



# AMAS 2017



## Experiments with low voltage FE-EPMA: toward achieving improved spatial resolution

John Fournelle<sup>1</sup>, Aurélien Moy<sup>1</sup> and Phillip Gopon<sup>2</sup>

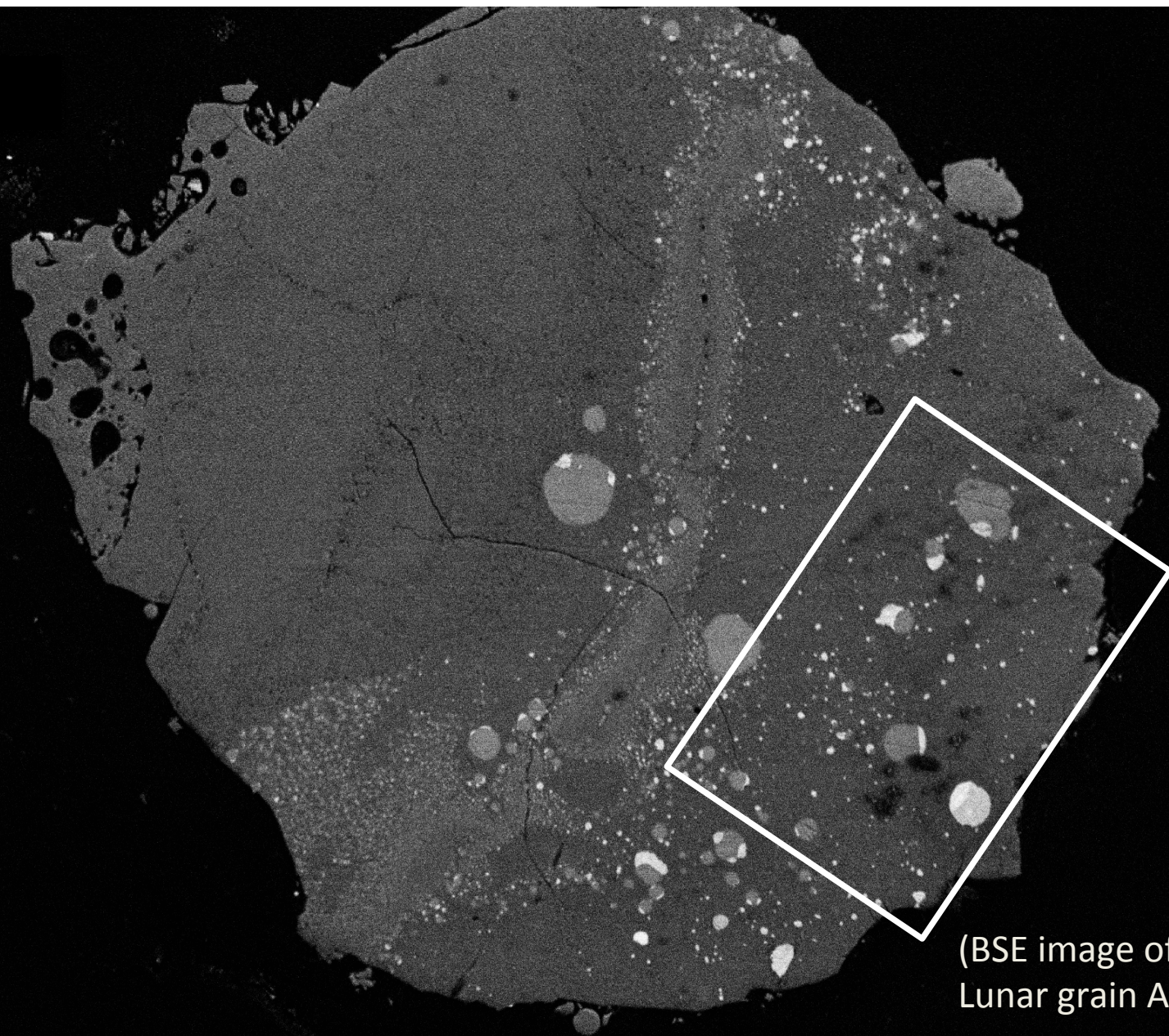
<sup>1</sup>Department of Geoscience, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

<sup>2</sup>Department of Earth Science, University of Oxford, Oxford, England



6-10 February 2017, Brisbane, Australia



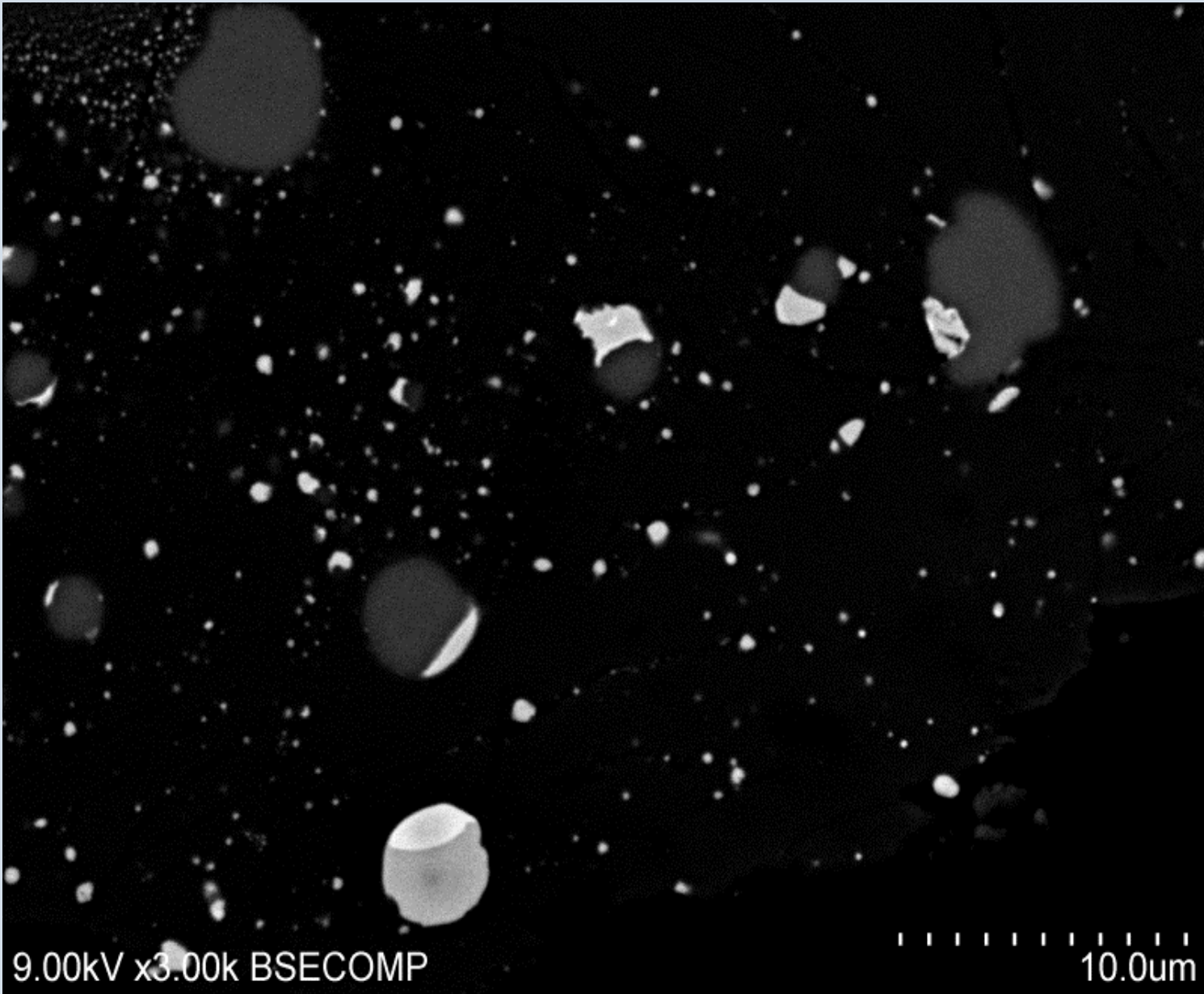


(BSE image of Apollo 16  
Lunar grain A6-8)

50.  $\mu\text{m}$  BSE 5.kV

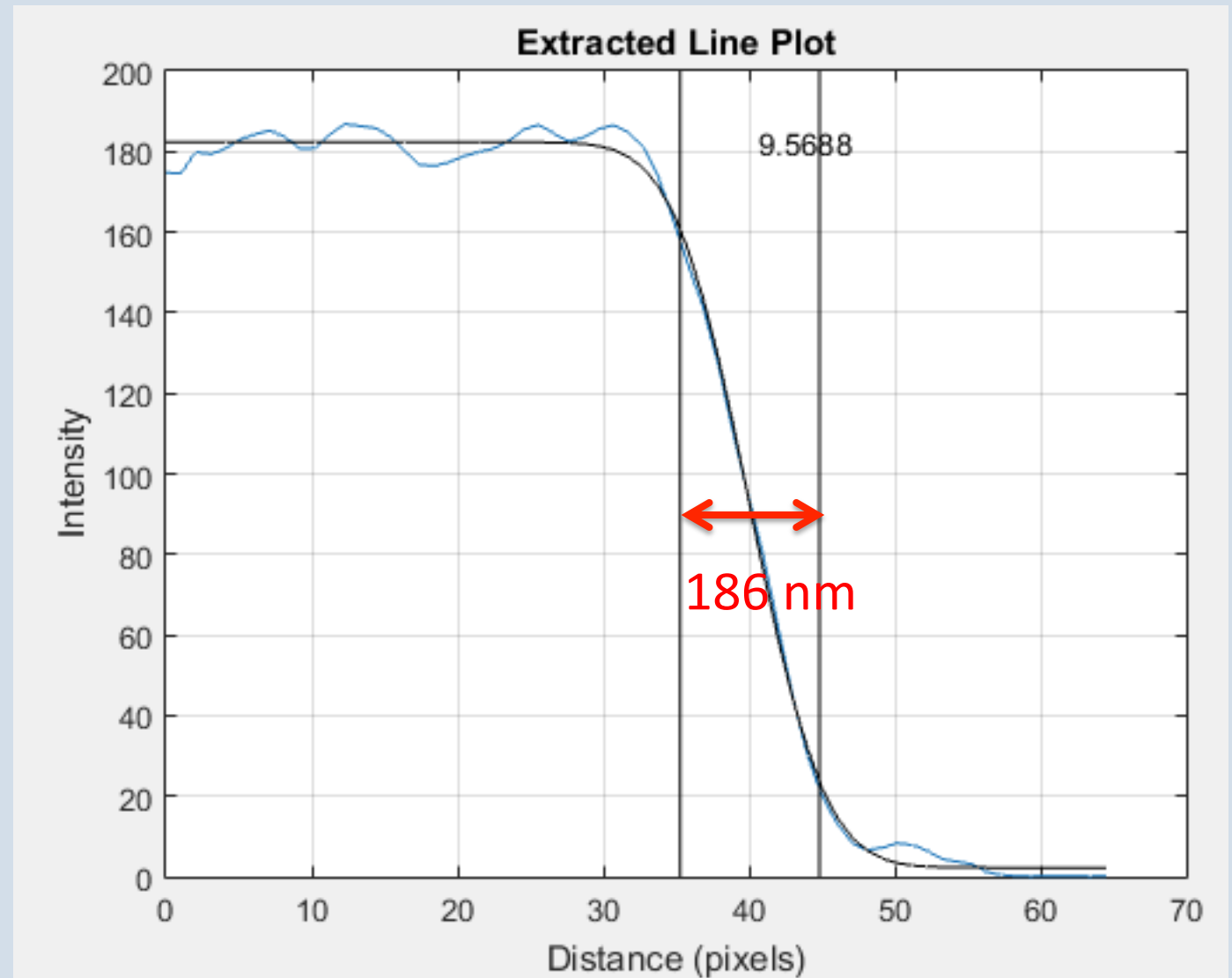
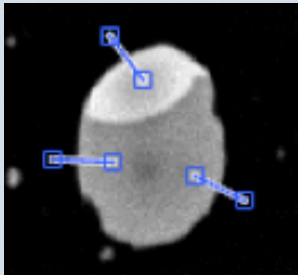
253  
221  
190  
158  
126  
95  
63  
32  
0

Dark host = plagioclase; Grey = Si metal; White = Fe silicides



# Image Edge Resolution of BSE Image (W source)

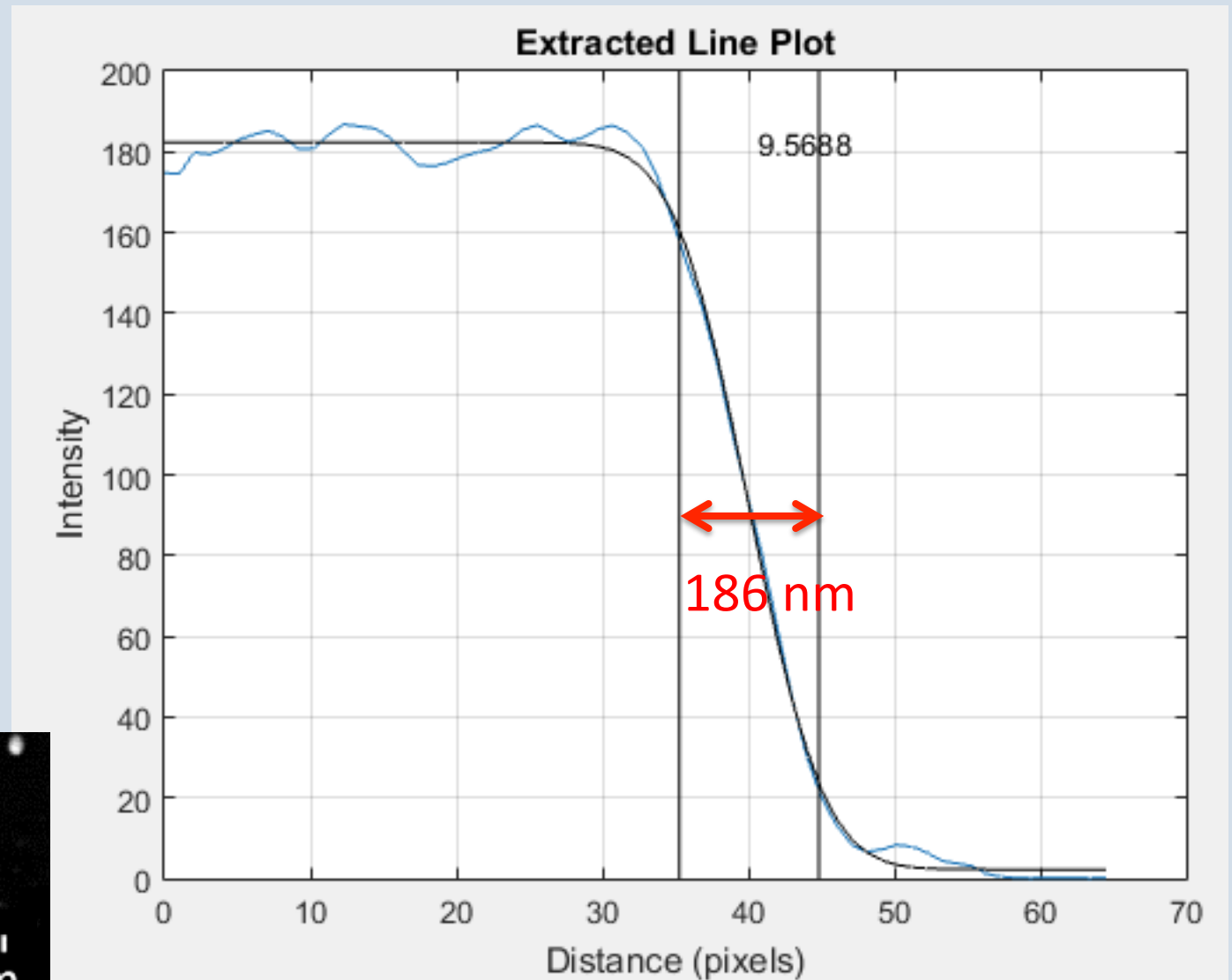
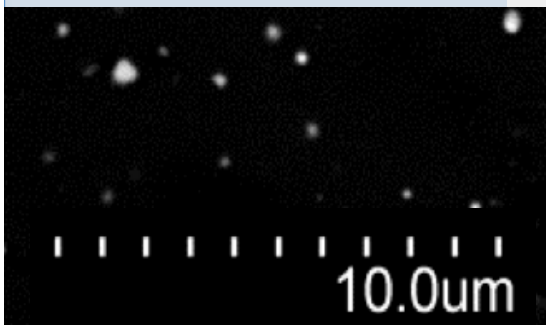
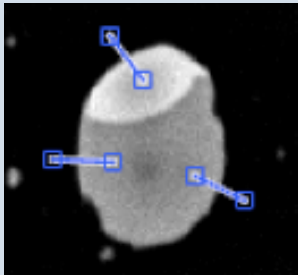
Here defined as  
12-88% change from  
min to max intensity



Free application from Peter Sobol at UW-Madison Geoscience

# Image Edge Resolution of BSE Image

Here defined as  
12-88% change from  
min to max intensity



Free application from Peter Sobol at UW-Madison Geoscience

Image Edge Resolution

$\neq$

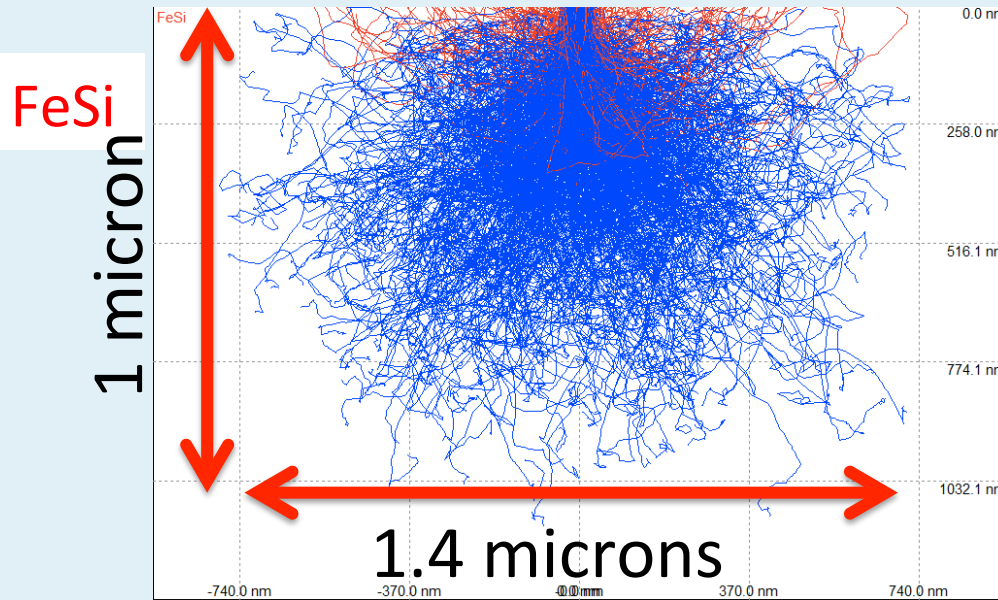
Analytical Spatial Resolution !

Barksdale et al. (2000):

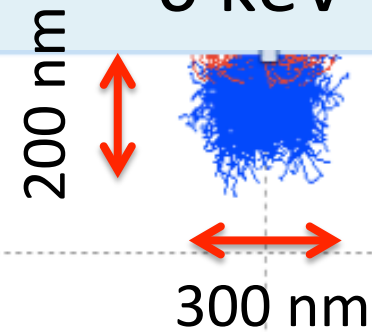
*... instead of simply being able to resolve the feature in an image, the entire X-ray information volume must be contained within the feature; lateral resolution is diameter which includes some fraction of total X-ray intensity, e.g. 99%*

Turn down the electron beam voltage....

15 keV



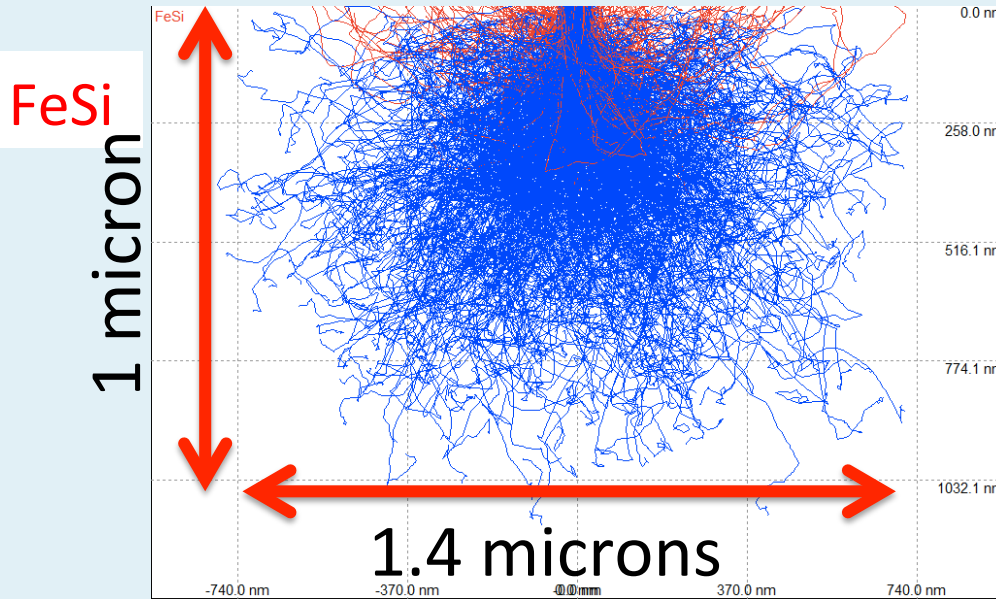
6 keV



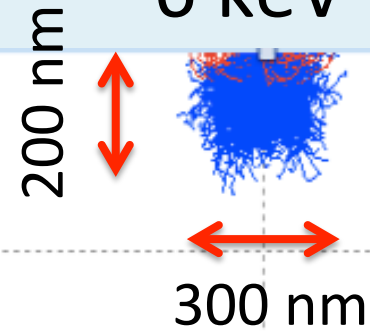
To reduce the interaction volume....



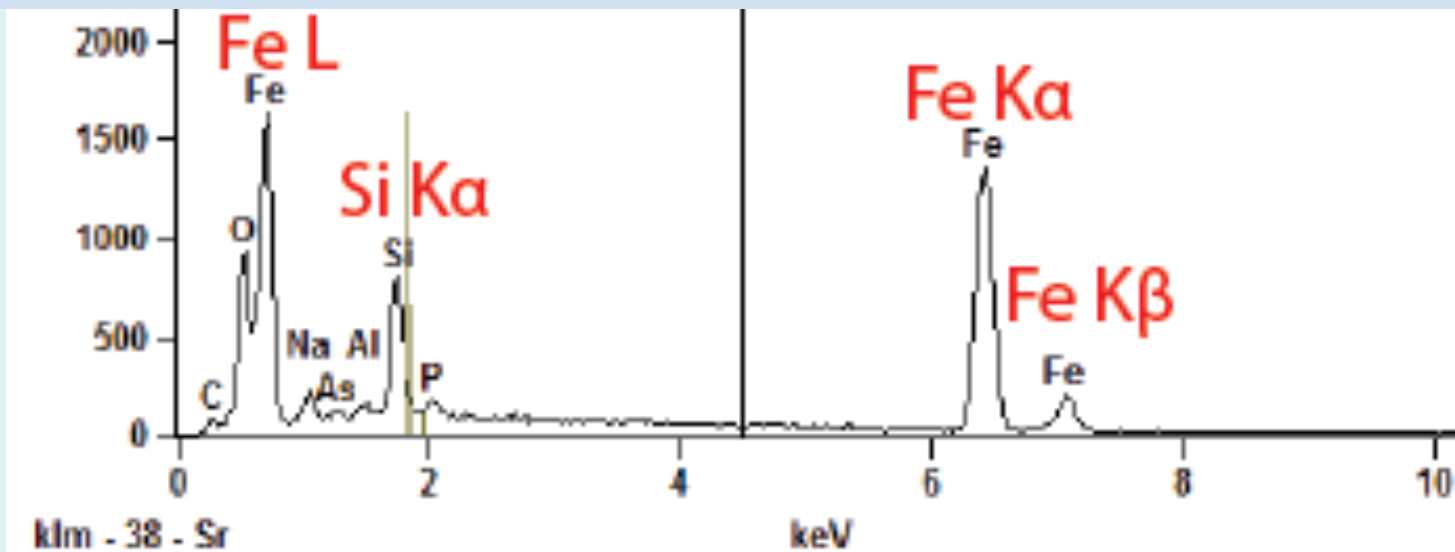
15 keV



6 keV



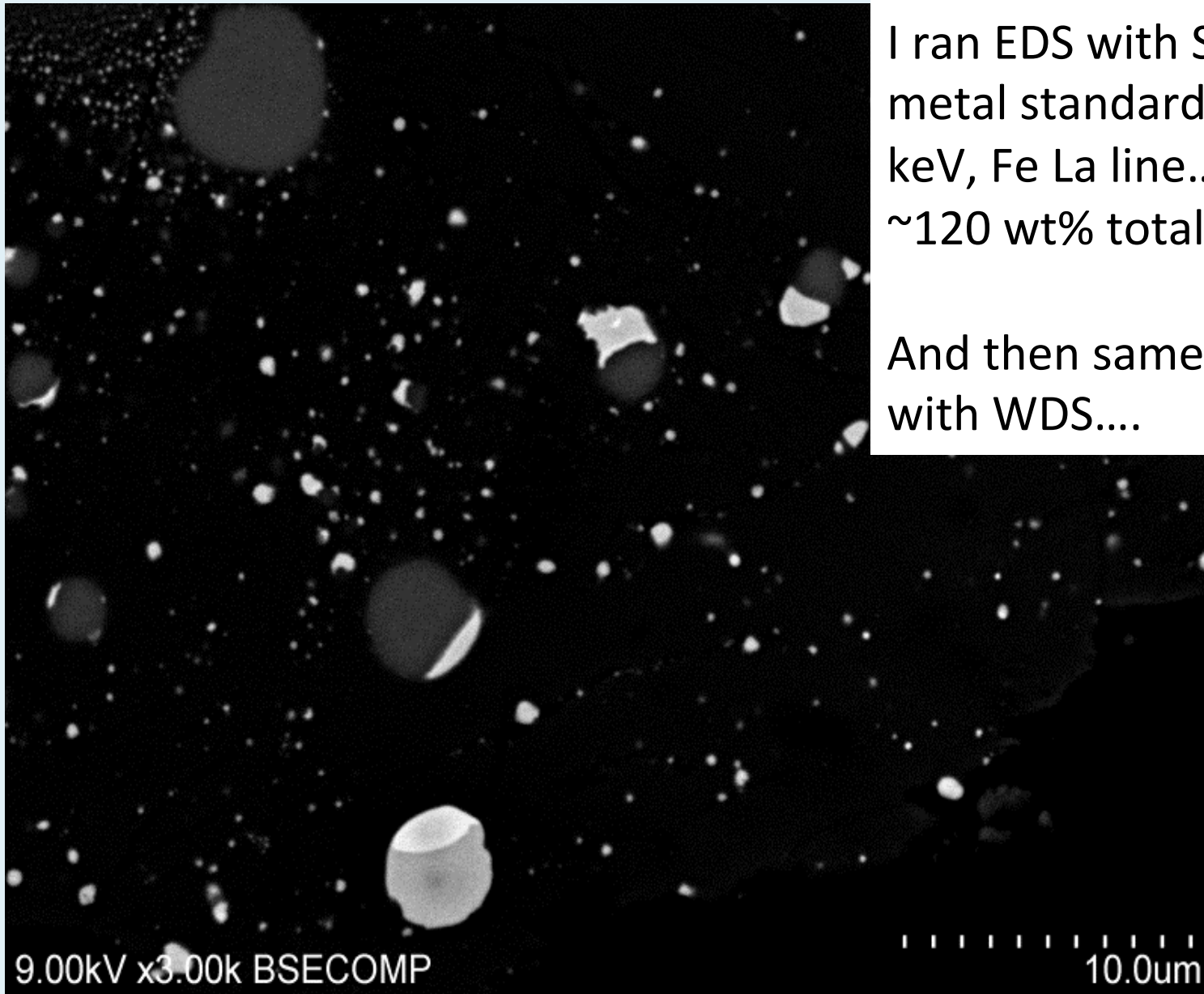
But then Fe Ka no longer available below 7.1 keV...



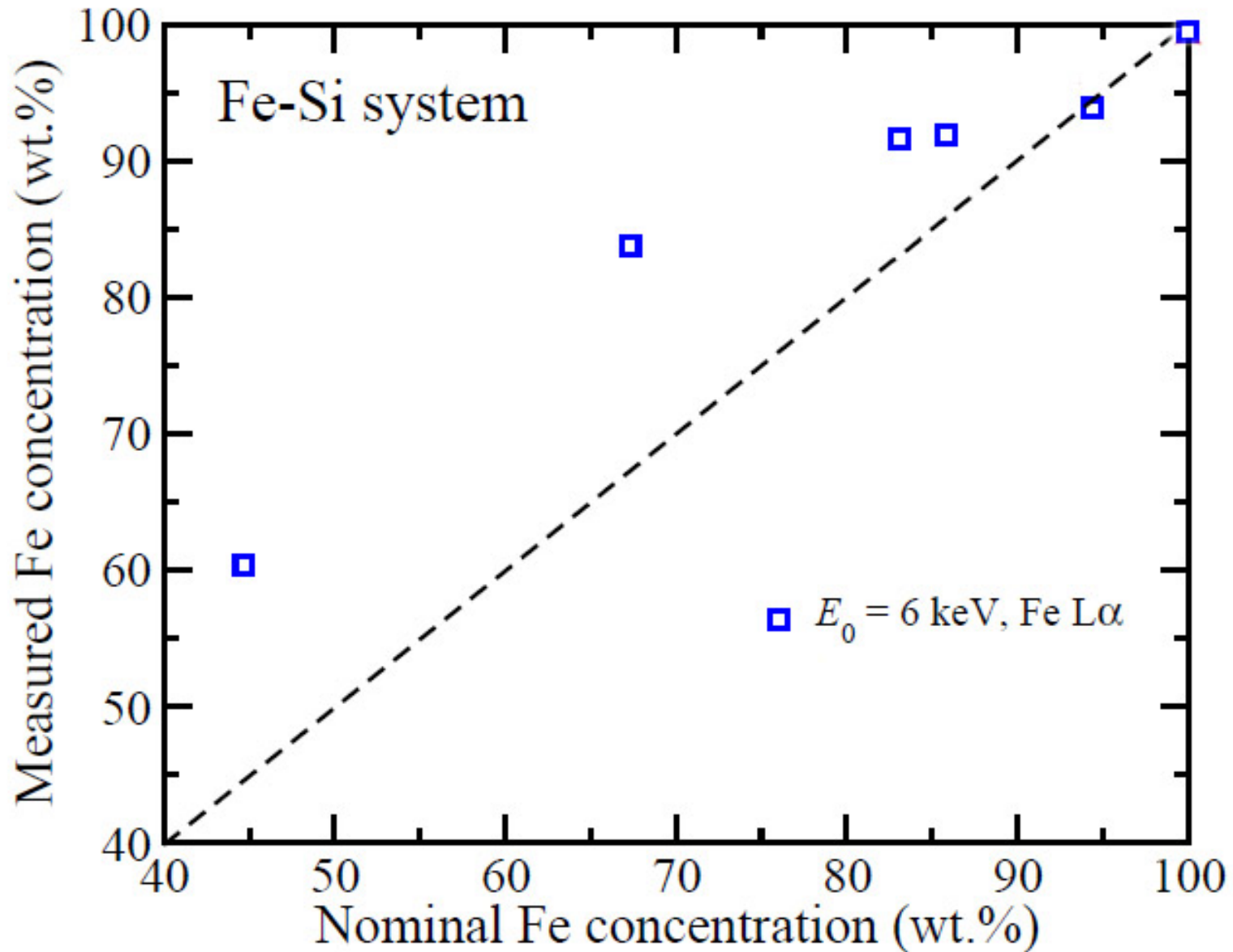
# Sub micron low keV analysis

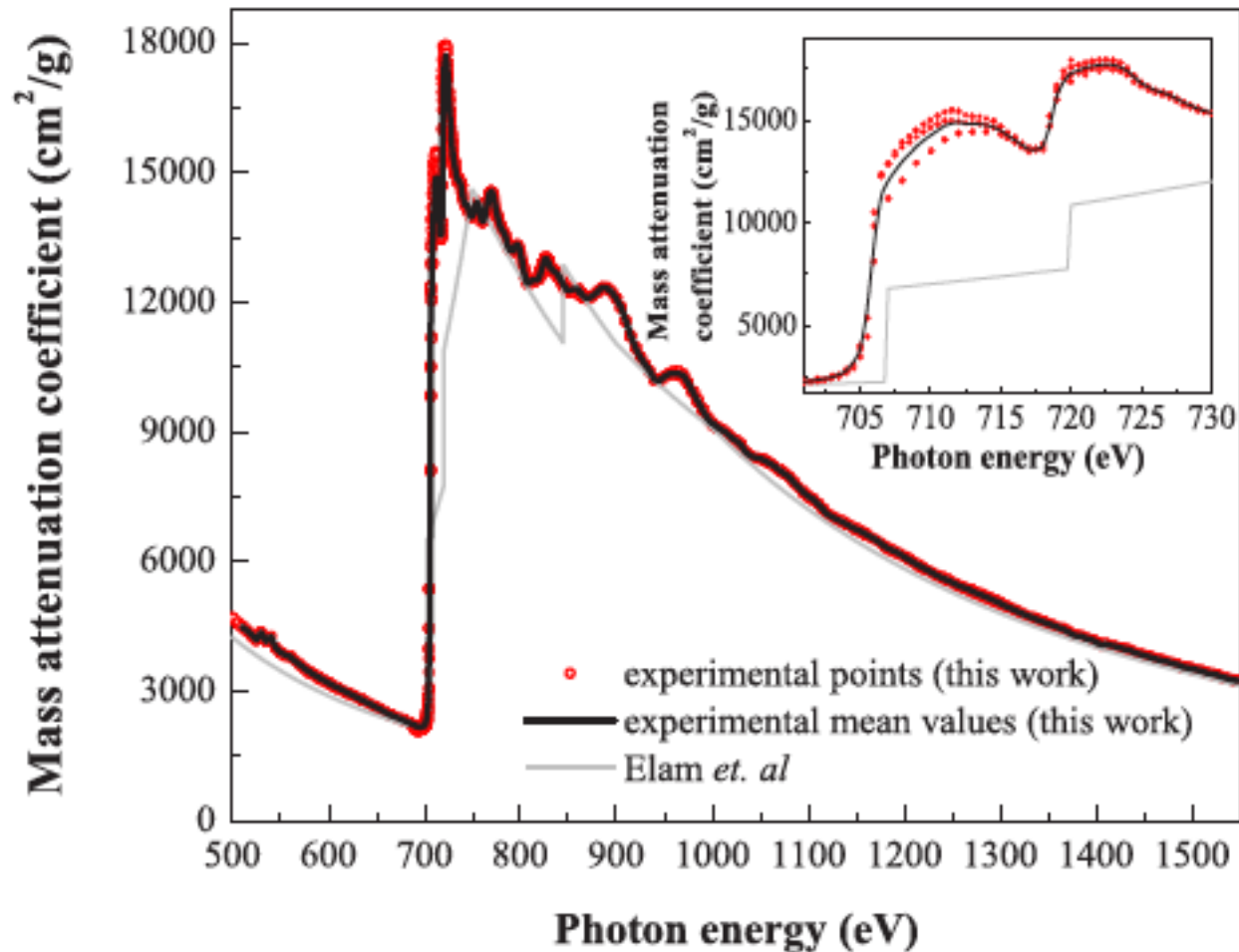
I ran EDS with Si and Fe metal standards, low keV, Fe La line.... And got ~120 wt% totals...

And then same results with WDS....



## Acquired (+synthesized) 5 large Fe-Si alloys



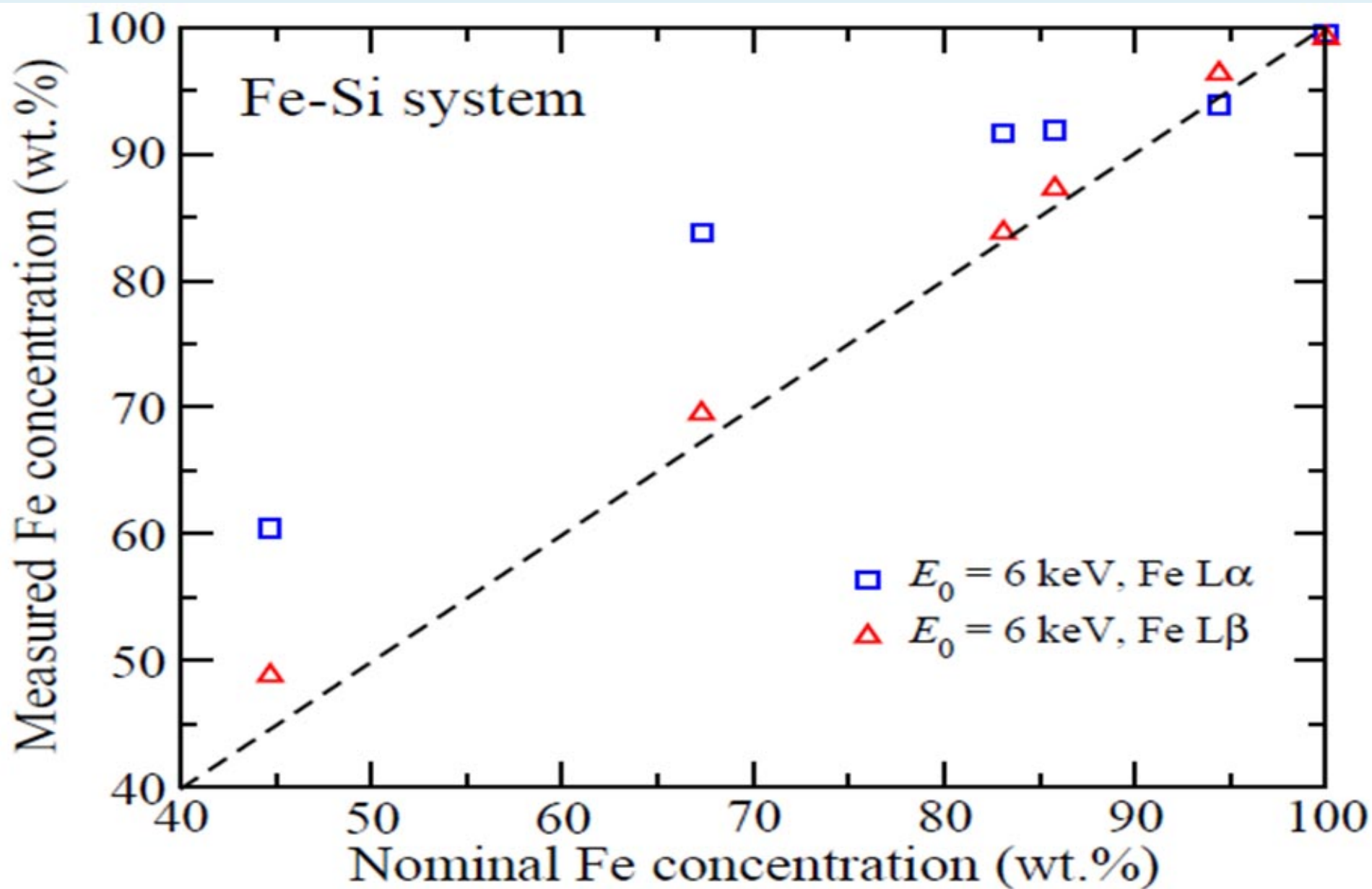


Fe L3 “707 eV”  
 Fe La “705 eV”

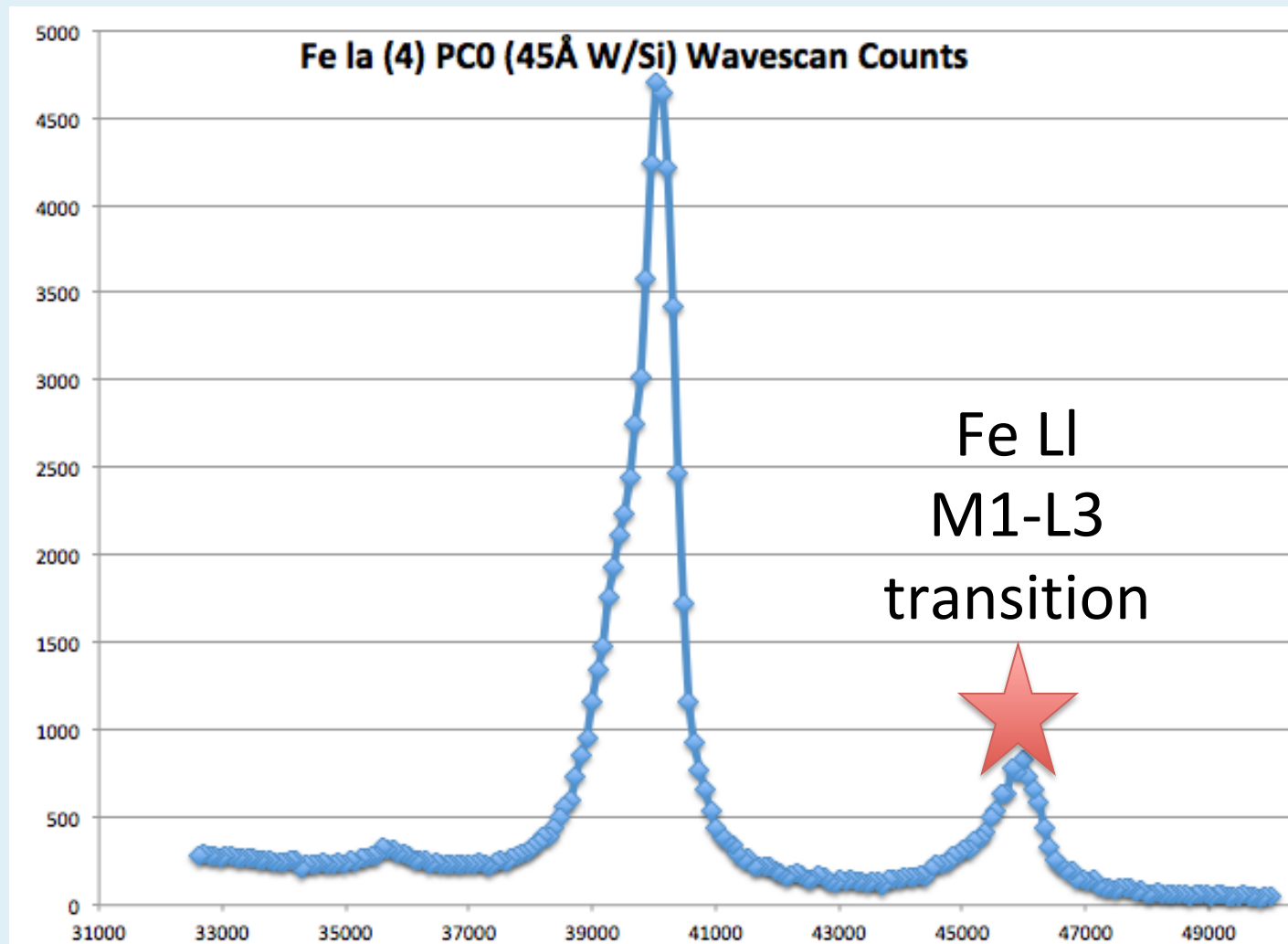
Fe L2 “720 eV”  
 Fe Lb “719 eV”

Sokaris’et al paper  
 (2011 Phys Rev A  
 83, 052511):  
 experiment with  
 Fe metal absorption  
 (includes Fe L3 and  
 L2 edges)

FIG. 3. (Color online) Experimental (this work) and theoretical [34] mass attenuation coefficients for metallic Fe in the energy region 500–1550 eV. The solid line represents the smoothed mean experimental values obtained by multiple transmittance energy scans.

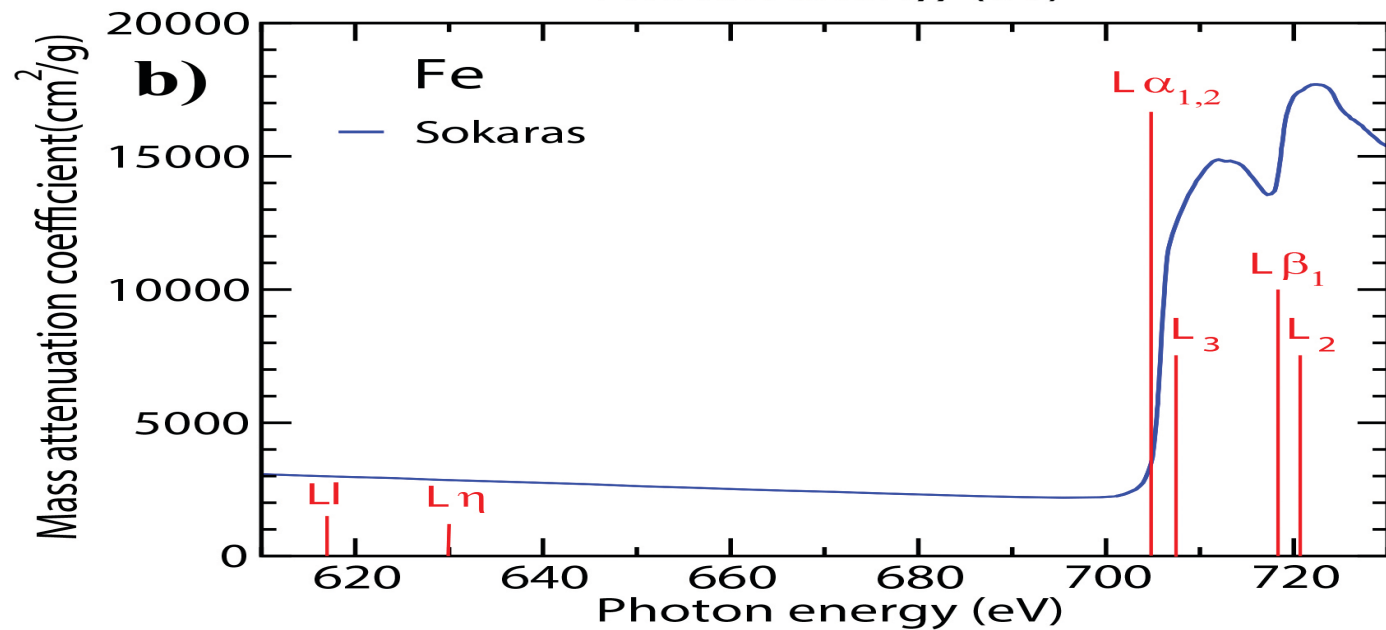
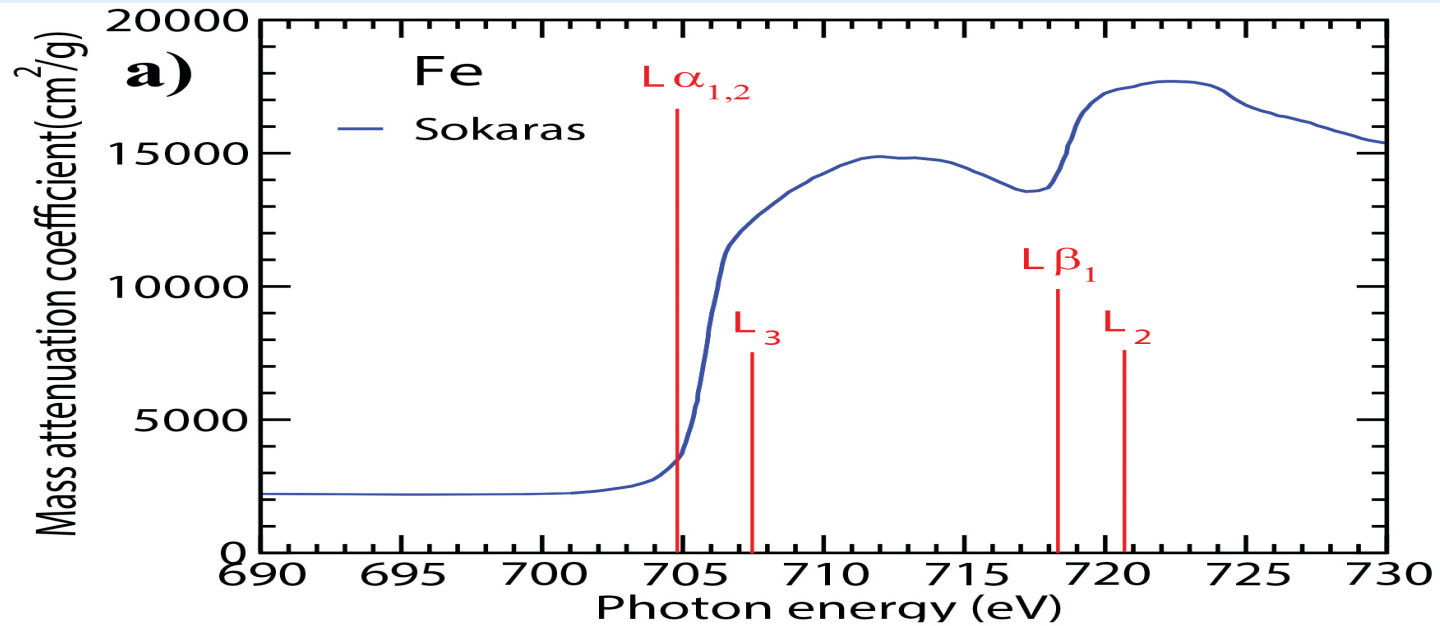


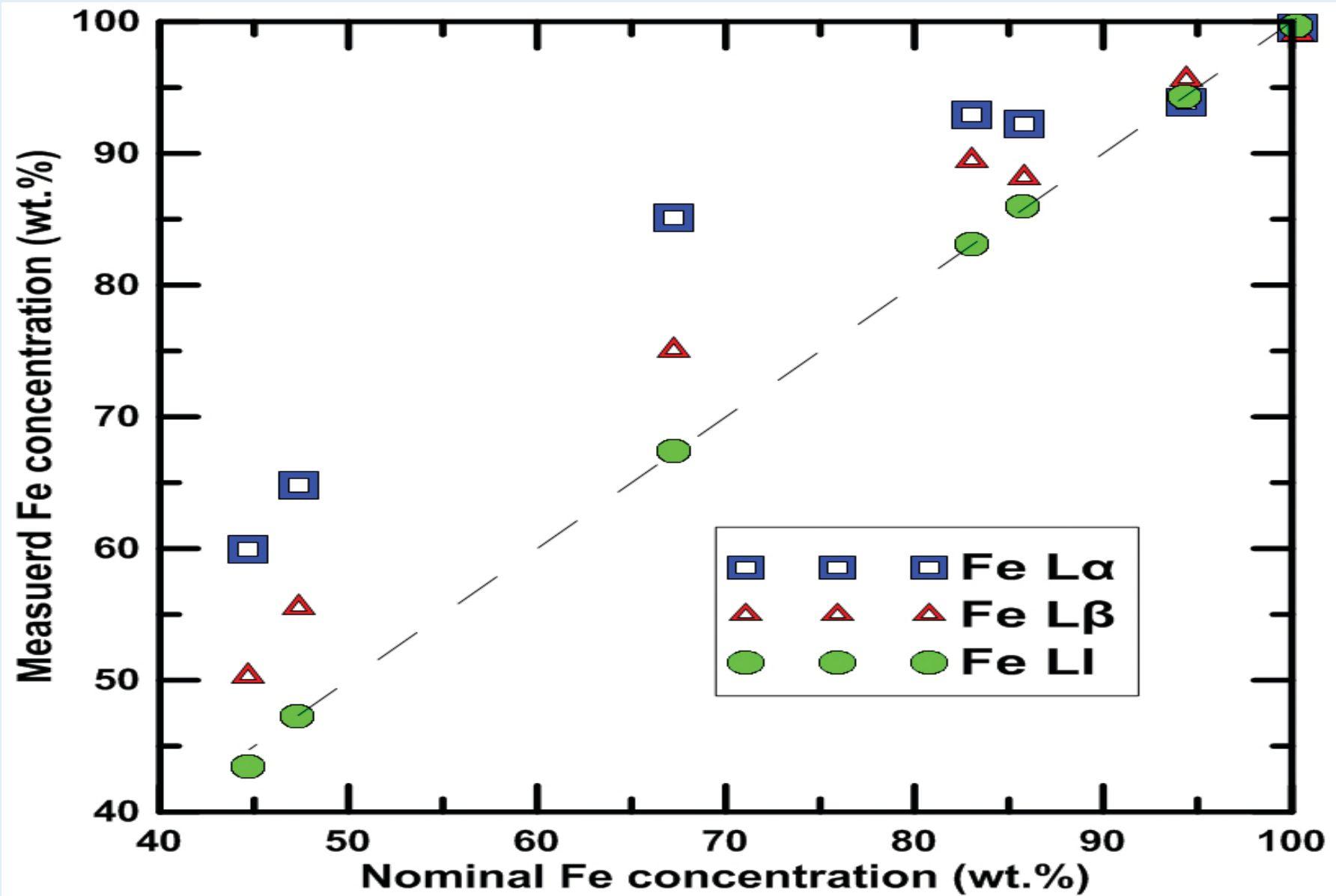
# Ah ha moment...



# Why not use the Fe L $\alpha$ line for Analysis?

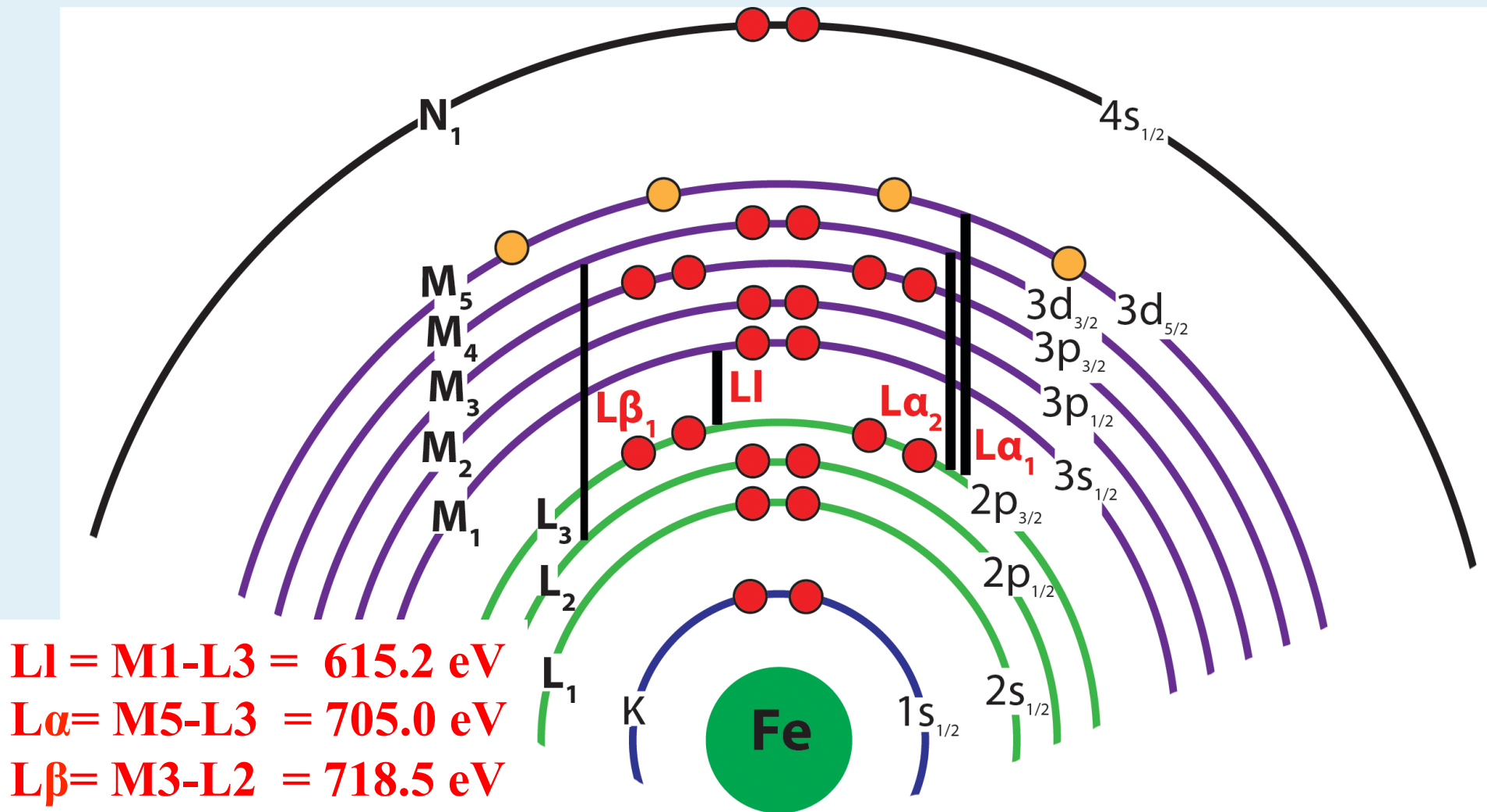
Fe L $\alpha$  =  
M1-L3  
transition







# Use the Fe L $\alpha$ line for Low keV Analysis



However, while Fe L offers some opportunities, for many materials the intensity is weak.

Therefore, we are currently working on full Fe L spectral deconvolutions to see if it might be possible to utilize the La/Lb lines, particularly for silicate EPMA.

No time here to discuss other important issues pertinent to low keV EPMA:

- Possible issues due to adventitious carbon contamination, particularly on low energy X-rays
- For fully focused FE-beams on many materials, sample alteration/damage very likely

Exactly how small can we  
resolve features with low  
voltage FE EPMA?

= Accurate quantitative analysis

# Calculations of X-ray Range

“average path length that electrons travel before slowing down equal to an energy equal to the excitation energy of the considered electron shell” (Merlet and Llovet, 2012)

Castaing (1952)

$$R_X = \frac{33A(E_0^{1.7} - E_{Cr}^{1.7})}{\rho * Z}$$

Range in nm

Various researchers have modified this x-ray range formulation:

- Anderson and Hasler (1966)
- Reed (1966)
- Hovington et al (1997)

→ All with similar form

# Calculations of ANALYTICAL RESOLUTION

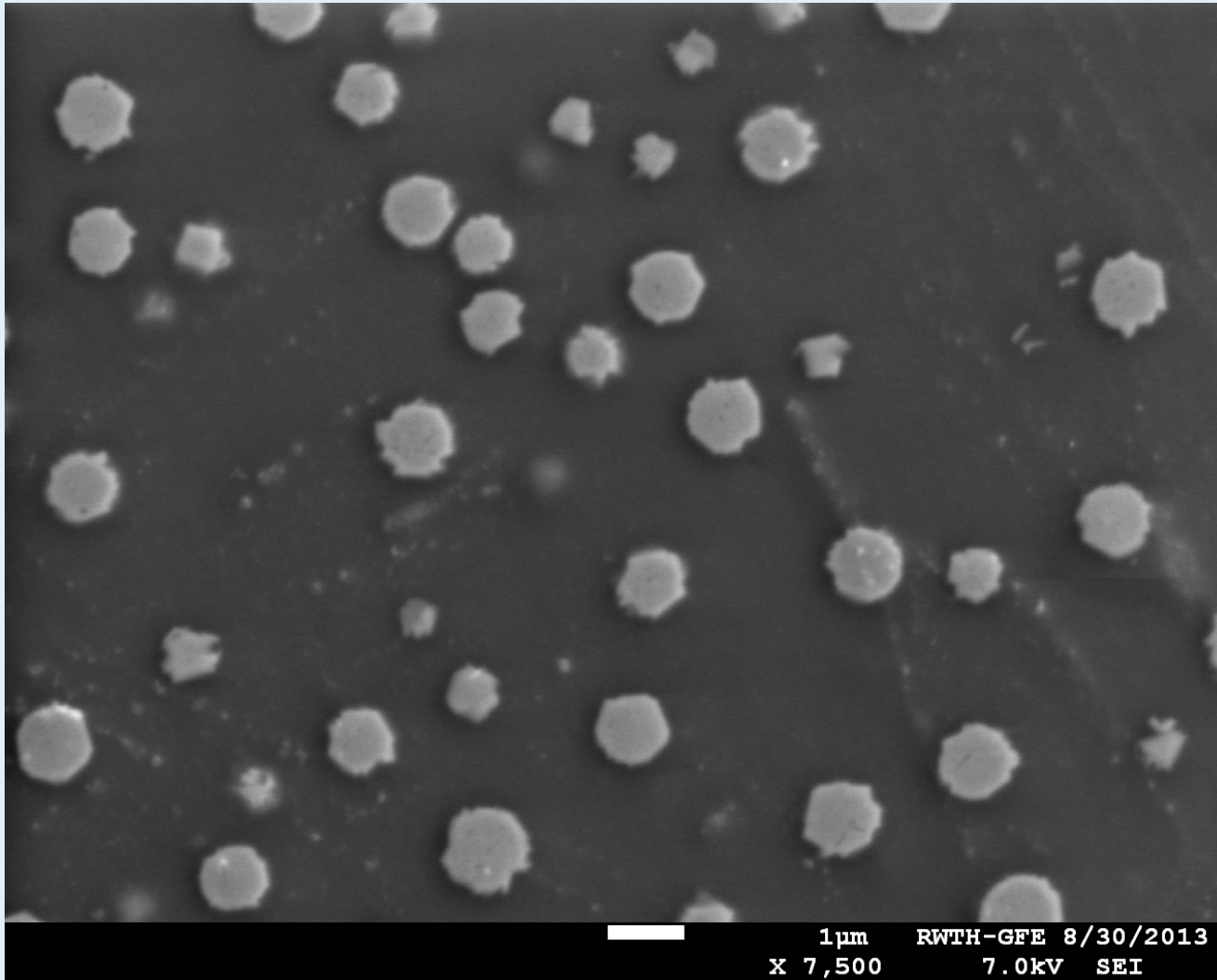
- Duncumb (1960) suggested need to multiply X-ray Range by 1.6 for analytical resolution
- Reed (1975) suggested need to multiply X-ray Range by  $\sim 3$  for analytical resolution.
- Merlet and Llovet (2012) suggested explicit inclusion of beam diameter:

$$R_S = \sqrt{4(R_x - Z_m)^2 + d_0^2}$$

- Monte Carlo programs such as PENEPMA provide possible simulations with less simplification and averaging used in range approximations

These are all theoretical estimates of “X-ray Range”:  
can they be evaluated experimentally as far as “lateral analytical spatial resolution?”

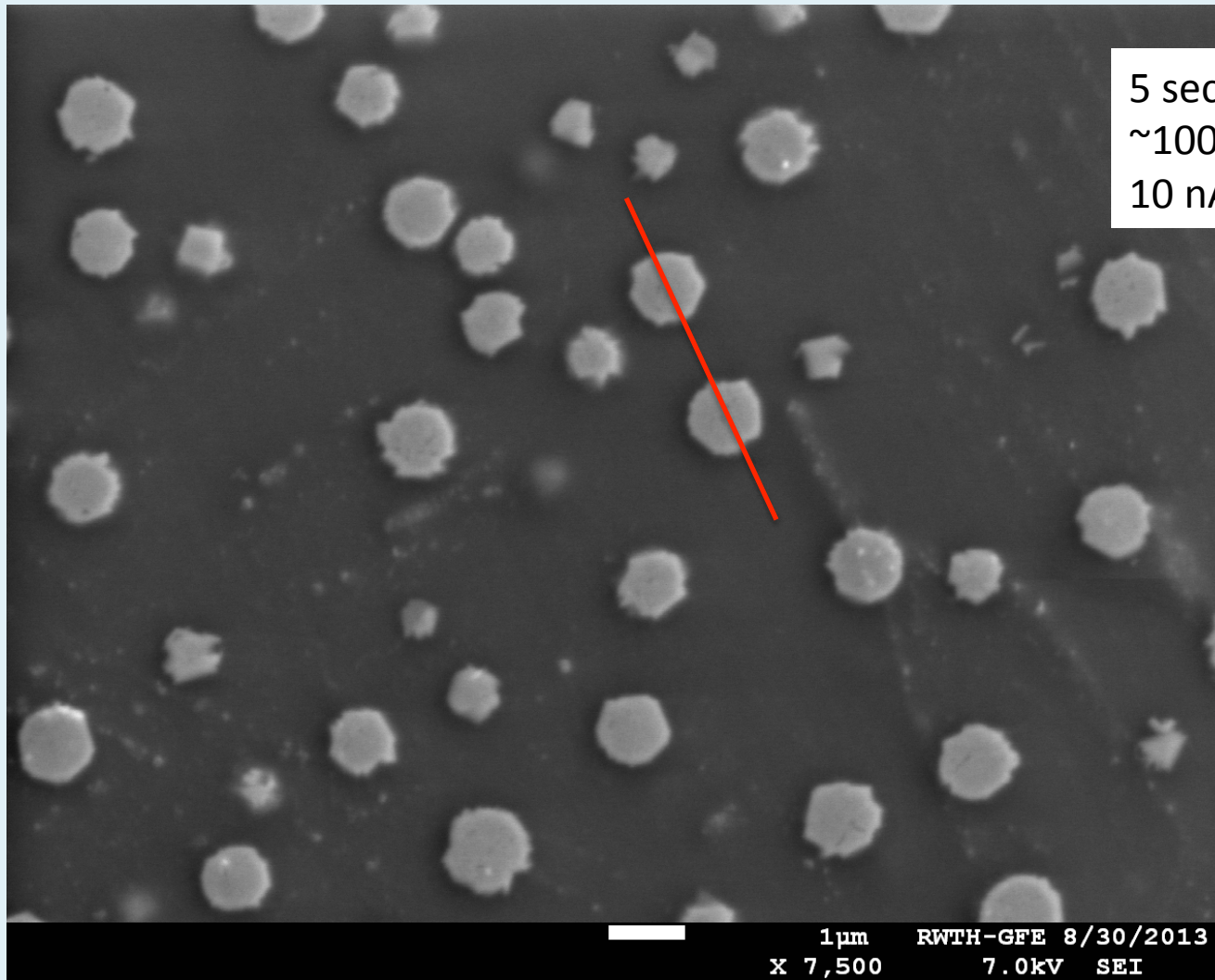
# NBS/NIST K409, a 'failed experiment'



(I have some fragments I can distribute here at the AMAS meeting)

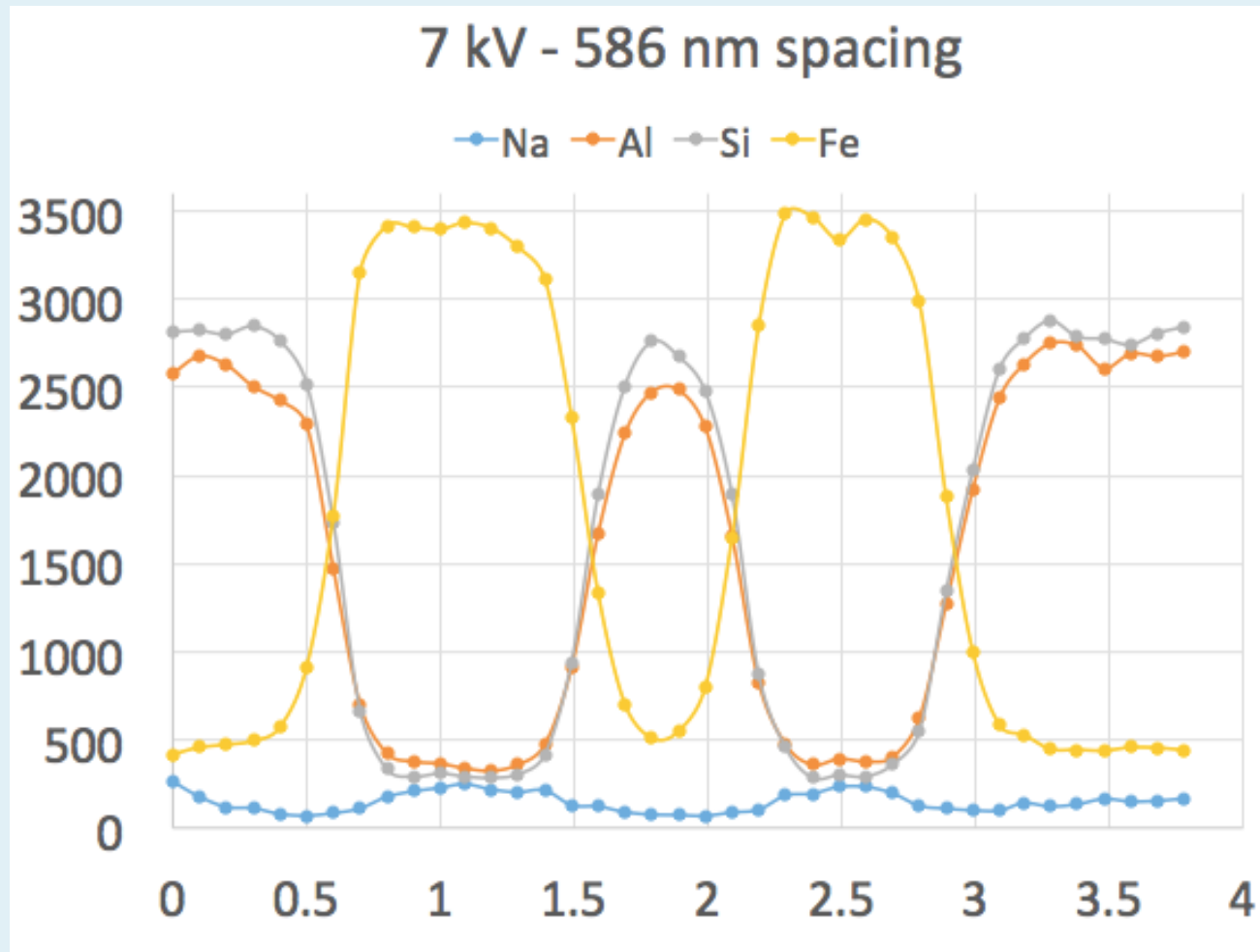


# K409 .... Line Traverses – SXFive FE



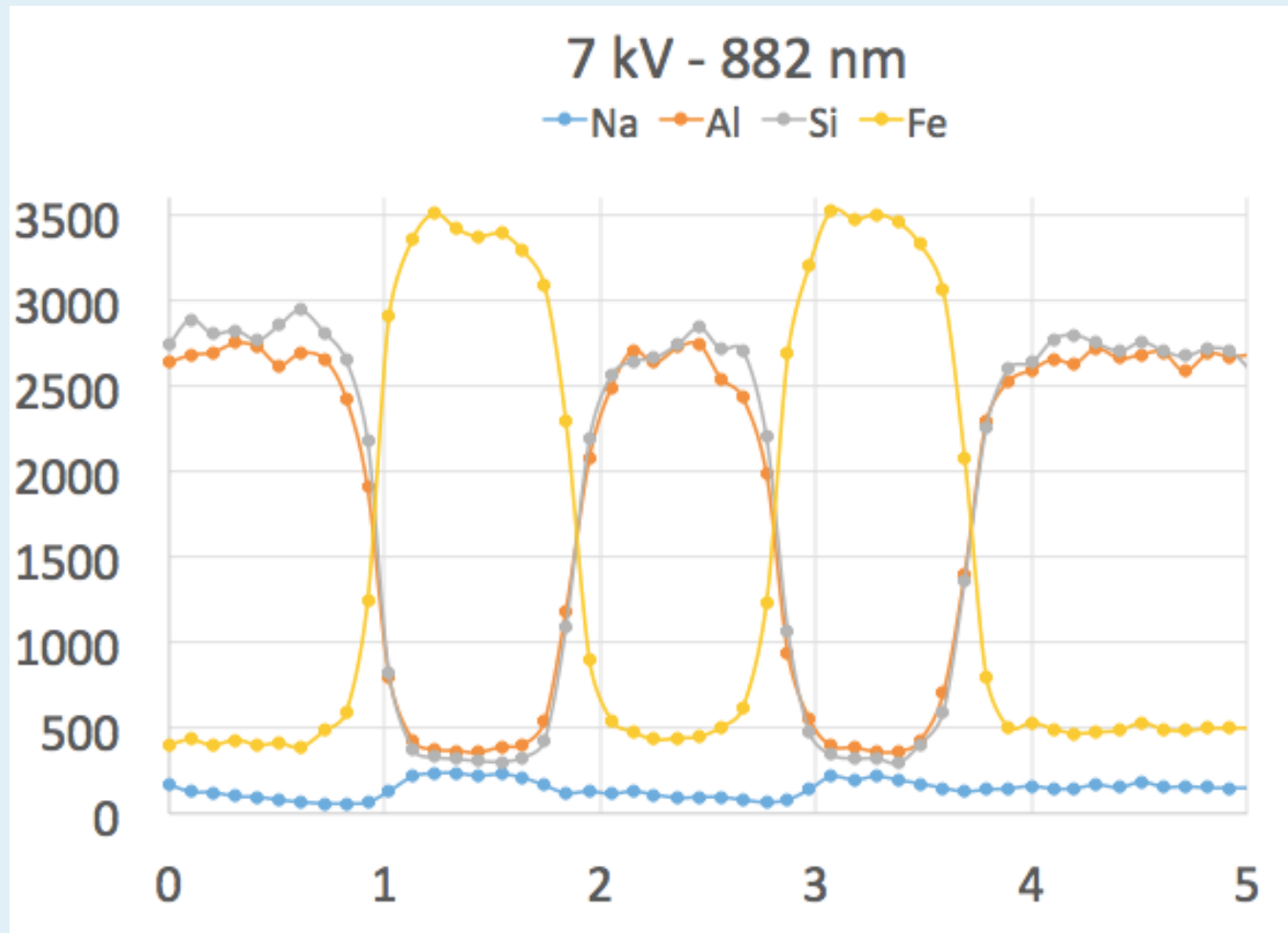
## Using K409 to model low keV X-ray spatial resolution

Si 0.91  
Al 0.96  
Fe 01.02



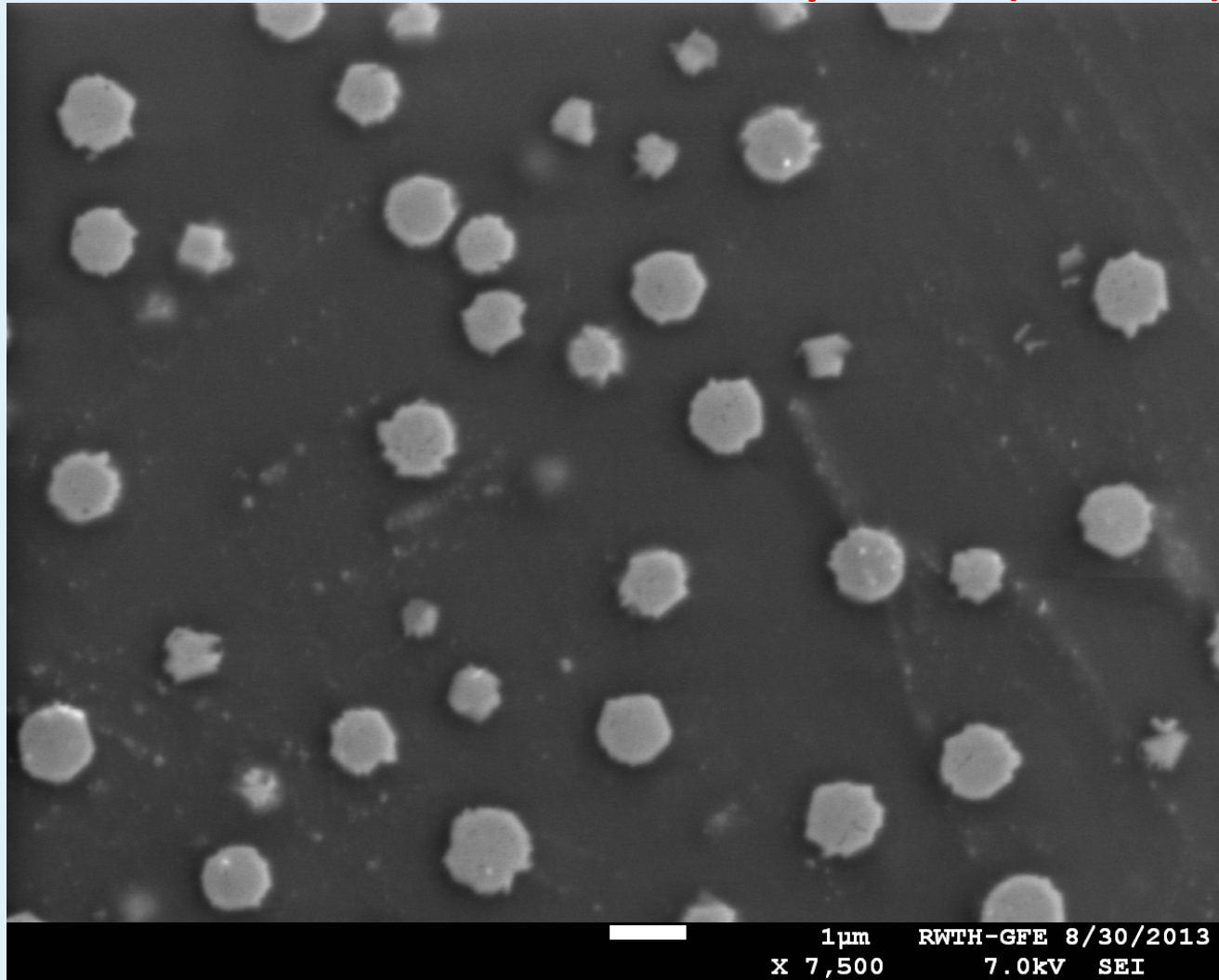
Lateral distance in microns between two K409 Fe-oxide grains = how close can they be to still achieve the same X-ray intensity as 'far away from Fe-oxide'?

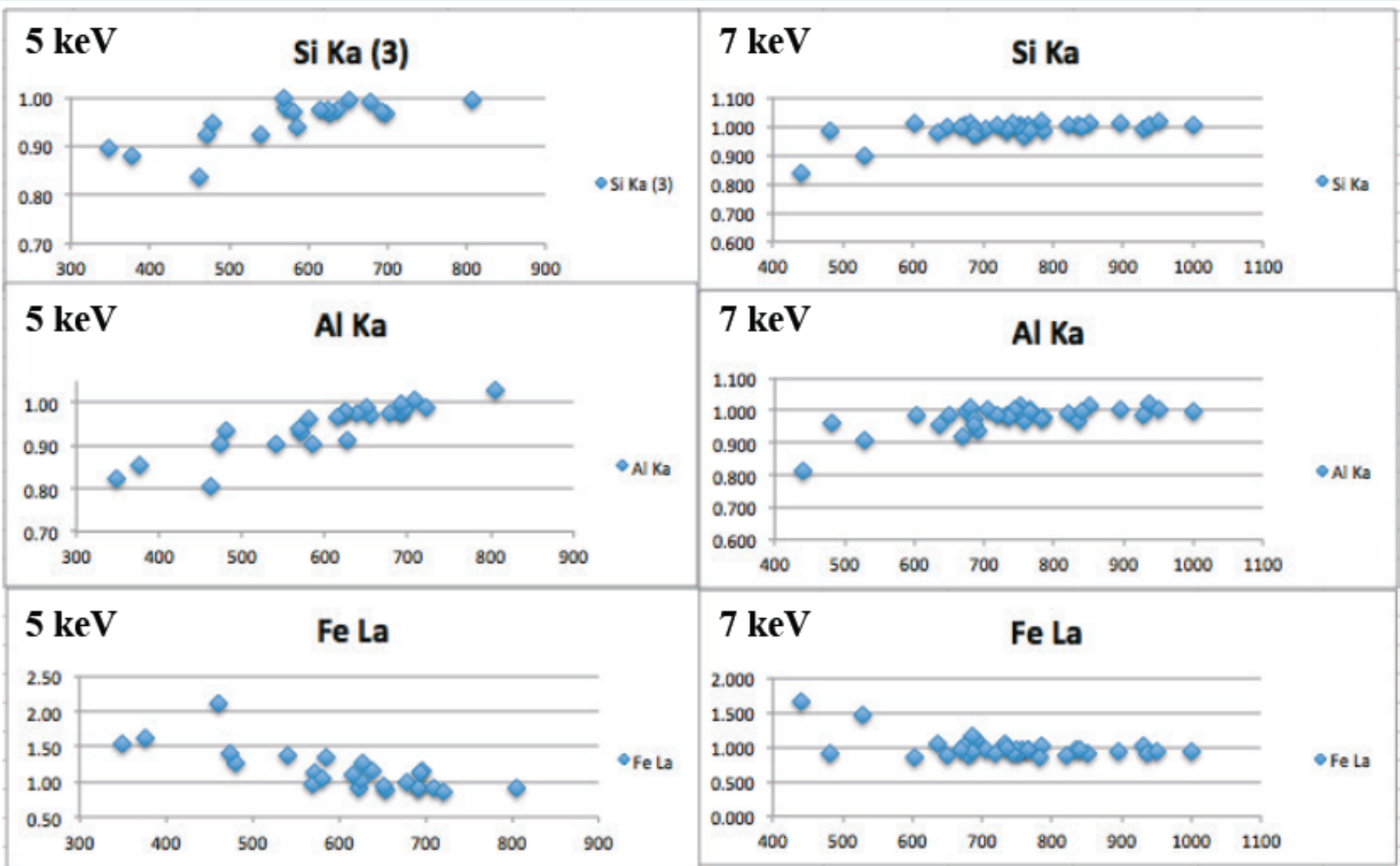
Si 1.01  
Al 0.99  
Fe 0.96



Note: Na Ka X-rays are immediately “lost” under the focused FE beam (there is 10.8 wt% Na<sub>2</sub>O in the glass)

Revised experiment: 50 second measurement  
in middle between 2 crystals (10 nA)





Spacing in nm between crystal edges

Spacing in nm between crystal edges

There does not appear to be any significant benefit in dropping from 7 to 5 keV, as both reach the 'far' glass value at 600-700 nm

**Table 4.** Comparison of experiments at 5 and 7 keV with various estimations of analytical X-ray lateral resolution, for Si-K $\alpha$ , Al-K $\alpha$  and Fe-L $\alpha$  in K409 glass, using various published formulations and results from Monte Carlo simulations. For Merlet-Llovet formula, (a) uses phi-rho-Z max from CASINO, (b) uses phi-rho-Z max from Merlet (pers. comm.). PENEPMA for Fe-L $\alpha$  not included due to poor statistics.

	5 keV	5 keV	5 keV	7 keV	7 keV	7 keV
<b>X-ray ranges</b>	Al-K $\alpha$	Si-K $\alpha$	Fe-L $\alpha$	Al-K $\alpha$	Si-K $\alpha$	Fe-L $\alpha$
Castaing 1952	351	321	405	664	625	730
Anderson-Hasler '66	322	311	352	602	590	632
Reed '66	273	257	314	491	475	531
Hovington et al '97	297	281	333	558	543	1065
<b>Analytical resolution</b>						
Duncumb (x1.6)	437	411	502	785	759	849
Reed (x3)	820	772	940	1472	1424	1593
Merlet-Llovet '12 (a)	578	512	619	989	909	1065
Merlet-Llovet '12 (b)	515	465	607	974	900	1091
PENEPMA (100 %)	500	500	*	700	700	*
CASINO (99.9 %)	360	360	436	674	674	755
K409 point experiments	575-650	575-650	575-650	600-700	600-700	600-700

Can we create an EPMA “app” to estimate analytical lateral spatial resolution for small inclusions in a matrix, that uses the definition of Barksdale et al (2001), such that it achieves at least 99% of the total X-ray intensity?

- Use PENEPM (PENELOPE) for Monte Carlo model
- Provide several geometries (currently half sphere and rectangular box)
- Easy-to-use GUI
- Use as many processors simultaneously as available on computer
- Raw data immediately displayed (though tighter error bars may take 30+ minutes, depending upon problem)

# “WISC-Resolution”



Aurelien Moy has created this interface to PENEPMA which provides estimates of analytical spatial resolution for two inclusion shapes (half sphere; rectangle)

The screenshot displays the WISC-Resolution software interface. The main window is titled "Resolution" and shows a file tree on the left, a configuration panel in the center, and simulation results on the right. The configuration panel includes sections for "Configuration", "Material definitions", "Inclusion geometries and input conditions", and "Stopping criteria". The "Material definitions" section shows two materials: "incl" (KAl3Si3O12) and "Matrix" (ZrSiO4). The "Inclusion geometries and input conditions" section shows a "Sphere" inclusion with a radius of 0.1 to 0.55 micrometers and a depth offset of 0. The "Stopping criteria" section shows a file name of "pe-intens-06.dat" and convergence criteria of 0.5%.

The "Results of the selected working directory:" section shows the following data:

Element	La	Intensity	Resolution
Cu	La	1.661E-5	1.014E-7
Pd	La	1.788E-5	3.320E-8

The "Results of the running simulations:" section shows the following data:

Simulation	Element	La	Intensity	Resolution
incl_in_Matrix_R=0.100µm_6.0kV	Cu	La	0.000E0	0.000E0
	Pd	La	5.669E-6	2.798E-7
incl_in_Matrix_R=0.150µm_6.0kV	Cu	La	4.906E-6	3.113E-7
	Pd	La	3.815E-6	1.906E-7
incl_in_Matrix_R=0.200µm_6.0kV	Cu	La	8.127E-6	3.165E-7
	Pd	La	2.954E-6	1.469E-7
incl_in_Matrix_R=0.250µm_6.0kV	Cu	La	1.124E-5	2.965E-7
	Pd	La	2.362E-6	1.177E-7
incl_in_Matrix_R=0.300µm_6.0kV	Cu	La	1.361E-5	2.799E-7
	Pd	La	2.030E-6	1.014E-7
incl_in_Matrix_R=0.350µm_6.0kV	Cu	La	1.522E-5	2.728E-7
	Pd	La	1.860E-6	9.295E-8
incl_in_Matrix_R=0.400µm_6.0kV	Cu	La	1.588E-5	2.696E-7
	Pd	La	1.808E-6	9.022E-8
incl_in_Matrix_R=0.450µm_6.0kV	Cu	La	1.632E-5	2.700E-7
	Pd	La	1.788E-6	8.921E-8

The "Next simulations:" section shows a list of simulation folders with checkboxes:

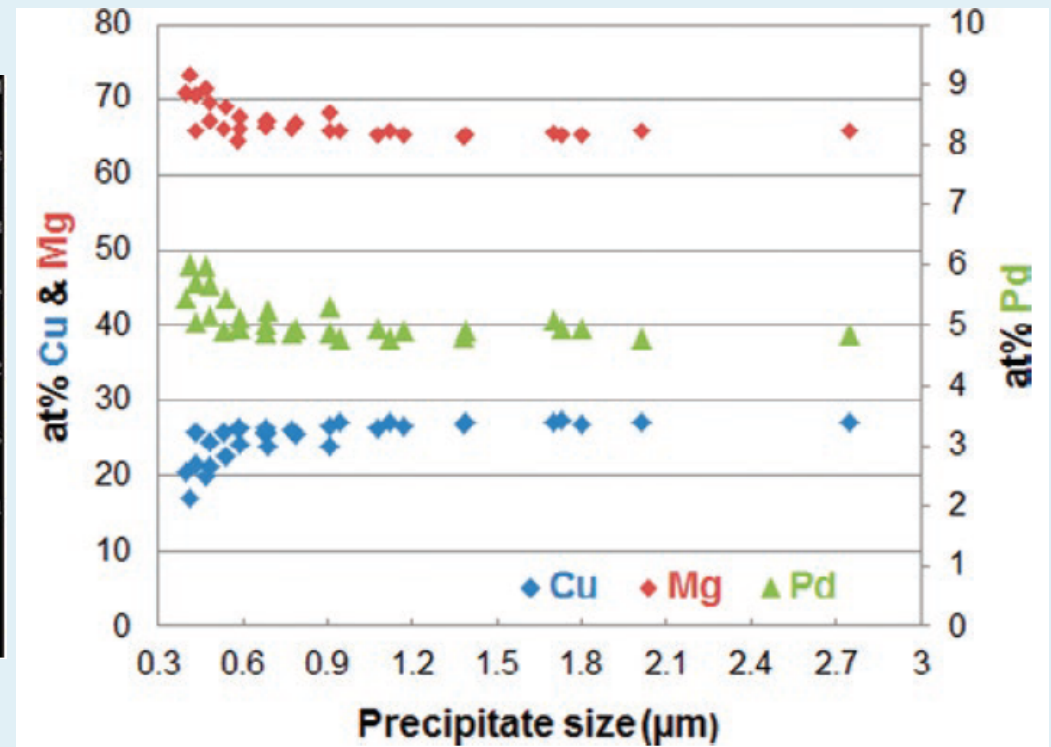
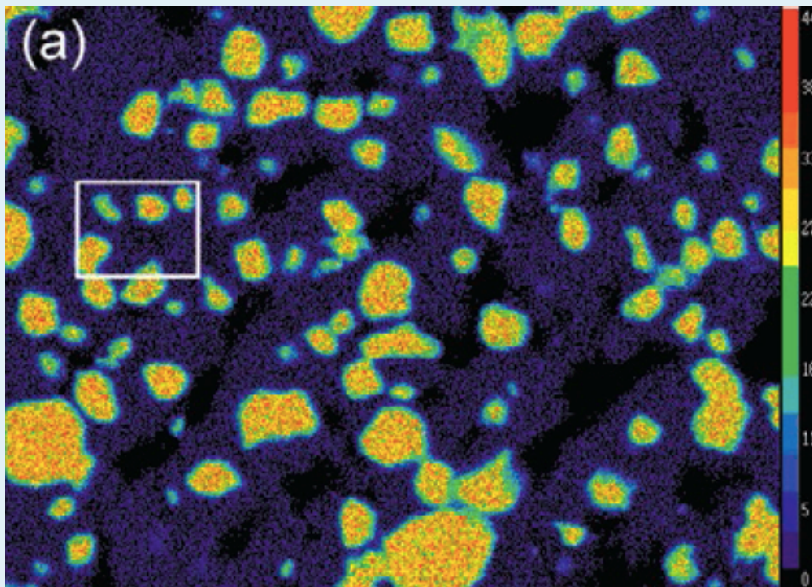
Run	Folder name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	incl_in_Matrix_R=0.350µm_6.0kV
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	incl_in_Matrix_R=0.400µm_6.0kV
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	incl_in_Matrix_R=0.450µm_6.0kV
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	incl_in_Matrix_R=0.500µm_6.0kV
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	incl_in_Matrix_R=0.550µm_6.0kV

The "Plot:" section shows a graph of Intensity (ph/sr/eV) vs Radius (µm). The plot shows a blue line with error bars representing the intensity of the Cu and La peaks as a function of the inclusion radius. The intensity increases with radius and then levels off.

Radius (µm)	Intensity (ph/sr/eV)
0.10	~6.0E-6
0.15	~8.0E-6
0.20	~1.1E-5
0.25	~1.3E-5
0.30	~1.5E-5
0.35	~1.6E-5
0.40	~1.6E-5
0.45	~1.6E-5
0.50	~1.6E-5
0.55	~1.6E-5



# Experimental data

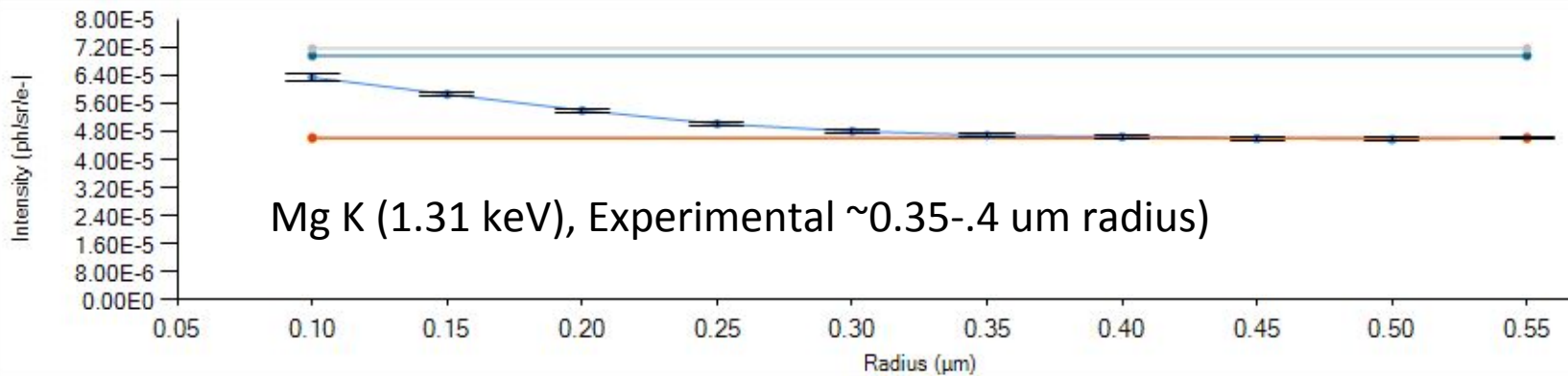


FE EPMA of various sizes of Cu-Mg-Pd phases in a Mg-Pd host (6 keV, 20 nA) from Hombourger & Outrequin, 2013

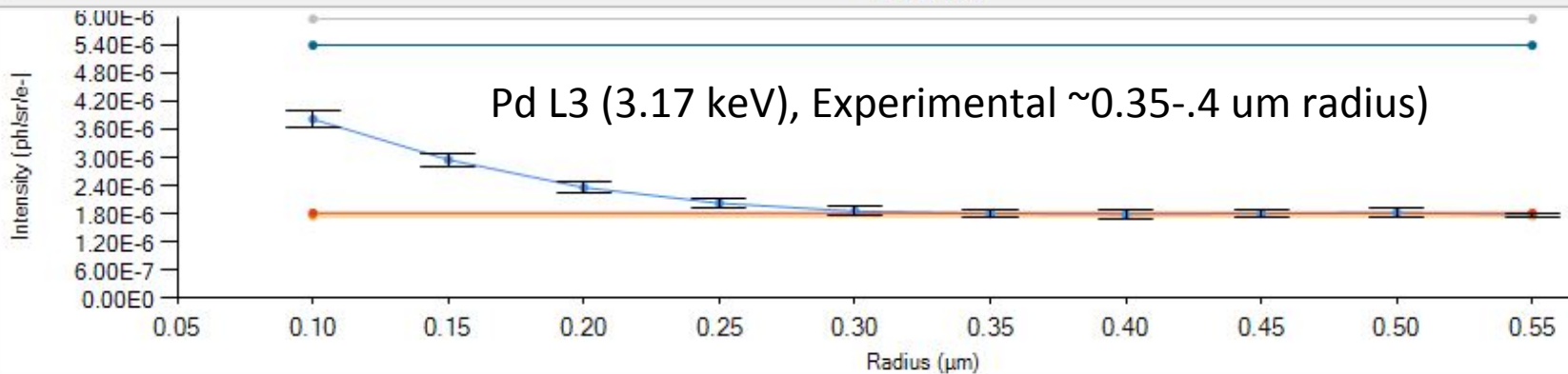
# WISC-Resolution Results for Mg-Pd-Cu (6 keV)



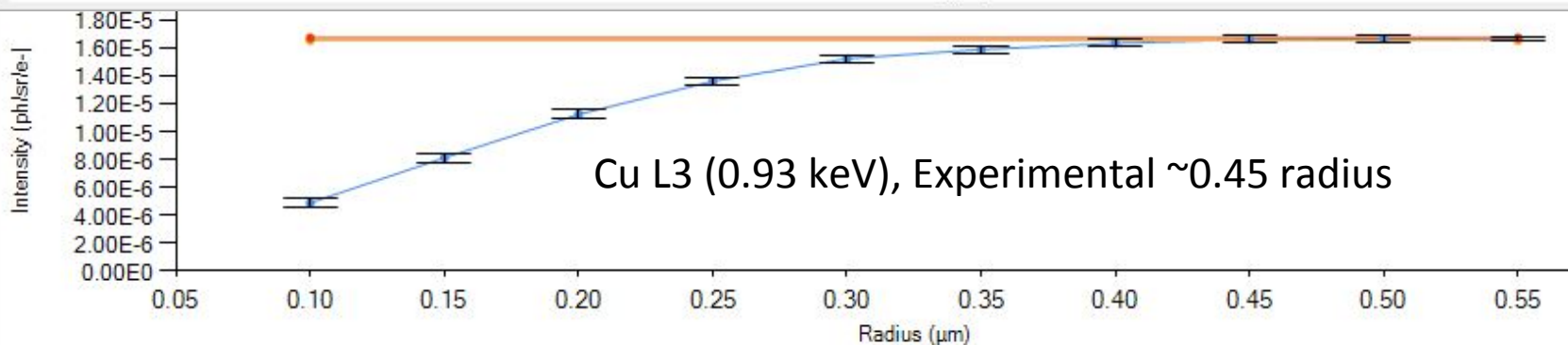
Plot:  
Lenght   
Elt (Z) X-ray  
Mg  Ka   
Plot  
Reset



Plot:  
Lenght   
Elt (Z) X-ray  
Pd  La   
Plot  
Reset



Plot:  
Lenght   
Elt (Z) X-ray  
Cu  La   
Plot  
Reset



# Summary

- Need to understand distinction between imaging resolution and analytical resolution
- May need to explore “non-traditional” X-ray lines if decrease beam energy
- May be a limit to “how low you can go”; here, no apparent improvement dropping from 7 to 5 keV in K409 glass example
- Fully focused beam can rapidly alter/damage some samples
- Two apps available from UW Madison EPMA lab
  - Beam size calculator
  - Lateral analytical resolution simulation (WISC-resolution)

Funding for this research: National Science  
Foundation grants

**NSF EAR-1554269**

**NSF EAR-1337156**

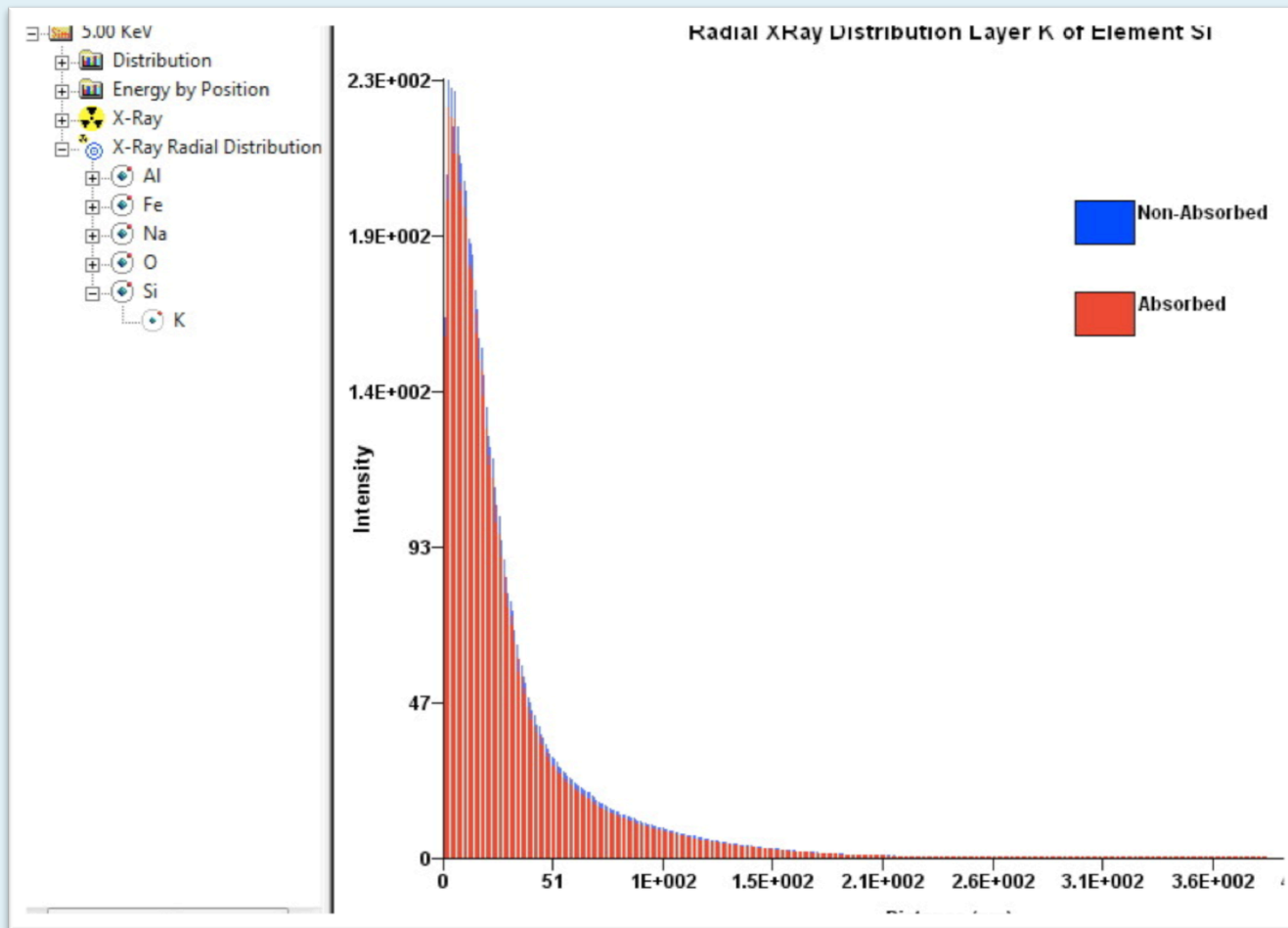








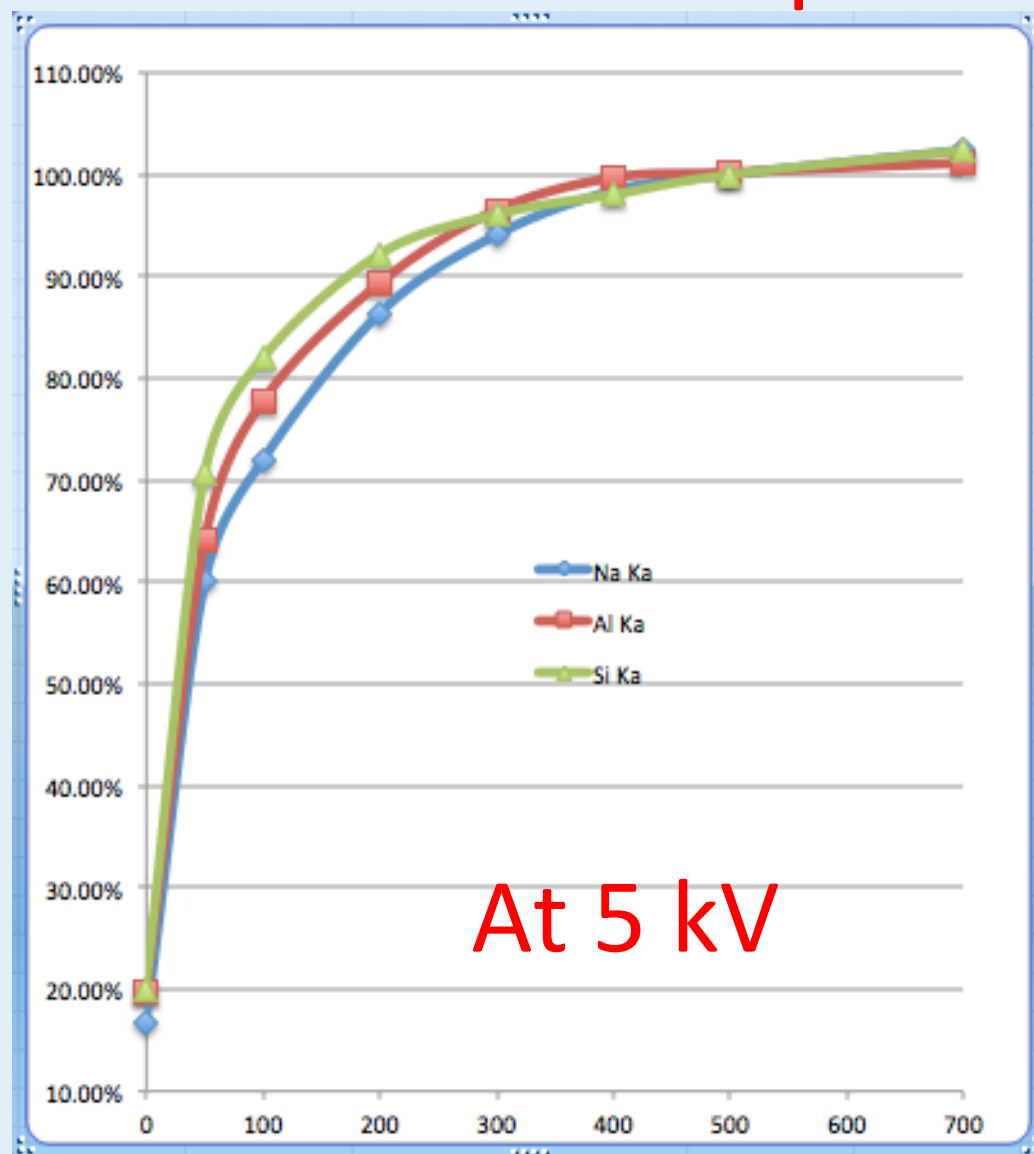
# CASINO Monte Carlo Simulation in K409 Experiments



At 5 kV



# Penepma Monte Carlo Simulation of K409 Experiments



5 kV

## Compare Predictions of Analytical Resolution with K409 Experiments

<b>5 kV X-ray Ranges</b>	<b>Al Ka</b>	<b>Si Ka</b>	<b>Fe La</b>
Castaing 1952	351	321	405
Anderson&Hasler '66	322	311	352
Reed '66	273	257	314
Hovington et al '97	297	281	333
<b>5 kV Analytical Resolution</b>			
Duncumb (*1.6)	437	411	502
Reed (*3)	820	772	940
Merlet&Llovet '12 (Casino Zmax)	578	512	619
Merlet&Llovet '12 (Merlet Zmax)	515	465	607
PENEPMA point	400	400	
CASINO 99%	320	320	
Experimental K409	450-500	450-500	450-500

7 kV

## Compare Predictions of Analytical Resolution with K409 Experiments

<b>7 kV X-ray Ranges</b>	Al Ka	Si Ka	Fe La
Castaing 1952	664	625	730
Anderson&Hasler '66	602	590	632
Reed '66	491	475	531
Hovington et al '97	558	543	1065
<b>7 kV Analytical Resolution</b>			
Duncumb (*1.6)	785	759	849
Reed (*3)	1472	1424	1593
Merlet&Llovet '12 (Casino Zmax)	989	909	
Merlet&Llovet '12 (Merlet Zmax)	974	900	1091
PENEPMA point	600-700	600-700	
CASINO 99%	510	510	
Experimental K409	700-750	700-750	700-750

# Problems of Soft X-ray analyses of iron

Llovet et al (2012) showed problems of Fe analyses at 5-6 keV (using Fe  $L\alpha$ ) with interlaboratory study

Table 5: Results of quantitative WDS analyses of the P11 sample (all values in wt.%).

Lab code	Si	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Mo	Total
Reference composition	0.483	17.18	1.483	66.51	0.336	11.24	0.309	2.163	
1	0.57 (0.02)	14.42 (0.27)	0.88 (0.25)	66.65 (0.7)	0.38 (0.04)	14.65 (0.43)	0.35 (0.03)	2.39 (0.10)	100.29
2	0.52 (0.01)	15.77 (0.14)	1.10 (0.11)	67.86 (0.5)	0.4 (0.05)	14.45 (0.27)	0.35 (0.02)	2.16 (0.04)	102.59
3	0.39 (0.02)	14.33 (0.82)	0.21 (0.28)	86.25 (1.24)	0.27 (0.05)	15.33 (0.53)	0.34 (0.01)	7.54 (0.24)	124.64
4	0.46 (0.06)	15.24 (0.35)	1.49 (0.54)	70.04 (0.3)	0.31 (0.16)	16.0 (0.6)	0.35 (0.06)	2.25 (0.15)	106.14
5	0.50 (0.004)	14.82 (0.77)	1.03 (0.06)	72.97 (0.5)	-0.04 (0.04)	15.13 (1.6)	0.39 (0.06)	2.15 (0.05)	106.99
6	0.51 (0.05)	16.91 (0.64)	0.24 (0.63)	70.36 (0.81)	“Not measured”	14.04 (0.36)	0.59 (0.18)	2.16 (0.35)	104.80

Numbers in parentheses are one standard deviation uncertainties

low

high

high

Llovet, et al (2012)

10 kV

# Compare Predictions of Analytical Resolution with K409 Experiments

<b>10 kV X-ray Ranges</b>	<b>Al Ka</b>	<b>Si Ka</b>	<b>Fe La</b>	<b>Fe Ka</b>
Castaing 1952	1265	1205	1351	601
Anderson&Hasler '66	1133	1121	1163	514
Reed '66	879	863	919	375
Hovington et al '97	1055	1040	1091	481
<b>10 kV Analytical Resolution</b>				
Duncumb (*1.6)	1406	1380	1470	600
Reed (*3)	2636	2588	2757	1125
Merlet&Llovet '12 (Casino Zmax)	1873	1753	1985	1007
Merlet&Llover'12 (Merlet Zmax)	1881	1757	2041	
PENEPMA point				
CASINO 99%	780			
Experimenetal K409	1000-1500	1000-1500	1000-1500	

.....Very Preliminary....

## One reason low voltage may be preferable to low over-voltage

<b>10 kV X-ray Ranges</b>	<b>Al Ka</b>	<b>Si Ka</b>	<b>Fe La</b>	<b>Fe Ka</b>
Castaing 1952	1265	1205	1351	601
Anderson&Hasler '66	1133	1121	1163	514
Reed '66	879	863	919	375
Hovington et al '97	1055	1040	1091	481
<b>10 kV Analytical Resolution</b>				
Duncumb (*1.6)	1406	1380	1470	600
Reed (*3)	2636	2588	2757	1125
Merlet&Llovet '12 (Casino Zmax)	1873	1753	1985	1007
Merlet&Llover'12 (Merlet Zmax)	1881	1757	2041	
PENEPMA point				
CASINO 99%	780			
Experimenetal K409	1000-1500	1000-1500	1000-1500	

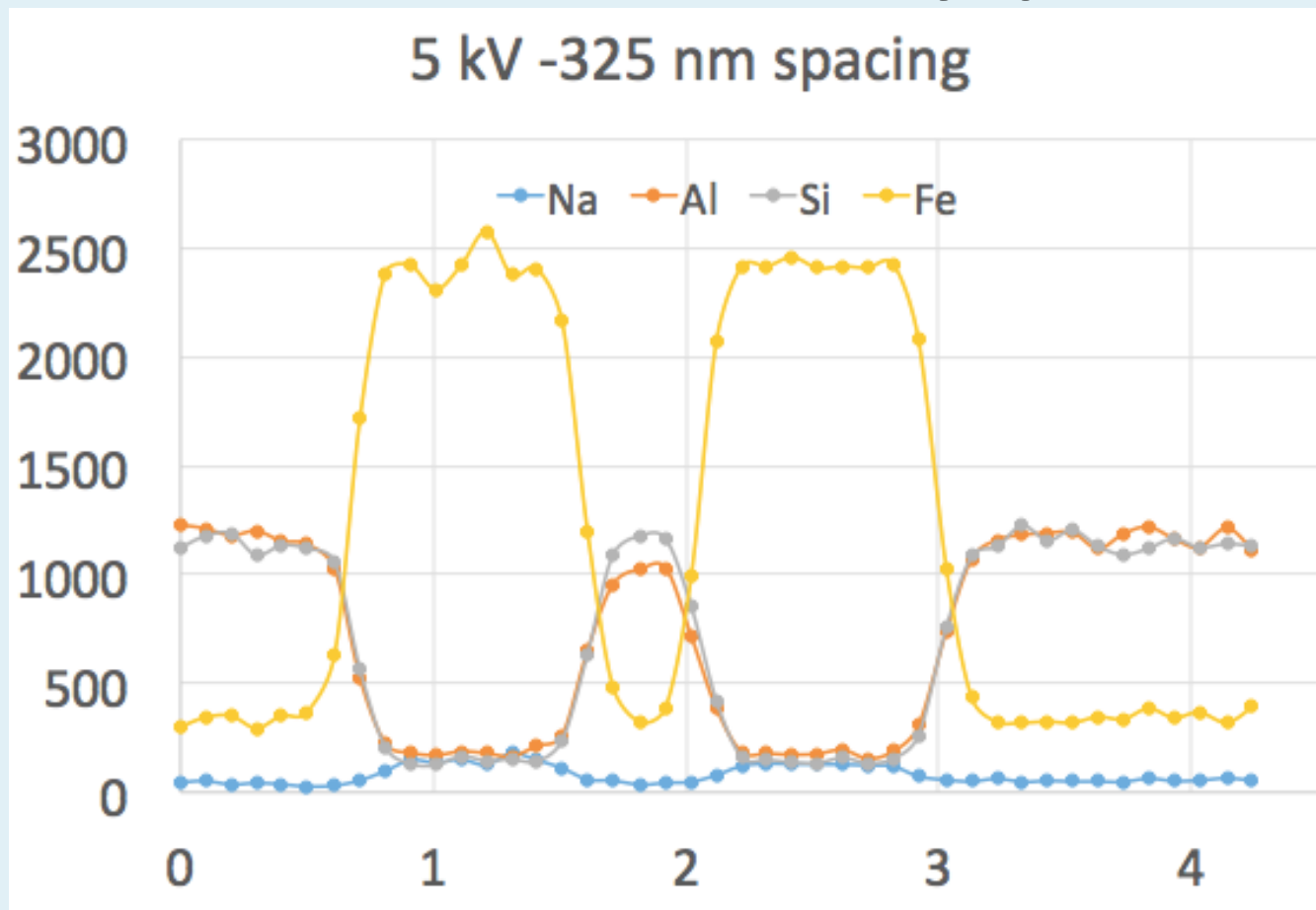
## **Part 3: Other considerations**

### **Does more intense FE beam cause different behaviors in materials?**

- Dieter Rhede has found that different minerals respond differently, as in having different carbon contamination spot behavior

# Current research: Using K409 to model low keV X-ray spatial resolution

Si 0.97  
Al 0.93  
Fe 1.18

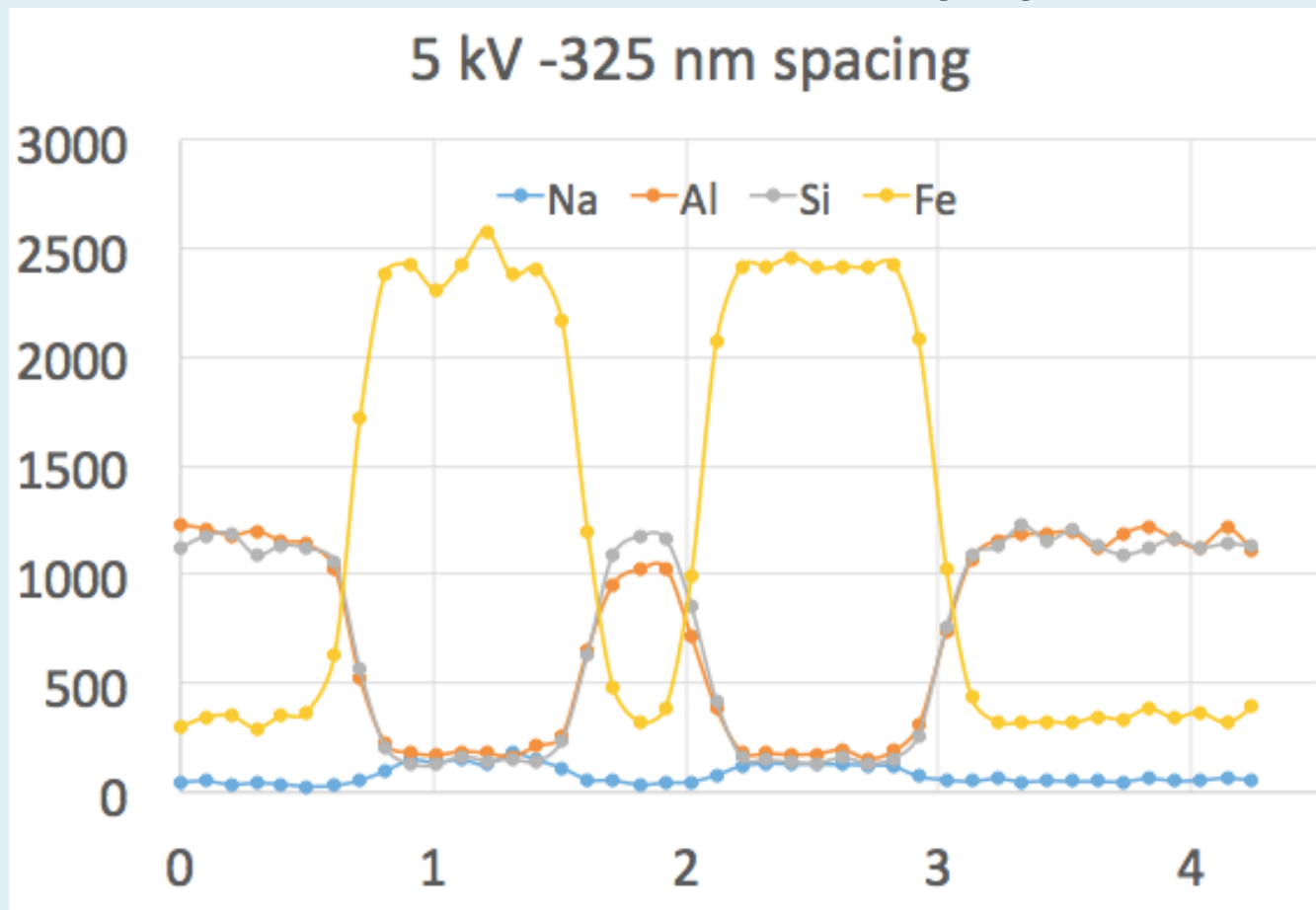


Lateral distance in microns between two K409 Fe-oxide grains = how close can they be to still achieve the same X-ray intensity as 'far away from Fe-oxide'?



# Current research: Using K409 to model low keV X-ray spatial resolution

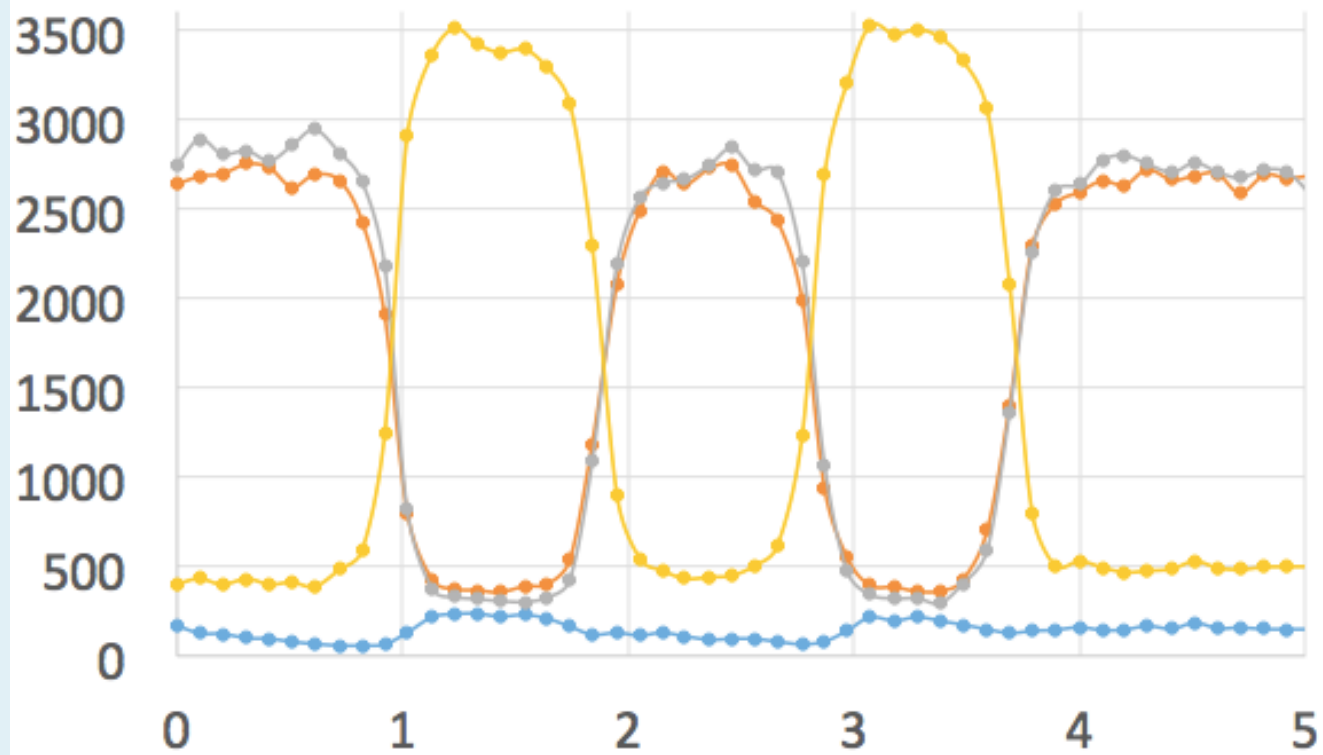
Si 0.97  
Al 0.93  
Fe 1.18

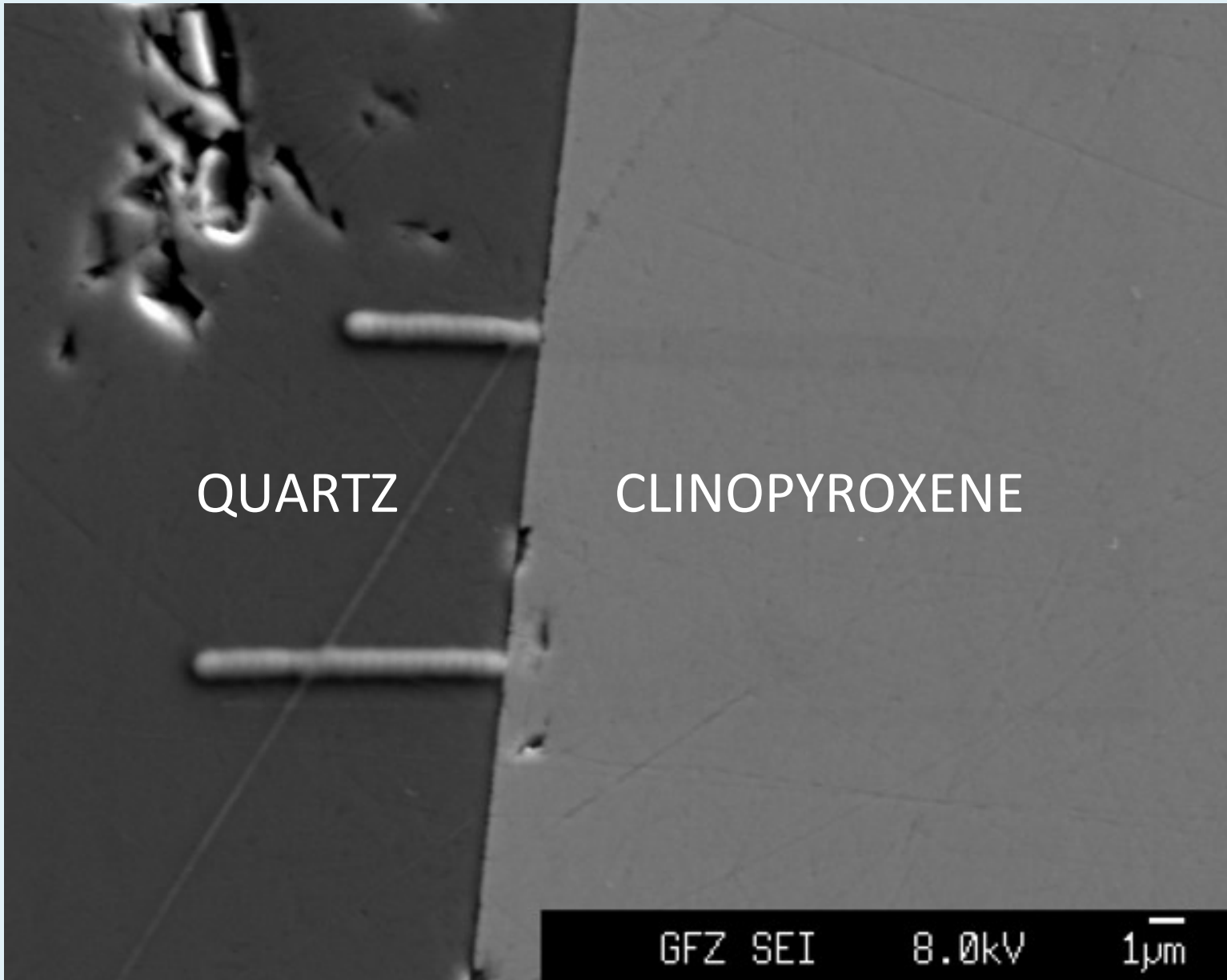


Lateral distance in microns between two K409 Fe-oxide grains = how close can they be to still achieve the same X-ray intensity as 'far away from Fe-oxide'?

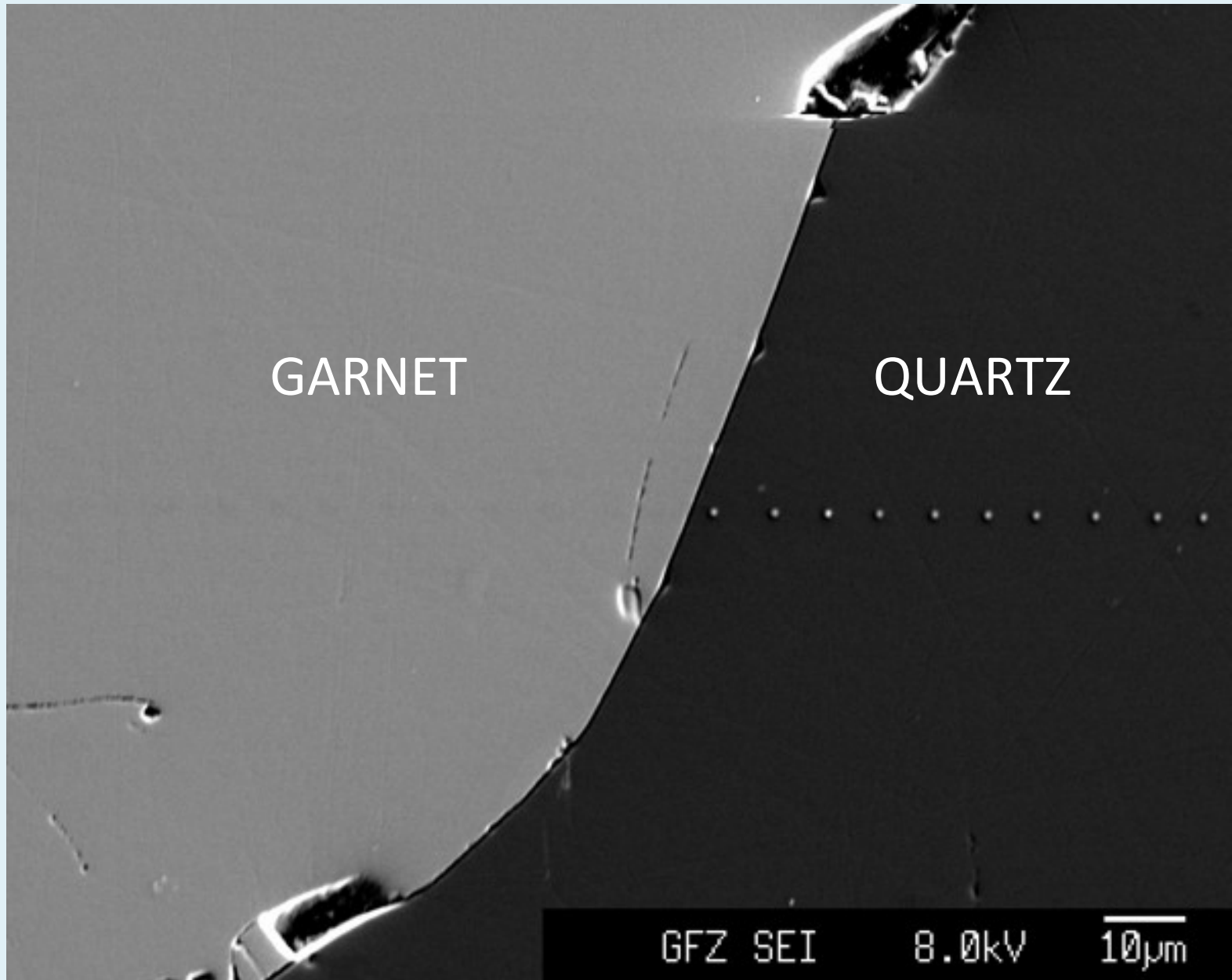
# 7 kV - 882 nm

Na Al Si Fe





Courtesy Dieter Rhede, GFZ JXA-8530



Courtesy Dieter Rhede, GFZ JXA-8530

# Defocus the FE beam??

- One of first things I learned from an early 8500F prober : defocus the beam (not just for glasses):

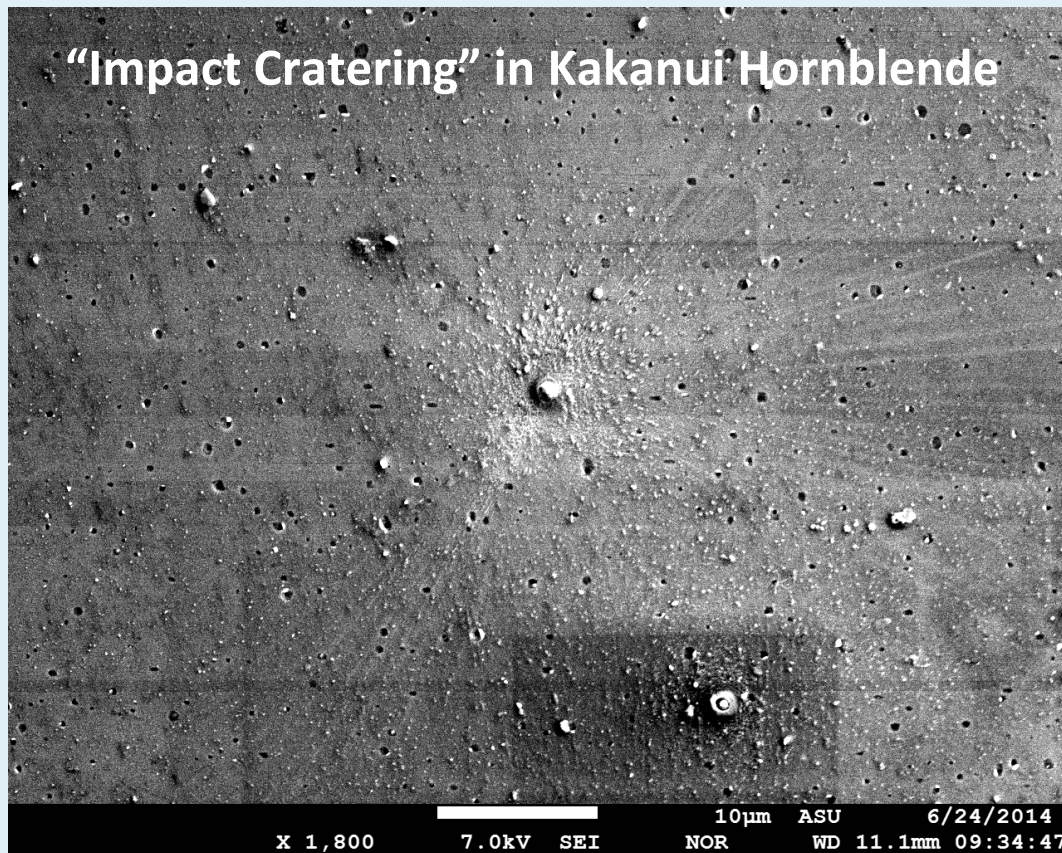
“For routine quantitative analyses under conventional conditions, the beam diameter can be defocused to a few microns to reduce damage of the sample or the carbon coating.”

→ Makes sense....but what if you want to go for very small features?

# Intense FE beams → Significant Beam Damage Possible

Relative to W filament's beam

- With Temperature increase 100 X or more
- Concentrated electron charge implantation??

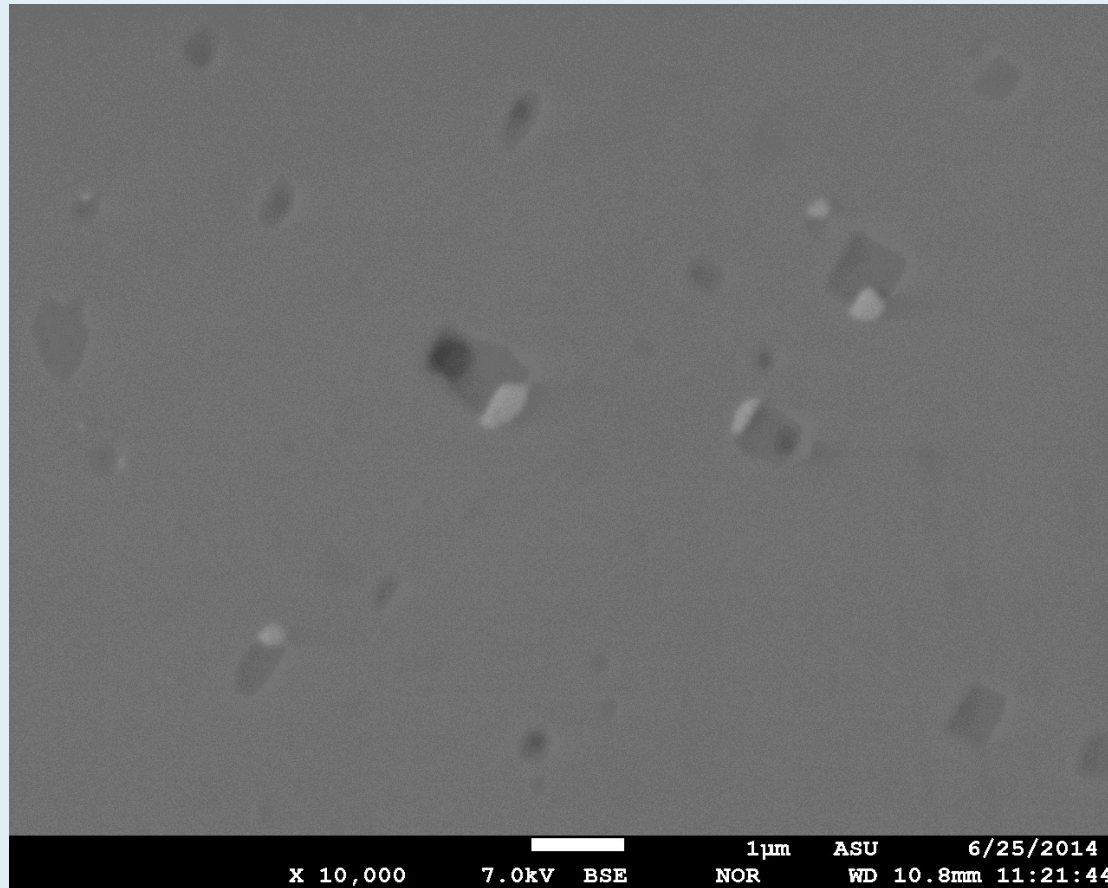


ASU 8530 Field Emission 7 keV 10 nA

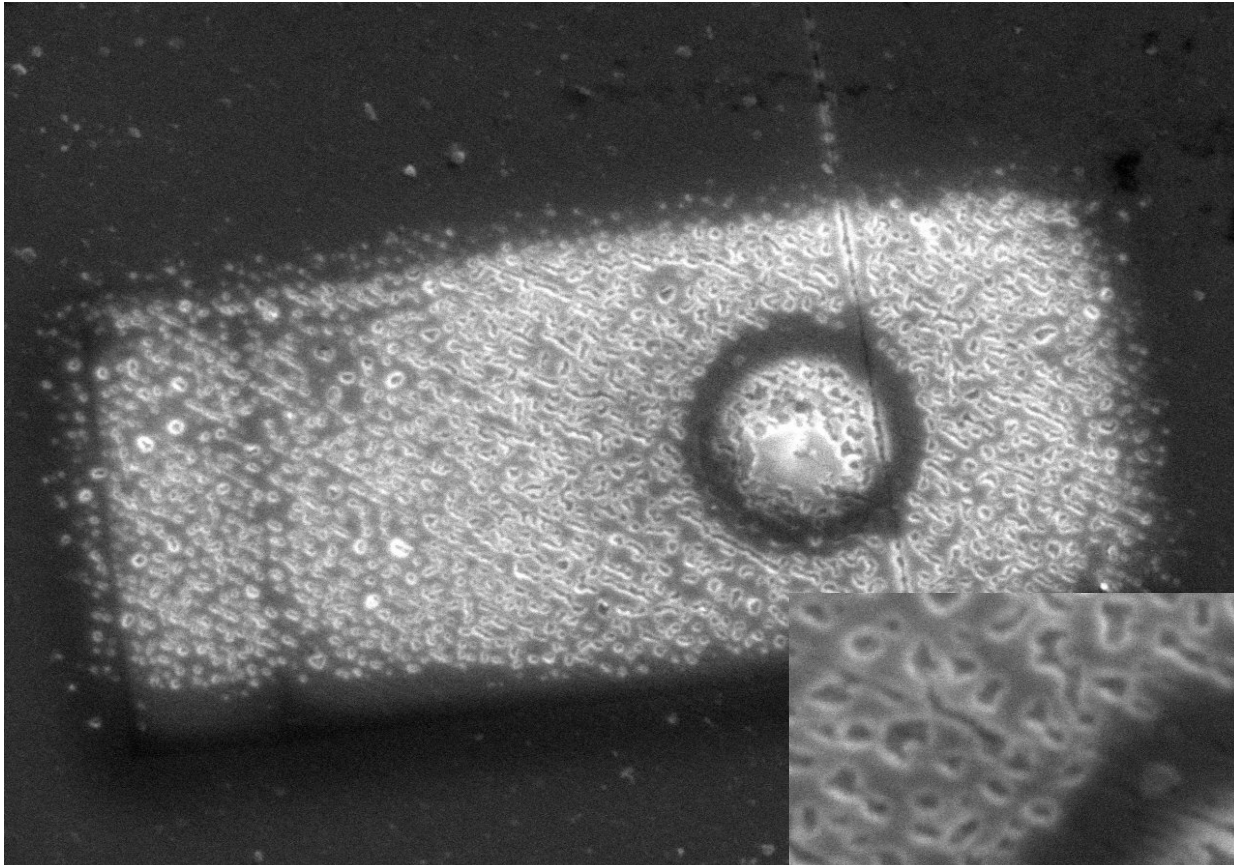
# Intense FE beams → Significant Beam Damage Possible

Relative to W filament's beam

- With Temperature increase 100 X or more
- Concentrated electron charge implantation??



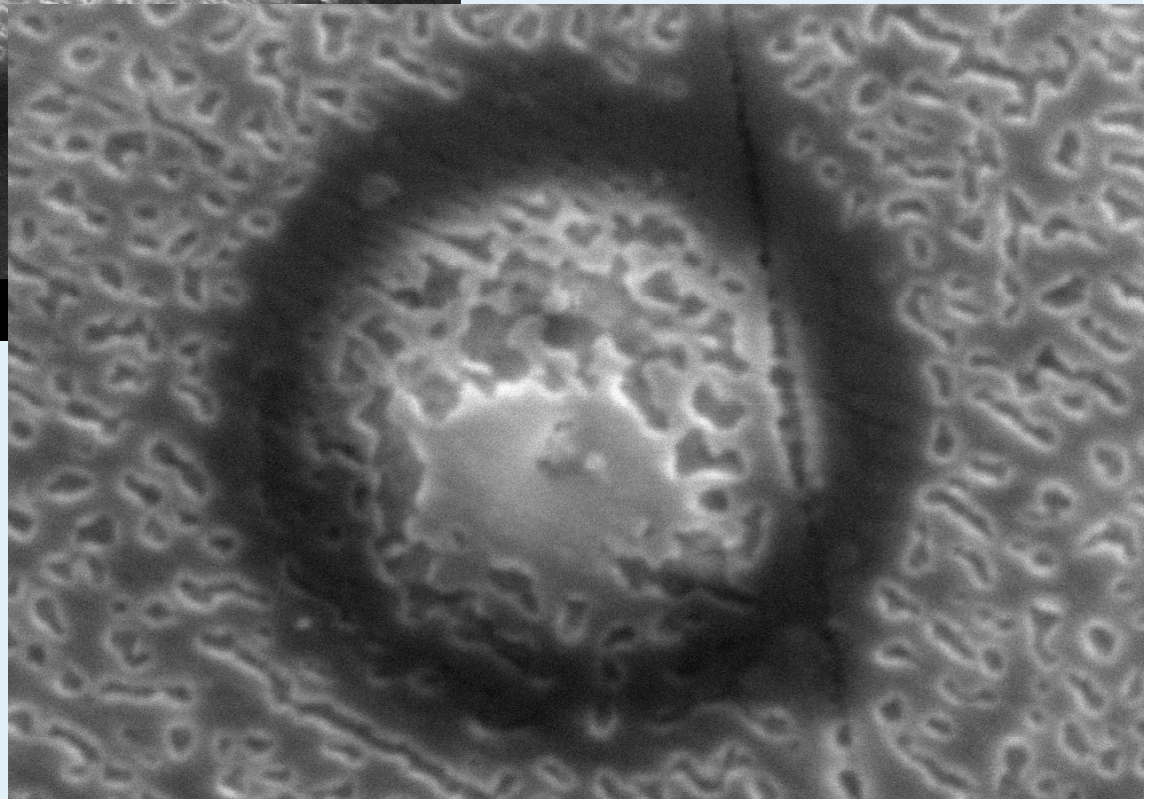
ASU 8530 Field Emission 7 keV 10 nA



**8530 ASU**  
**15 kV**  
**10 nA**  
**Focused beam**  
**Calcite -- 6 nm Ir**  
**coating**

15.0kV x5.00k SE

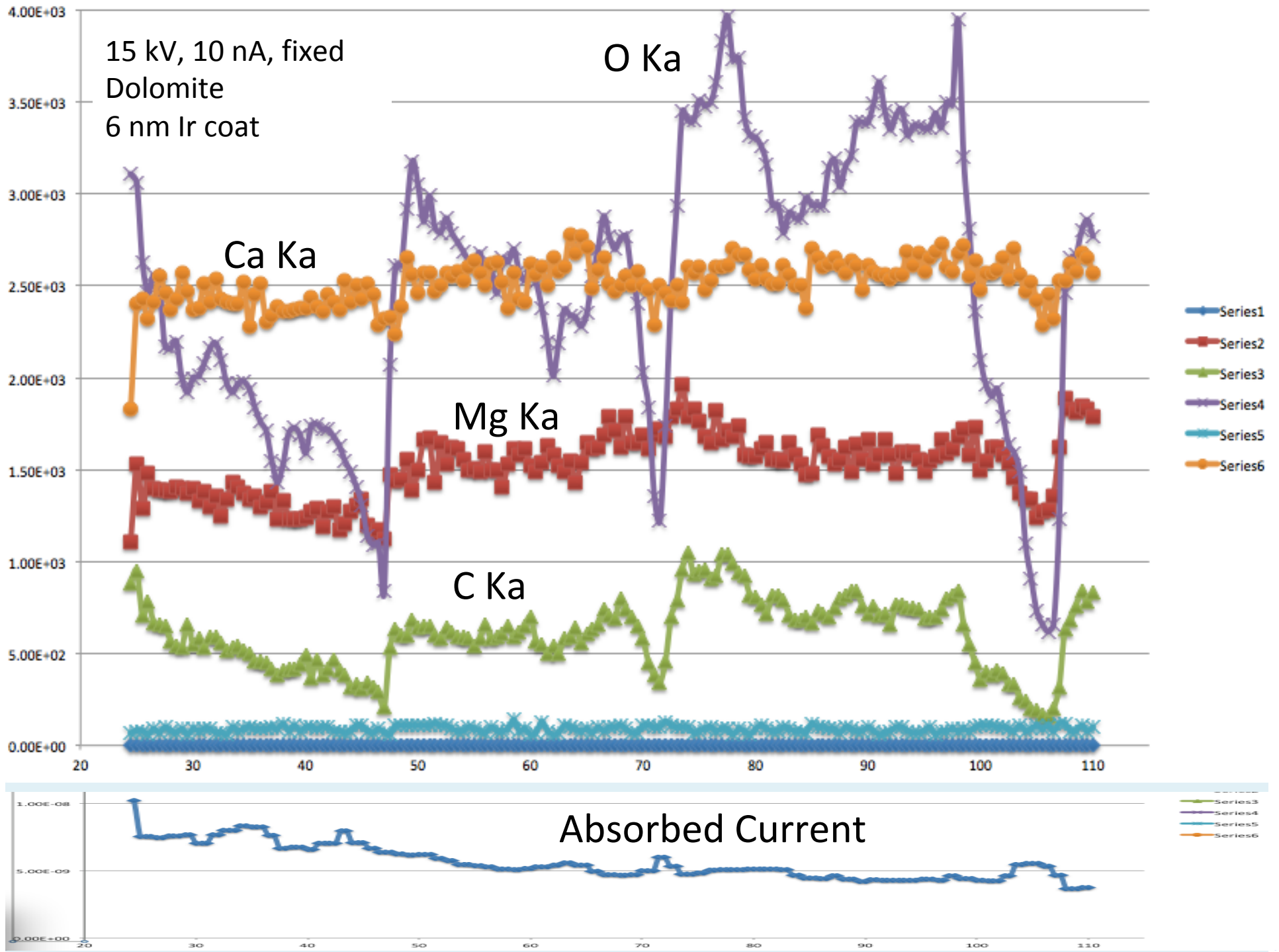
Imaged with W-beam Hitachi S-3400N



15.0kV x16.0k SE

3.00um





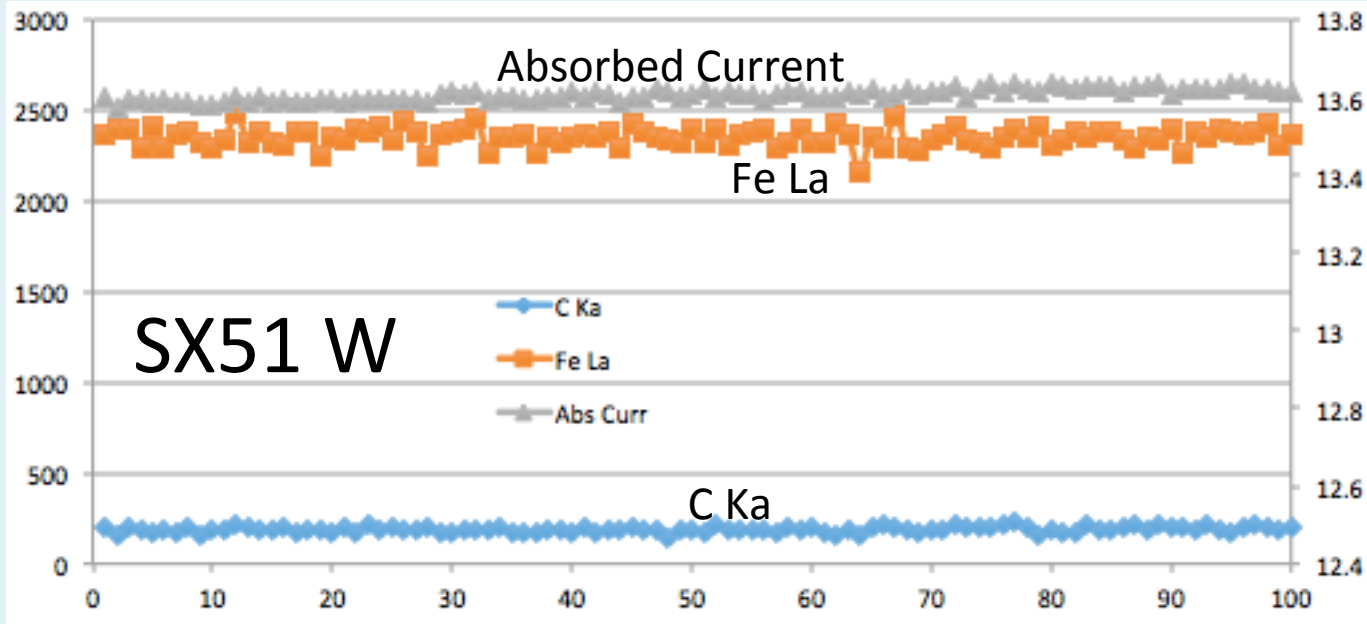
## Does more intense FE beam cause different behaviors in materials?

- Consider materials which shouldn't be impacted particularly deleteriously by the FE electron beam ... Fe metal ... Si metal...
- Time series experiments, 100 measurements, ~250 seconds length ("1 second measurements")
- Comparison: FE electron probe vs traditional W filament electron probe

# Fe Metal: SX51 (W)

7 kV, 20 nA,  
LN anti-  
contamination

Fe La  
Si Ka  
counts



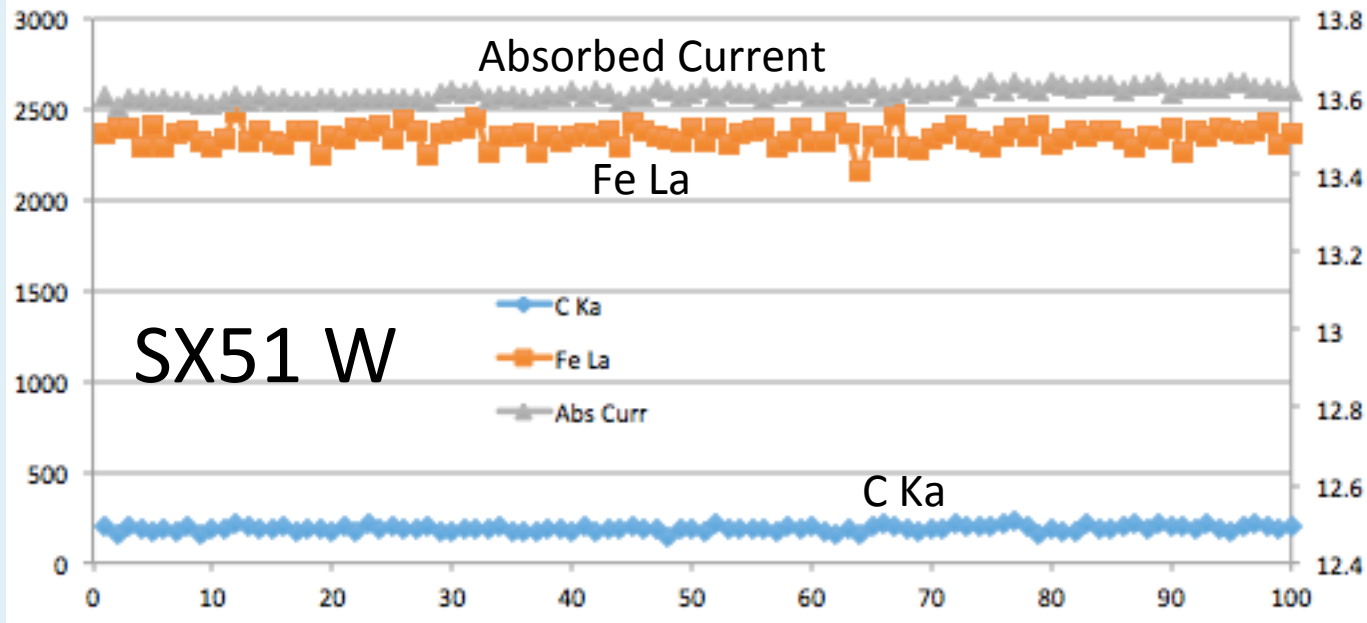
Absorbed  
Current

100 counting  
intervals ~  
250 seconds

# Fe Metal: SXFive FE vs SX51 (W)

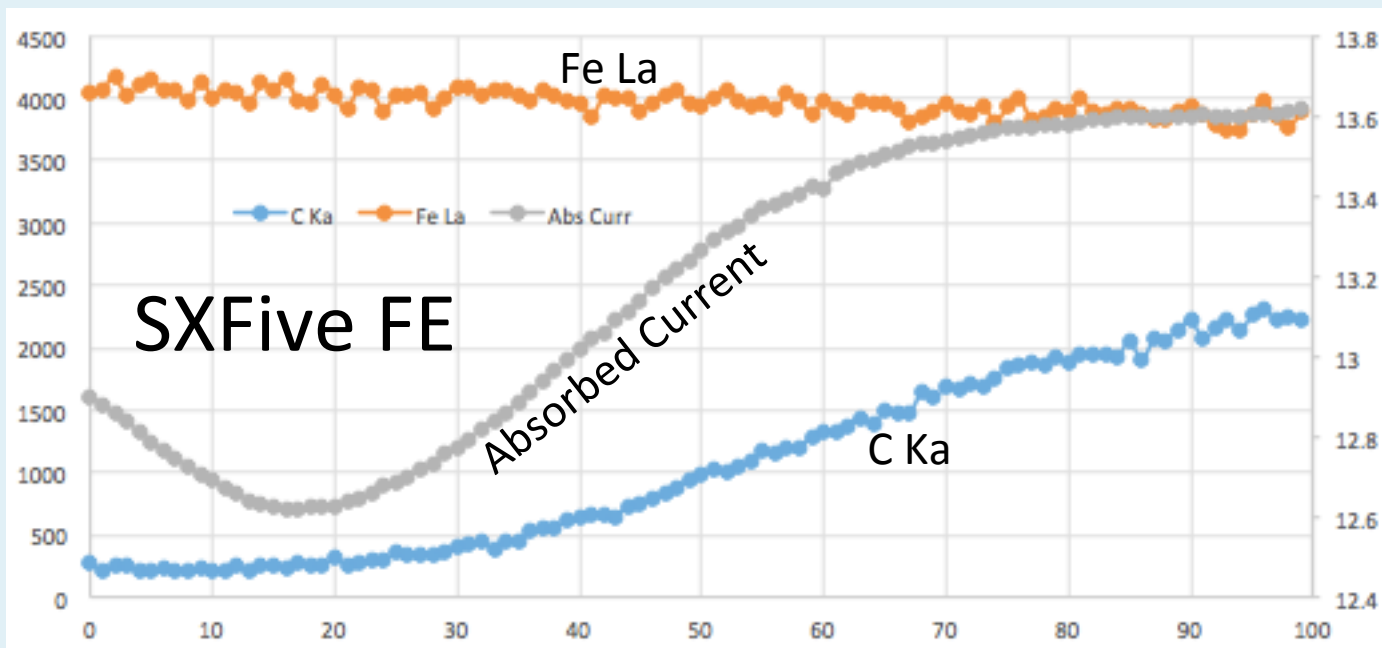
7 kV, 20 nA,  
LN anti-  
contamination

Fe La  
Si Ka  
counts



Absorbed  
Current

Fe La  
Si Ka  
counts

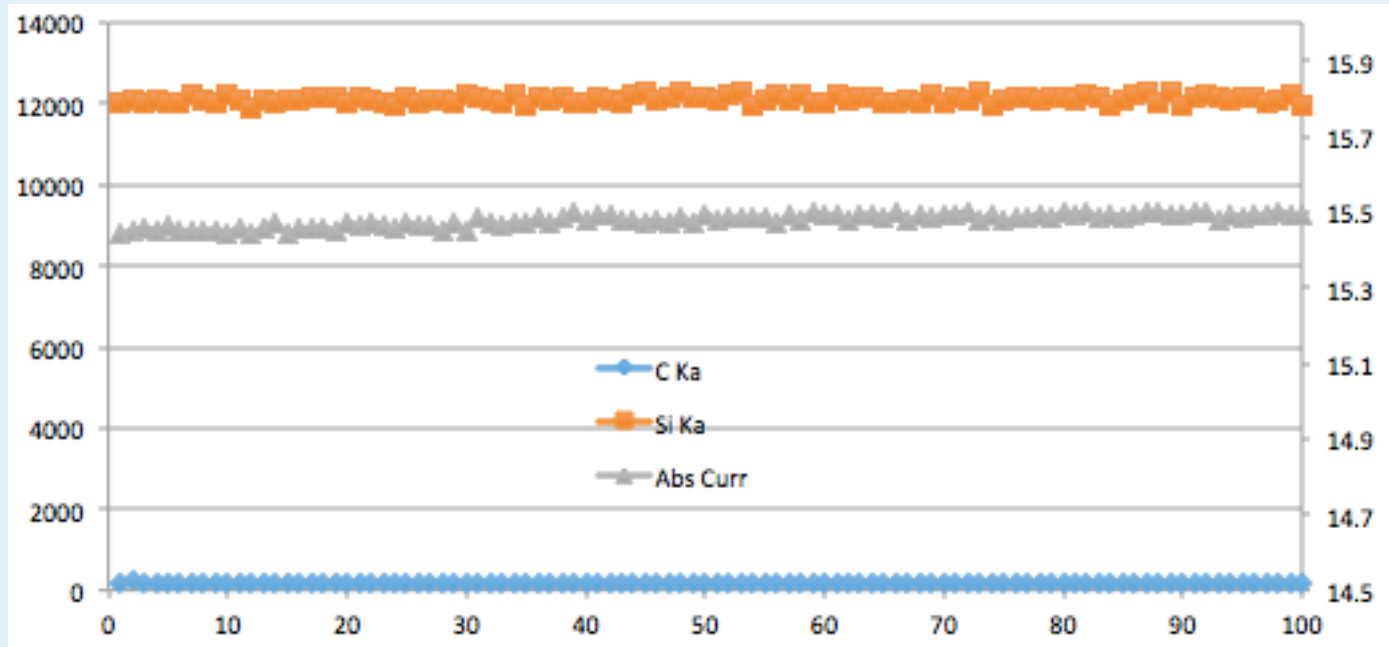


Absorbed  
Current

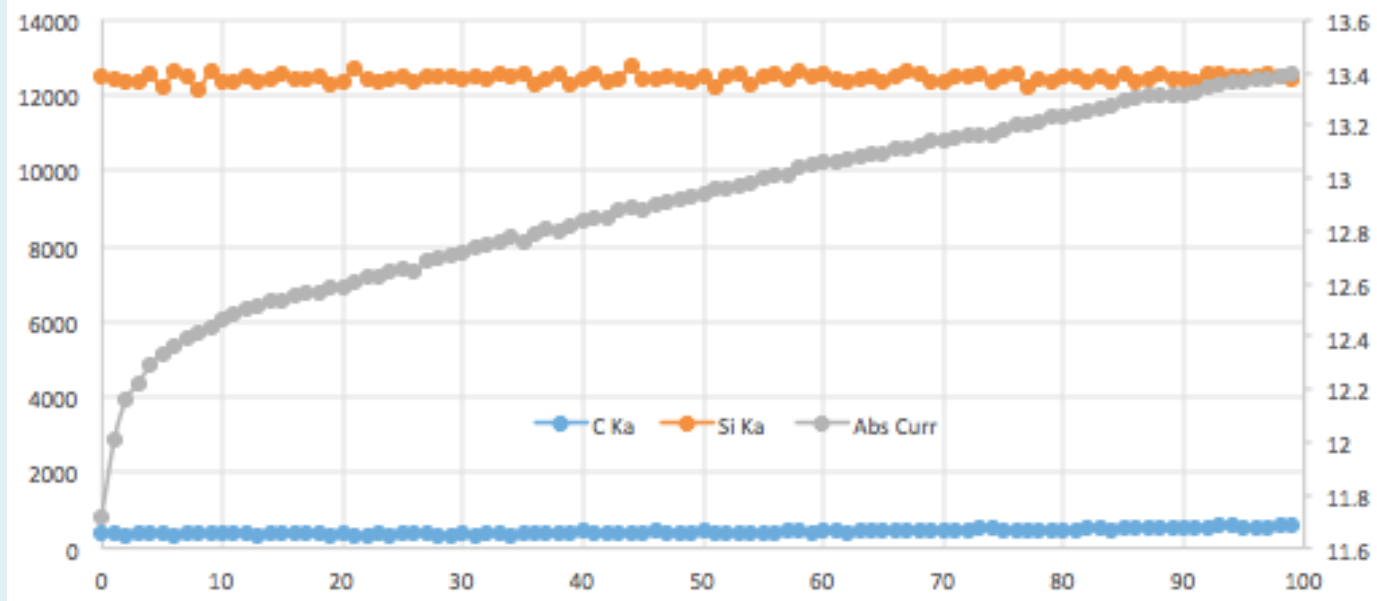
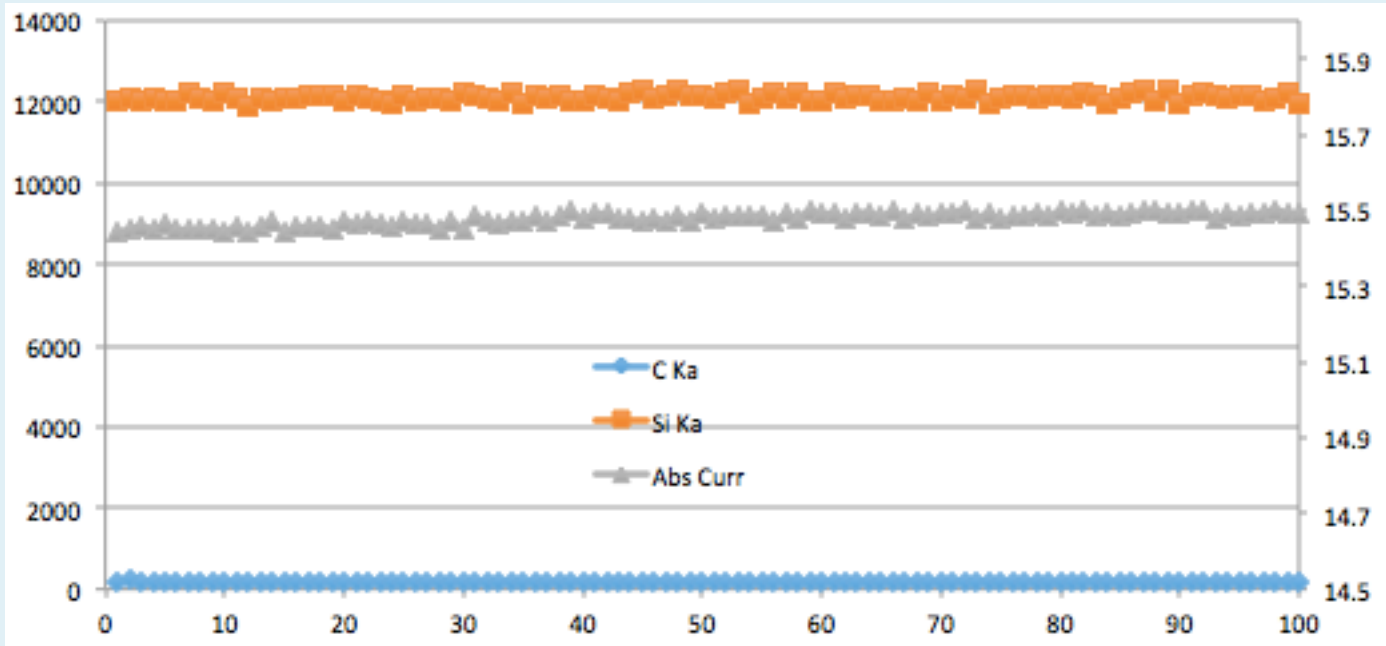
100 counting  
intervals ~  
250 seconds

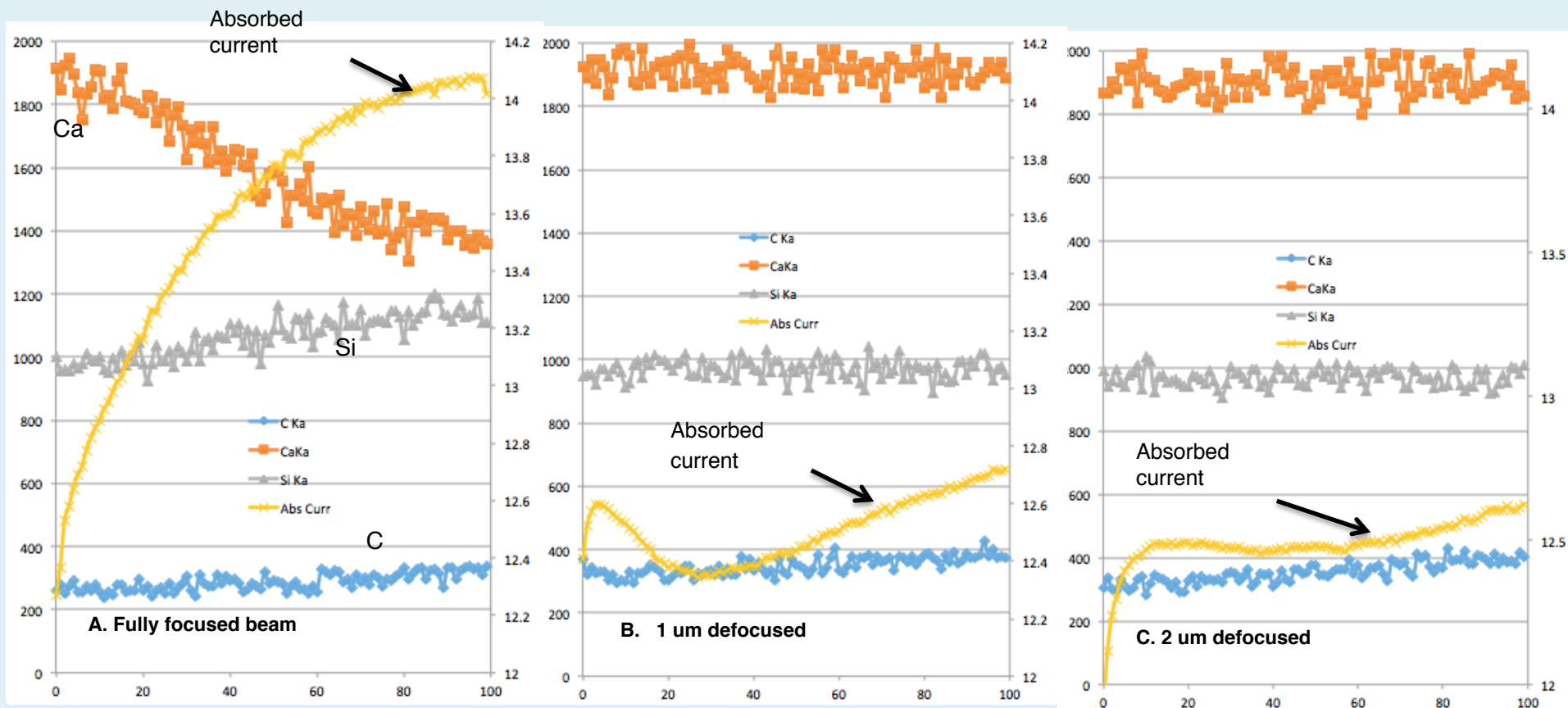
# Si Metal: SX51 (W)

7 kV, 20 nA,  
LN anti-contamination



# Si Metal: SXFive FE vs SX51 (W) 7 kV, 20 nA, LN anti-contamination





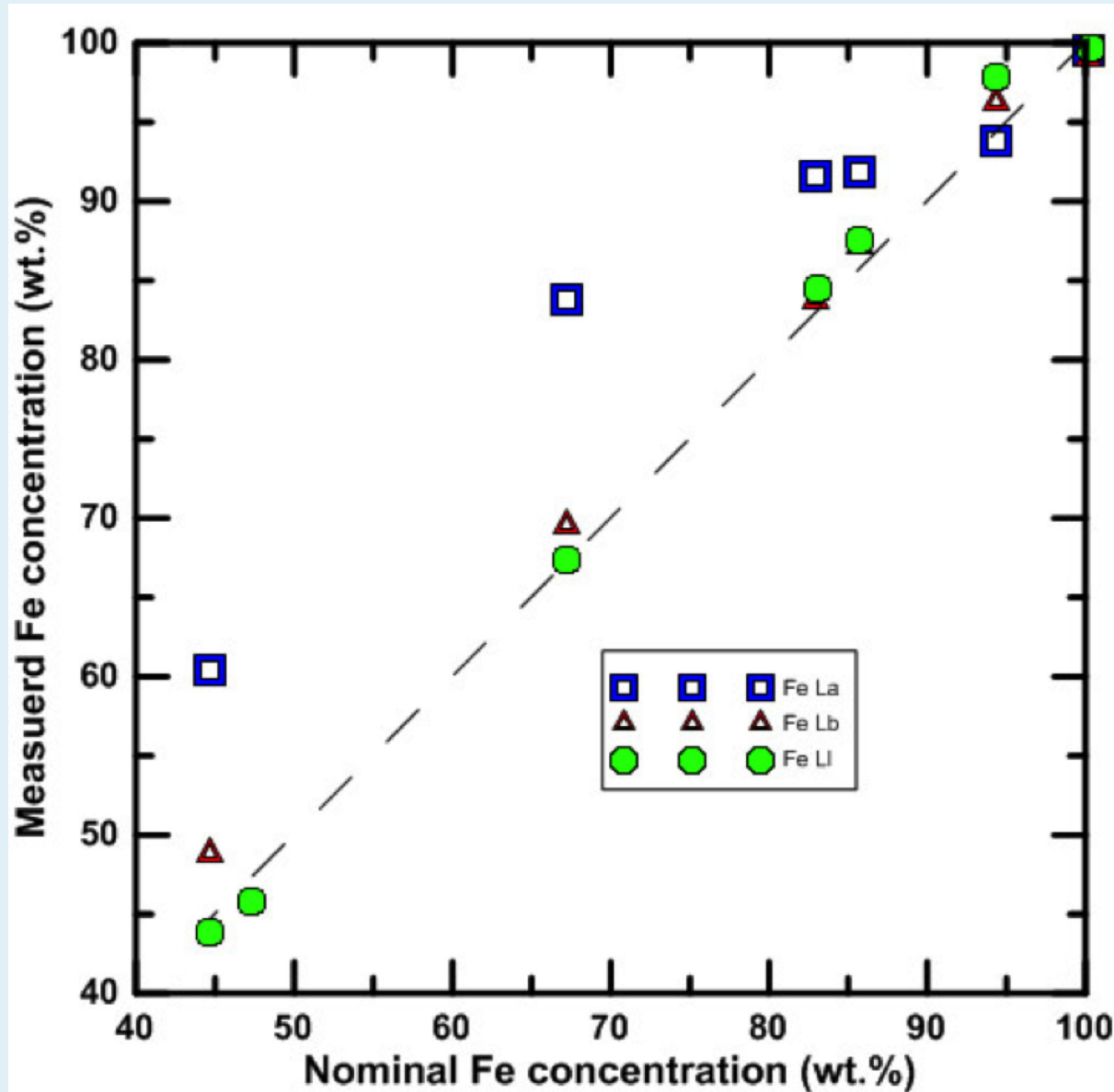
7 kV SXFive FE experiments on Wollastonite, 20 nA, from fully focused to 1 um and 2 um defocused. 100 counting intervals of 1 second each (~250 seconds total time)

## Other Challenges for High Spatial Resolution EPMA with Low kV FE-EPMA

1. Traditional K and L lines no longer accessible, so use less well known L and M ones.
2. Machine stability at high mag (e.g. spectrometer movement, FA cup insertion)
3. Higher level of quality of reference materials
4. Surfaces...contamination etc

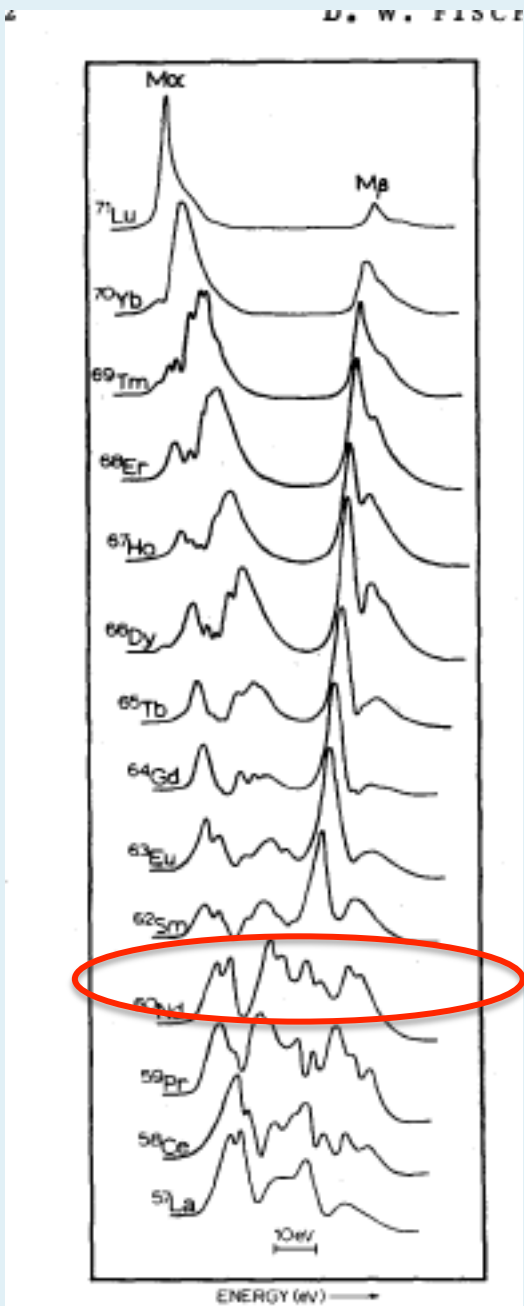


## Fe-silicides: problem with Fe La

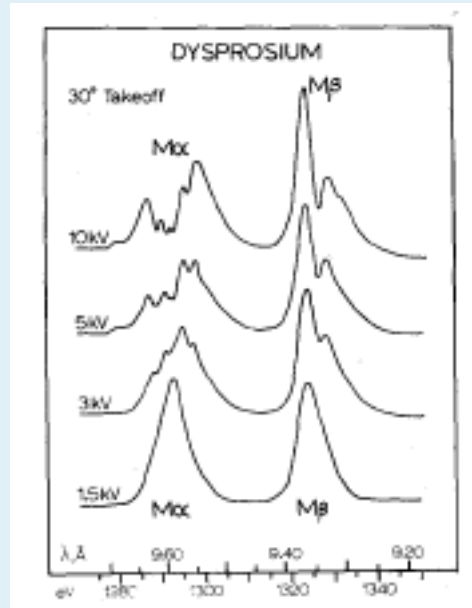


Gopon et al, 2003,  
Microscopy &  
Microanalysis

But using L1 line, avoid severe spectral issues (self-absorption etc)



REE: Ma/Mb lines can be severely affected by self-absorption—until extremely low kV used



Fischer and Baum, 1967, Self-Absorption effects in the soft x-ray Ma and Mb emission spectra of the REE, J. Applied Physics, 38, 4830.

Dy Ma and Mb spectra at various kV

Thus, need to consider “non-traditional” M lines

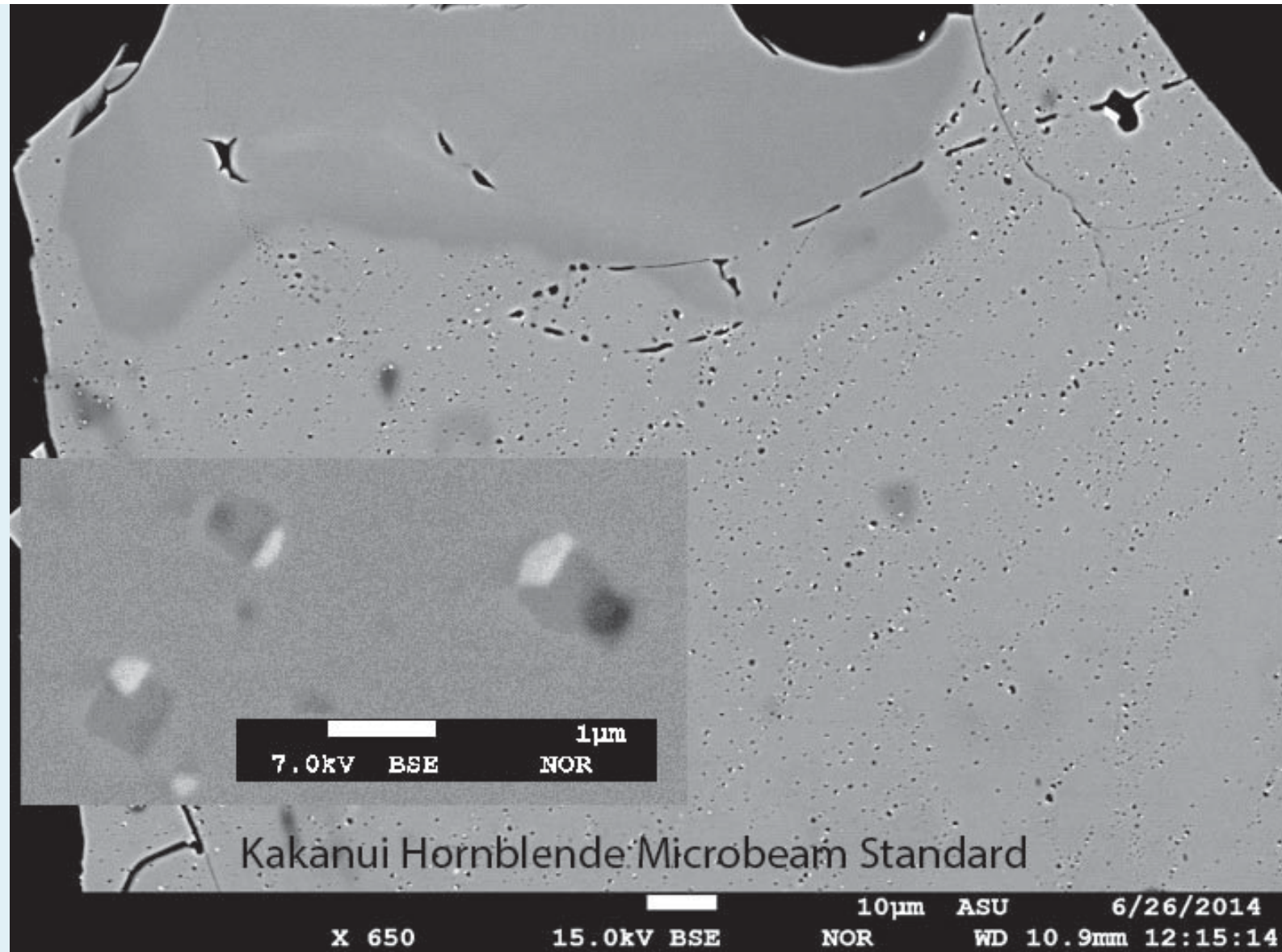
## REE @ 5 kV: Nd Mz vs Nd Mb (in Mg-Zn-Nd material)



	<u>Nd Mb</u>	<u>Nd Mz</u>	<u>Nd Mz</u>
Nd	72.9	35.4	39.9
Zn	1.2	1.7	1.9
Mg	55.1	56.8	57.2
O	1.9	2.1	1.8
Sum	131	96	101

Not easy to get the current software to accept Mz as analytical line...have to 'trick it' and this creates complications...

## Kakanui hornblende – used by hundreds of EPMA labs



- FE EPMA can show complexity in traditional geological probe standards
- Which composition is 'correct'? That acquired by defocused or by focused beam?

# What could be going on here?

Initial thoughts....

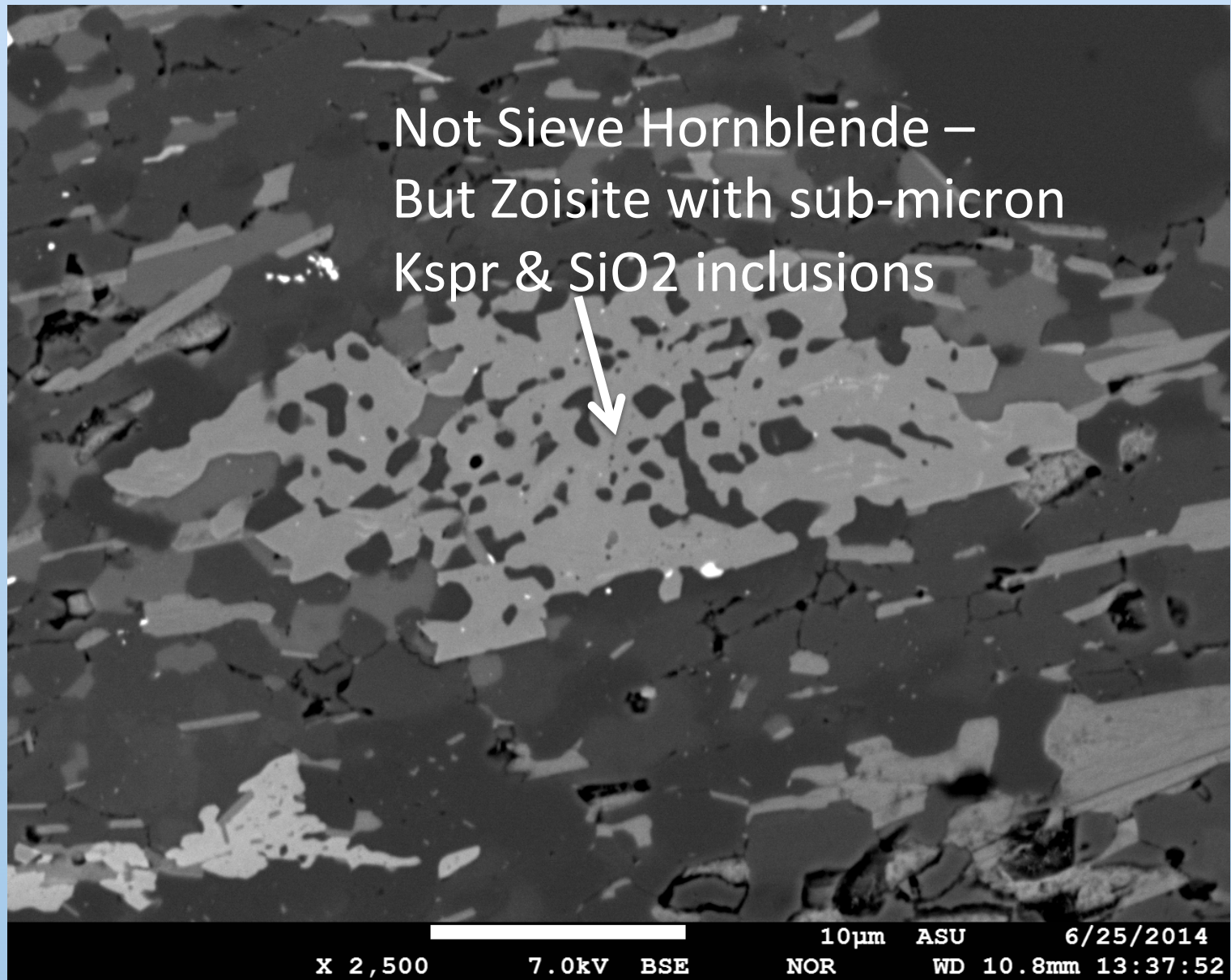
1. Chemical peak shifts?
2. Mass absorption factor errors?  
Self absorption?

# Part 4:

## Wish List for SubMicron EPMA

- What the next generation of submicron electron beam microanalyzers might need:
  - 24/7 “CryoTiger” closed cycle refrigerant cooled cold plate
  - Better mechanical/electronic stability at high magnification
  - In-chamber cleaner (UV?)
  - Can a sample be chilled?
  - Alternative metal coating

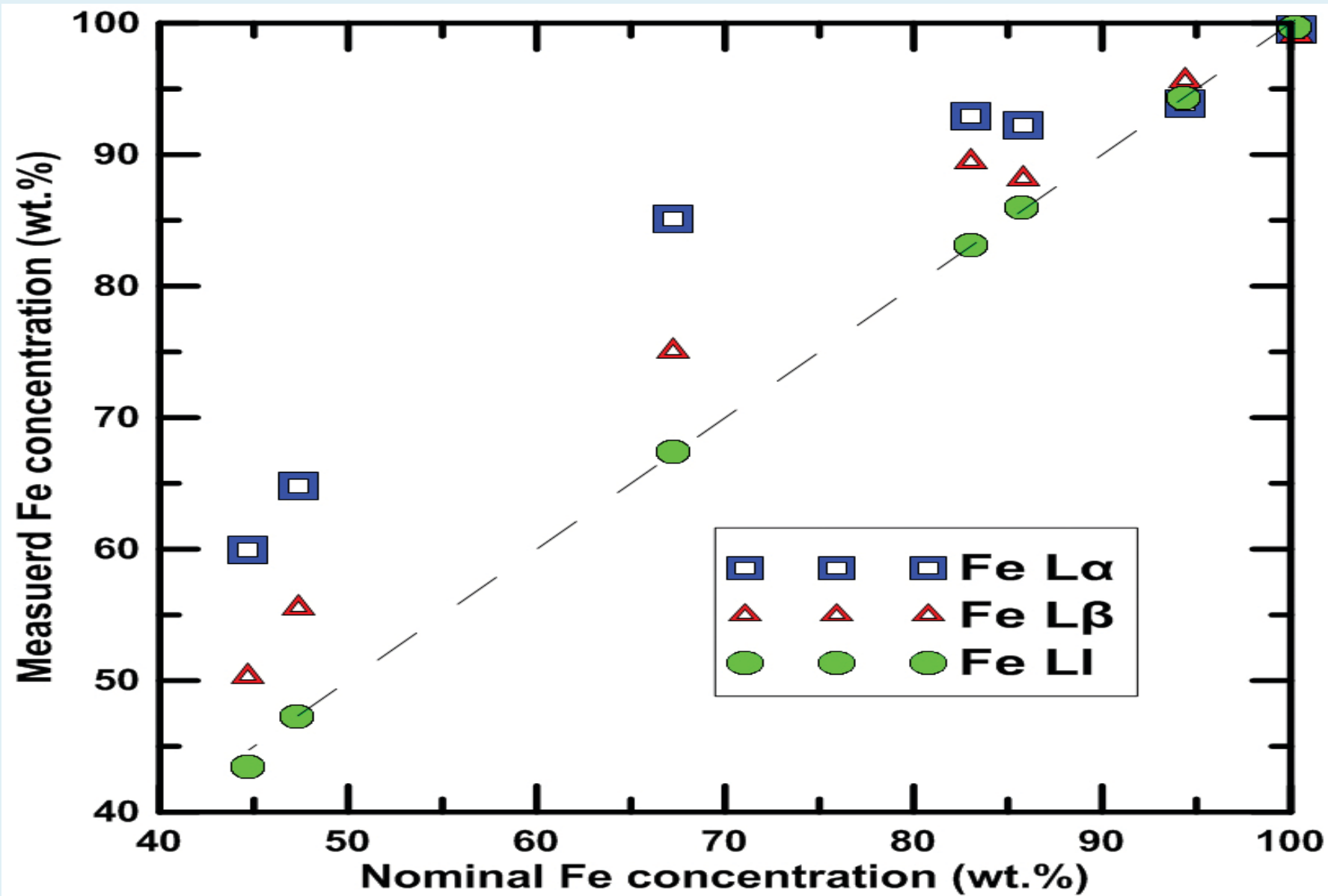
## Why Field Emission EPMA?



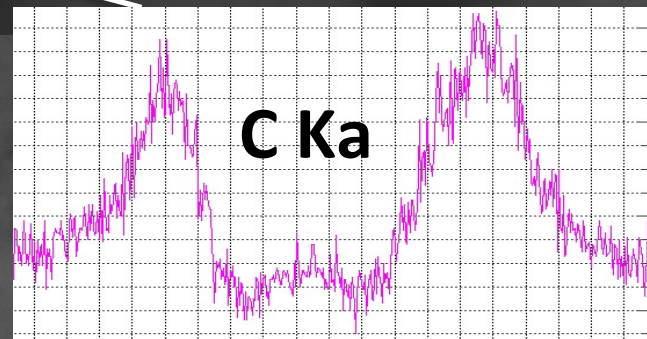
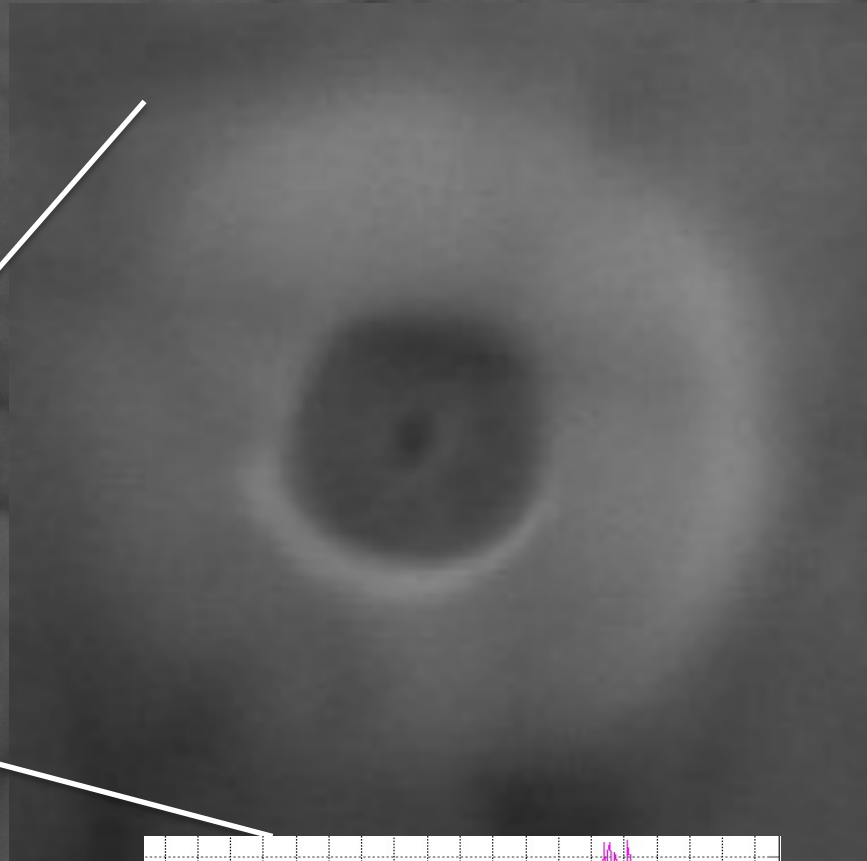
→ Accurate Probe Analysis for submicron regions

**Thank You**





Courtesy Dieter Rhede, GFZ JXA-8530



GFZ SEI

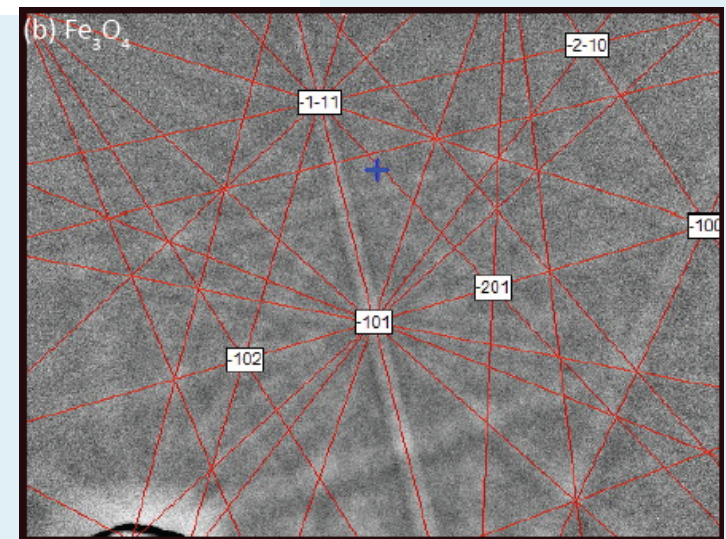
15.0kV

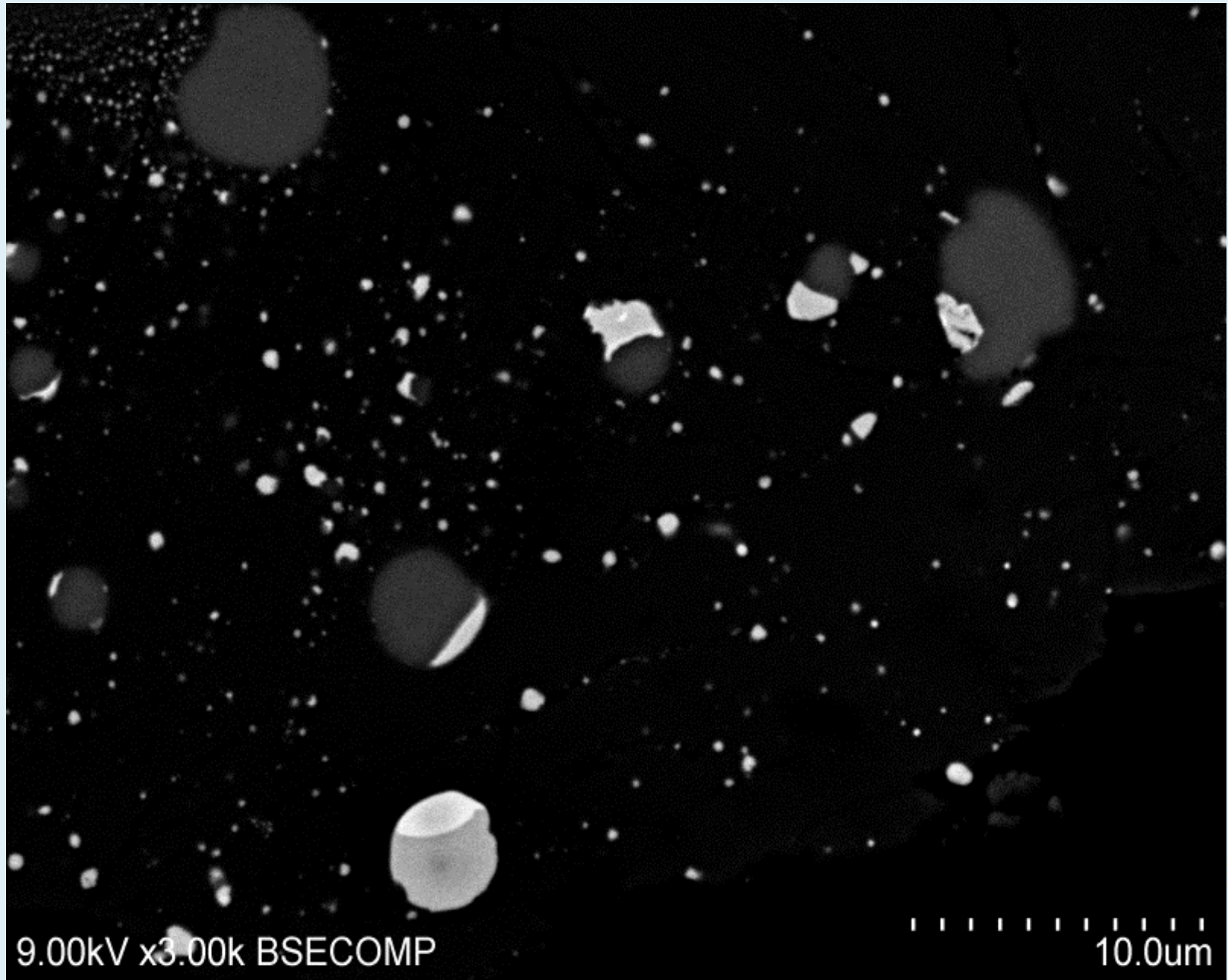
1µm

# NBS/NIST K409, a 'failed experiment'

(b) 5 keV 10nA<sup>1</sup>

Analysis #	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	MgO	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	K <sub>2</sub> O	O	Total
1	10.40	4.08	83.4	0.16	0.52	0.77	0.00	-0.06	99.2
2	9.23	2.16	88.8	0.12	0.08	0.64	-0.06	-0.93	100.0
3	9.58	2.71	87.4	0.09	-0.14	0.87	0.01	-0.70	99.8
4	10.17	3.01	86.9	0.18	-0.04	0.92	-0.05	-0.52	100.6
5	10.40	2.65	88.2	0.19	0.16	0.83	0.28	0.09	102.7
6	10.41	3.25	84.7	0.11	0.01	1.01	-0.07	-0.17	99.2
7	9.82	3.29	86.7	0.16	0.34	0.95	-0.02	-0.99	100.2
8	10.70	2.79	86.0	0.13	0.30	0.75	0.06	-0.29	100.4
9	9.22	2.80	88.7	0.07	0.30	0.86	-0.15	-0.94	100.9
Average	9.99	2.97	86.7	0.13	0.17	0.84	0.00	-0.50	100.3
SD	0.55	0.54	1.8	0.04	0.21	0.11	0.12	0.41	1.1





9.00kV x3.00k BSECOMP

10.0um

Issue: self-absorption artifacts related to reversible injection of electrons into partially filled 4f orbital. This is anomalous, not like normal self-absorption. Reversible transitions possible and complicate

Implanted Er into homogeneous materials

Found for Er, Mb worked well, an N6 filled (M4-N6 is Mb)

Thibault Y., 2014. Strategy for efficient high-spatial resolution X-ray microanalysis of trace REE in complex materials. Abstracts in conference program, 27th Rare earth research conference 2014, Squaw Valley, California, RERC98.

## Does more intense FE beam cause different behaviors in materials?

- An experiment with perhaps the most sensitive minerals, carbonates... testing out whether a thick coat of Ir might offer some 'protection' to beam damage

# Intense FE beams → Significant Beam Damage Possible

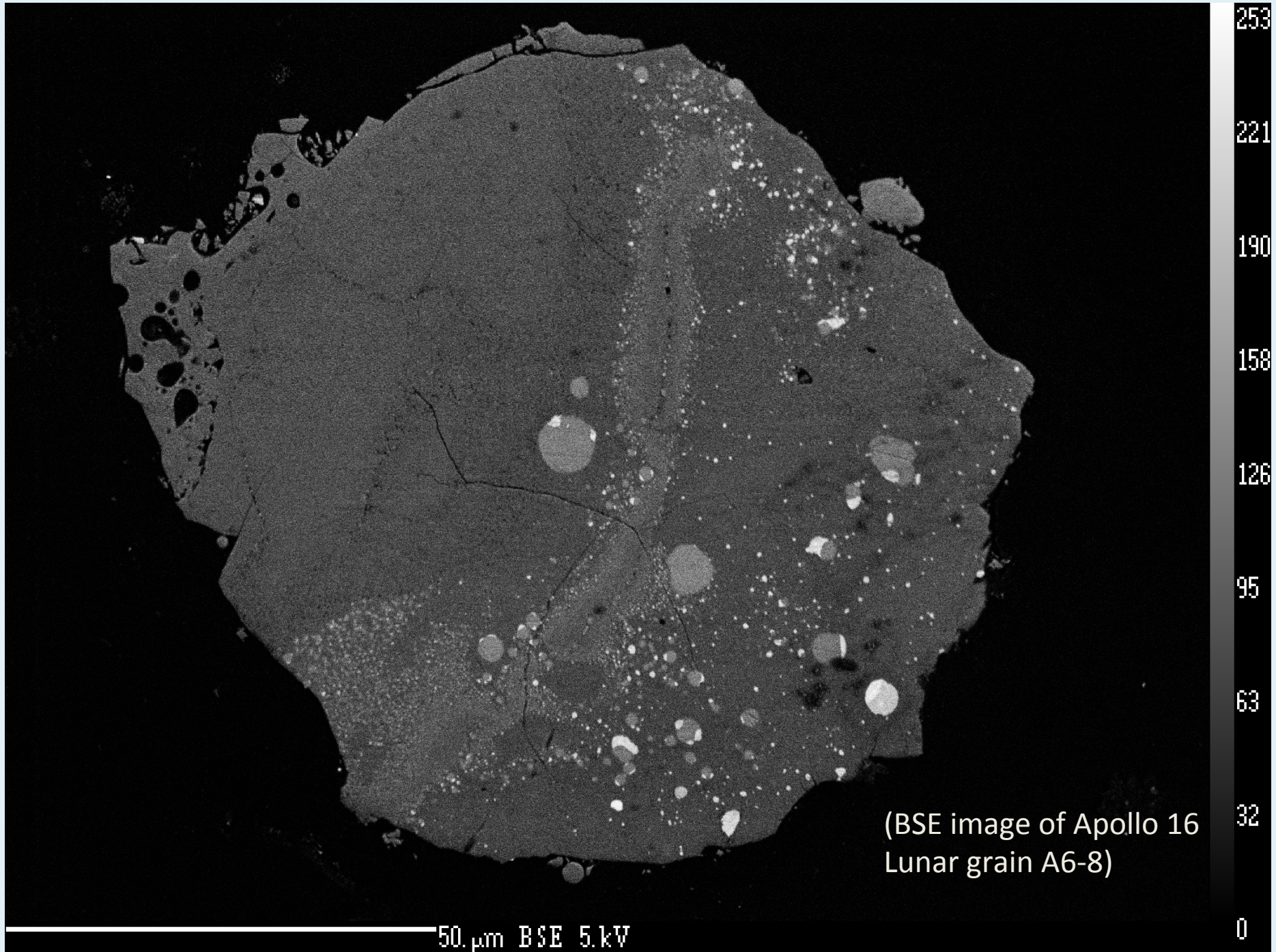
Relative to W filament's beam

- Electron charge implantation concentrated
- With Temperature increase 25-150 X

Armstrong (2012, AGU)  
suggested benefits of Iridium  
metal coating:

- Extremely thin coats  
conduct well
- Possible protection by  
enhanced thermal  
conductivity vis a vis C
- Where measuring C Ka





(BSE image of Apollo 16  
Lunar grain A6-8)

50.  $\mu\text{m}$  BSE 5.kV

253  
221  
190  
158  
126  
95  
63  
32  
0



# Outline

- Review:
  - Benefits of low kV EPMA
  - Low voltage vs low overvoltage
  - Some challenges with low kV
  - Determination of analytical spatial resolution
- Experiments:
  - Evaluate spatial resolution of Si and Al Ka in silicate glass K409
    - 5, 7 kV
  - Effect of high intensity FE beams on metals
  - Effect of high intensity FE beams on minerals
- Other considerations for FE low voltage EPMA
  - Carbon contamination differences (Dieter Rhede)
  - Re-evaluation of some standard reference materials
  - Need to experiment with non-traditional X-ray lines
- What the next generation of submicron electron beam microanalyzers need:
  - 24/7 “CryoTiger” closed cycle refrigerant cooled cold plate
  - Better mechanical/electronic stability at high magnification
  - In-chamber cleaner (UV?)
  - Can a sample be chilled???

# FE vs W vs LaB6 @ 10 kV

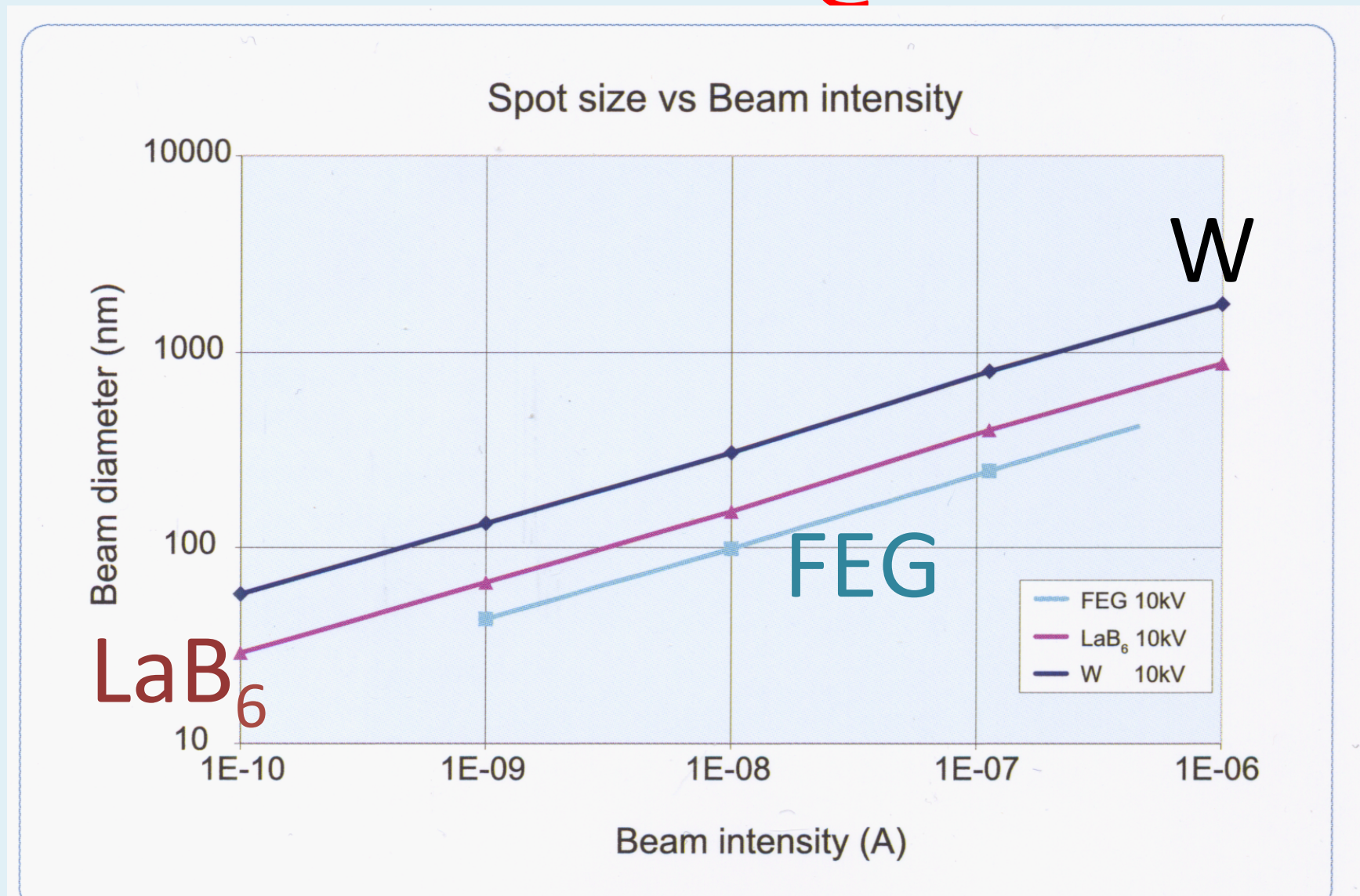
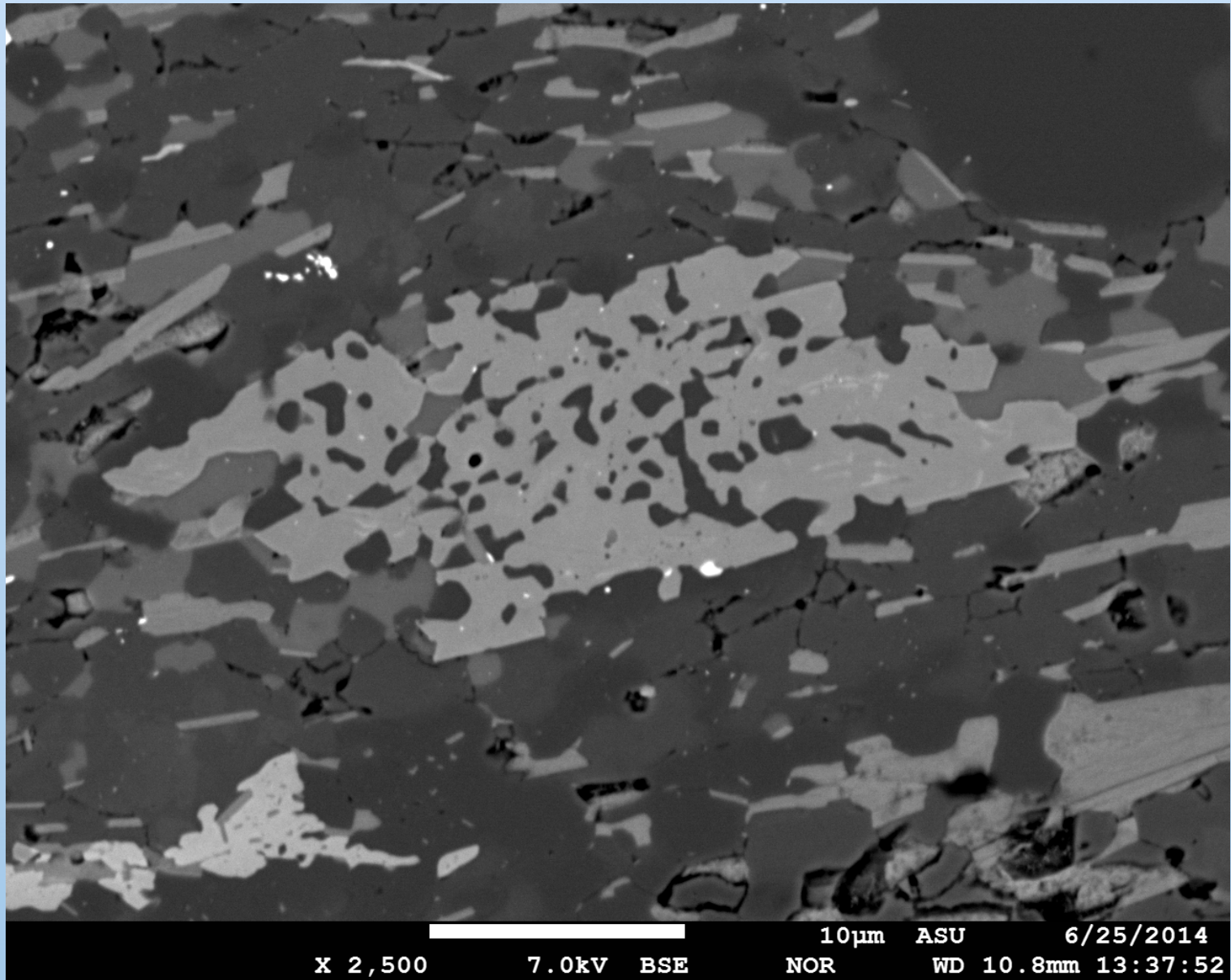


Figure 1. Effect of different electron sources and currents upon resulting beam diameter at 10 kV. (Source: CAMECA)

# Field Emission image – submicron features – but EPMA?



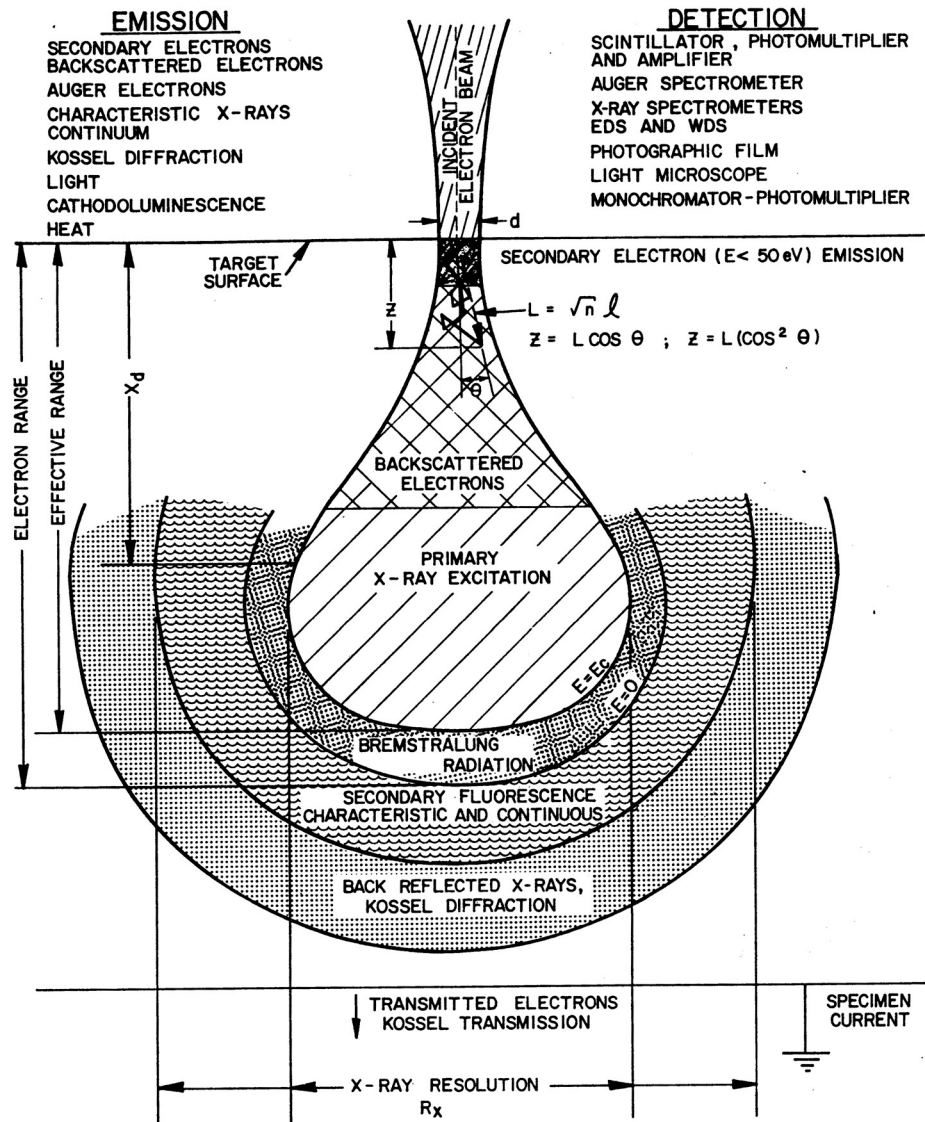


Fig. 12—A schematic representation of the interaction of an electron beam with a solid of moderate to low atomic number. Most of the different signals emitted, their means of detection, and the diameters of the excited volumes from which they originate are shown.  $L$  is the mean free path,  $n$  the number of events,  $l$  the distance traveled between each event,  $E$  the average energy of the impinging electron, and  $X_d$  the depth where complete electron diffusion occurs.

# Electron Scattering in Sample

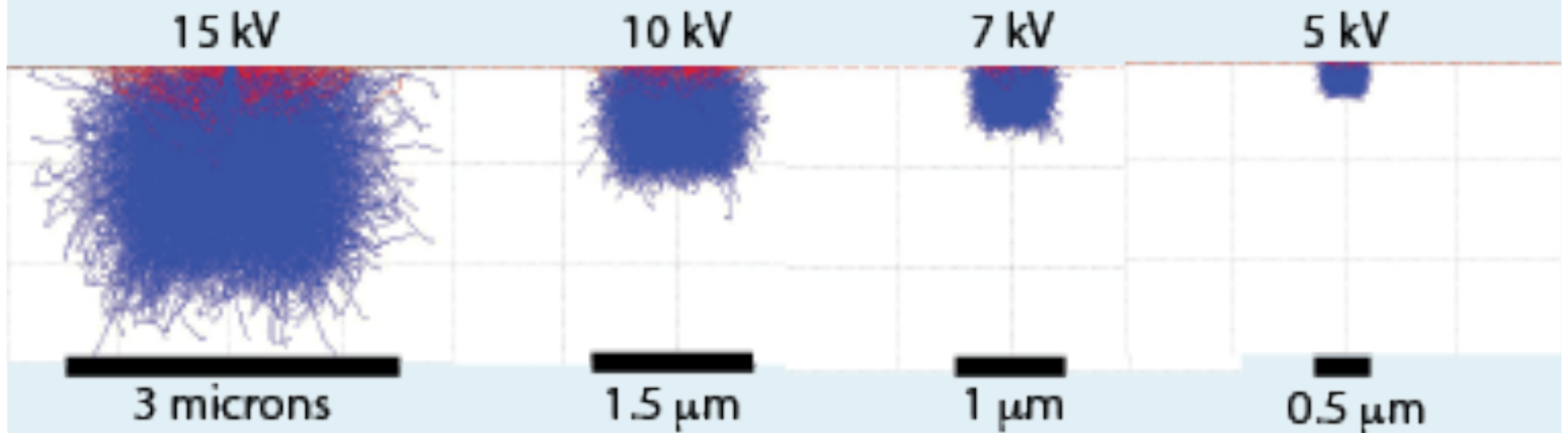
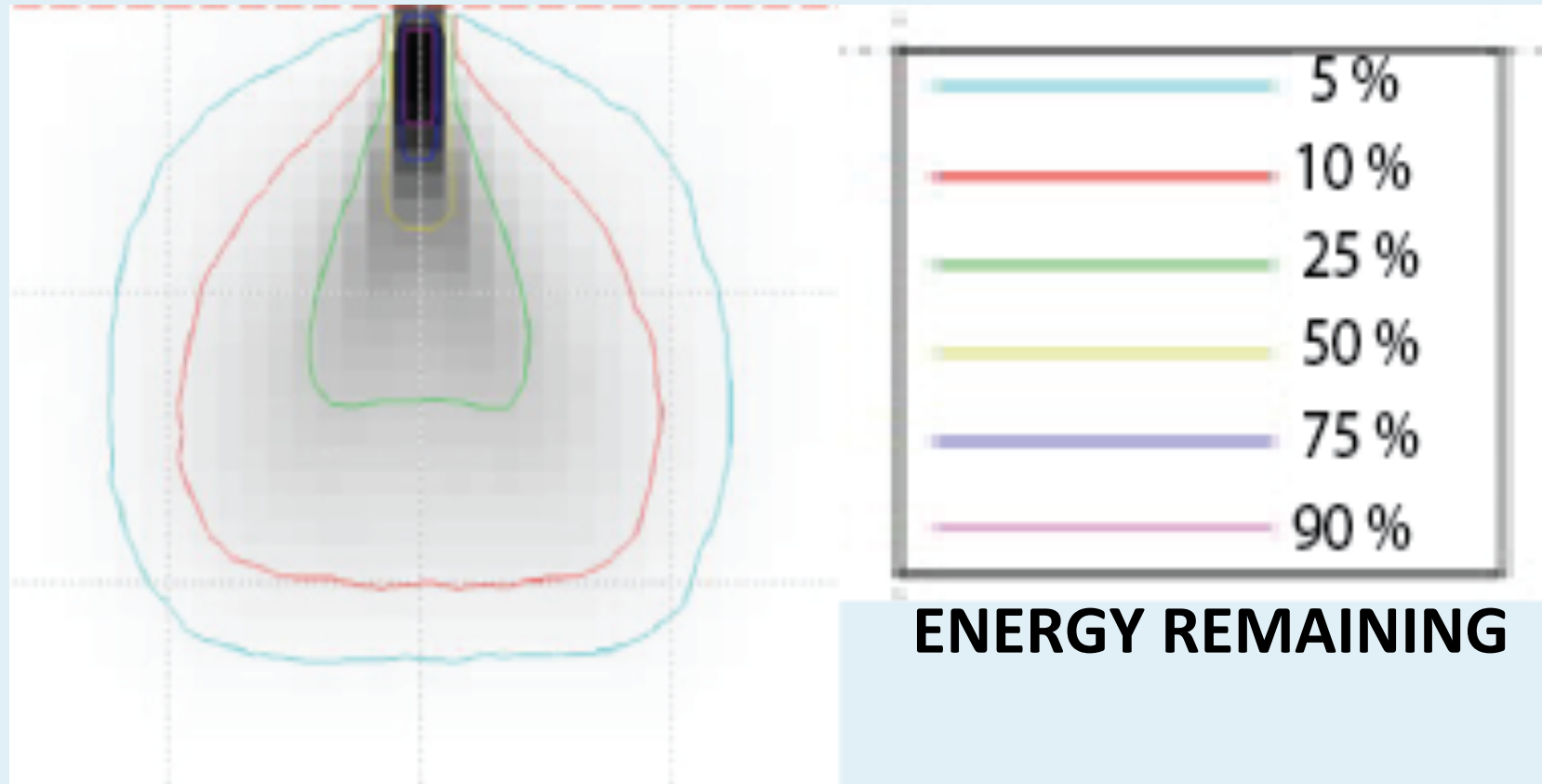


Figure 3. CASINO Monte Carlo simulations of various beam energies scattering in the same silicate glass (NIST K409). Blue shows the traces of the electrons scattered until all energy lost; red shows backscattered electrons. The electron source's beam size for all is the same.

# Beam Scattering-Energy Loss

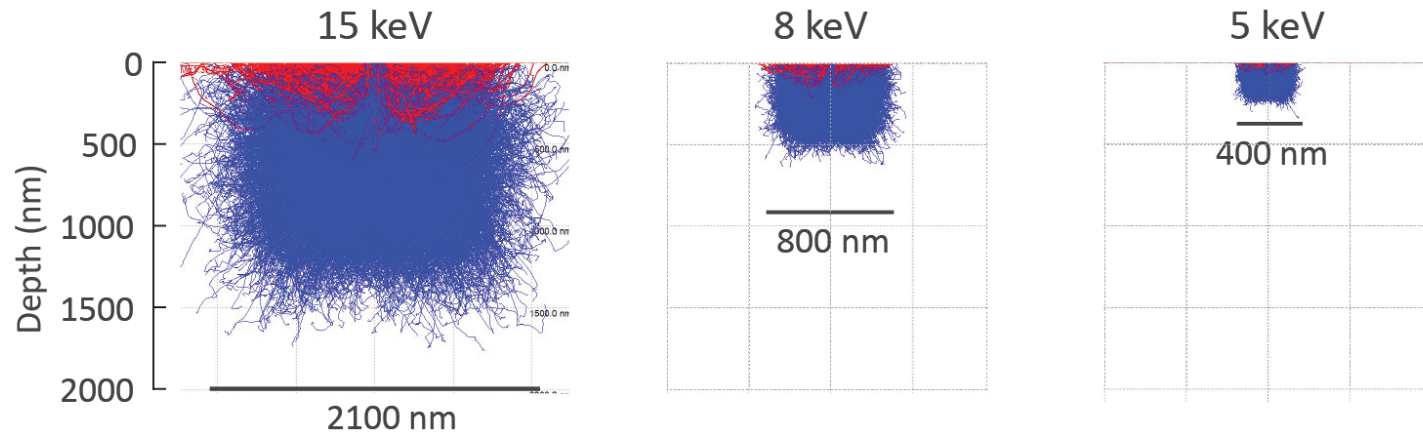


Predicted % of energy remaining of the gun E0 kV by CASINO -- here, 15 kV in olivine,  $(\text{Mg,Fe})_2\text{SiO}_4$ .

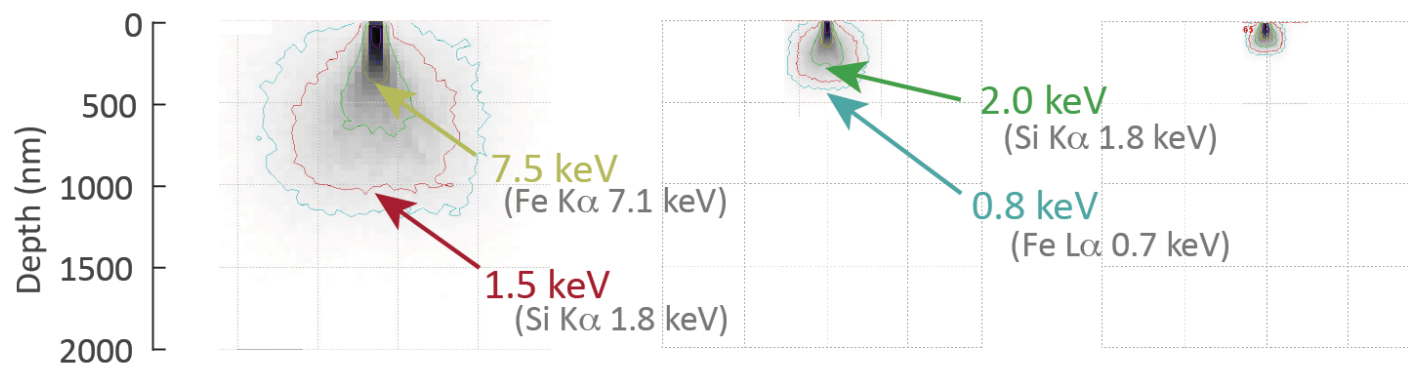
# Beam Scattering-Energy Loss

Example: Olivine ( $\text{Fo}_{65}$ )

Electron scattering



Energy by Position



CASINO modeling

100 nm beam

# Ran tests on 'large' commercial FeSi...

15 keV, Fe Ka

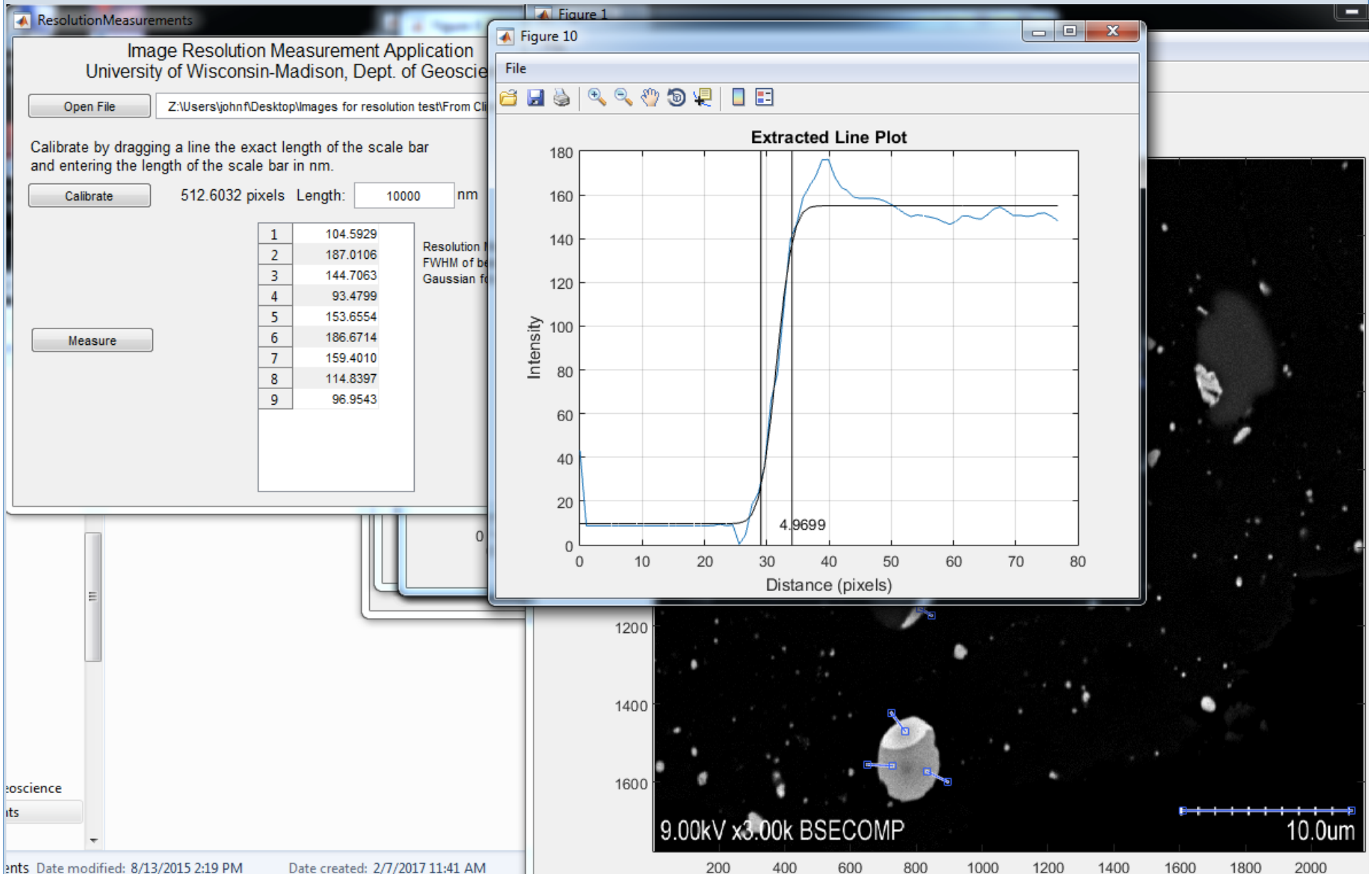
5 keV, Fe La

Un 17 Ridwans 50-50, Results in Elemental We						
ELEM:	Si	Fe	Fe	Fe	Fe	
TYPE:	ANAL	ANAL	ANAL	ANAL	ANAL	
BGDS:	LIN	EXP	LIN	LIN	LIN	
TIME:	10.00	---	10.00	---	.00	
BEAM:	30.12	---	30.12	---	.00	
AGGR:		---	2	---		
ELEM:	Si	Fe-D	Fe	Fe-D	Fe	SUM
XRAY:	(ka)	(la)	(ka)	(la)	(ka)	
288	31.669	---	68.333	---	.000	100.003
289	31.686	---	67.460	---	.000	99.146
290	31.904	---	66.808	---	.000	98.712
291	31.937	---	66.896	---	.000	98.832
292	31.581	---	66.769	---	.000	98.350
293	31.684	---	68.783	---	.000	100.467
294	31.532	---	67.770	---	.000	99.302
295	31.585	---	68.192	---	.000	99.776
296	31.535	---	68.944	---	.000	100.478
297	31.645	---	67.846	---	.000	99.491
298	31.755	---	67.987	---	.000	99.743
300	31.790	---	67.889	---	.000	99.680
301	31.851	---	68.621	---	.000	100.473
302	31.324	---	67.845	---	.000	99.169
303	31.605	---	68.510	---	.000	100.115
304	31.622	---	68.777	---	.000	100.400
305	31.939	---	66.946	---	.000	98.885
306	31.655	---	67.554	---	.000	99.209
307	31.838	---	68.912	---	.000	100.750
AVER:	31.691	---	67.939	---	.000	99.631
SDEV:	.158	---	.728	---	.000	.700
SERR:	.036	---	.167	---	.000	
%RSD:	.50	---	1.07	---	.05	
STDS:	66	---	65	---	0	

Un 24 Ridwans 50-50, Results in Elemental We						
ELEM:	Si	Fe	Fe	Fe	Fe	
TYPE:	ANAL	ANAL	ANAL	ANAL	ANAL	
BGDS:	LIN	EXP	LIN	LIN	LIN	
TIME:	10.00	10.00	---	.00	---	
BEAM:	30.13	30.13	---	.00	---	
AGGR:		2	---	---	---	
ELEM:	Si	Fe	Fe-D	Fe	Fe-D	SUM
XRAY:	(ka)	(la)	(ka)	(la)	(ka)	
388	33.860	90.178	---	.000	---	124.038
389	31.960	85.637	---	.000	---	117.597
391	33.319	89.973	---	.000	---	123.292
392	33.286	89.134	---	.000	---	122.420
393	33.078	89.214	---	.000	---	122.292
394	32.859	89.692	---	.000	---	122.551
395	33.561	89.429	---	.000	---	122.989
396	32.979	90.139	---	.000	---	123.118
397	33.106	89.099	---	.000	---	122.205
398	33.527	89.262	---	.000	---	122.788
399	33.485	88.127	---	.000	---	121.612
400	33.619	90.231	---	.000	---	123.849
401	33.674	89.364	---	.000	---	123.038
402	33.399	89.348	---	.000	---	122.747
403	33.618	89.385	---	.000	---	123.002
404	33.144	88.402	---	.000	---	121.547
405	33.226	89.358	---	.000	---	122.584
406	33.561	89.296	---	.000	---	122.857
407	33.444	88.804	---	.000	---	122.248
AVER:	33.300	89.162	---	.000	---	122.462
SDEV:	.416	1.015	---	.000	---	1.337
SERR:	.095	.233	---	.000	---	
%RSD:	1.25	1.14	---	.04	---	
STDS:	66	65	---	0	---	

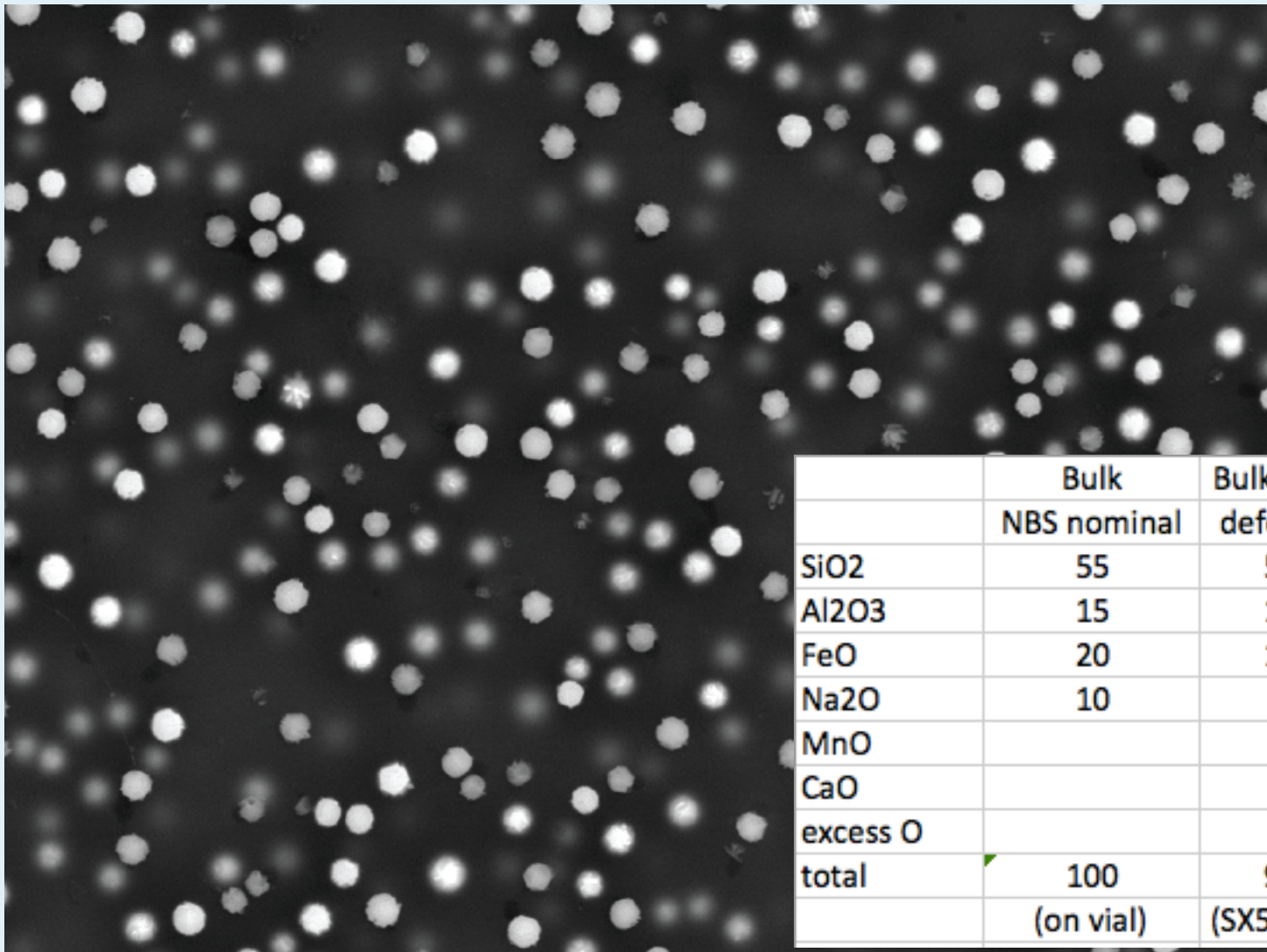


# Peter Sobol's "Image Resolution Measurement App" – Get @ UW Madison EPMA Lab Web Page



Uses Matlab runtime app (also freely downloadable)

# NBS/NIST K409, a 'failed experiment'



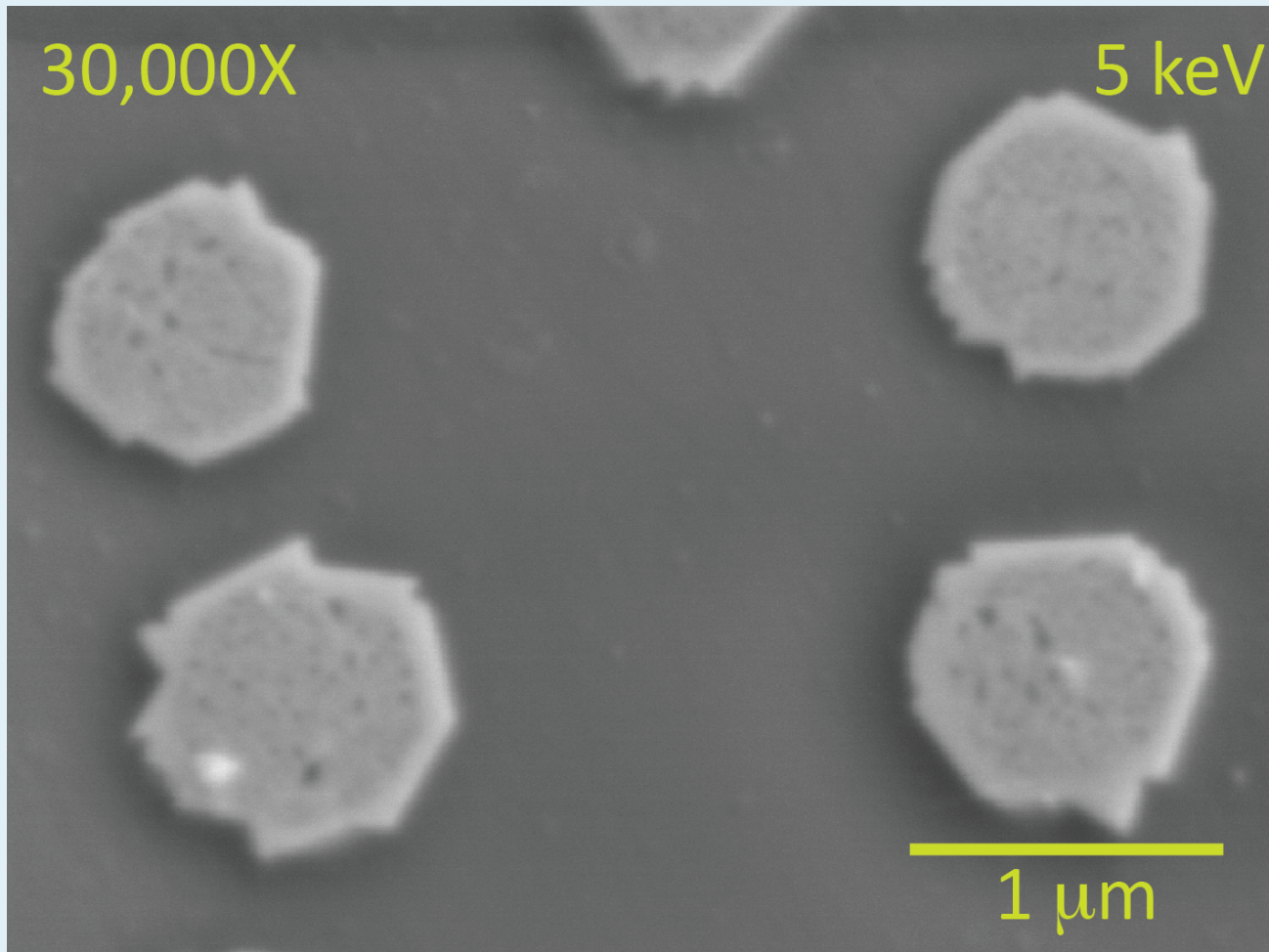
	Bulk NBS nominal	Bulk -EPMA defocused	Glass estimate of
SiO <sub>2</sub>	55	56.6	59.9
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	15	15.1	17
FeO	20	15.7	6.4
Na <sub>2</sub> O	10	9.8	10.8
MnO		0.2	
CaO		0.1	
excess O		1.8	5.9
total	100	99.3	100
	(on vial)	(SX51 2007)	(SX51 2012)

(a)

X 3,000

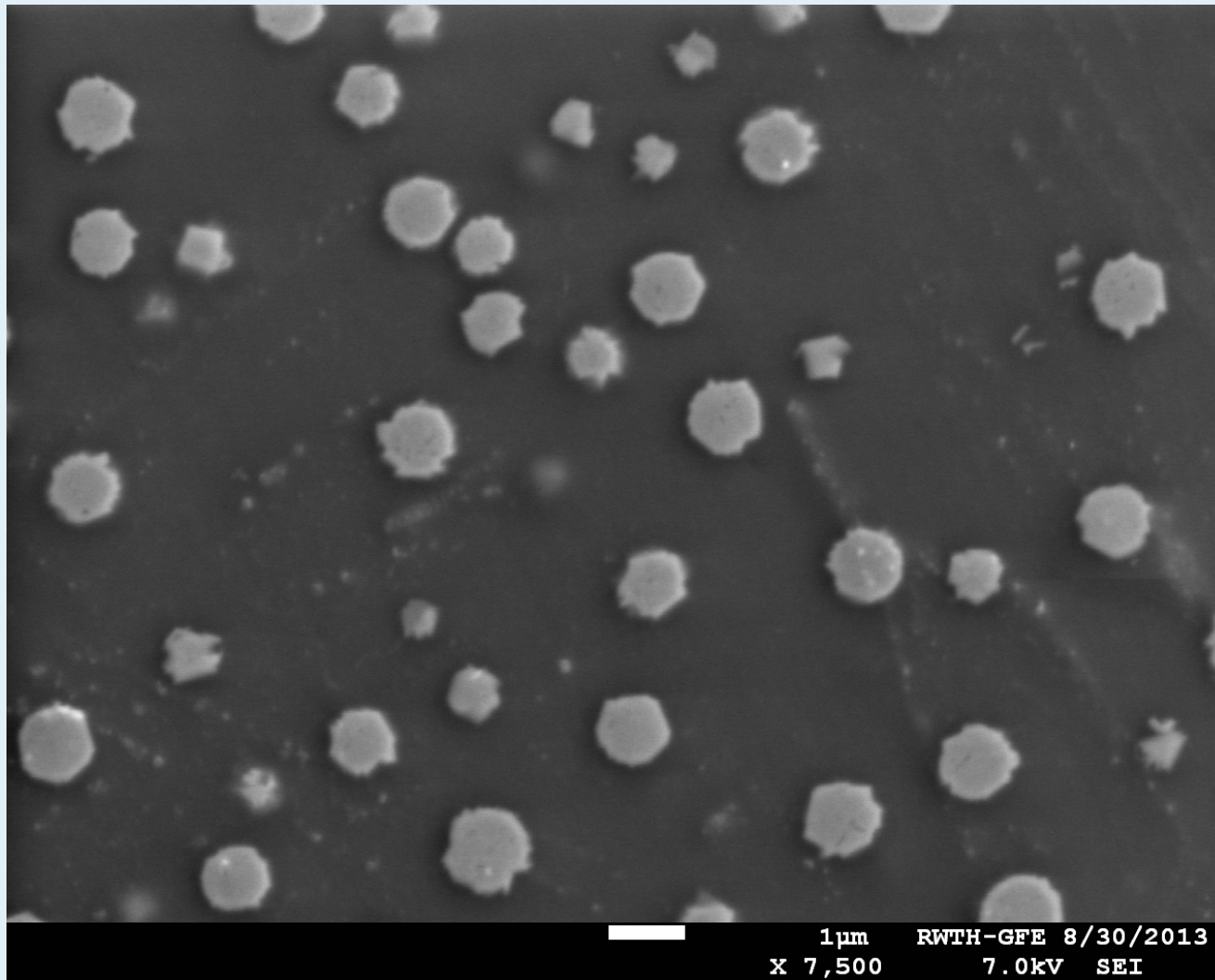
20.0kV SEI

1µm ASU 12/5/2013  
NOR WD 11.0mm 18:05:14

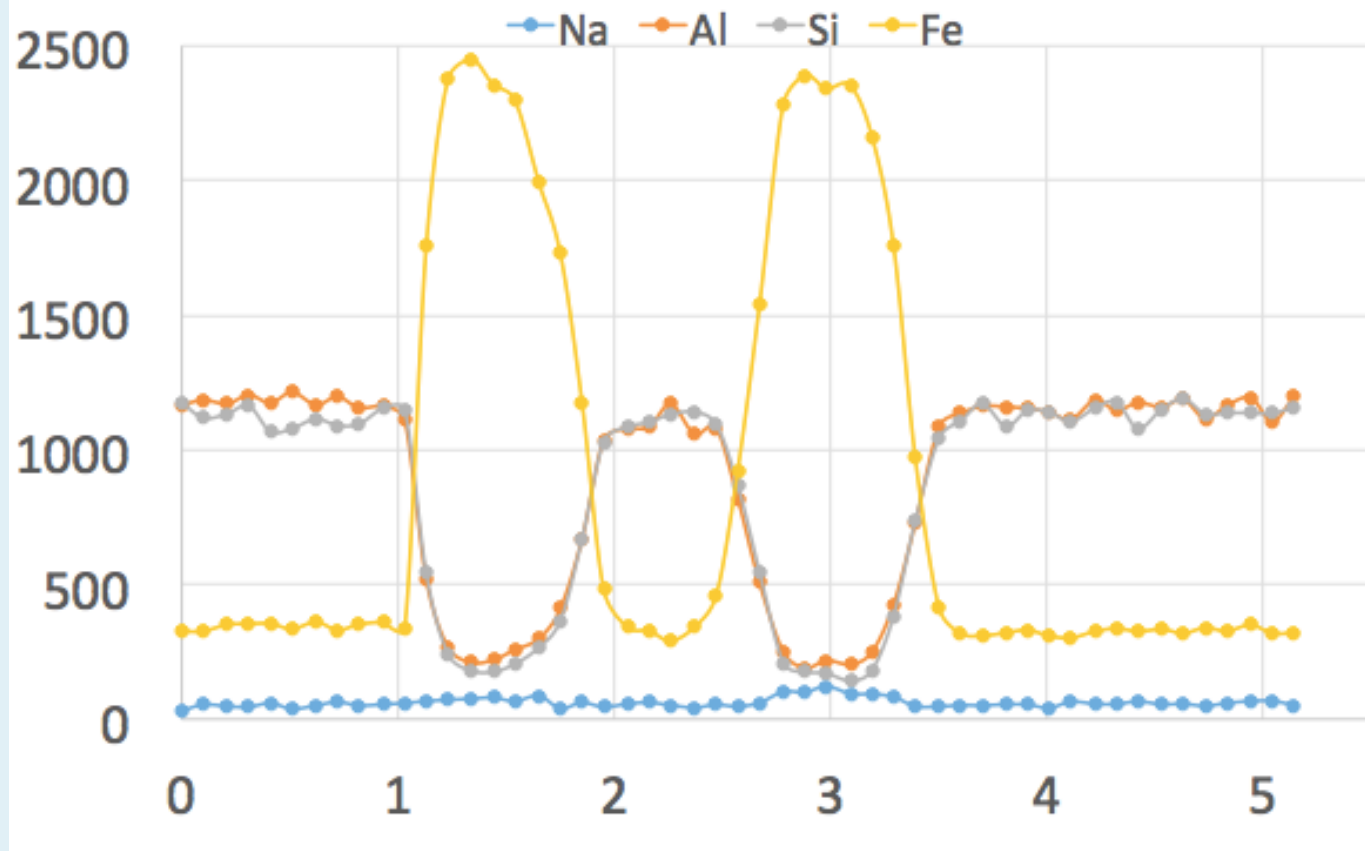


NBS/NIST K409, a 'failed experiment'

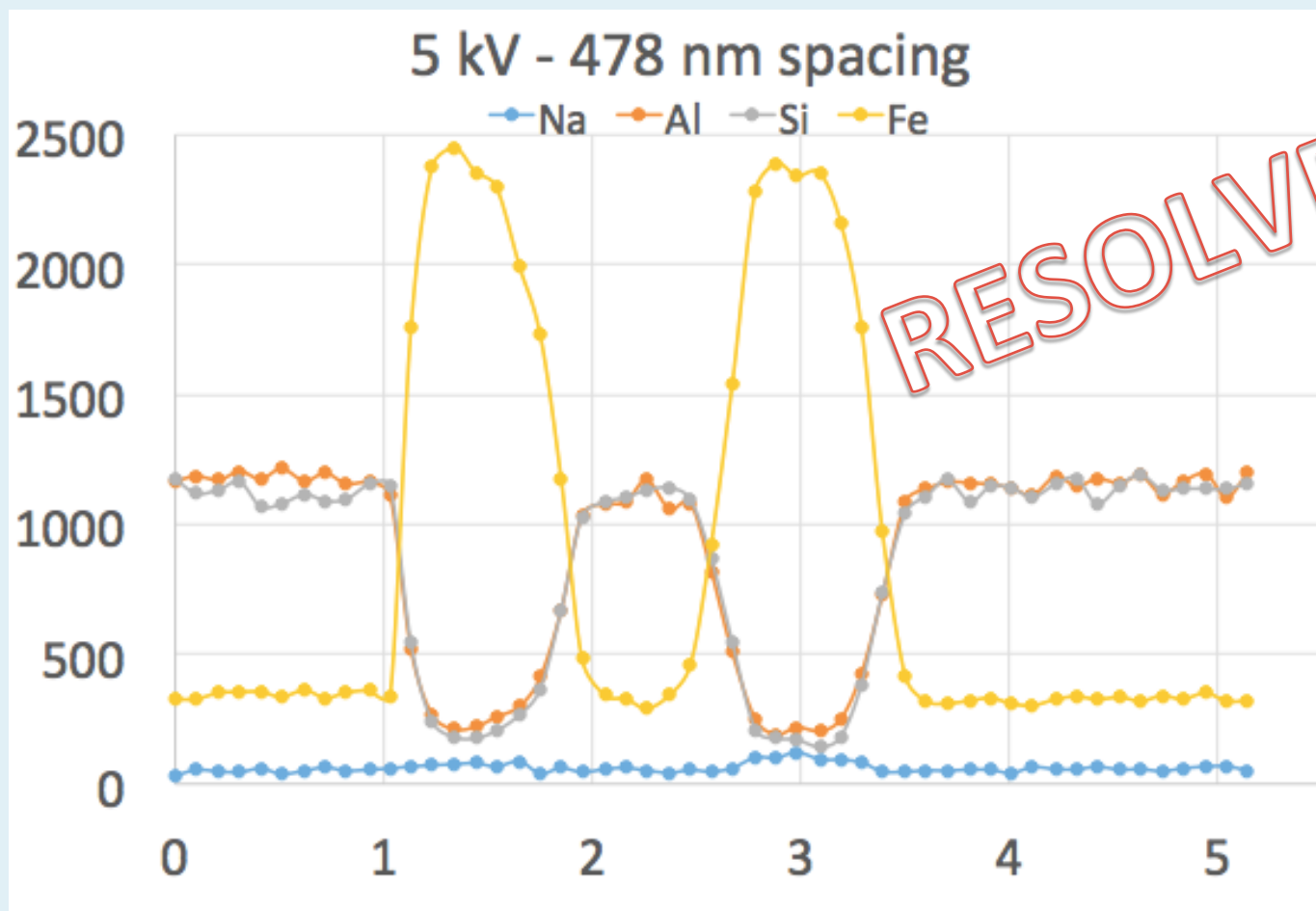
# K409 .... Line Traverses



### 5 kV - 478 nm spacing



Si 0.99  
Al 0.94  
Fe 0.98



<b>5 kV</b>	<b>X-ray Intensity Relative to Far Away</b>			<b>Plateau Points</b>		
	<b>spacing nm</b>	<b>Al Ka</b>	<b>Si Ka</b>	<b>Fe La</b>	<b>Al, Si</b>	<b>Fe</b>
	<b>300</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>2, 2</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>325</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>2, 2</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>360</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>2, 2</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>416</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>3, 3</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>478</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>4, 4</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>490</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>3, 5</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>528</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>4, 4</b>	<b>4</b>

→ 450-500 nm spatial resolution @ 5 kV  
for Al Ka, Si Ka and Fe La in K409 glass

<b>7 kV</b>	<b>X-ray Intensity Relative to Far Away</b>			<b>Plateau Points</b>		
	<b>spacing nm</b>	<b>Al Ka</b>	<b>Si Ka</b>	<b>Fe La</b>	<b>Al, Si</b>	<b>Fe</b>
	<b>454</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>1.19</b>	<b>3, 2</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>485</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>2, 2</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>571</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>3, 3</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>586</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>2, 2</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>670</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>4, 3</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>675</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>3, 4</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>686</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>4, 3</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>749</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>5, 5</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>776</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>0.89</b>	<b>5, 5</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>882</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>6, 6</b>	<b>5</b>

→ 700-750 nm spatial resolution @ 5 kV for Al Ka, Si Ka and Fe La in K409 glass



## Question of statistics...

- Each measurement of 5 second duration: count rates limited, so wide possible variability in counting statistics

Counting Statistics for 7 kV		
Al, Si Ka	For nominal ratio of 1.00	
1 sigma	0.96-1.04	
2 sigma	0.93-1.08	
Fe La	For nominal ratio of 1.00	
1 sigma	0.91-1.09	
2 sigma	0.83-1.20	

- Future: to improve statistics -- measure 3x3 grids between Fe-oxides / 3 parallel lines