# Optical and Electron Microscopy MSN 506

### Overview

- Image formation by a Lens
- Anatomy of a microscope
- Electron and Ion optics
- Electron Scattering
- Scanning Electron Microscopy
- Transmission Electron Microscopy
- Ion beam techniques

# Image formation

- Light rays coming out of an illuminated object diverge from each point on the object
- A lens can be used to refract the rays and converge them at a different location
- This is the basic mechanism of image formation



A lens changes the angle of a beam depending on its incidence angle and location of entrance on the lens

#### **De/Magnification**



### Ideal Focusing and Point resolution

Generally lens aberrations degrade this limit

 Diffraction limits smallest possible spot size



One often uses the "Numerical Aperture" to characterize The lens resolving power Spot size is related to wavelength

NA is related to the F# of the lens

$$/\# \approx \frac{1}{2NA}$$
  $f/\# = N = \frac{f}{D}$ 

#### **Numerical Apertures**



#### **Objective Type**

	Plan Achromat		Plan Fluorite		Plan Apochromat	
Magnification	N.A	Resolution (&microm)	N.A	Resolution (&microm)	N.A	Resolution (&microm)
4x	0.10	2.75	0.13	2.12	0.20	1.375
10x	0.25	1.10	0.30	0.92	0.45	0.61
20x	0.40	0.69	0.50	0.55	0.75	0.37
40x	0.65	0.42	0.75	0.37	0.95	0.29
60x	0.75	0.37	0.85	0.32	0.95	0.29
100x	1.25	0.22	1.30	0.21	1.40	0.20
		-				

N.A. = Numerical Aperture

# Anatomy of a Light Microscope

- Illumination
  - An even illumination is important for imaging
- Objective Lens
  - Collects light from the sample and nearly collimates it
- Eyepiece
  - Refocuses the light from the objective to form the image



#### Contrast

 What causes contrast and how can we quantify it?



#### **Contrast Enhancement**

By Placing optical components in the beam path, selective imaging is possible



### **Modulation Transfer Function**

 Is a measure of how much of the constrast is imaged



#### **Modulation Transfer Function**

• Related to the Point-Spread-Function



#### Contrast enhancement and MTF

 Contrast enhancement can significantly alter MTF





Focus series can be used to get more information

#### Examples of Contrast enhancement



Phase contrast



**Differential Interference Contrast** 

# **Confocal Microscopy**

- A laser beam (or sample) is scanned and fluorescence is recorded
- Light is collected from the focused laser spot only
- diffraction limited spot of submicron size



# **Confocal Microscopy**

**Confocal and Widefield Fluorescence Microscopy** 



#### Magnificent images,

Dyes or quantum dots can be used for fluorescence labeling and functional imaging

# **Multiphoton Microscopy**



Principle of fluorescence induced by one-photon absorption (left) and two-photon absorption (right). While the resolution in two-photon fluorescence mciroscopy (2PFM) is less good, photodamage is lower and penetration depth is higher compared to single-photon (confocal) fluorescence microscopy (1PFM)

Due to nonlinear nature of two-photon absoprtion, signal comes not from the focal cone but from a smaller focal sphere

### Why electron microscopy

• Primary reason: Spot size

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mv} \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}$$

$$\lambda_B = \frac{h}{p}$$

DeBroglie wavelength of a particle

If speeds are large or total acceleration voltage is close to rest mass of particle You should better use relativistic formulas for energy, momenta etc.

For an electron with KE = 1 eV and rest mass energy 0.511 MeV, the associated DeBroglie wavelength is 1.23 nm, about a thousand times smaller than a 1 eV photon.

# Ion and Electron Optics

 We need something that changes the direction of electrons or ions in a beam, depending on initial direction and radial location within the beam



An electrostatic lens

# Ion and Electron Optics

Magnetic Lens



FIGURE 2.6. Cross-section through a magnetic lens with lines showing the magnetic field distribution.

#### Cylindrically symmetric magnetic Field with radial gradients





### Sources





Electron emission can be achieved by different physical mechanisms

### Emission

#### • Thermal emission



Material	Fe	Ni	Pt	Ta	W	Cs	LaB <sub>6</sub>
$\begin{bmatrix} A \\ [Acm^{-2}K^{-2}] \end{bmatrix}$	26	30	32	55	60	162	25
<i>E</i> A [eV]	4,5 - 4,8	5,15 - 5,35	5,65	4,15 - 4,8	4,2	1,8 - 2,14	2,6
<i>T</i> <sub>m</sub> [°C]	1 535	1 452	1 755	2 850	3 410	28,4	2 210

#### Emission

Field emission



#### Semiconductor

Field emission starts for  $E > 10^7$  V/cm High current density: J(E) = A·E<sup>2</sup>  $\phi$  exp (-B  $\phi^{1.5}$  /E)

Strong nonlinear current-voltage characteristic Very short switching time (t <ns)

Small spot size due to field enhancement at the tip apex

# Ion and Electron Optics

• Electron beam sources

TABLE 2.1 Properties of the electron sources commonly used in electron beam lithography tools.

source type	brightness (A/cm <sup>2</sup> /sr)	source size	energy spread (eV)	vacuum requirement (Torr)
tungsten thermionic	~10 <sup>5</sup>	25 um	2-3	10 <sup>-6</sup>
LaB <sub>6</sub>	~10 <sup>6</sup>	10 um	2-3	10 <sup>-8</sup>
thermal (Schottky) field emitter	~10 <sup>8</sup>	20 nm	0.9	10 <sup>-9</sup>
cold field emitter	~10 <sup>9</sup>	5 nm	0.22	10 <sup>-10</sup>

# Source Size and Spot diameter

 The source size can be large (micrometers) and, if so, must be *DEMAGNIFIED* to achieve small (nanometer) spot at the sample plane

# Source Stability

 E-beam current must be stable and low noise for clear imaging and stable electron beam manipulation processes

Monochromatic beam is also important

# **Scanning Electron Microscope**

- Sequential imaging similar to the optical scanning confocal microscope
- Can be used in reflection or transmission modes (STEM)

# **SEM Anatomy**



# Various factors affecting spot diameter



#### **Electron Beam and Sample Interaction**

- Depends on energy of beam, material of the sample. The beam penetrates the sample
- Beam Spot size isn't everything



# Charged particle scattering

• Example: Rutherford Scattering



# Charged particle scattering

• Example: Rutherford Scattering



Angular scattering Dependent on particle energy, Mass of nucleus BSE (Back-scattered Electrons) give better Z contrast

#### Charged particle scattering









### Electron and sample interaction



High voltage: Large penetration, more sample damage

Large current: More damage, more carbon deposition, better X-ray signal

# Detectors: Secondary Elec. Det.



- Secondary electrons generally low energy (50-100 eV)
- Trajectories can be bent easily by biasing the detector
- Low Z contrast

#### Energy filtered detection of electrons



### Z-Contrast in BSE signal



Metallurgical sample

## **Channeling Contrast**

**Electron Channeling Contrast** 





# Analytical tools in SEM

- Obtain information about
  - Composition
  - Crystal structure/orientation
- Methods include
  - EBSD (Electron back scatter diffraction)
  - EDX (Energy-dispersive X-ray analysis)
  - AES (Auger Emission Spectroscopy)

#### EBSD





#### EBSD

2 µm



CdTe thin film. Electron backscattered pattern (left) and Euler orientation map obtained by electron backscattered diffraction (right).



Changes in the crystal orientation result in movement of the diffraction pattern. The simulated diffraction pattern is from a sample tilted 70° to the horizontal and the crystal orientation is viewed along the direction perpendicular to the sample.

# EDX



Fig. 4. EDX spectra of particle (red) and the normal ceramic (black outline)

Can be used to identify composition On a micron scale



Fig. 3. Contamination inside the holder ceramic

# EDX elemental mapping



Shown here is a piece of fossil bone, red is iron and green is calcium.



Can be improved by thinning The sample



#### **Electron Interactions**



Best spatial resolution

Better Z contrast

Best analytical

# Auger Electron Spectroscopy





Oxidation of Ni3Al with variable beam size (SAM map of O)





#### Auger Electron Spectroscopy



SEM for nanocontacts

SAM-W

SAM-Si

Uses an energy dispersive electron detector to map elements with about 100 nm

### High pressure / Environmental SEM



**Figure 2:** Vacuum System of the 1500 VP FESEM in VP-Mode: The four pressure regions (1)-(4) are separated by three pressure limiting apertures. The vacuum in the FEG area and the upper part of the column is maintained by two ion-getter-pumps, the lower part of the column is pumped by a turbomolecular pump (TMP). The specimen chamber is separated from the TMP-vacuum by a turbo-isolation-valve (TIV). The pressure in the specimen chamber is adjusted by using a dry rotary pump in combination with a needle valve.

# Scanning Transmission SEM

- A thinned sample (less than 100 nm)
- A detector to collect the transmitted electrons



# Scanning Transmission SEM

• For small particulate samples (biomolecules etc.), use TEM grids









#### **Transmission Electron Microscope**

• More analogous to an optical microscope





#### **Transmission Electron Microscope**



# TEM

- An electron beam illuminates the sample, and transmitted beam is imaged in a very similar way to optical microscopy but with electrons of 300 KeV energy
- Gives sub nanometer resolution
- Requires extensive sample preparation for high resolution imaging (TEM *"Lamella"*)
- Analytical capabilities (Z contrast / mapping)
- Contrast depends on electron wave scattering from nuclei and electronic states of the sample



# TEM MTF (CTF) / PSF



#### Image interpretation



FIG. 1. A separated part of the image 1 from a 1024 1024 pixel region after rotational (threefold) averaging. Aton are black, with slightly darker features at the adatom location where two atoms are superimposed.

#### Imaging the Dimers in Si(111)- $(7 \times 7)$

E. Bengu, R. Plass, and L. D. Marks



FIG. 2. A separated, rotationally (sixfold) and translationally averaged image from image 1. The inset is an image simulation for a defocus of -36 nm. Atoms are black, with slightly darker features at the adatom locations where two atoms are superimposed.

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

11 NOVEMBER 1996

### Direct imaging of atoms / defects



Direct observation of defect-mediated cluster nucleation U. KAISER\*1, D. A. MULLER<sup>2</sup>, J. L. GRAZUL<sup>2</sup>, A. CHUVILIN<sup>3</sup> AND M. KAWASAKI<sup>4</sup> Not only periodicity but actual individual atoms or defects can be imaged

# Tomography



FIG. 3. (Color) Tomographic reconstruction from a series of plasmon loss images recorded at different sample tilts on the Tecnai F20. Nanoparticles are visualized by isosurface rendering at fixed threshold (blue shapes), while the actual reconstructed plasmon loss signal at 17 eV is visualized by volume rendering (white "fog"). Complex, nonspherical morphologies are dominant.

APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS 89, 151920 (2006)

#### Three-dimensional imaging of nonspherical silicon nanoparticles embedded in silicon oxide by plasmon tomography

Aycan Yurtsever,<sup>a)</sup> Matthew Weyland, and David A. Muller School of Applied and Engineering Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850  Through rotations of the sample, and focus series, multiple images can be used to reconstruct a 3D image



# **Energy Contrast**

- Energy loss due to characteristic electronic properties of material under the beam
  - Zero-loss
  - Plasmonic
  - Core excitations



Fig. 1. EELS spectra showing zero-loss peak (ZLP) and low-loss region (upper) and a core-loss edge (lower) from a mineral ilmenite (FeTiO<sub>3</sub>).

# Energy filters

- Gatan Image Filter (GIF)
  - Post filtering below the fluorescent screen
- Zeiss Omega filter

**3rd-order filter aberration corrector** 

- Filtered before fluorescent screen

 Large 5 mm entrance aperture
 Patented algment mask

 Patented algment mask
 Catan

 Catan
 Cutomated filter tuning Mature application software

2nd-order corrected prism design

Multipole projector optics for optimum detector coupling for EFTEM and EELS High-speed CCD detector with unique cinema mode for rapid EELS acquisition

# Energy filters



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#### Phase Segregation by EFTEM



Aerosol Technology



#### Mapping Elements – EFTEM



Aerosol Technology



# Alternative Analytical Tools to EFTEM

- X-Rays!
- EDX can be fitted on to a TEM
- TEM is operated in a scanning fashion (STEM) and at each point the X-ray spectrum is recorded to construct an image of elements
- STEM provides better resolution because the sample is already very thin
- Damage to the sample is possible at high energy and high current density

#### Mapping Elements – EDS



Aerosol Technology



# **TEM Sample Preparation**

- Ultrasonic disk cutters
- Abrasive Dimplers
- Argon ion gun thinners
- Plasma cleaners (to clean thin lamella surface)
- Time consuming process, handwork

# FIB (Focused Ion Beam)

- Ga ions (heavy nuclei) melt at low temperature
- Can be used to mill (etch by impact) with 20 nm resolution
- Works like an SEM



# **FIB** cutting

Cross Sectioning & Microsurgery



Can be used to image cross sections in a lon/Electron dual beam system

Added analytical tools (EDX) can be used to generate 3D elemental maps

# FIB TEM sample prep





Much Easier and Faster automated process

#### F IB/EB assisted etching/deposition

Gas injectors provide reactive gases

Gas-Assisted Etching of Si:

Si + 2 XeF2 -> SiF4 + 2 Xe



Can be used to deposit: Carbon, Gold, Platinum etc.

#### Can be used to etch surfaces



#### F IB/EB assisted etching/deposition





3D structures

\* .. not a real virus!



1 µm

Norsam Technologies, Inc.

Tilt 43.8

pA 06/08/01 I-Beam Det 1.00 23:44:54 30.0 kV SED

Mag 50.0 kX 200mm EHT = 5.00 kV WD = 10 mm Signal A = InLens User Name = RAITHSERVICE Date :28 Feb 2005 Time :15:52:43

#### Demonstrating FIB and EBID

(Scientists with a lot of free time)