

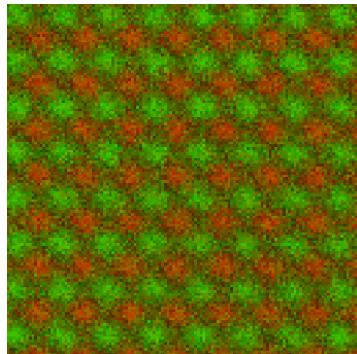
# Atomic-resolution X-ray microanalysis: Efficient X-ray collection and data analysis

*Paul G. Kotula*

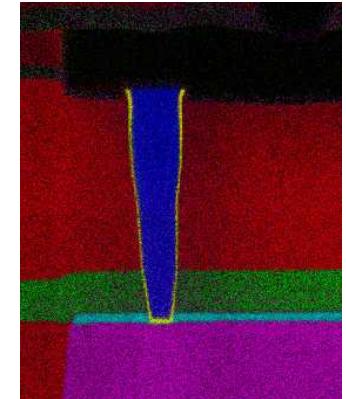
*Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM, USA*

*H.S. von Harrach and D. Klenov*

*FEI Company, Eindhoven, The Netherlands*

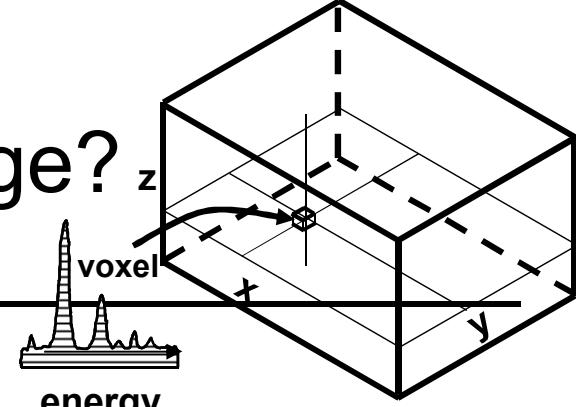


- Spectral imaging
- Multivariate statistical analysis
- Atomic-resolution x-ray microanalysis
  - Brighter sources
  - Probe correction
  - Efficient x-ray detectors
- Future applications

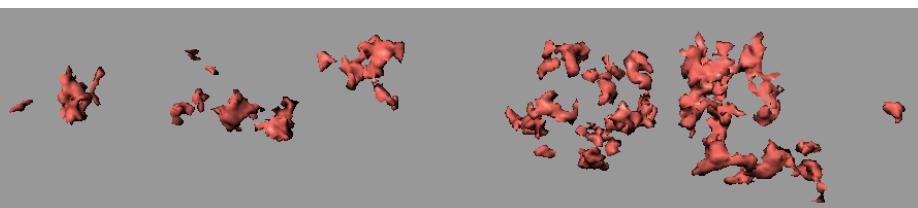
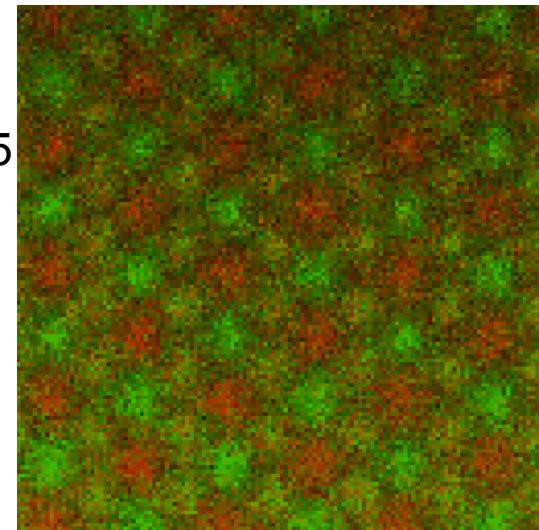


Sandia is a multiprogram laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company,  
for the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration  
under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.

# What is a spectral image?



- A series of complete spectra resolved in 2- or higher dimensions
  - Conventional spectral images-2D\*
    - Demonstrated in 1979 and first product by PGT in 1995
  - Tomographic spectral images-3D\*\*
    - Direct-FIB\*\*, Metallography
    - Computed-Tilt series of spectral images
    - Confocal
  - Resolved in other dimensions
    - Time, process condition, projection, etc.
- As far as MSA is concerned these can all be treated the same



\*e.g., P.G. Kotula et al. *Microsc. Microanal.* 9 (2003) 1-17.

\*\*e.g., P.G. Kotula et al. *Microsc. Microanal.* 12 (2006) 36-48.



# What is Multivariate Statistical Analysis?

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- MSA comprises many techniques for factoring spectral image data into other hopefully more useful forms
- Makes use of high-degree of redundancy in data
  - Many observations of similar, noisy spectral or image features, tens of thousands to billions
  - Noisy data can be used to advantage
  - Large number of spectral channels, 50-100000+
- Typically used to reduce dimensionality of the data and filter noise of known structure
- A 128x128 pixel by 1024 channel data set has 1024 dimensions or variables, which can be transformed so as to represent chemical information...MSA helps find the correlations
- Results should be fast and readily interpretable
  - Seconds for small data sets to at most tens of minutes for the largest data sets.



# What are the basic steps of MSA?

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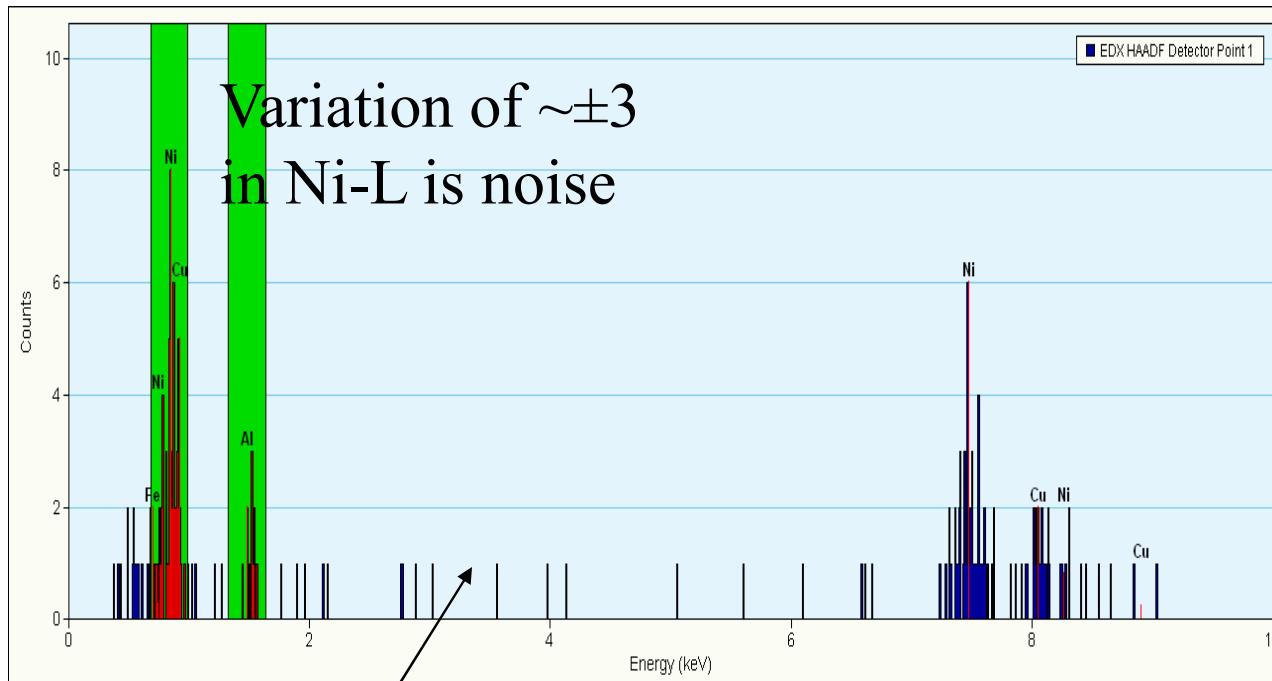
- Keenan, M.R., *Multivariate analysis of spectral images composed of count data*, in *Techniques and applications of hyperspectral image analysis*, H. Grahn and P. Geladi, Editors. 2007, John Wiley & Sons: Chinchester.
- Scale data for non-uniform noise\*
  - Assumption here-we know the noise structure in these counting experiments
  - Down-weights large variations in intense spectral or image features which are due to noise
  - Rank 1 approximation to the noise
    - In the image domain divide by the square-root of the mean image
    - In the spectral domain divide by the square-root of the mean spectrum
    - Essentially the same answer as maximum likelihood methods with but far less computational complexity\*\*
- Factor analysis
- Inverse noise scaling

\*M.R. Keenan and P.G. Kotula, *Surf. Int. Anal.* **36** (2004) 203-212

\*\*M.R. Keenan, *J. Vac. Sci. Tech. A* **23** [4] (2005) 746-750

# Normalizing for noise

Typical x-ray spectrum from STEM-EDS

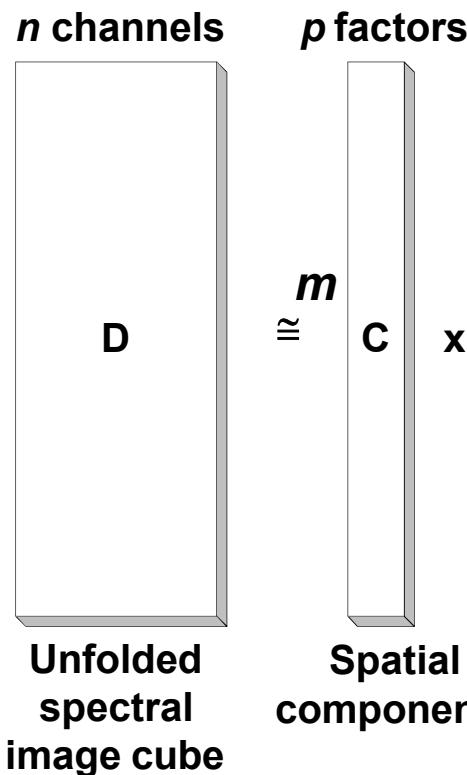


3 counts in this part of the spectrum would be significant



# We have several options in our multivariate “Toolbox”

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**Analysis goal: Obtain an easily interpretable representation of the data**

\*M.R. Keenan, *Surf. Int. Anal.* **41** (2009) 79-87.

\*\*P.G. Kotula, et al. *Microsc. Microanal.* **9** (2003) 1-17.

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
  - Factors are orthogonal
  - Factors serially maximize variance
  - Provides best LS fit to data
  - Non-physical constraints
  - Factors are abstract
- PCA + factor rotation (Varimax)\*
  - Rotate factors to “simple structure”
- MCR-ALS\*\*
  - A refinement of Rotated PCA
  - Non-negativity of C and/or S
  - Equality, closure and others
  - Constraints may not be effective
  - Bias due to error in variables

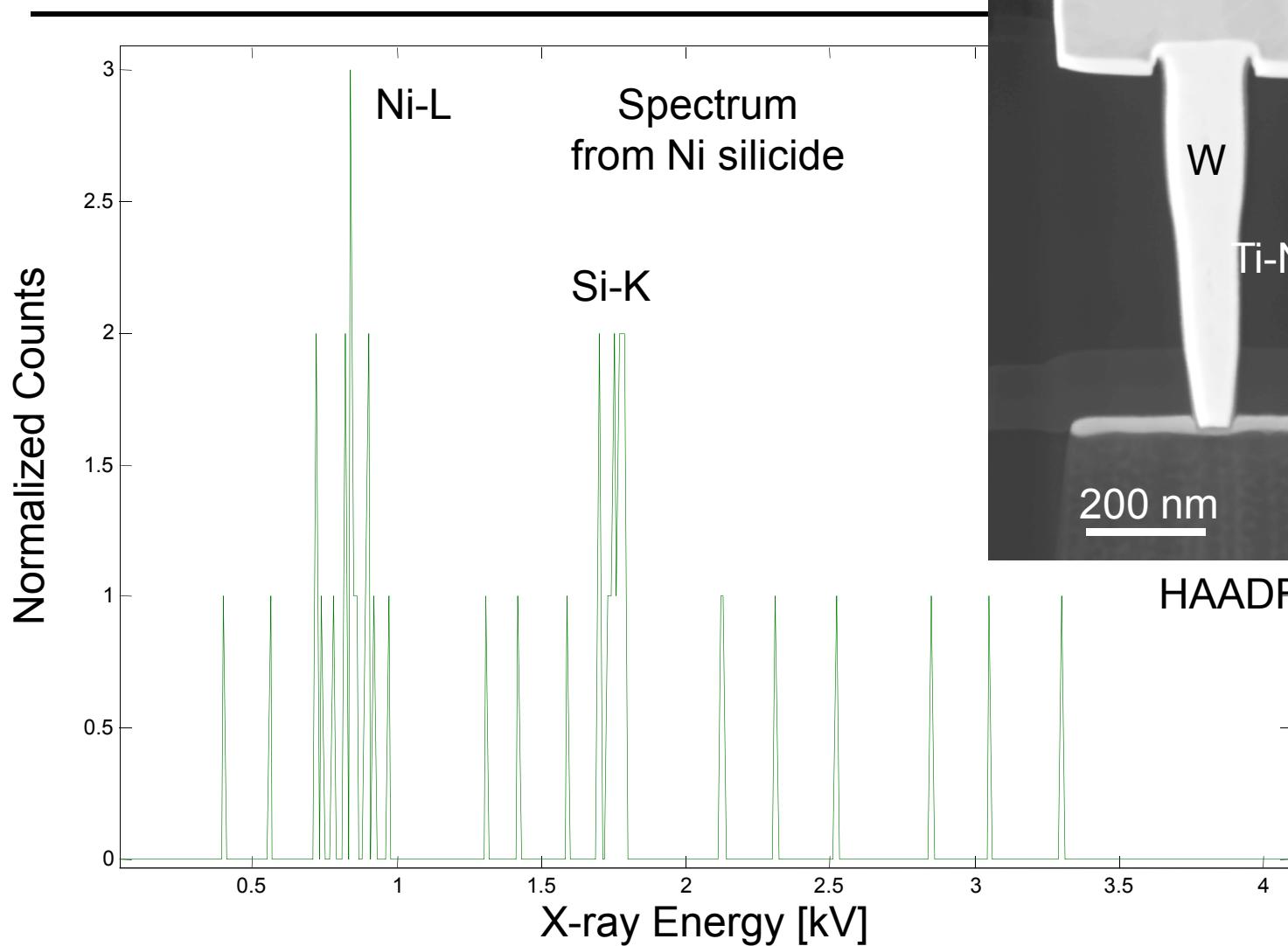


# Spectral- vs. Spatial-Domain Simplicity: Analysis of CMOS

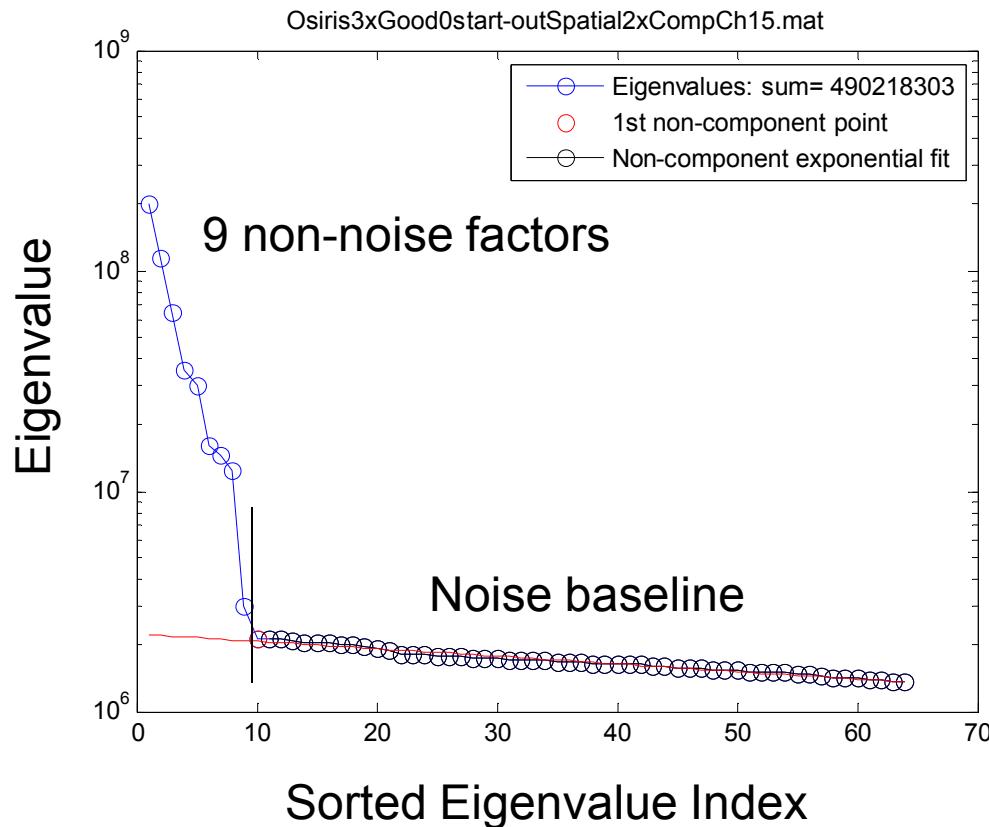
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- Planarized CMOS *in-situ* lift out specimen on a Mo grid
- FEI Tecnai Osiris, 200kV FEG with SuperX (0.9sr)
- 400 x 500 pixels by 4096+channels, 2nm/pixel
- >99% sparse (~811M elements = 0, ~7.7M elements >0)
  - But it's important to note the non-zeros are for the most part randomly distributed
- Data acquisition 249 seconds @ 1.5nA or 1.245msec/pixel
- ~10.6 M total counts
  - 43 kcps summed or 11 kcounts/second/spectrometer
  - Average of 53 counts per spectrum
- Data analysis took 144 seconds on a decent lab workstation (XP-x64)

# Raw spectrum from the CMOS spectral image



# Eigenanalysis of the CMOS SI data



Clearly 9 factors automatically resolved above the noise



# Spatial Domain Simplicity\*

Often the phase viewpoint

---

- **$D = CS^T$  (Goal: Factor raw data into C and S...linear model)**
  - D is an  $m$ -pixel  $\times$   $n$ -channel raw spectral-data matrix
  - S is an  $n \times p$  matrix containing the  $p$  pure-component spectra shapes
  - C is an  $m \times p$  matrix containing their spatial distributions/abundances
- Data is scaled to account for non-uniform (Poisson) noise\*\*
- Number of factors to retain is chosen (Eigenanalysis)
- PCA is performed on the scaled data such the **spectral** components are orthogonal and the **spatial** components are orthonormal
- Rotate the orthonormal **spatial** components to maximize their mutual simplicity with the VARIMAX procedure
- Apply the inverse rotation to the **spectral** components which relaxes orthogonality in this domain
- Optionally: Impose non-negativity (e.g., via MCR, CLS, etc.)\*\*\*\*
- Inversely scale the components for Poisson noise

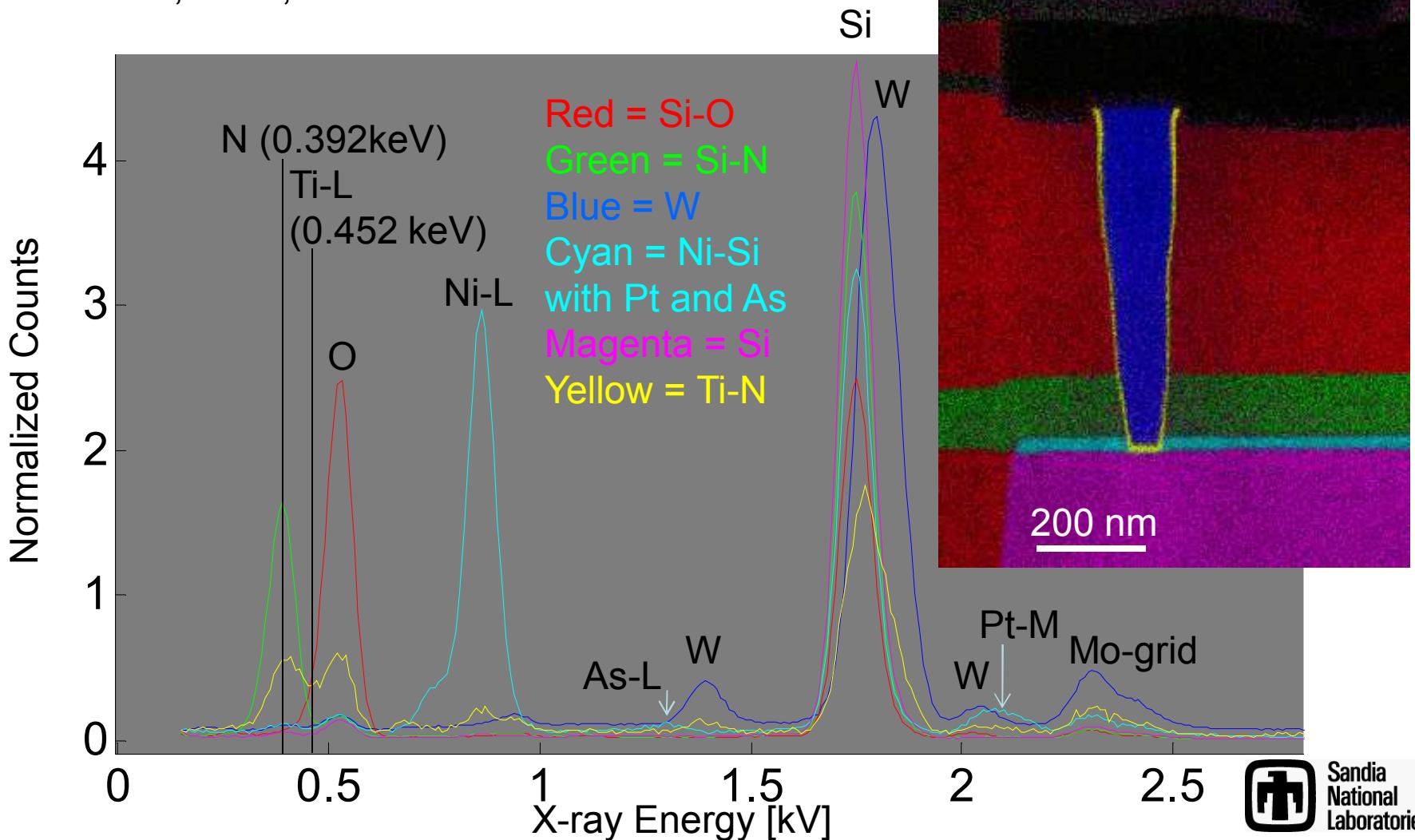
\*M.R. Keenan, *Surf. Int. Anal.* **41** (2009) 79-87.

\*\*M.R. Keenan and P.G. Kotula, *Surf. Int. Anal.* **36** (2004) 203-212.

\*\*\*P.G. Kotula et al. *Microsc. Microanal.* **9** (2003) 1-17.

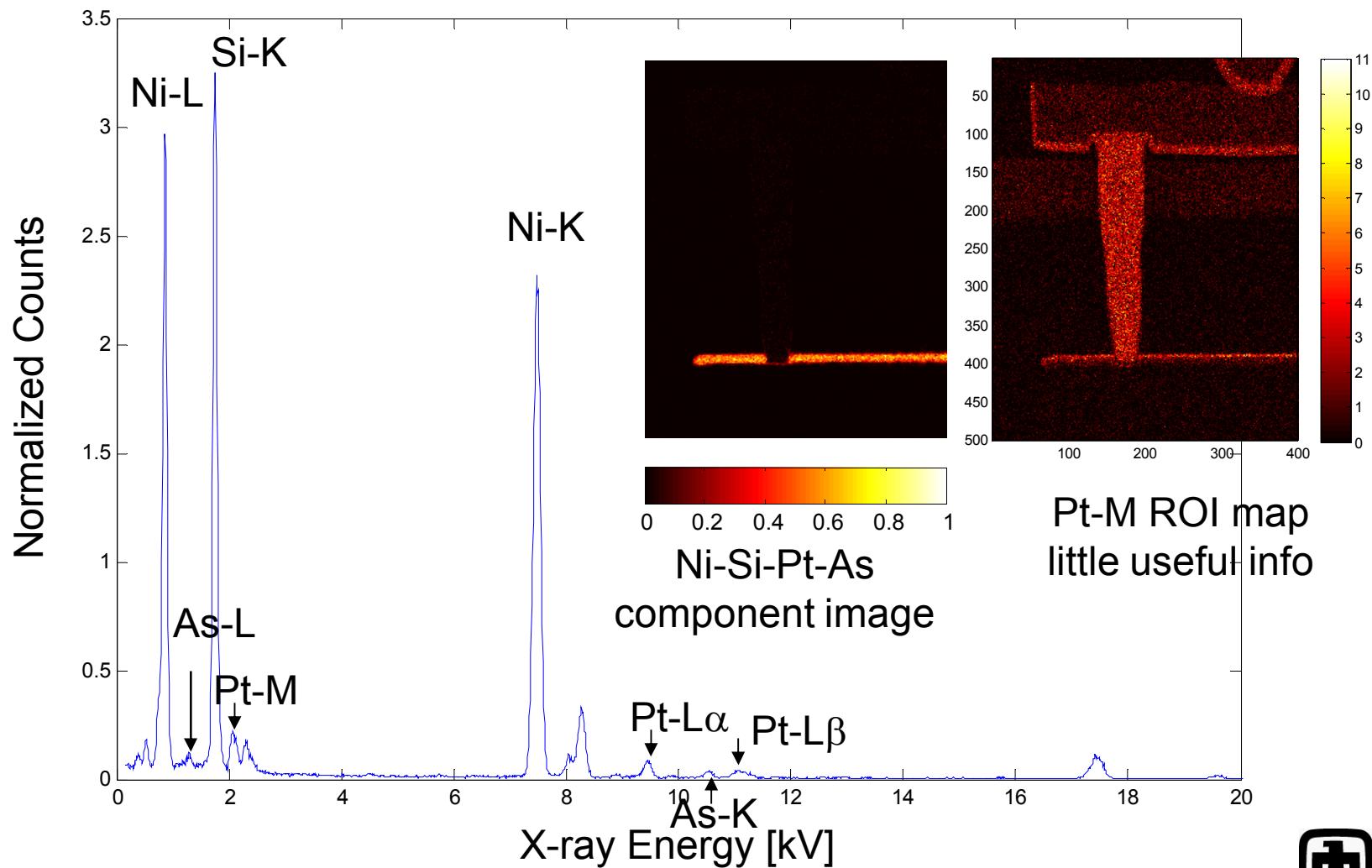
# Spatial-Domain Simplicity Best Spatial 'Contrast' (Phases)

Note Cu, Ta-Si, and low-k dielectric not shown



# Spatial-Domain Simplicity

## Ni-silicide contact, MSA shows minor elements



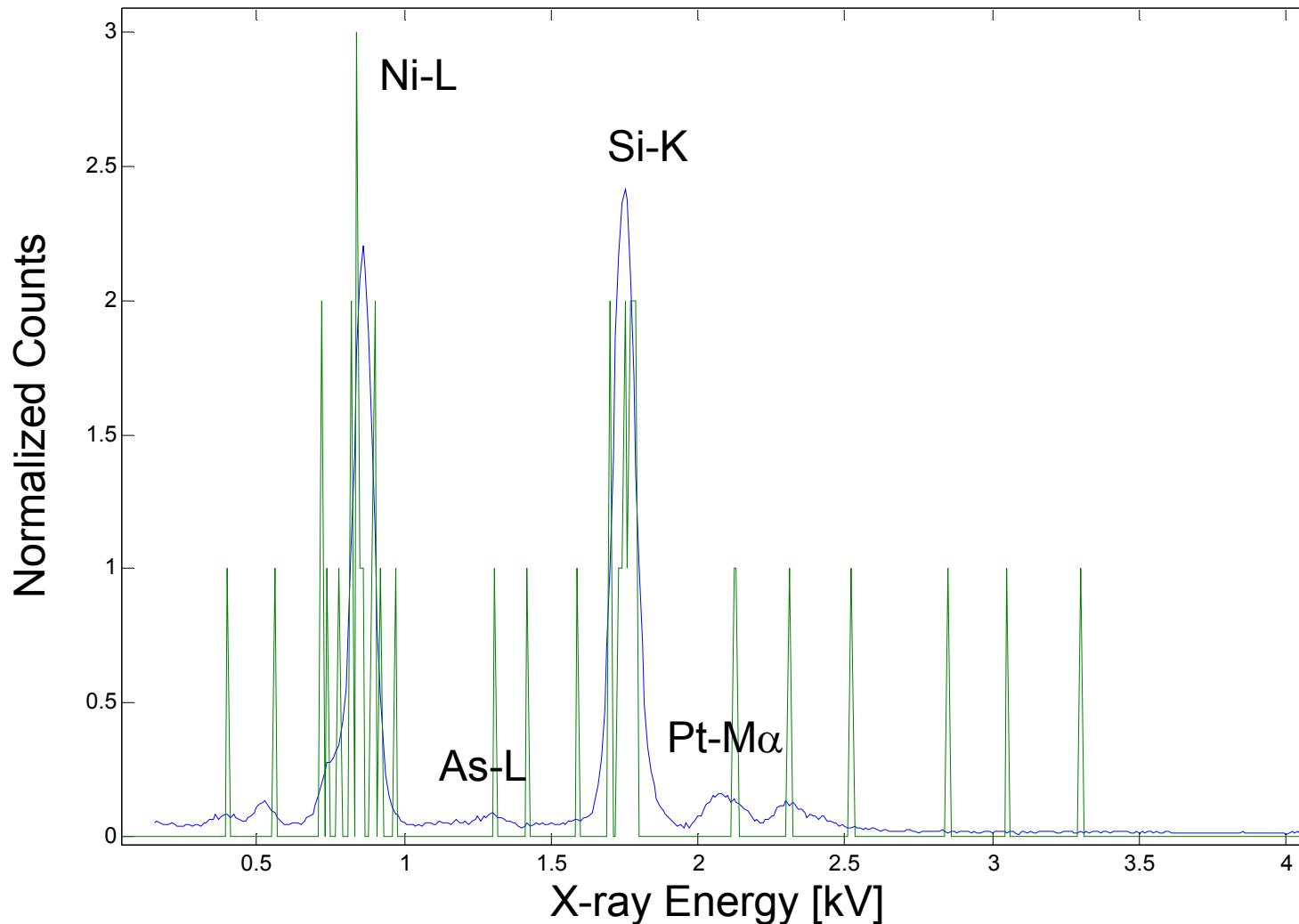


# Spatial-Domain Simplicity

## Ni-silicide contact, MSA shows minor elements

Raw versus MSA-processed

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# Spectral Domain Simplicity\*

Often the elemental/correlated elemental viewpoint

---

- **$D = CS^T$  (Goal: Factor raw data into C and S...linear model)**
  - D is an  $m$ -pixel  $\times$   $n$ -channel raw spectral-data matrix
  - S is an  $n \times p$  matrix containing the  $p$  pure-component spectra shapes
  - C is an  $m \times p$  matrix containing their spatial distributions/abundances
- **Data is scaled to account for non-uniform (Poisson) noise\*\***
- **Number of factors to retain is chosen (Eigenanalysis)**
- **PCA is performed on the scaled data such the **spatial** components are orthogonal and the **spectral** components are orthonormal**
- **Rotate the orthonormal **spectral** components to maximize their mutual simplicity with the VARIMAX procedure**
- **Apply the inverse rotation to the **spatial** components which relaxes orthogonality in this domain**
- **Optionally: Impose non-negativity (e.g. via MCR-ALS)\*\*\***
- **Inversely scale the components for Poisson noise**

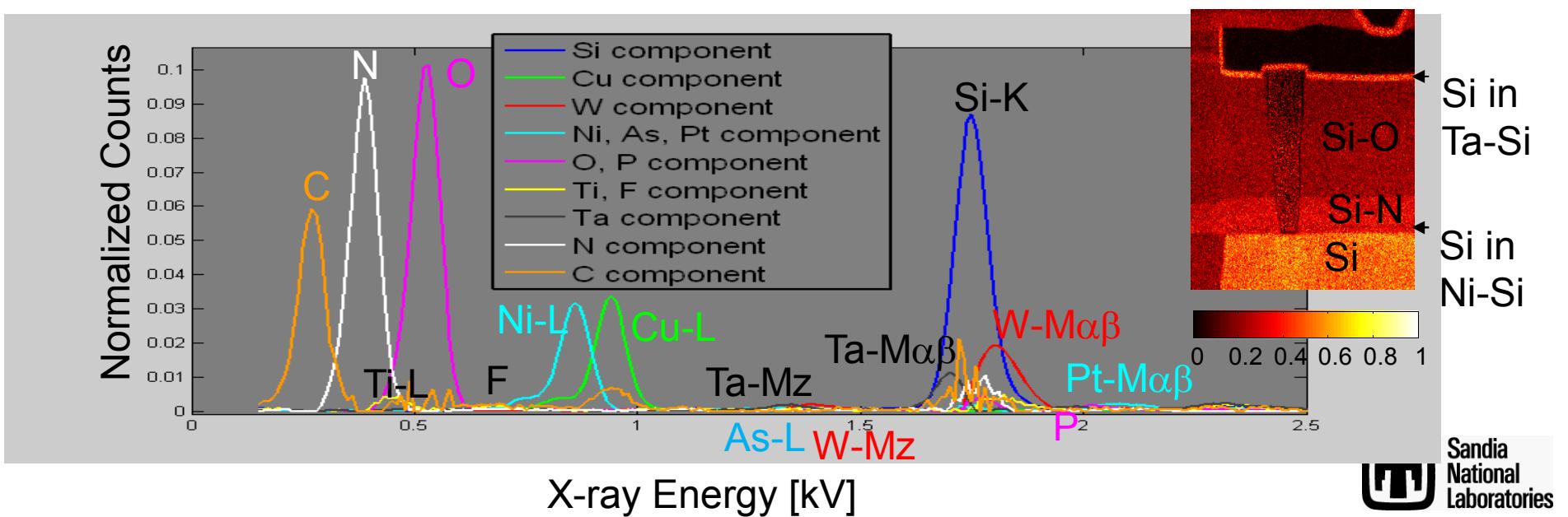
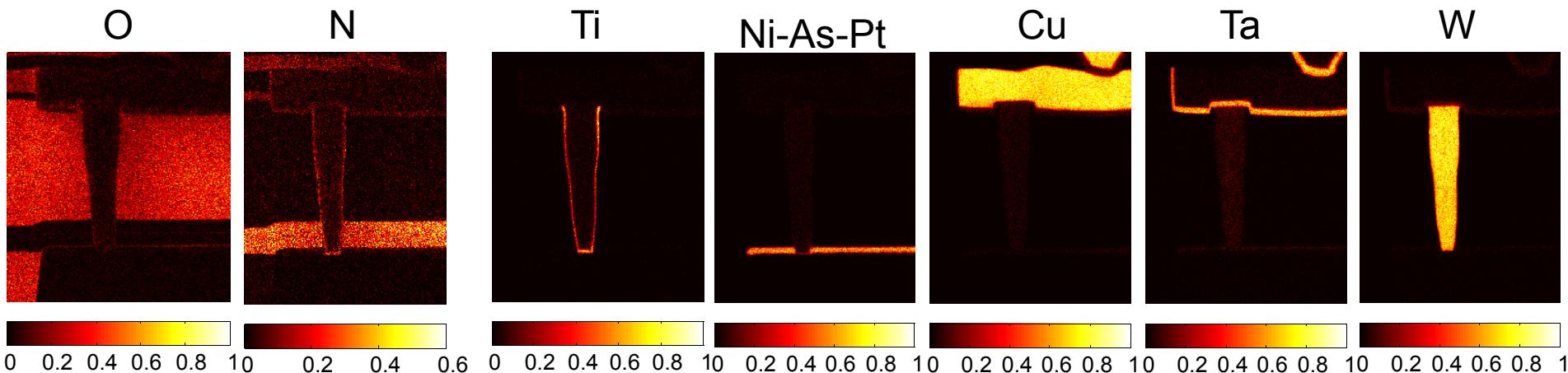
\*M.R. Keenan, *Surf. Int. Anal.* **41** (2009) 79-87.

\*\*M.R. Keenan and P.G. Kotula, *Surf. Int. Anal.* **36** (2004) 203-212.

\*\*\*P.G. Kotula et al. *Microsc. Microanal.* **9** (2003) 1-17.

# Spectral-Domain Simplicity

## Best Spectral or Elemental 'Contrast'



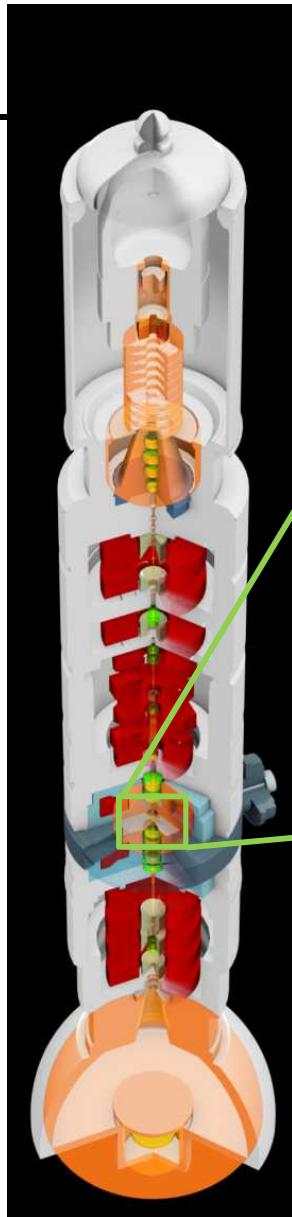


# Atomic resolution x-ray microanalysis

X-FEG

DCOR

Super-X



Critical elements for atomic  
resolution x-ray microanalysis

High brightness gun

Probe corrector

Efficient x-ray detector(s)

All of these elements have been  
integrated on the FEI Titan  
ChemiSTEM-P (200kV)





# New Shottky emitter technology

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- New Shottky emitter with the brightness of a cold FEG
- FEI X-FEG brightness increased to  $\sim 10^8 \text{ A/sr/m}^2/\text{V}$ 
  - $\sim 2 \times 10^9 \text{ A/cm}^2/\text{sr}$  @ 200 kV
- Probe current (w/o corrector)
  - 0.5 nA in 0.3 nm diameter
  - **Increased by 5x** relative to regular Schottky FEG
- Probe current (with DCOR probe corrector)
  - 200 kV, 1.3 nA in 0.2 nm diameter probe
  - 80 kV, 0.5 nA in 0.2 nm diameter probe
- Energy-spread = 0.9 eV

# Detector Efficiency: Arrays



22.5 mm

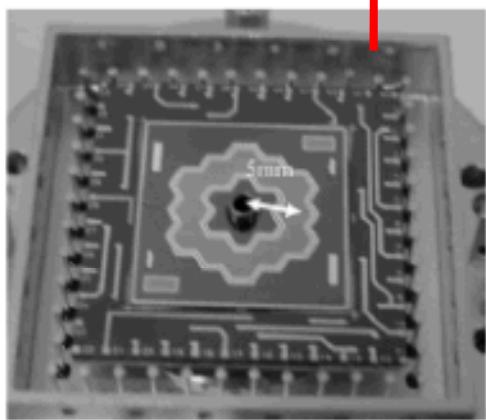
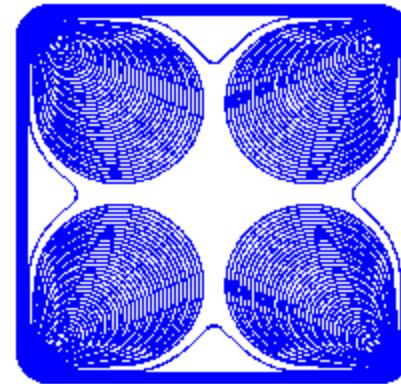
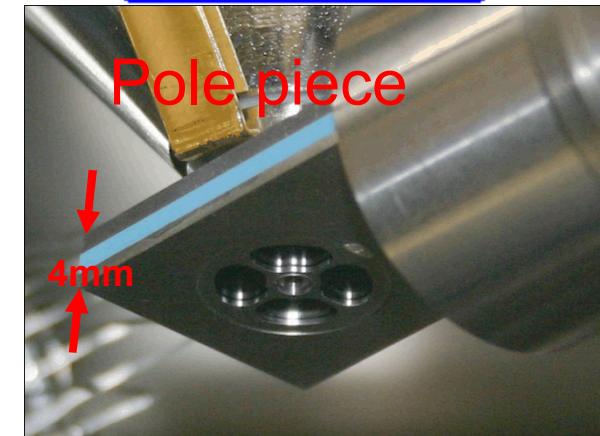
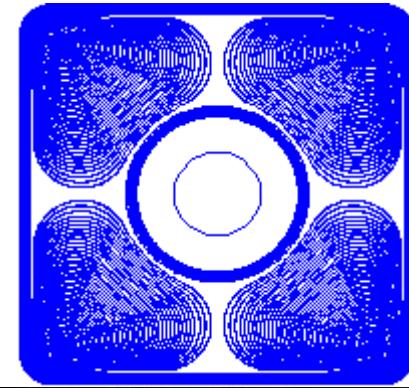


Figure 2. The Ketek 12-element annular SDD chip mounted in its package. The tantalum ion collimator that protects the SDD from scattered protons can be seen protruding through a hole in the center of the chip.

2005 Ketech/Custom imp.  
2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> generation annular  
(1.1 sr)



2005 pnSensor/Roentec  
4-5<sup>th</sup> generation  
conventional  
(40 mm<sup>2</sup>, 0.06 sr)

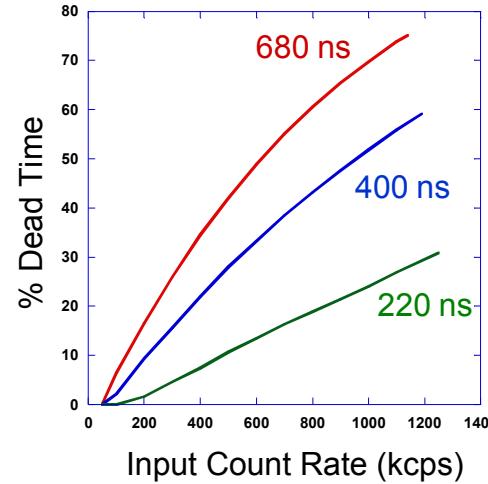
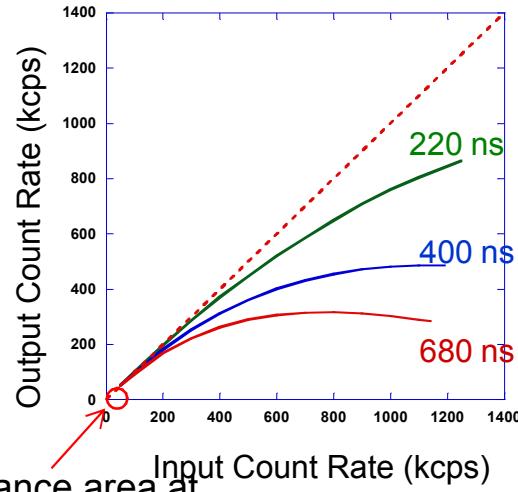
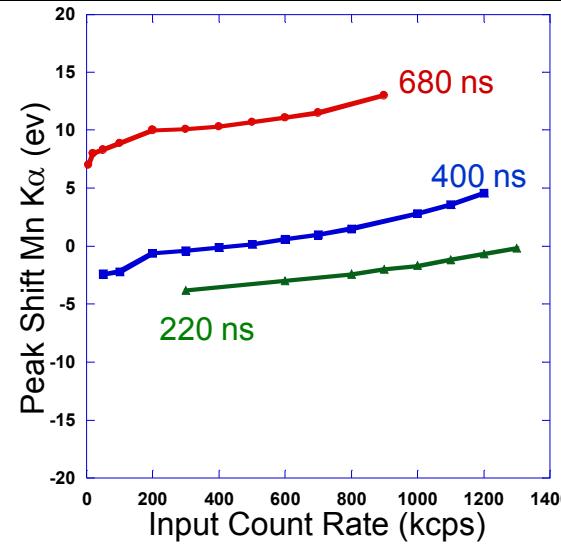
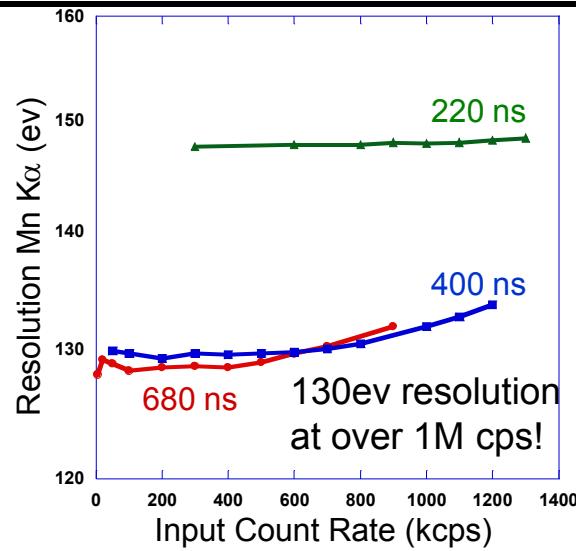


2007 pnSensor/Bruker  
5<sup>th</sup> generation annular at  
SNL(60 mm<sup>2</sup>, 1.1 sr)

B. L. Doyle, D. S. Walsh, P. G. Kotula, P. Rossi, T. Schülein and M. Rohde, "An annular Si drift detector  $\mu$ PIXE system using AXSIA analysis," *X-Ray Spectrom.* (2005) 34

# 5<sup>th</sup> generation SDD performance

SEM data from 4-detectors summed



Si(Li) performance area at  
180eV FWHM Mn-K $\alpha$

Performance superior in every way to Si(Li)

# Silicon drift detector in AEM provides more flexible integration

## FEI/Bruker/pnSensor...SuperX™

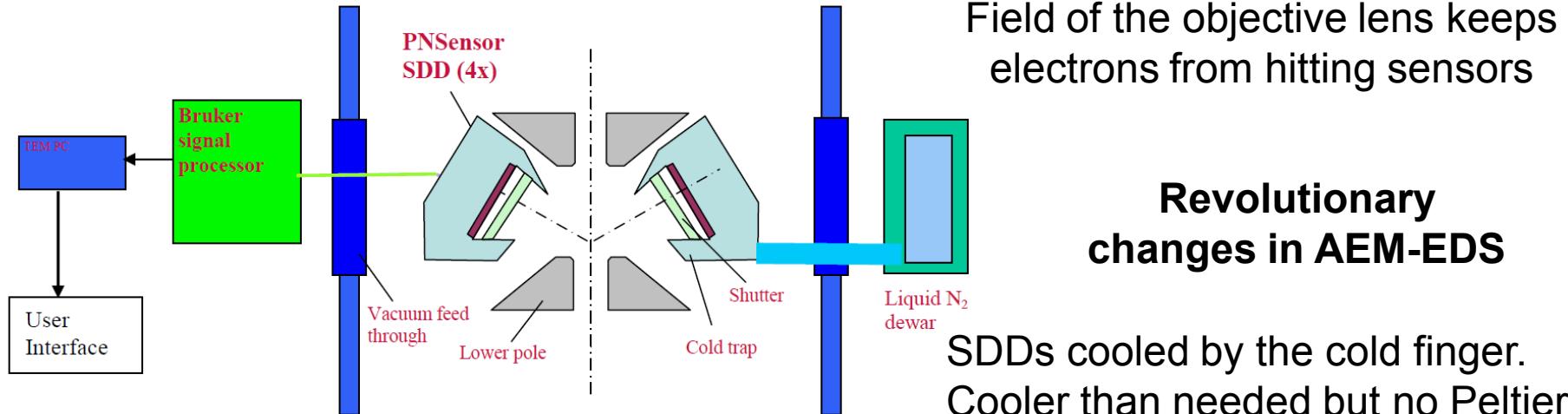
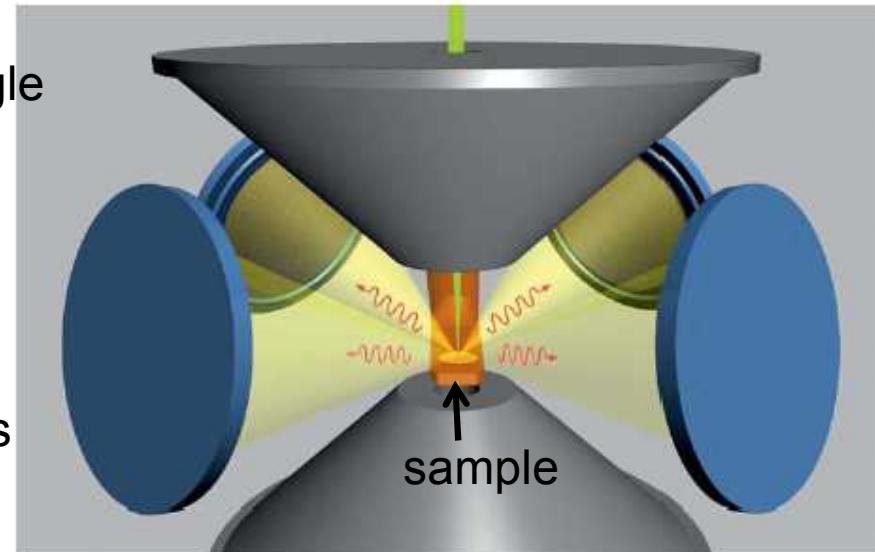


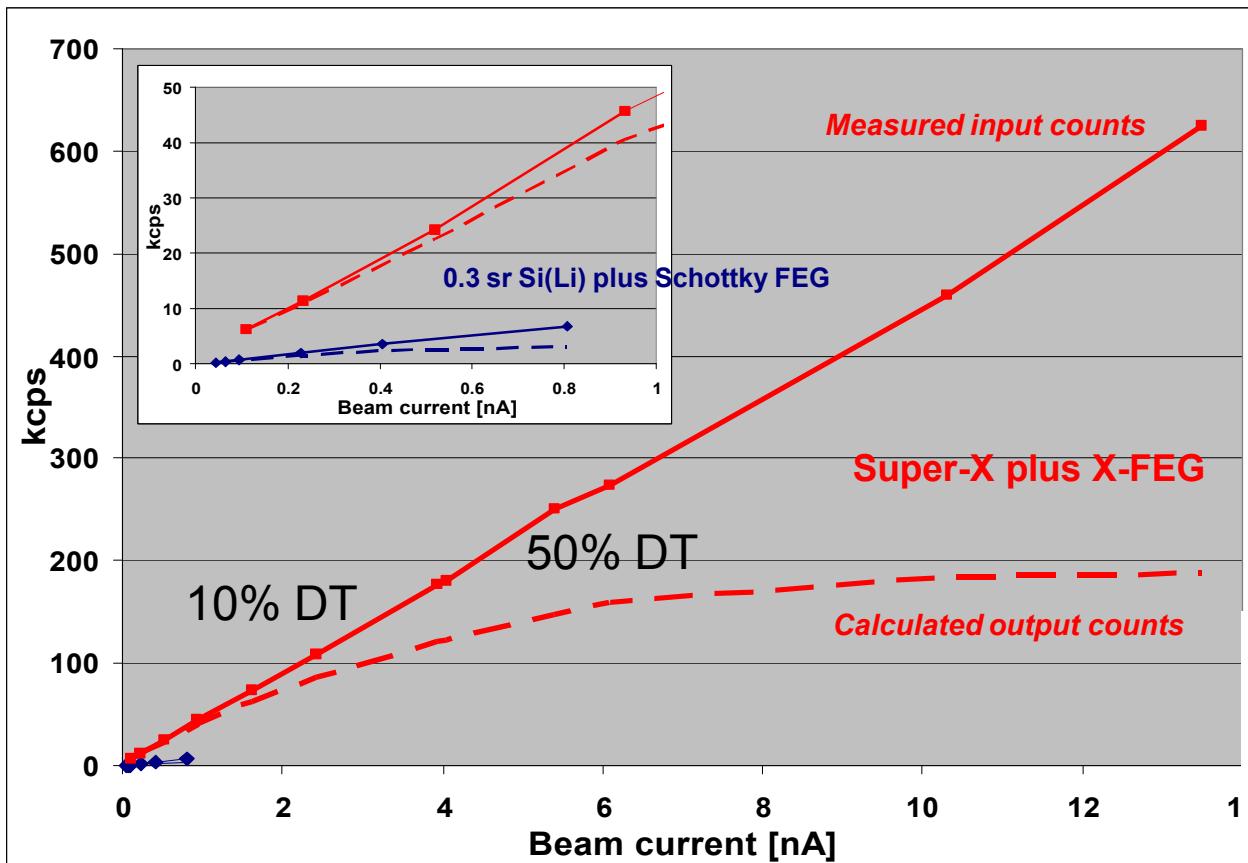
Figure 1. Schematic of Super-X detector

- 4-30mm<sup>2</sup> (120mm<sup>2</sup>) SDDs with large solid angle
  - 0.9 sr (Osiris-uncorrected)
  - 0.7 sr (Titan-probe corrected)
  - State-of-the-art SDDs
  - Windowless & pnWindow...good light-element performance (C, N, O previously)
  - High-throughput...10  $\mu$ sec instantaneous dwell times, multiple pass, drift correction



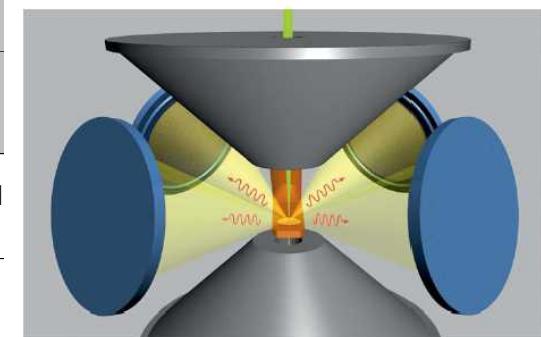


# FEI/Bruker/pnSensor... SuperX™ Detector Performance



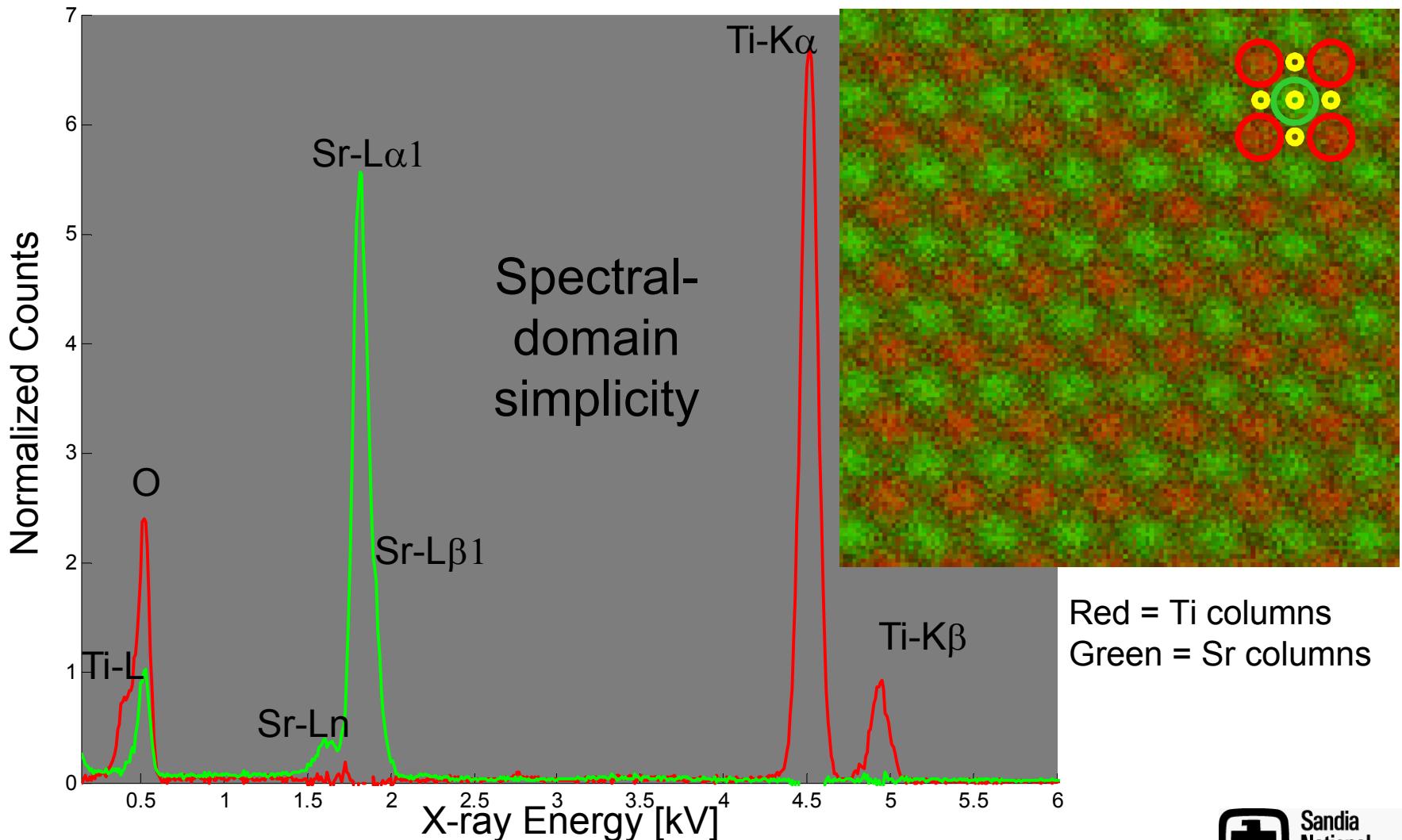
In both experiments the same FIB-cut InP sample was used with a thickness of about 200 nm.

Note: 1000 nsec  
shaping time  
136 eV FWHM Mn-K $\alpha$



# Example: SrTiO<sub>3</sub> [100]

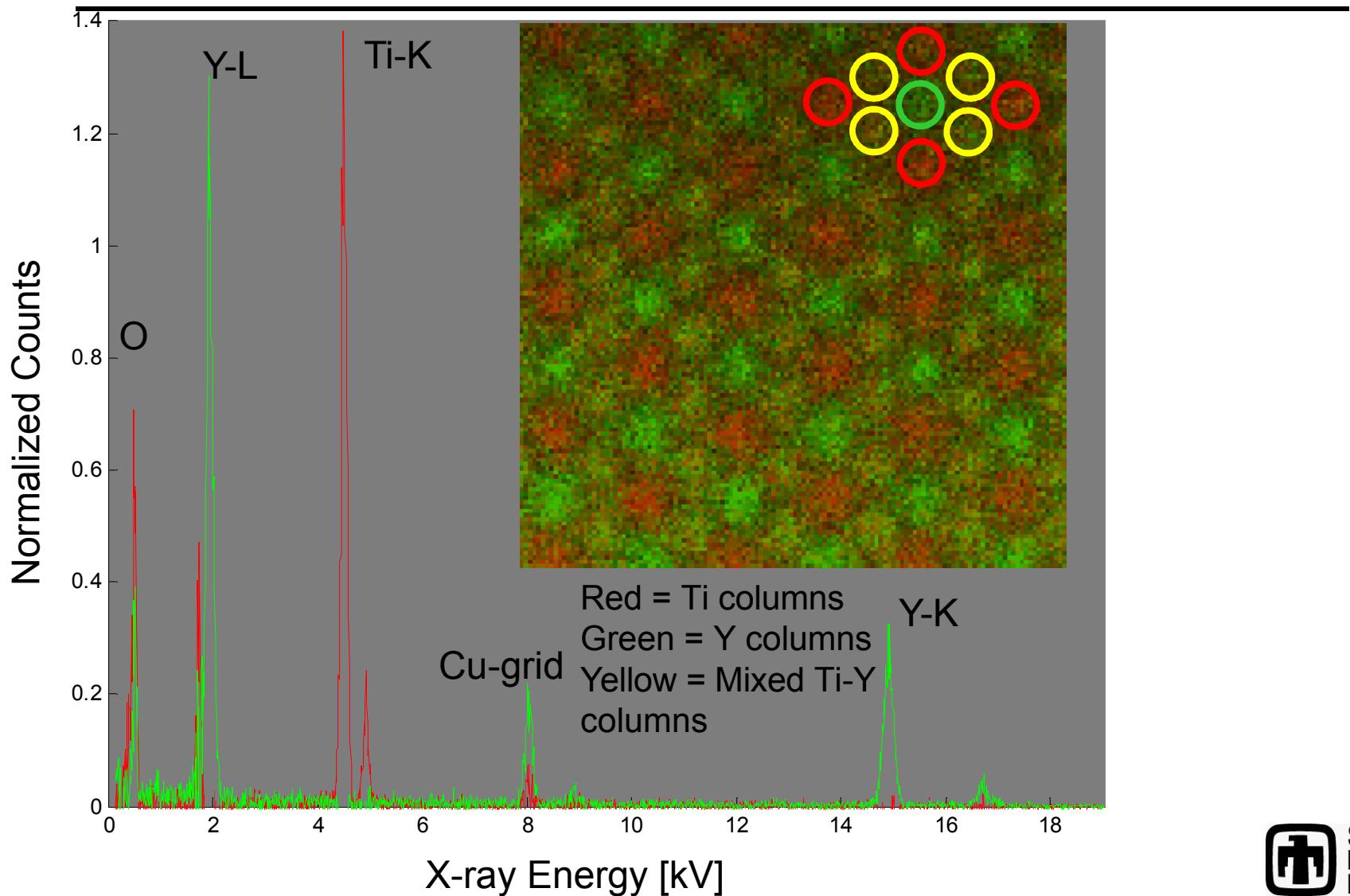
MSA-processed spectral image of SrTiO<sub>3</sub> with no *a priori* information



Sr-K lines not shown but correlate with Sr-L

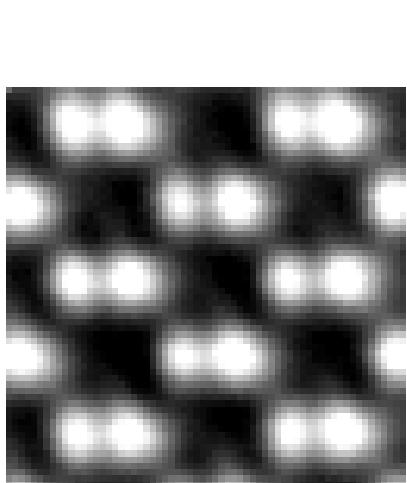
# Example: $\text{Y}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$ Pyrochlore [011]

128x128 Spectral image, 4x compression, Spectral domain simplicity

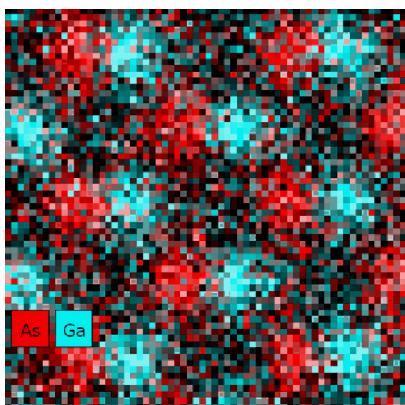


# Example: GaAs [110]

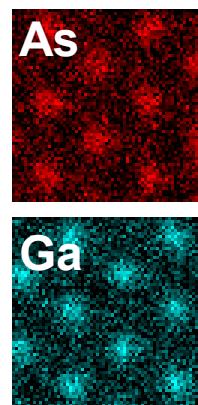
No MSA applied here



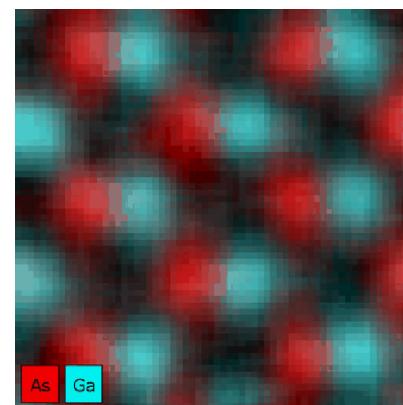
Raw images



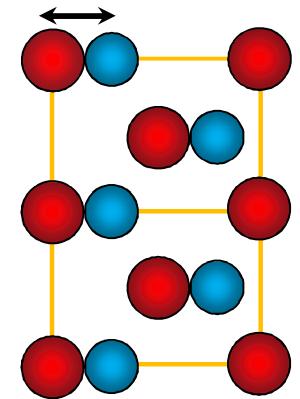
K-lines



filtered images



0.14 nm



● - As ● - Ga

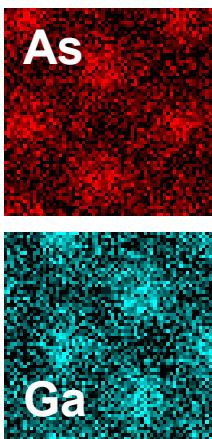
64 x 64 pixel  
200 pA beam current  
**917 sec total time**  
220 msec/pixel

Titan G2 @200 kV  
probe-corrected (DCOR)  
X-FEG, SuperX

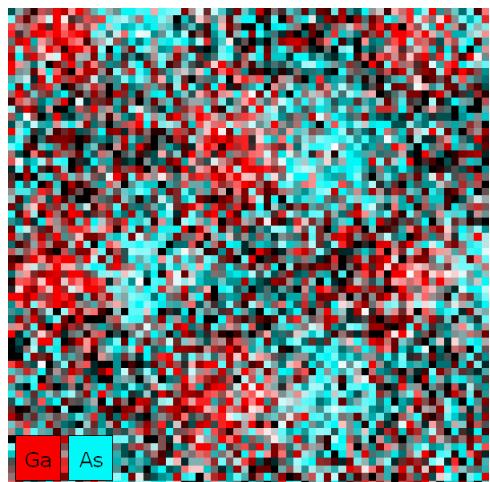
# Example: GaAs [110]

MSA applied here with no *a priori* information

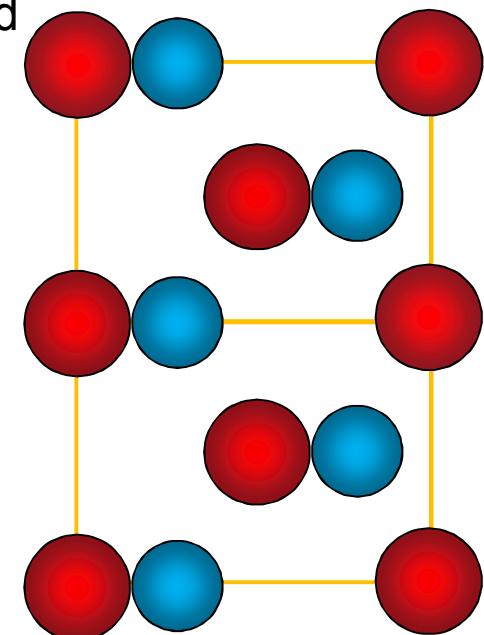
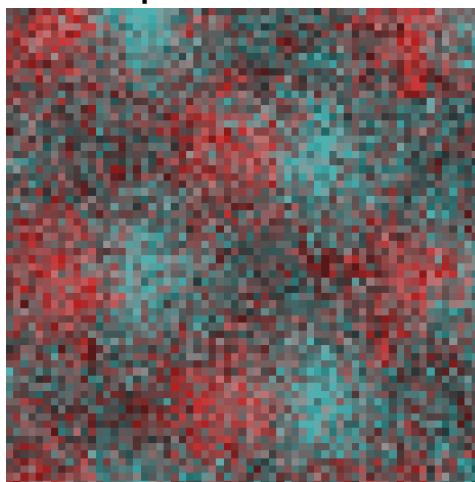
Raw maps



Raw K-lines ROI overlay



MSA results, K and L line  
overlaps ~deconvoluted  
0.14 nm



64 x 64 pixel  
247 pA beam current  
**68 sec total time**  
17 msec/ pixel

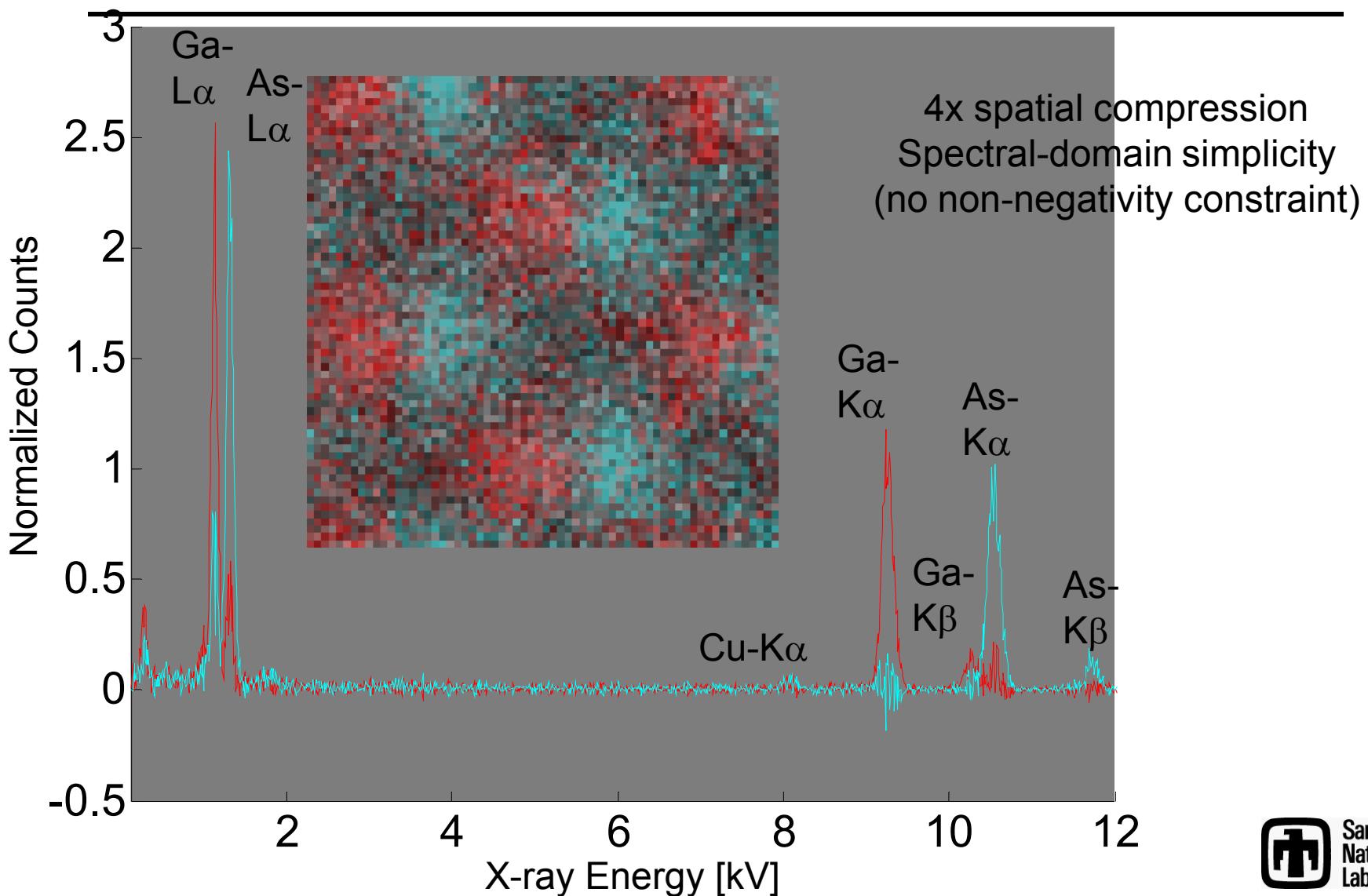
~413k counts in the spectral image  
Max counts in any channel is 10  
Average of 100 counts per spectrum  
**MSA analysis took 300 msec with  
AXSIA**

Titan G2 @200 kV  
probe-corrected (DCOR)  
X-FEG, SuperX

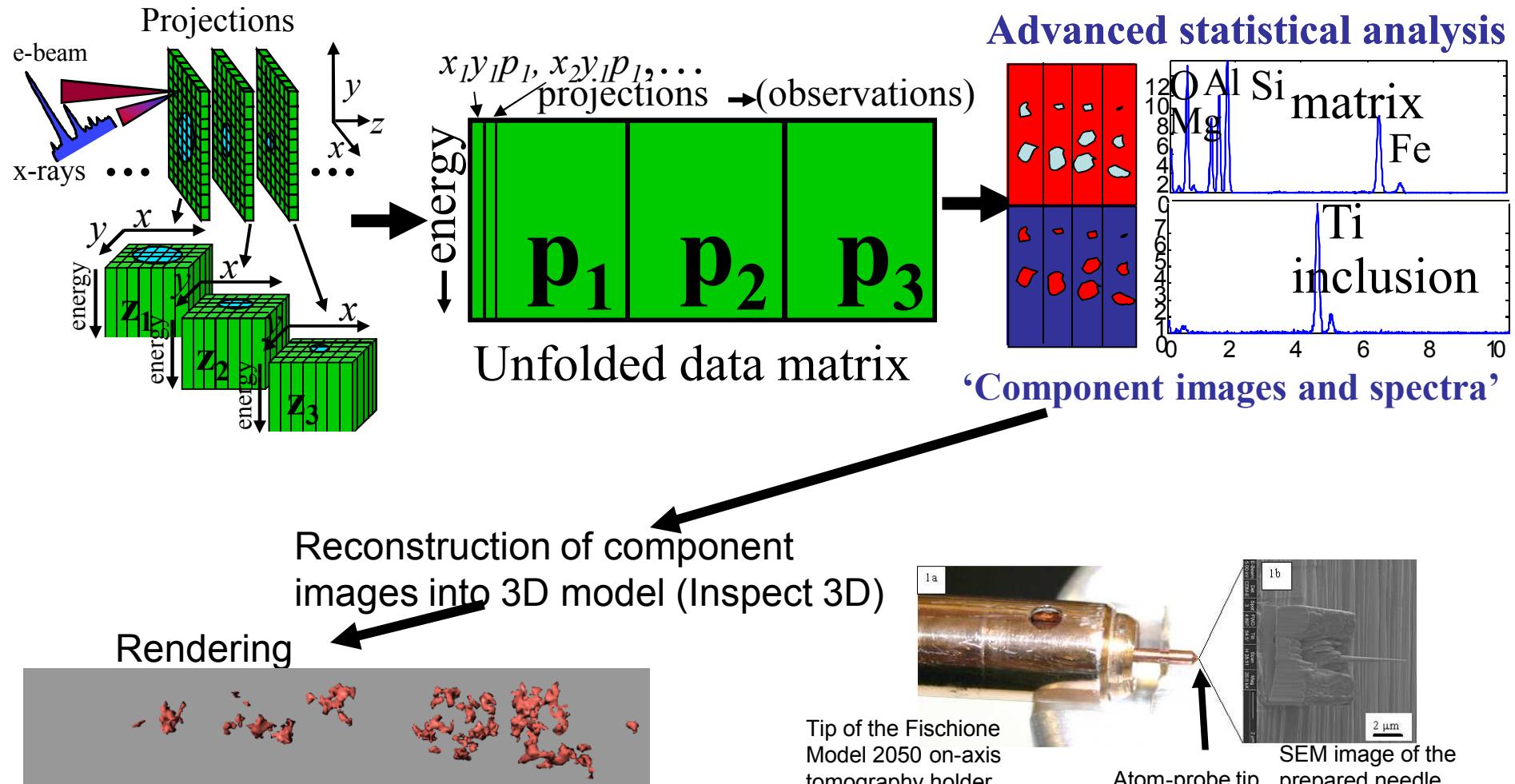
As

Ga

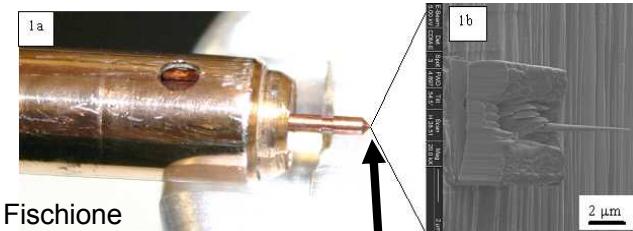
# GaAs [110]: MSA component overlay



# Tomographic Spectral Imaging and Multivariate Statistical Analysis



Tip of the Fischione Model 2050 on-axis tomography holder



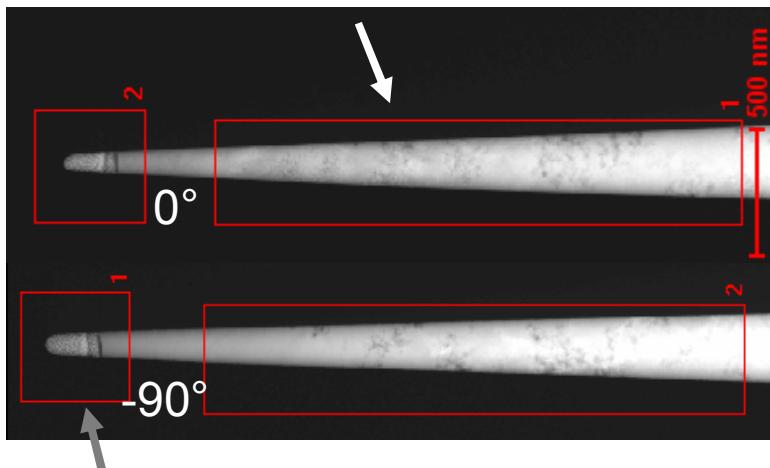
Atom-probe tip SEM image of the prepared needle

# MSA of the entire projection series

FEI Tecnai F30-ST, 0.1sr

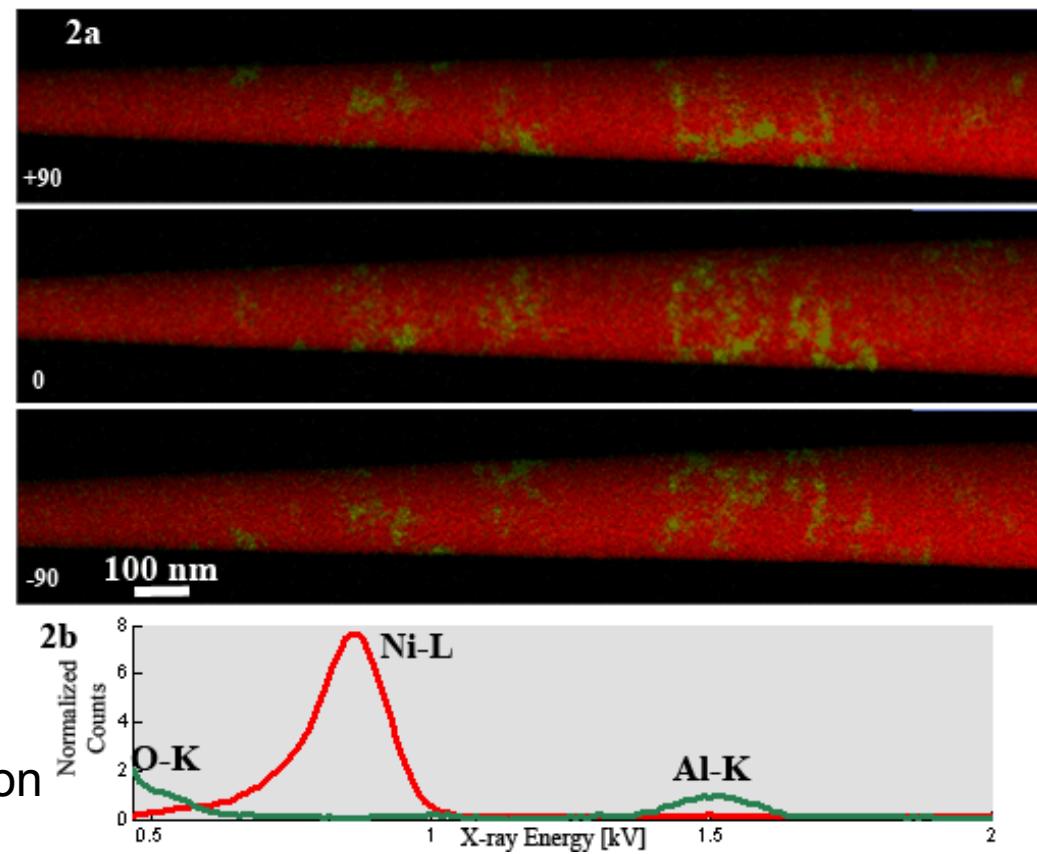
## Color overlays of component images

Region of spectral  
images 2000nm x 400nm



## Drift-correction region

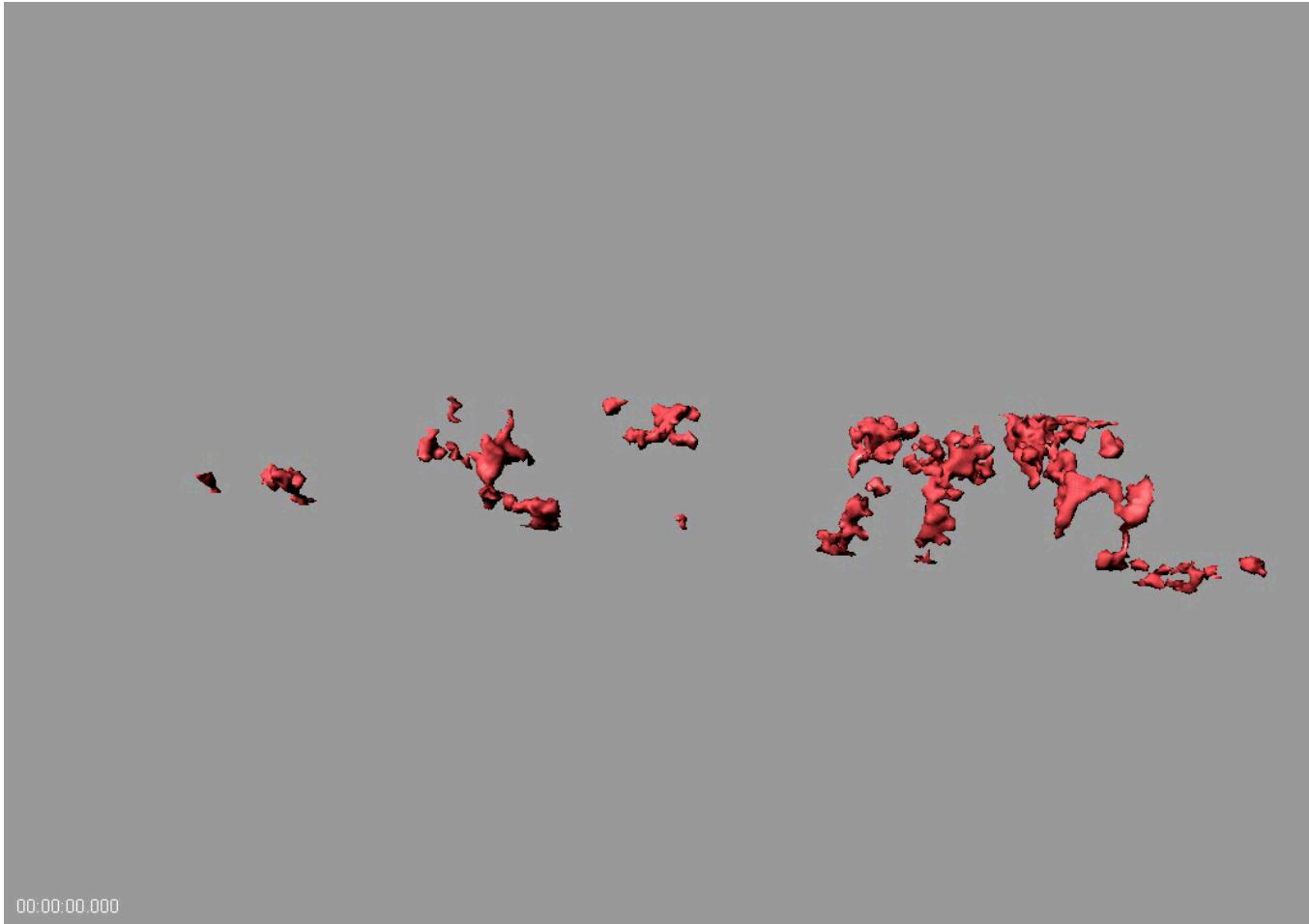
19 hours (over 3 days) of data acquisition





# Reconstructed isosurface of the alumina particles

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# Conclusions

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- AEM is undergoing a renaissance with correctors, SDDs, novel diffraction techniques, and better sources.
- Atomic resolution EDS will become more common than EELS. More elements accessible, esp. heavy ones.
- Novel detector geometries for AEM improve sensitivity and throughput.
- MSA methods are very useful for simplifying the analysis of large, complex data sets
  - Importance of Poisson normalization
  - Factor rotation, spatially or spectrally simple viewpoints
  - Unbiased analysis powerful for materials science, etc. Needle in the haystack....single atoms....
- Quantitative analysis pushed to smaller volumes
  - Understanding the spectrum is critical...every bump matters!
  - Potential for 1000 ppm sensitivity at 0.2 nm?
  - 100 ppm sensitivity at 1 nm?
- Practical computed tomographic spectral imaging

# Joe Michael's 0.1 wt.% Mn-Cu

