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# Characterization Tools for Failure Analysis and for Enabling Materials Discovery

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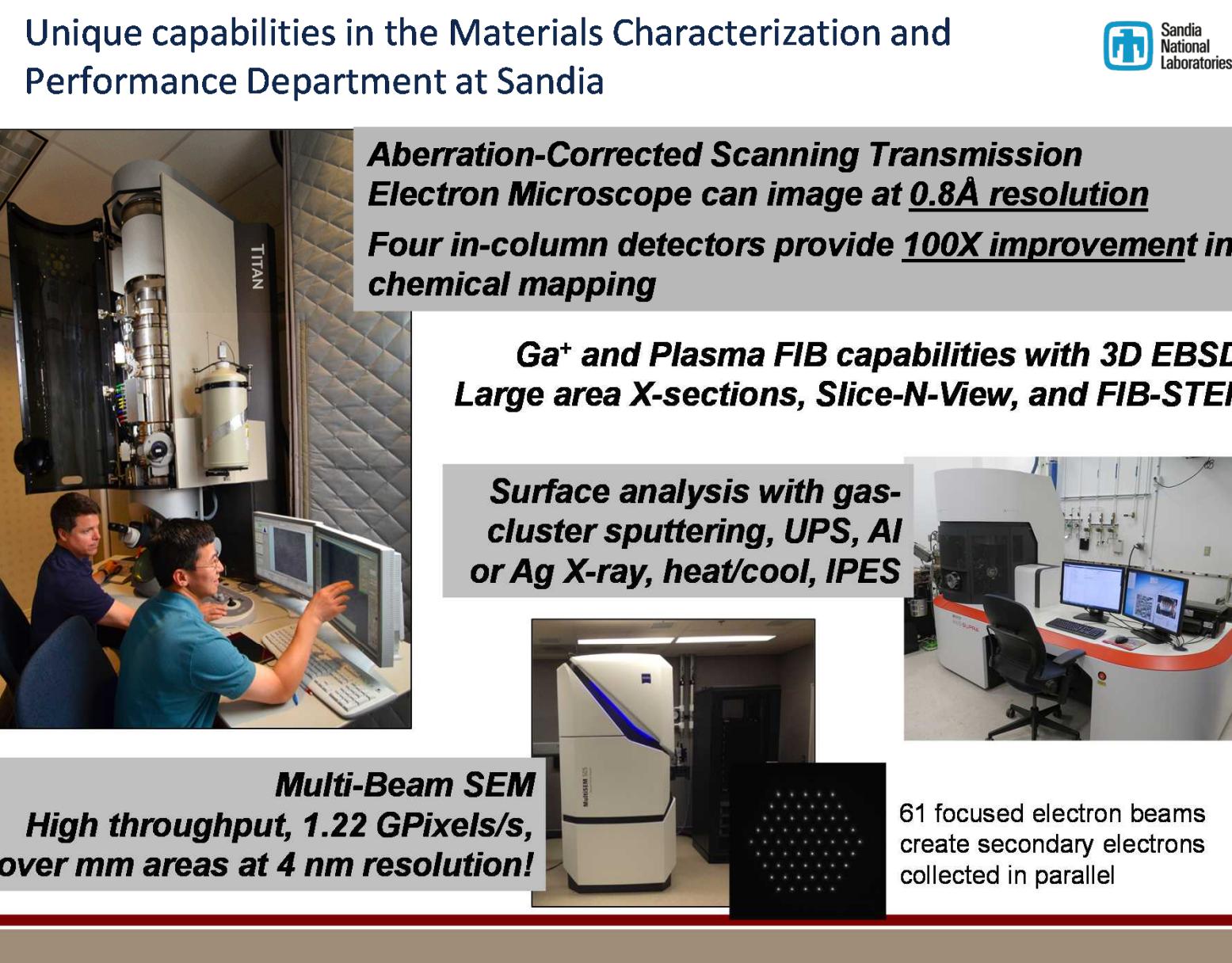
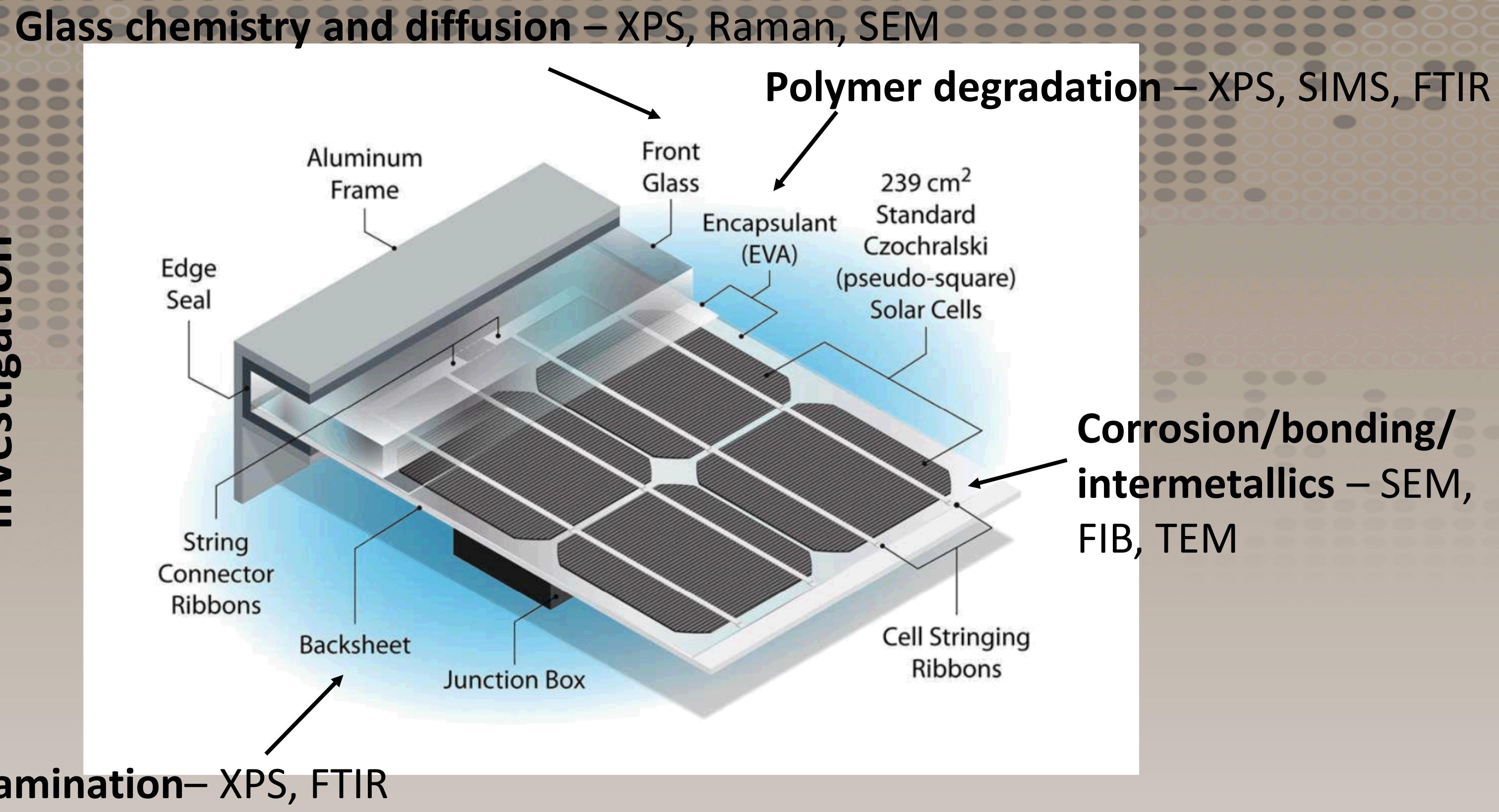


## A Partial Periodic Table of Characterization at SNL

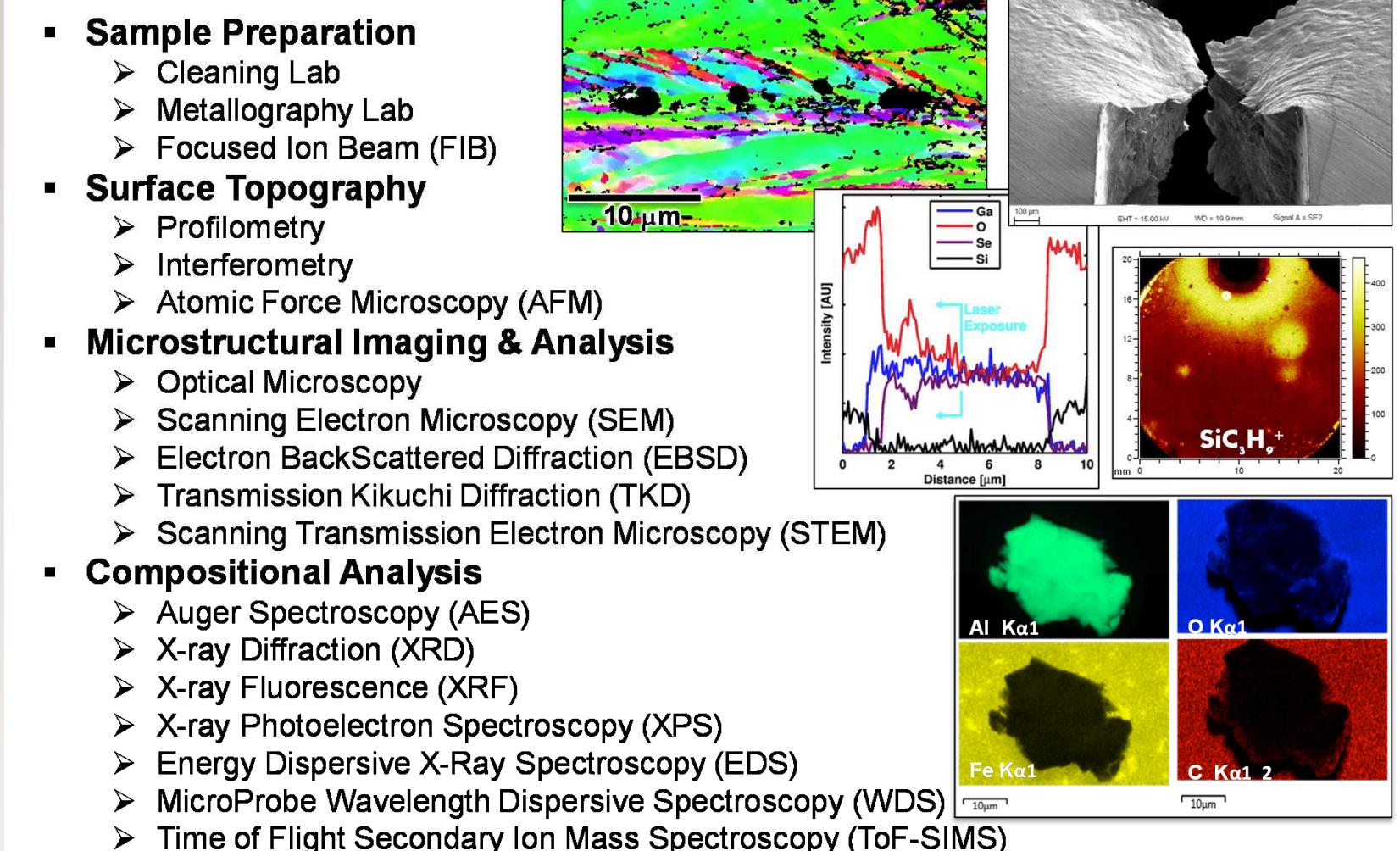
Technique	
information depth	
accuracy	
depth profiling	spectral imaging
detection limit	microscopy
analysis environment	
Name	
XPS	
1-6 nm ±10% 0.1 at.% in ultra high vacuum	50 μm
ToF-SIMS	
0.2-1 nm ±50% ppb	200 nm
AES	
1-5 nm ±30% 1 at.% ultra high vacuum	30 nm 50 nm
AFM	
1 nm N/A N/A air	1 nm
OP	
50 nm N/A N/A air	50 μm
SEM-EDS	
0.3-3 μm ±10% 1 at.% high vacuum	1 nm 500 nm
mSEM	
0.3-3 μm N/A N/A	1 nm
EBSD	
0.3-3 μm N/A high vacuum	w/ SEM w/ EDS
FT-IR	
0.5-2.0 μm ±10% 0.1 wt.% in air	high vacuum
Raman	
0.5-5.0 μm ±10% 1 wt.% in air	Raman Spectroscopy
FIB	
0.1-100 nm ±10% 1 at.% high vacuum	1 nm 10 nm w/ EDS
AC-STEM	
2-100 nm ±20% 0.5 at.% ultra high vacuum	0.8 Å 0.8 Å w/ EDS
TEM-EELS	
0.8-100 nm ±20% 0.5 at.% ultra high vacuum	1 nm
GD-AES	
no spatial resolution ±1% ppm vacuum	1 nm
ICP-OES	
no spatial resolution ±1% ppm digested samples	Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy
WDS	
0.3-3 μm ±10% 0.1 at.% high vacuum	1 nm 10 nm
XRD	
10 μm ±5% 1 at.% in air	X-ray Diffraction
XRR	
10 nm ±1% N/A	X-ray Reflectivity
XRF	
0.1-5.0 μm ±10% ppt in air or vacuum	X-ray Fluorescence
ICP-MS	
no spatial resolution ±1% ppb digested samples	Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry

The Materials Center at Sandia National Laboratories draws from extensive experience in assessing aging and reliability relevant to the nuclear weapons stockpile. This core capability spans expertise in accelerated aging and testing to manufacturing troubleshooting to root-cause failure analysis. In DuraMat, fundamental analysis with advanced characterization tools will be critical for developing new materials and for forensic investigations of degraded modules. At hand are comprehensive surface science facilities including photoemission spectroscopy, Auger, AFM, profilometry, and SIMS. Surface analysis allows for characterization of the entire periodic table at nanometer scale depth resolution. Several aging-specific capabilities have been developed that are directly applicable to the DuraMat mission, including *in situ* thermal treatments and depositions. Depth profiling can be performed to evaluate buried layers and interfaces revealing information on diffusion, corrosion, or potential-induced degradation. A newly installed XPS is uniquely equipped with a gas cluster ion source for depth profiling organic materials, potentially relevant to understanding delamination or polymer degradation. The instrument also has IPES and UPS for examining electronic state information, as well as several X-ray sources for interrogating different depths in the near surface. Ambient pressure XRF for examining large area modules, interconnects, and solder has also recently been installed. Electron microscopy capabilities include several SEMs, FIB-SEMs, and WDS microprobe. SNL has state-of-the-art AC-STEM (with 0.8 Å resolution) and multi-STEM (for large area (~cm) imaging at nanoscale resolution). Electron microscopy can be used to assess structural changes in module materials, at interfaces, and at grain boundaries. Extensive X-ray diffraction, Raman, IR, ICP, and other capabilities add to the comprehensive capabilities in the Materials program. A unique core competency at SNL is the co-location of numerous advanced instruments coupled with a breadth of materials characterization experience and a culture of awareness for aging-related reliability.

A few selected failure modes  
and possible routes towards  
investigation

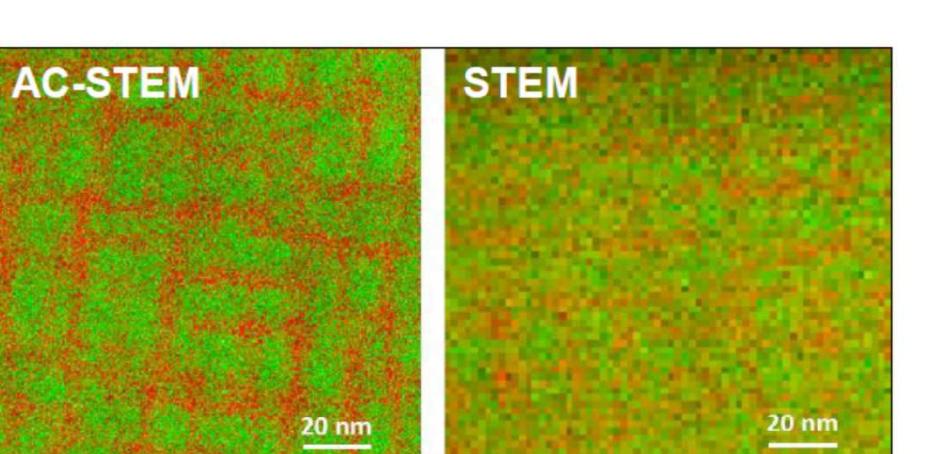
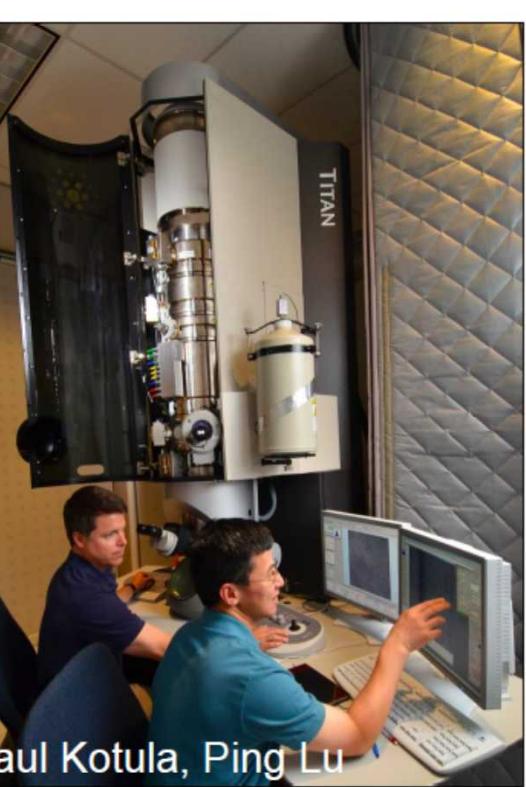


## Breadth of Techniques

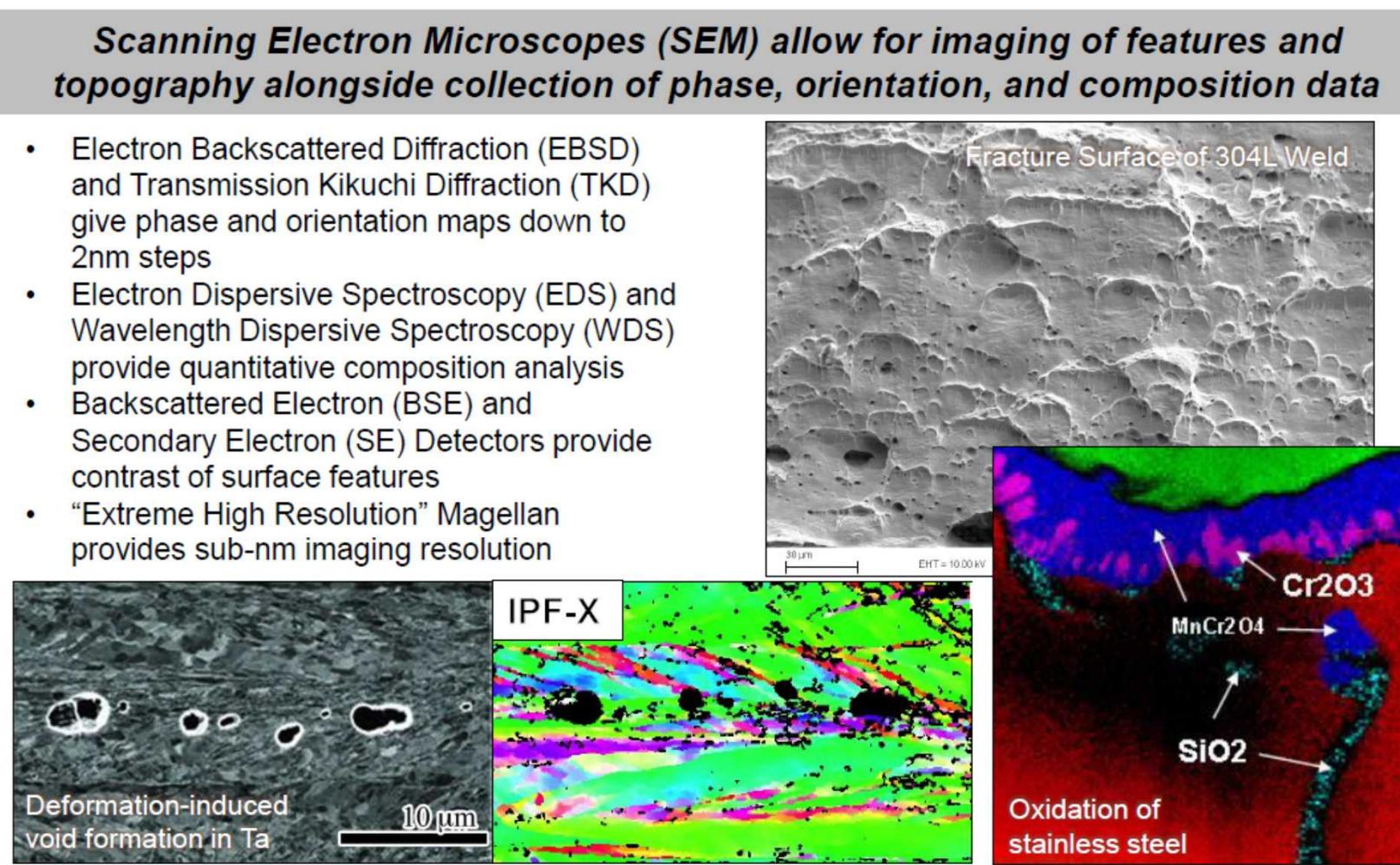


## AC-STEM

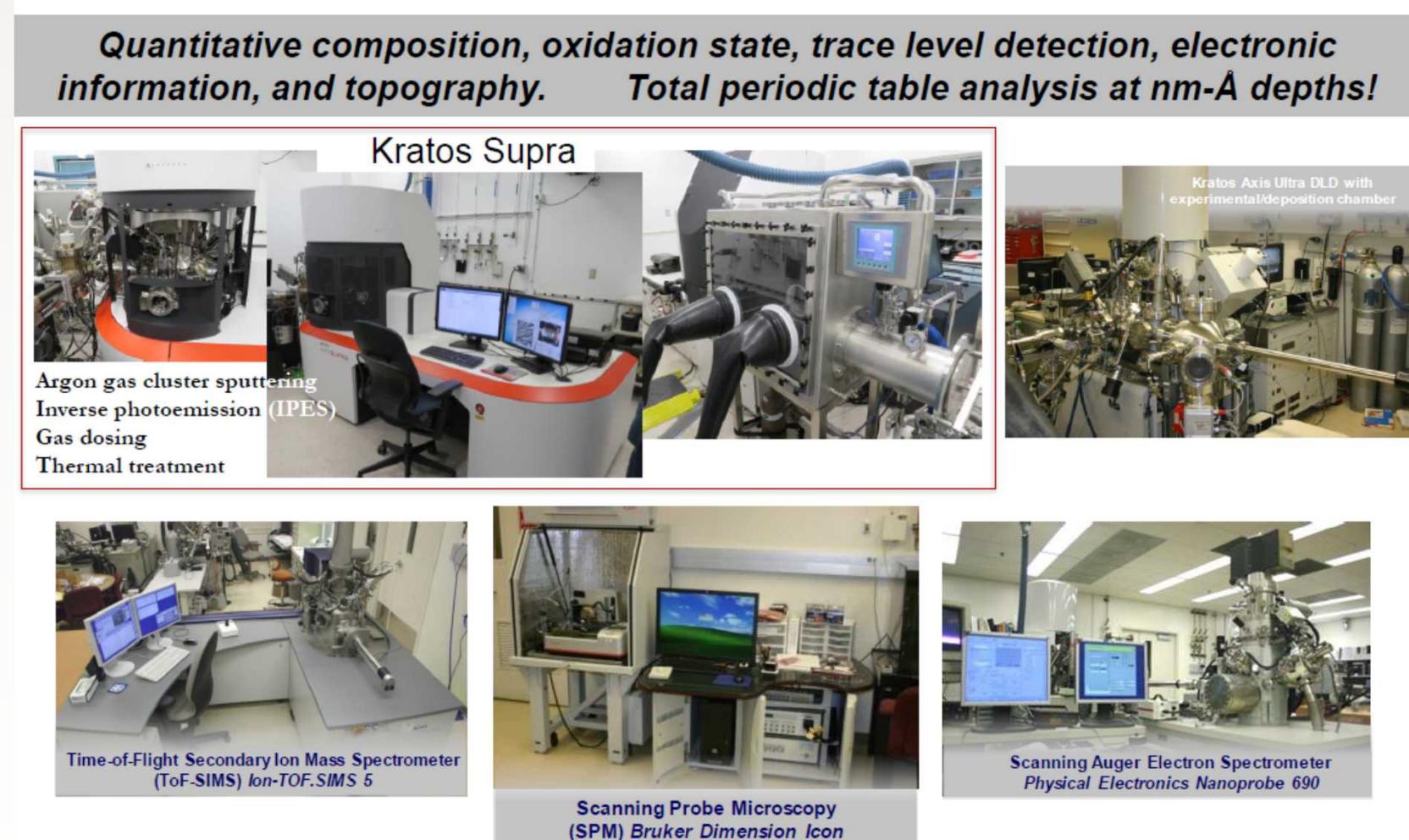
Our state-of-the-art, Aberration-Corrected Scanning Transmission Electron Microscope can image at **0.8 Å resolution!**  
Four in-column detectors provide **100X improvement** in chemical mapping



## Materials Analysis of Bulk Samples



## Surface Analysis Suite



## Large Area, High Res: mSEM

Multi-Beam SEM is designed for needle-in-a-hay-stack problems  
High throughput, 1.22 GPixel/s, over mm areas at 4 nm resolution!

