIXRF-NEXAFS at thin-film Si photovoltaics: probing the chemical state of buried interfaces



X-ray and IR spectrometry

NEXAFS investigations at the Zn-L_{iii,ii} edges



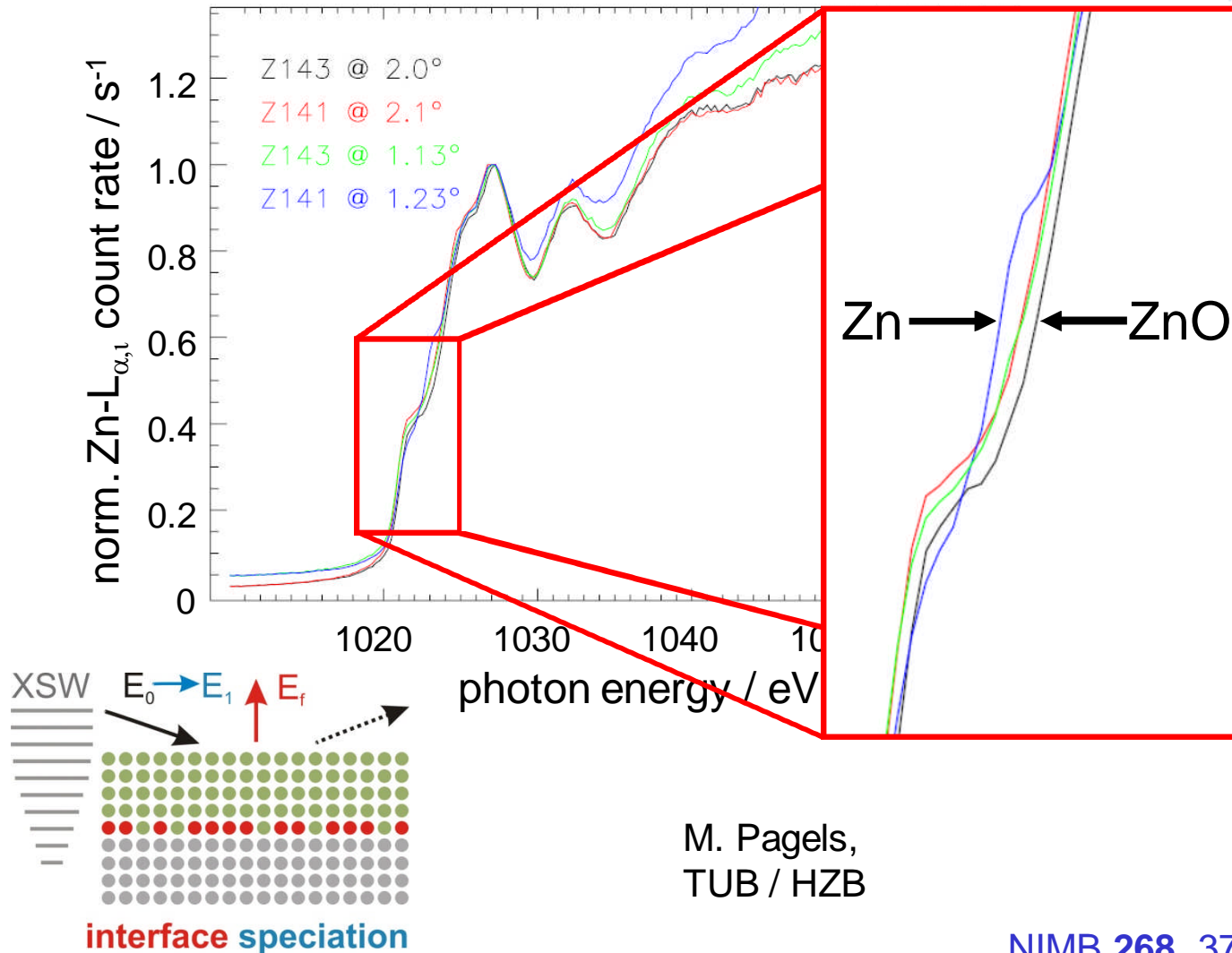
interface speciation

M. Pagels,
TUB / HZB

sample	treatment	roughness
Z141	annealed(1,67 K/min) up to 600°C, 24h at constant temperature	3.2 Å
Z143	as deposited	5.1 Å

GIXRF-NEXAFS at thin-film Si photovoltaics: probing the chemical state of buried interfaces

NEXAFS investigations at the Zn-L_{iii,ii} edges



Shift in line with
TXRF-NEXAFS
experiments at
10 nm Zn surface
layer and at ZnO
surface layer

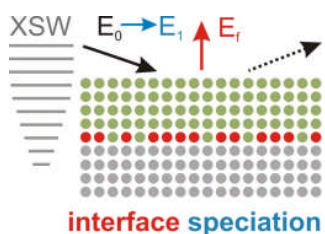
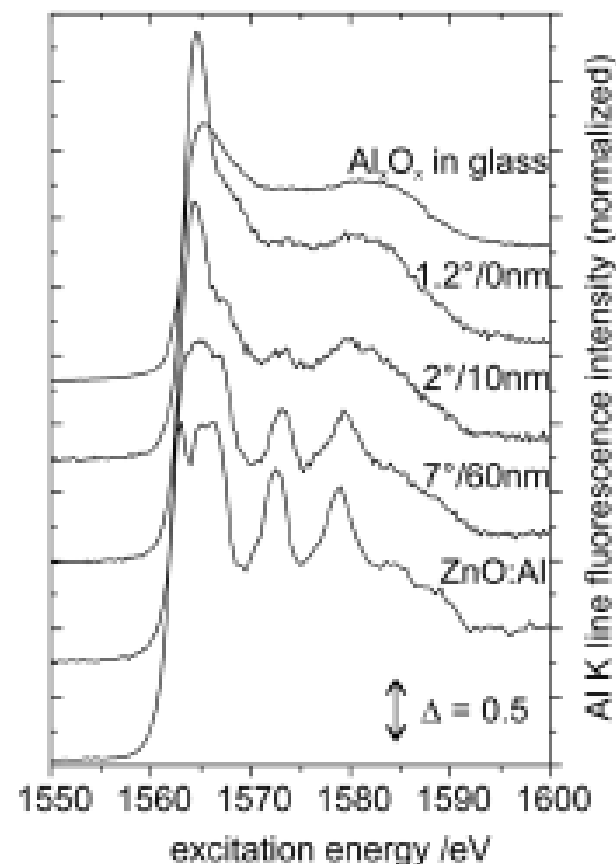
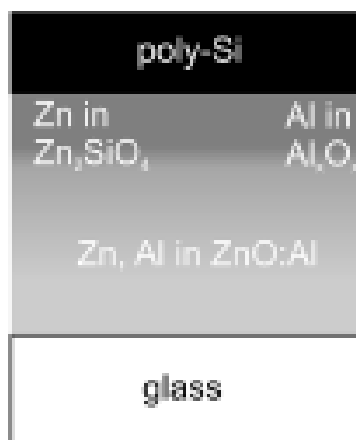
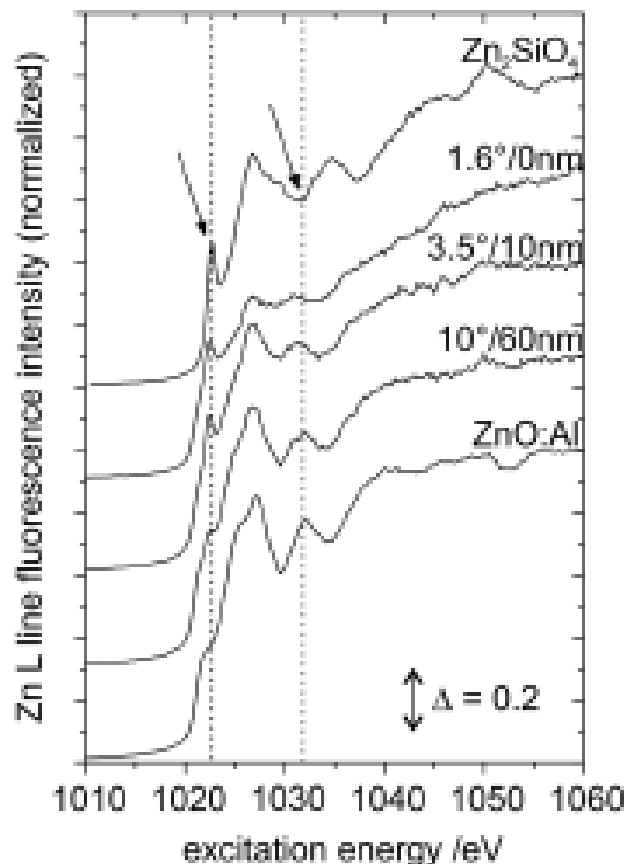
M. Pagels,
TUB / HZB

GIXRF-NEXAFS at thin-film Si photovoltaics: probing the chemical state of buried interfaces



X-ray and IR spectrometry

NEXAFS investigations at the Zn-L_{iii,ii} and Al-K edges



M. Pagels, TUB / HZB

C. Becker, HZB

J. Appl. Phys. **113**, 044519 (2013)

Analytical methods, measurement setups, required components, and applications



X-ray and IR spectrometry

Method	Incidence Angle $\theta / ^\circ$	Detection Angle $/ ^\circ$	Detection Systems	Application
TXRF	0 – 0.9	90, 2θ	SDD, Diode	elemental (B-U) surface contamination
GIXRF / XRF	0 – 30	$90 - \theta$, 2θ	SDD, Diode	depth profiling, nanolayer analysis
XRR	0 – 30	2θ	Diode	layer thickness
XRD	0 – 30	2θ	Diode	crystal structure
GISAXS	0 – 2	2θ	CCD	nanoparticles and nanostructures on surfaces
Ellipsometry	15* (standard setting) 0 – 25 (extended setting)	2θ	Analyzer+ Photomultiplier, CCD system	layer thickness, optical constants
Vacuum UV Reflectometry	Normal incidence	--	UV&VIS spectrometer	layer thickness

Ina Holfelder et al., J. Anal. At. Spectrom. 28, 549 (2013)

Typical characteristics and properties of analytical and metrology techniques



X-ray and IR spectrometry

	TXRF	GIXRF	XRF	XRR	XRD	GISAXS
Applications	surfaces	nanolayers, element depth profiles, implantation profiles	bulk materials	nano layers	thin layers	nano structured surfaces, thin films
Properties to be measured	mass density in the range of the elements B to U	mass density, concentration, depth profile in the range of the elements B to U	mass density in the range of the elements B to U	layer thickness, roughness, density	layer thickness, orientation	particle size
Detection limit	app.10 ¹⁰ atoms/ cm ²	app.10 ¹² atoms/ cm ²	app.10 ¹³ atoms/ cm ²	2 nm – 5 nm	3 wgt.%, 2 nm	2 nm
Range	10 ¹⁰ atoms/ cm ² - 10 ¹⁵ atoms/ cm ²	10 ¹² atoms/ cm ² - 10 ¹⁷ atoms/ cm ²	ppb – %	5- 500 nm	0.1 nm – 10 nm	2 nm – 1µm
Accuracy (and reproducibility) (*reference free)	0.15* / 0,05 (0.02)	0.2*/0.05 (0.03)	0.2*/0.05 (0.03)	0.02 (0.01)	0.05 (0.02)	0,.15 (0.02)
Spatial resolution	1 mm ² -1 cm ²	0.5 mm ² -0.5 cm ²	to 1 mm ²	to 1 mm ²	0.5 mm ² -0.5 cm ²	0.5 mm ² -0.5 cm ²
Measurement speed	50 s – 1000 s/ pt	2000 s – 5 h	100 s – 1000 s	1000 s – 5 h	1000 s – 5 h	10 min/frame

Ina Holfelder et al., J. Anal. At. Spectrom. 28, 549 (2013)

How can a method (rows) help another method (columns) to improve or complement the results



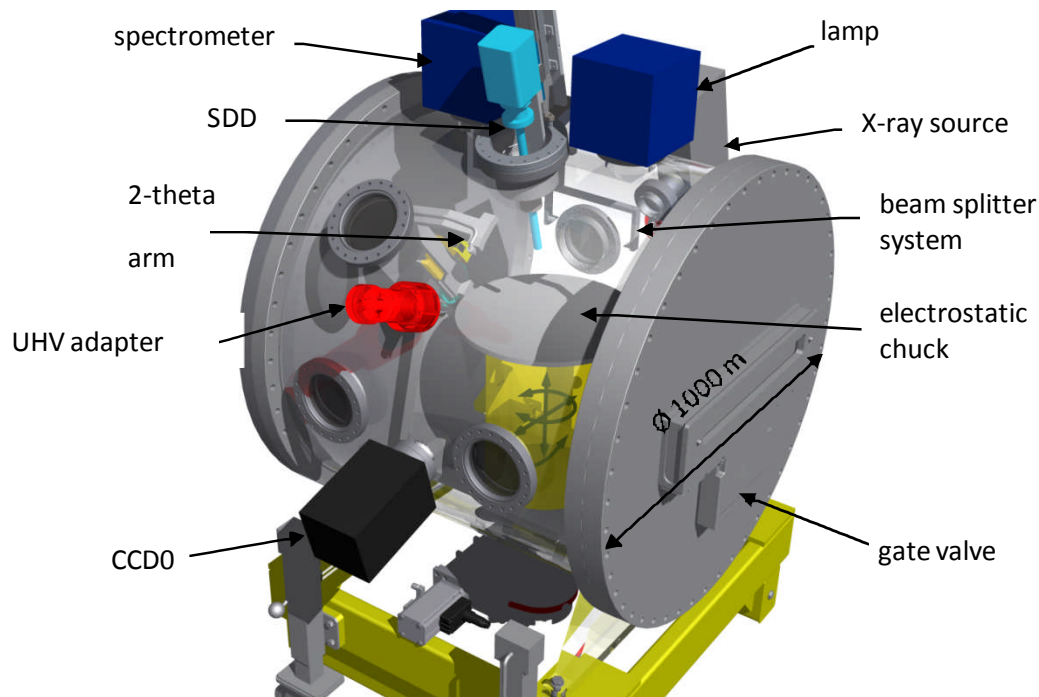
X-ray and IR spectrometry

Methods	TXRF	GIXRF	XRF	XRR	XRD	GISAXS
TXRF		surface contamination	information on surface contamination	information on surface contamination	information on surface contamination	nanoparticle composition
GIXRF	absolute angle calibration		validation measurands	near surface depth profiles	near surface depth profiles	nanoparticle composition
XRF	validation measurands	validation measurands		information on material composition	information on material composition	nanoparticle composition
XRR	layer thickness and roughness for modelling	layer thickness and roughness for modelling	contaminations/spectral diffraction artefact		layer thickness, roughness, density	substrate surface layer
XRD	information on material morphology, artefacts	information on material morphology, artefacts	information on material morphology, artefacts	information on material morphology		information on material morphology
GISAXS	particle size distribution	particle size distribution	————	particle size distribution	particle size distribution	

CAD model of an analytical platform for 450 mm wafer (design study)

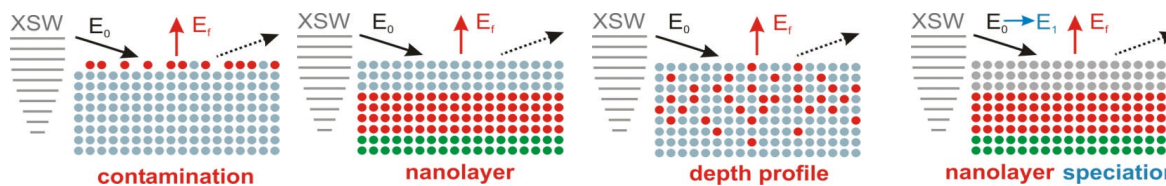


X-ray and IR spectrometry

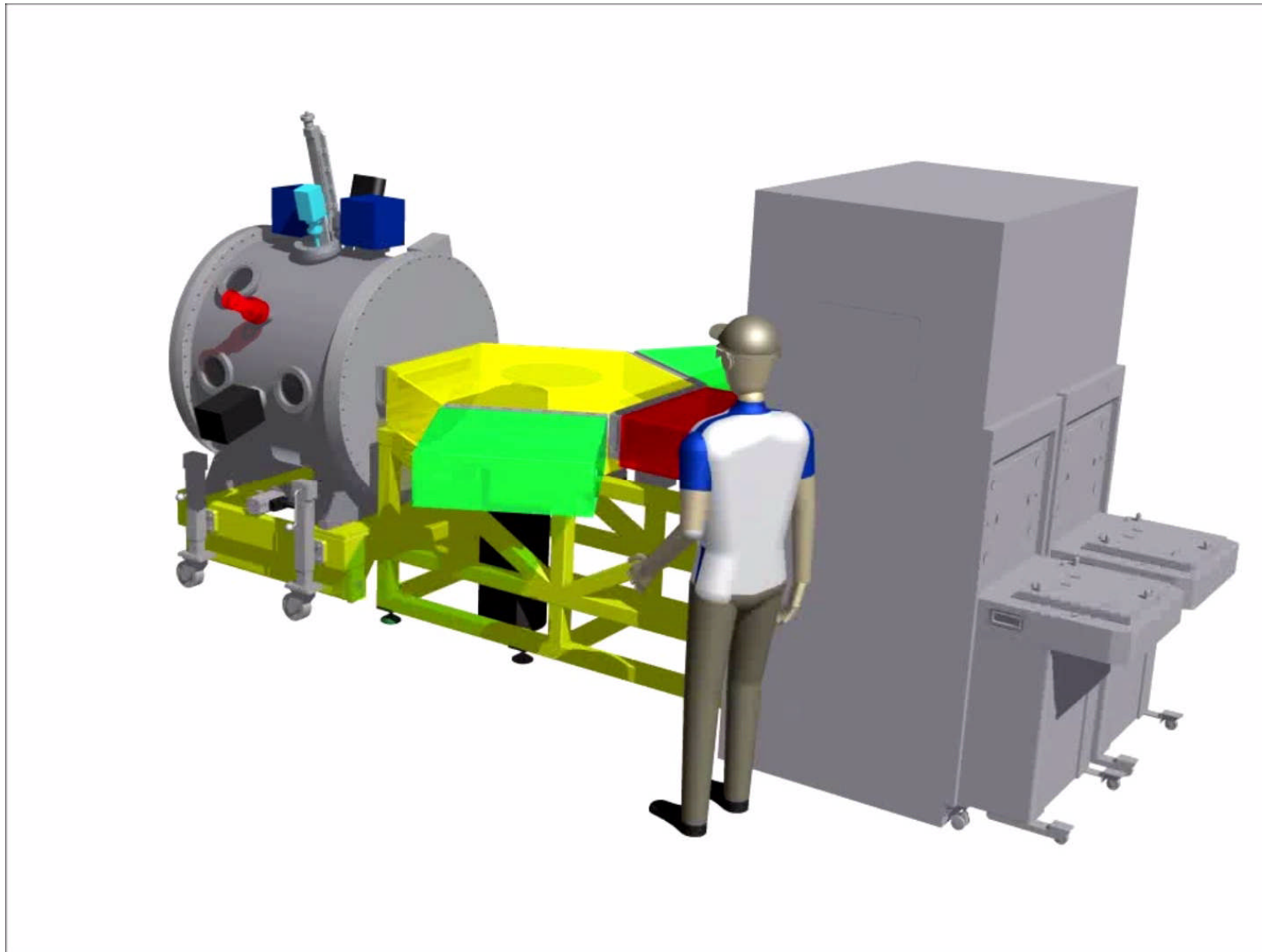


www.EEMI450.org

Analytical platform design for 450 mm wafers:
virtual engineering study to ensure TXRF, GIXRF, XRF & XRR investigations and wafer handling



CAD model of an analytical platform for 450 mm wafer (design study)



Summary

- Reference-free analysis of contamination on Si and on novel materials
- Quantitative characterization of nanostructured and gradient systems
- Depth profiling (~500 nm) by XRS and interface speciation by XAFS
- Speciation and depth profiling of energy storage and conversion materials
- Novel XRS instrumentation for SR

Further information on reported activities and instrumentation

at www.ANNA-i3.org and www.EEMI450.org

and **EMRP IND07, IND15, HLT04** and **NEW01** at www.EURAMET.org



Acknowledgements: IMEC, KU Leuven, FhG IISB, Intel, MEMC, Numonyx, Siltronic, Univ. Salford, HZB, IWS Dresden, AXO, FBK, ATI, KFKI AEKI, Technical Universities Berlin and Darmstadt, IPF