

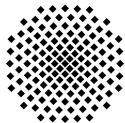
Structural analysis of nanostructures by electron microscopy

IHFG Seminar: Nanooptics and Nanophotonics

Nicolai Lang

University of Stuttgart

May 3, 2012

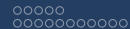


Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Controlling Electrons
- 3 Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- 4 Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)

Overview: Introduction

- 1** Introduction
 - Structural Analysis of Nanostructures
 - Electron Microscopy: SEM & TEM
- 2** Controlling Electrons
- 3** Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- 4** Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)



Analysing Microscopic Structures

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Optical microscopy ($\gtrsim 100$ nm)

- ▶ Bright/Dark field m.
- ▶ Phase contrast m.
- ▶ Fluorescence m.
- ▶ Confocal m.
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- ▶ Infrared m.
- ▶ Laser m.

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Why Electrons?

- ▶ Diffraction limited optical imaging:

$$d = \frac{0.61 \cdot \lambda}{n \cdot \sin \alpha} \approx \frac{\lambda}{2 \cdot \text{NA}} \geq \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

- ▶ Holds for any wave-based imaging technique
- ▶ New paradigm: Particle-wave duality

$$\lambda_e = \frac{h}{p_e} = \frac{h}{v \cdot m_e}$$

- ▶ TEM: $U_a \sim 50 \text{ keV} \Rightarrow \lambda_e \sim 0.005 \text{ nm}$
(cf. visible light: $\lambda \sim 500 \text{ nm}$)
- ▶ Theoretical/Practical improvement: 100,000/1,000
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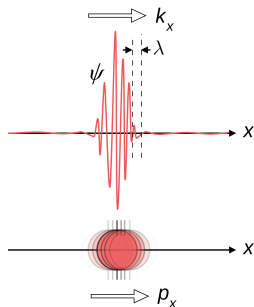
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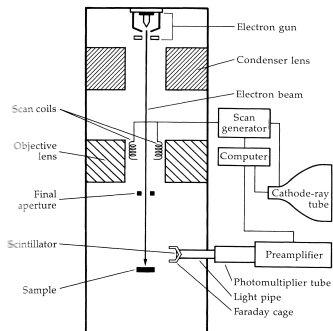
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Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Particle-wave_duality

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

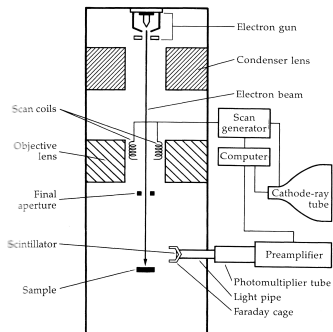
- ▶ **General use:** Analysis of surface morphology via interaction with beam of high-speed electrons
- ▶ **Sample:** No thin samples required; must be conductive
- ▶ **Best resolution:** 3 – 6 nm (→ Beam thickness)
- ▶ **Magnification range:** 20 – 150,000 ×
- ▶ **Depth of field:** 0.003 – 1 mm
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Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

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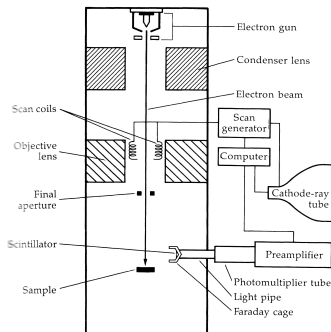
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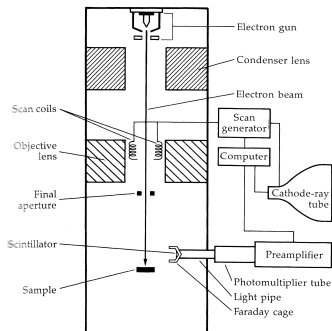
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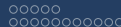
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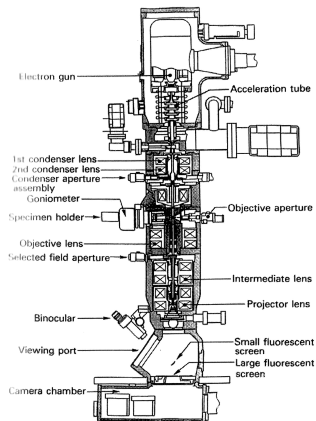


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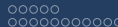


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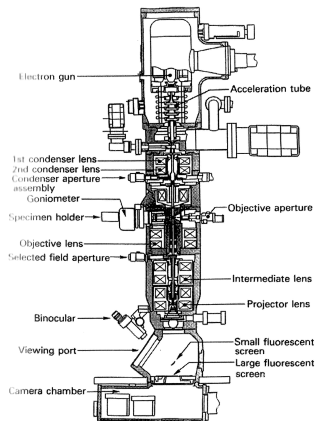


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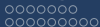


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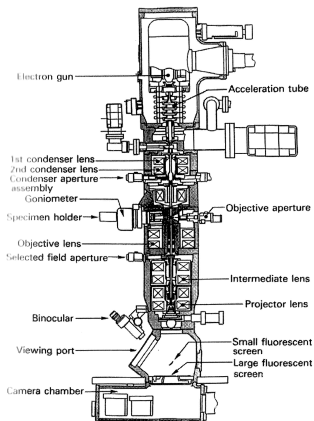


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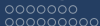


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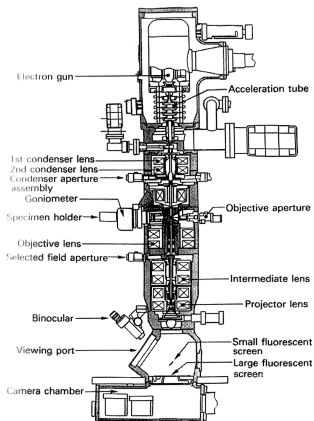


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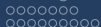


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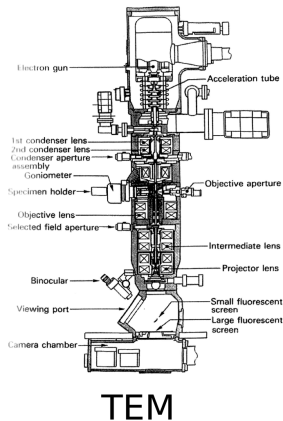
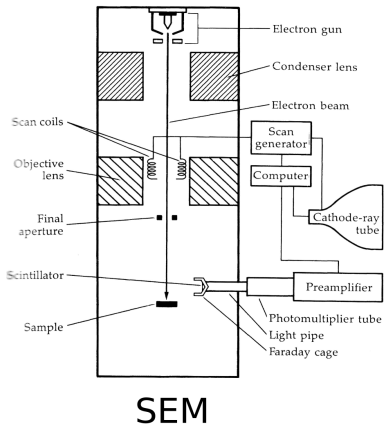
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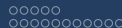


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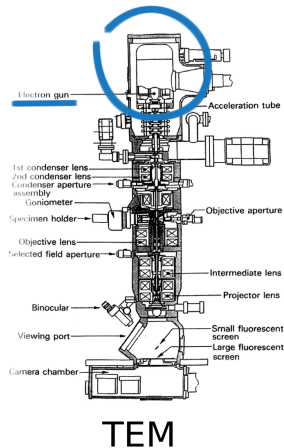
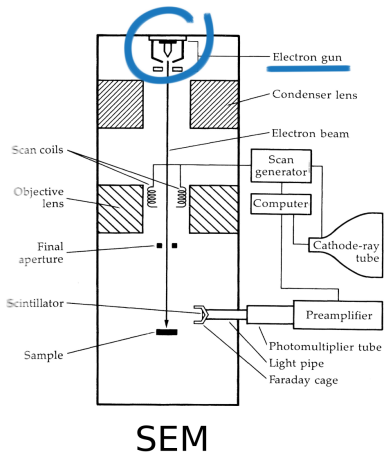
SEM & TEM : Technical similarities

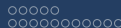
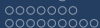




Electron Microscopy: SEM & TEM

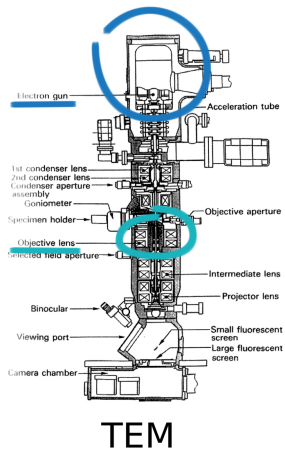
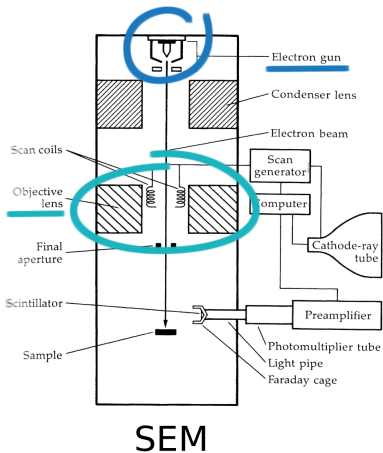
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Electron Microscopy: SEM & TEM

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Overview: Controlling Electrons

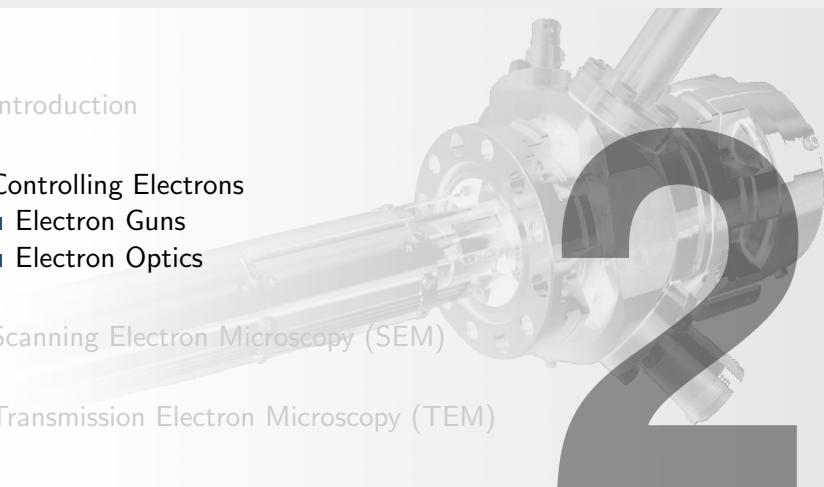
1 Introduction

2 Controlling Electrons

- Electron Guns
- Electron Optics

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Overview: Electron Guns

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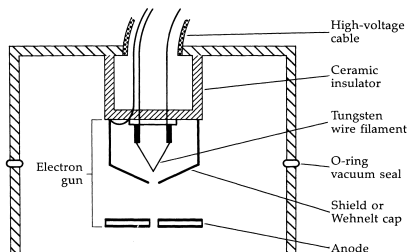
■ Electron Guns

- Thermionic Electron Gun : Tungsten-Hairpin design
- Field Emission Gun (FEG)

■ Electron Optics

Thermionic Electron Gun : Tungsten-Hairpin design

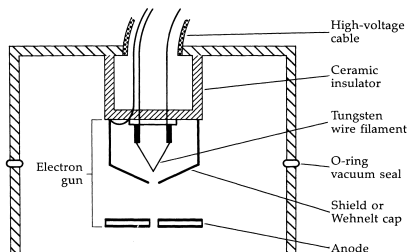
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Heated loop of tungsten
- ▶ **Emission mechanism:**
Thermionic emission
- ▶ **Usage:**
Most common design
- ▶ **Advantages:**
 - Relatively stable source of electrons
 - Inexpensive
 - No ultrahigh vacuum required



Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

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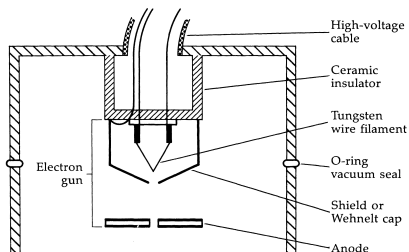
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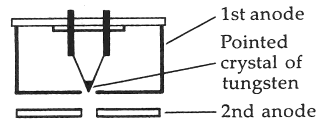
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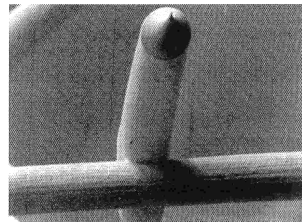
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Field Emission Gun (FEG)

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A

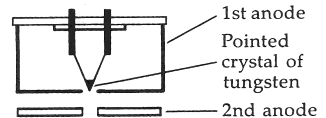


B

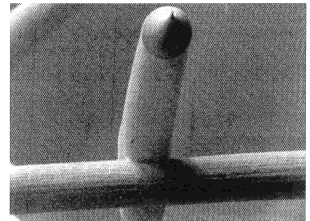
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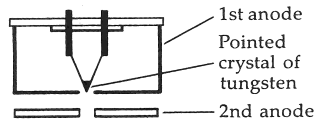
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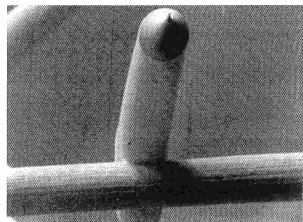
- Beam current up to 1000 ×
- Smaller area of emission
- Energy spread is about 1/10
- **Duration of life** 100 ×

► Disadvantages:

- Dedicated design
of microscope necessary
- Unstable intensity



A



B

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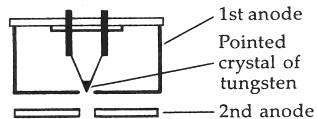
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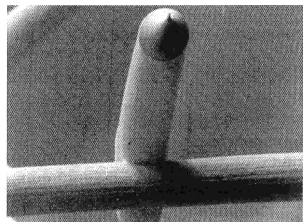
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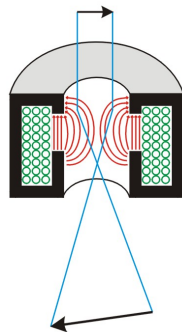
- Electron Guns
- **Electron Optics**
 - Magnetic Lenses
 - Aberrations

Magnetic Lenses: Main Principle

- ▶ Formerly: electrostatic lenses
Today: magnetic lenses
- ▶ Design (“pole-piece lens”):
 - Coil around hollow core
 - Covered with soft iron (“shroud”)
 - Narrow gap without covering
- ▶ Focusing due to the Lorentz force

$$\mathbf{F} = -e \cdot \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}$$

- ▶ Focal length depends on
 - Coil current
 - Radial distance (→ spherical a.)
 - Velocity (→ chromatic a.)



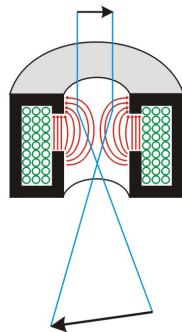
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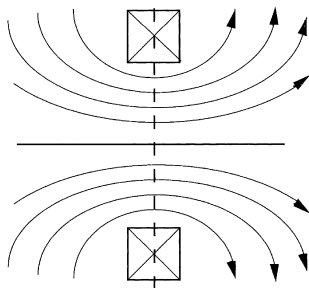
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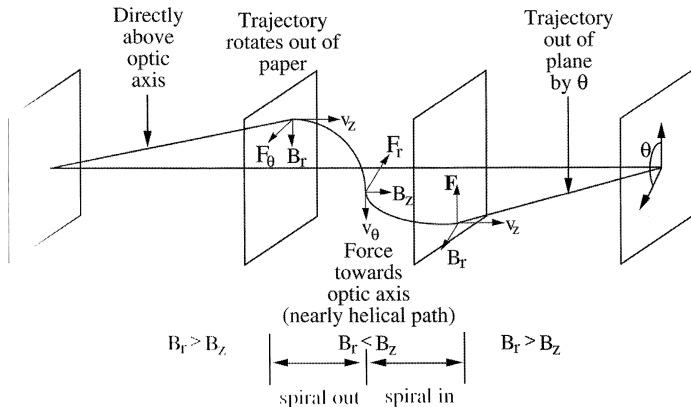
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Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Magnetic Lenses: Electron Trajectory



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Magnetic Lenses: Adjusting the Focus

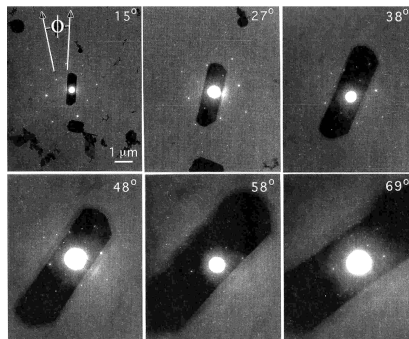
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i.e. the **B**-Field
- ▶ Helical path “shrinks” or “expands”
- ▶ θ varies \Rightarrow **Image rotates!**
- ▶ **Important for TEM:**
Comparability of images
and/or diffraction patterns

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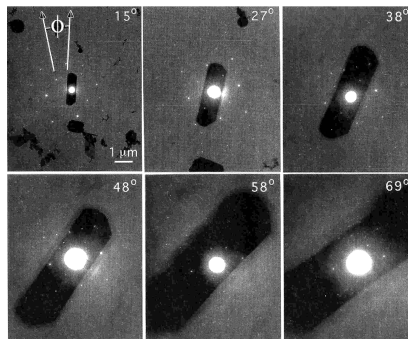
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- ▶ θ varies \Rightarrow **Image rotates!**
- ▶ Important for TEM:
Comparability of images and/or diffraction patterns



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Magnetic Lenses: Adjusting the Focus

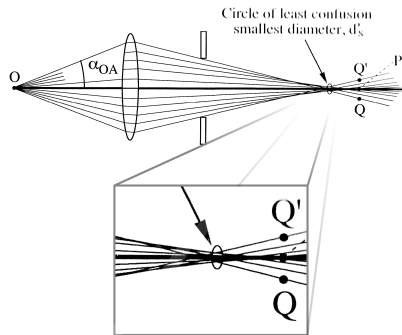
- ▶ Adjusting the focus / magnification:
variation of the coil current, i.e. the **B-Field**
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Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Aberrations

- ▶ **Lense aberrations: Limiting factor!**
(cf. theoretical vs. practical improvement: 100,000 ↔ 1,000)
- ▶ **Types:**
 - Spherical aberration
 - Chromatic aberration
 - Astigmatism
 - Diffraction
- ▶ **Astigmatism:**
Correctable by astigmatism
(→ multipole lenses)



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

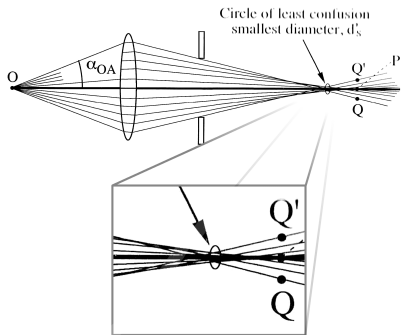
Aberrations

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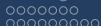
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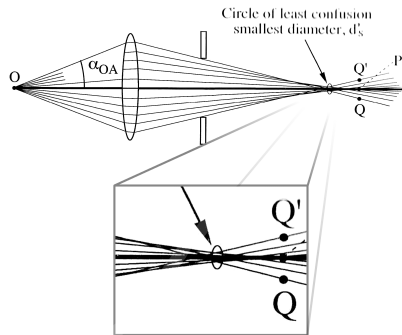


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Aberrations

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Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Overview: Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

1 Introduction

2 Controlling Electrons

3 Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

- Technical Issues
- Operation Modes and Contrast Mechanisms

4 Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)

3

Overview: Technical Issues

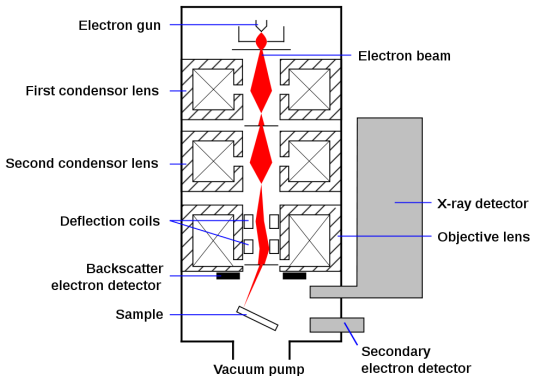
3 Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

■ Technical Issues

- Layout
- Detecting Electrons
- Detecting Photons
- Detecting X-Rays
- Sample Preparation

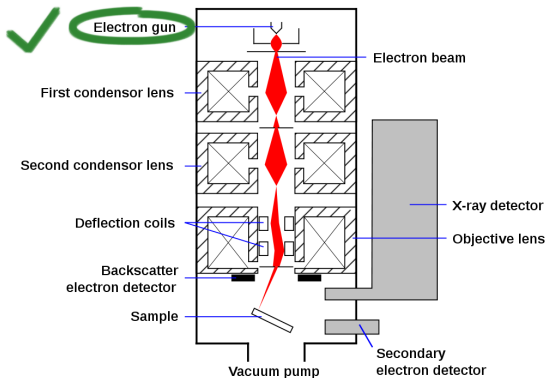
■ Operation Modes and Contrast Mechanisms

Layout



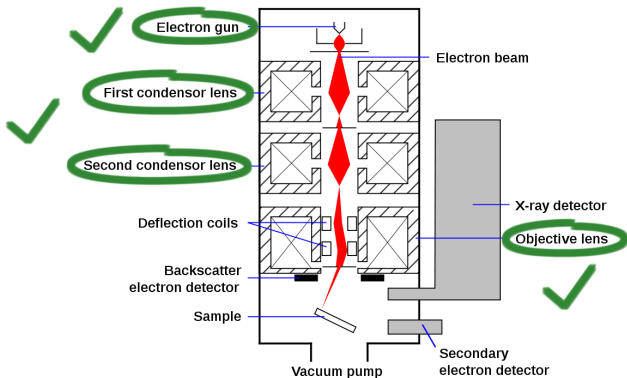
Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scanning_electron_microscopy

Layout



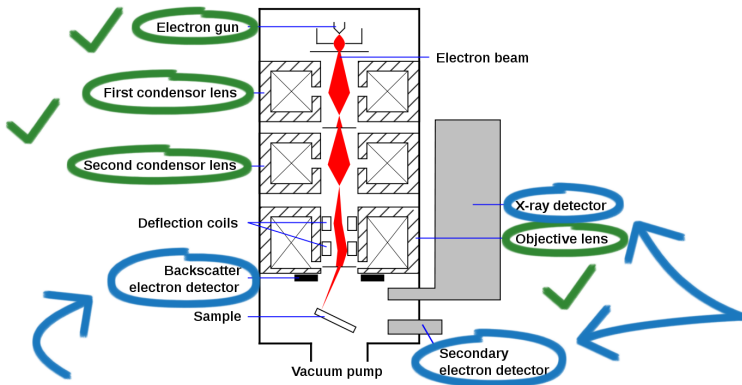
Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scanning_electron_microscopy

Layout



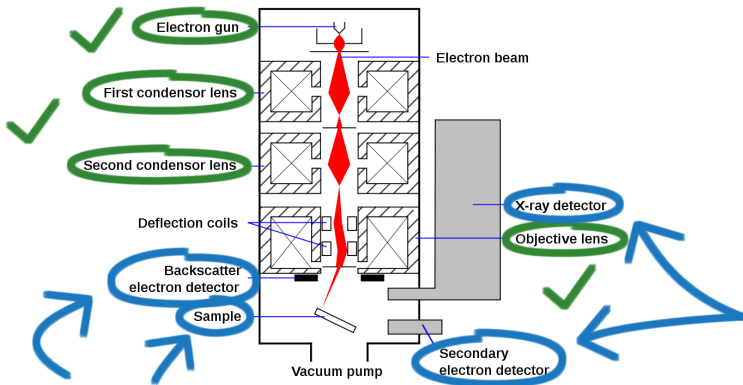
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Layout



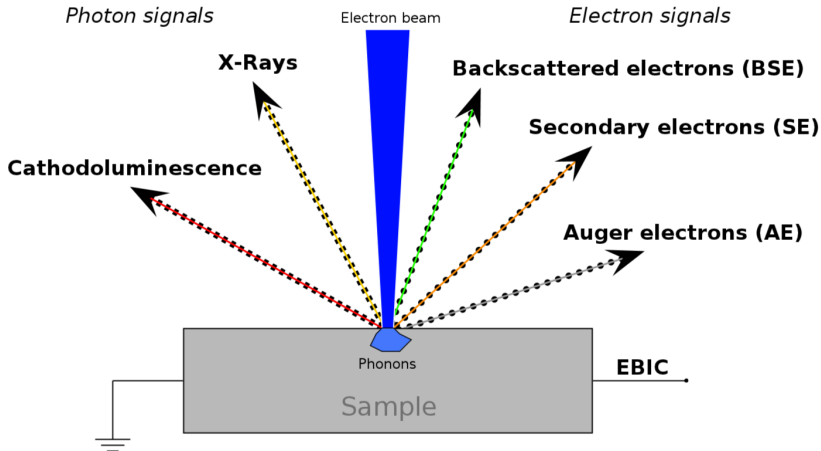
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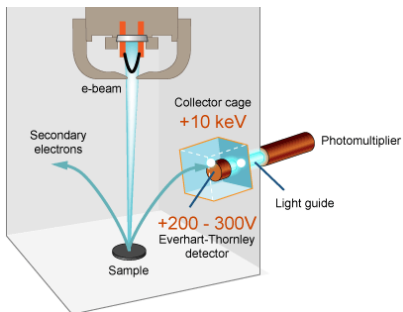
Available Signals



Detecting Electrons

Detecting Electrons

Secondary electron detector



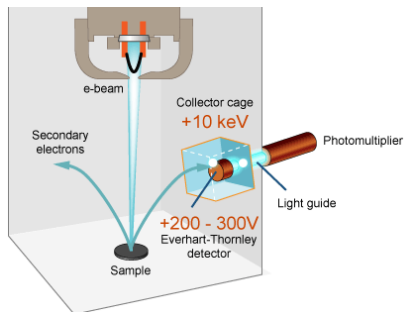
Source: <http://www.ammrf.org.au/myscope/sem/>

Typ. Energy: $\sim 2 - 50 \text{ eV}$

Setup: Everhart-Thornley Detector

Detecting Electrons

Secondary electron detector

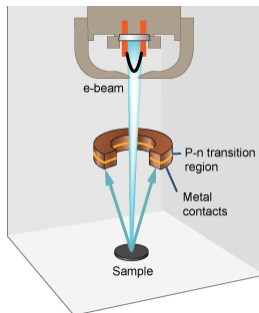


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Typ. Energy: $\sim 2 - 50$ eV

Setup: Everhart-Thornley Detector

Backscattered electron detector



Source: <http://www.ammrf.org.au/myscope/sem/>

Typ. Energy: ~ 20 keV

Setup: Solid state diode detector

Detecting Photons

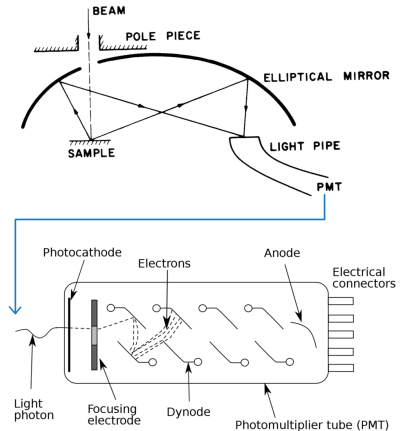
- ▶ **Problem:**
Small number
of emitted photons
- ▶ **Solution:**
Sample is placed at one focus
of an **elliptical mirror**
- ▶ **Setup:**
Light pipe carries photons
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- ▶ **Spectral analysis:**
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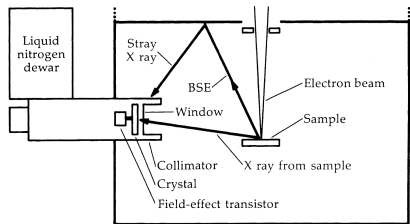


Source: [Newbury, 1986]

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photomultiplier>

Detecting X-Rays

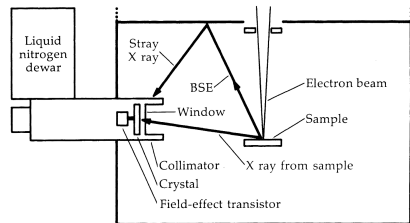
- ▶ Method: **EDS** ("EDX")
- ▶ Energy-Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS):
 - 1 Si(Li)-crystal absorbs X-rays
 - 2 Creation of electron-hole pairs (number proportional to energy)
 - 3 Extraction of charge by applied voltage
- ▶ Energy of X-rays measured
- ▶ Wide scan range:
Short measuring times for complete scan



Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

Detecting X-Rays

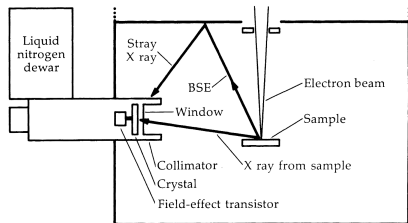
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Sample Preparation

- ▶ Whole samples can be imaged; no sectioning required (cf. TEM)
- ▶ Requirements: Samples must be ...
 - devoid of volatile materials (e.g. water).
 - firmly mounted (→ stubs).
 - electrically conductive.
- ▶ Biological samples: extensive preparation (fixation, coating, mounting)
- ▶ Plastic/Ceramics: less extensive preparation (coating, mounting)
- ▶ Metals/Semiconductors: **simple preparation** (mounting)



Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scanning_electron_microscope

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Overview: Operation Modes and Contrast Mechanisms

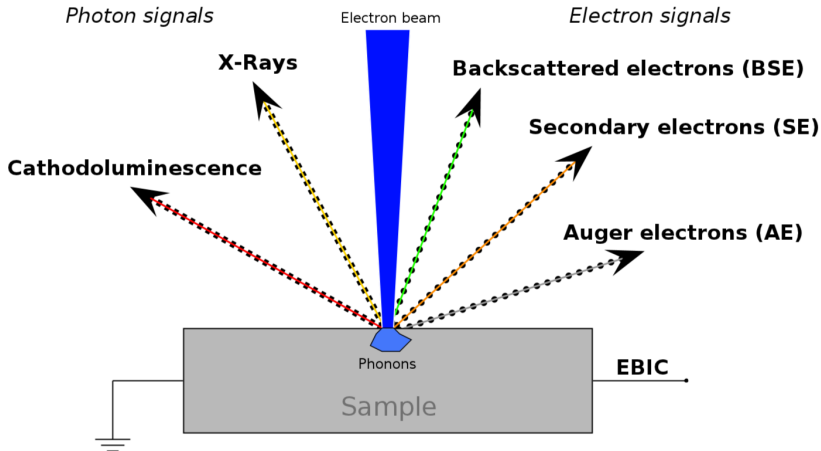
3 Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

■ Technical Issues

■ Operation Modes and Contrast Mechanisms

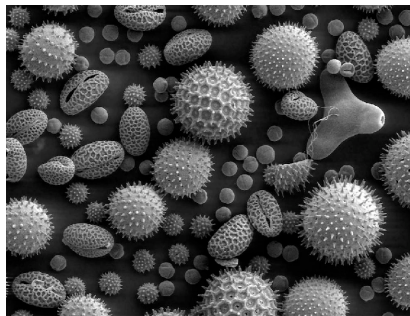
- Secondary Electrons (SE)
- Backscattered Electrons (BSE)
- Electron Beam Induced Current (EBIC)
- Cathodoluminescence (CL)
- X-Ray Fluorescence (EDX)

Various Information Channels



Secondary Electrons (SE)

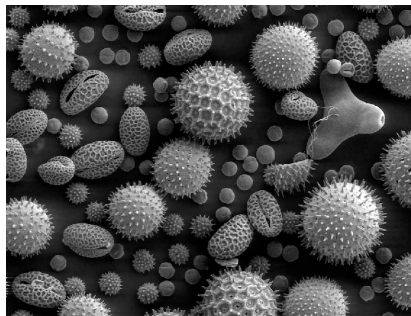
- ▶ **Signal:** Secondary electrons (→ Everhart-Thornley det.)
- ▶ **Usage:** Standard SEM image
- ▶ **Contrast mechanisms:**
 - Surface tilt contrast
 - Shadowing contrast
 - Edge contrast
 - Voltage contrast
- ▶ **Results:** Topography of the sample
- ▶ **Resolution:** $\gtrsim 0.5$ nm (highest SEM resolution)



Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scanning_electron_microscopy

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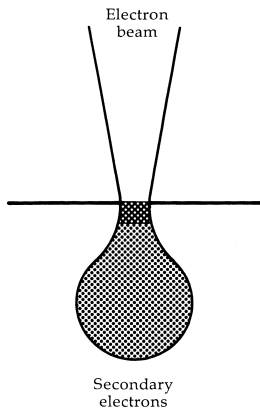
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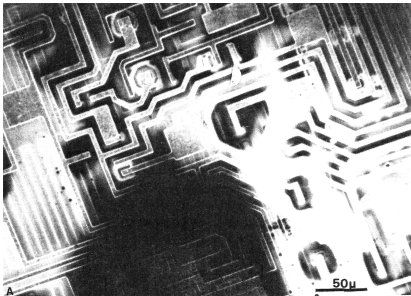
Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

Secondary Electrons (SE): Voltage Contrast

Secondary electron image of a chip ...

Secondary Electrons (SE): Voltage Contrast

Secondary electron image of a chip ...

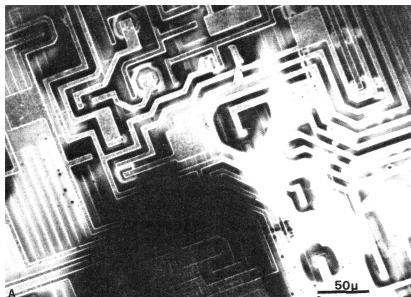


Source: [Newbury, 1986]

... without potentials.

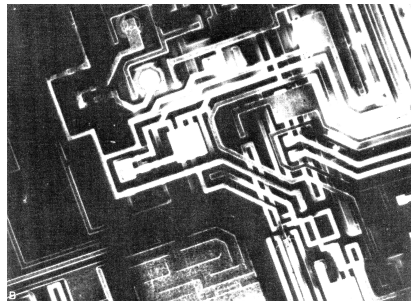
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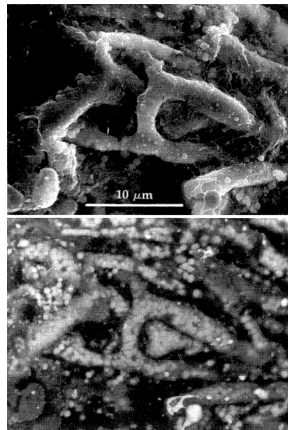


Source: [Newbury, 1986]

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Backscattered Electrons (BSE)

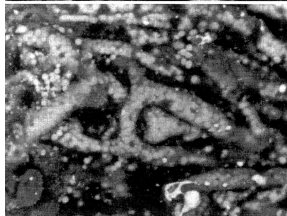
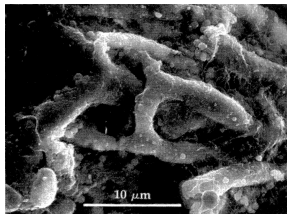
- ▶ **Signal:** Backscattered electrons
(→ Solid state diode det.)
- ▶ **Usage:**
Widely-used imaging technique
- ▶ **Contrast mechanisms:**
 - **Material contrast**
(Z-contrast)
 - (*Surface tilt contrast*)
 - (*Shadowing contrast*)
 - (*Voltage contrast*)
- ▶ **Results:**
Spatial distribution of the average atomic number Z
- ▶ **Resolution:** $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$
(depends on U_a)



Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

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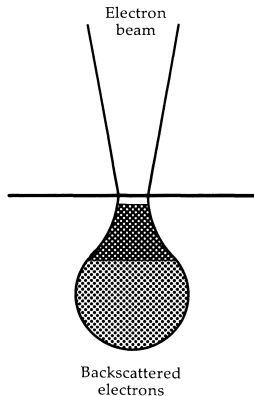
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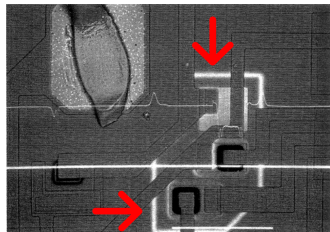
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Electron Beam Induced Current (EBIC)

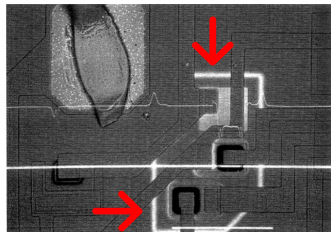
- ▶ **Signal:** Electric current through sample
(→ Picoammeter)
- ▶ **Usage:** Study of semiconductors
- ▶ **Contrast mechanism:**
 - **Depletion**
(→ p-n junctions appear bright)
 - Minority carrier diffusion length L
- ▶ **Results:**
Location of depletion regions
(p-n junctions)
- ▶ **Resolution:** $\lesssim 1 \mu\text{m}$
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Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

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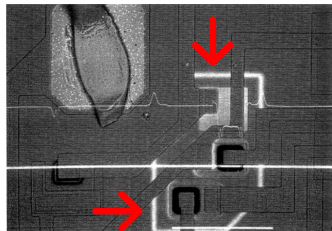
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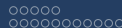
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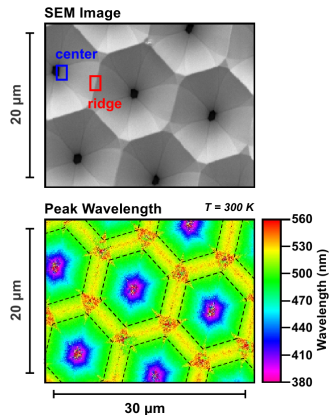


Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]



Cathodoluminescence (CL)

- ▶ **Signal:** Light photons
(→ elliptical mirror & PMT)
- ▶ **Usage:** Study composition/growth of semiconductors, minerals and ceramics
- ▶ **Contrast mechanism:**
 - Recombination rate
 - Photon energy
- ⇒ **Depends on material**
- ▶ **Results:** Image of **heterogeneities**/defects; laterally resolved **band gap** measurements
- ▶ **Resolution:** $\gtrsim 1$ nm

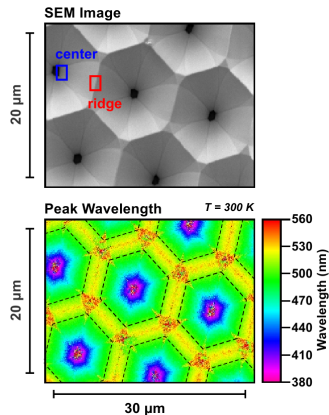


Source: [Metzner, 200X]

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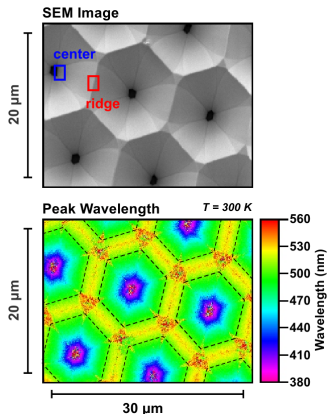


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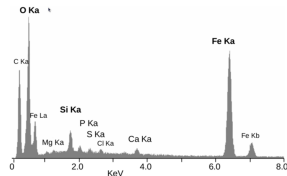
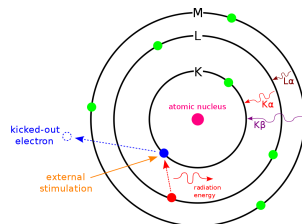


Source: [Metzner, 200X]

X-Ray Fluorescence (EDX)

- ▶ **Signal:** X-ray photons (→ EDS)
- ▶ **Usage:** Wide range of applications; Study local composition of samples
- ▶ **Contrast mechanism:**
 - Emission rate
 - Photon energy

⇒ **Depends on material**
- ▶ **Results:** Spatial distribution of elements (→ dot map)
- ▶ **Resolution:** $\sim 5 - 30 \mu\text{m}$ (depends on material)

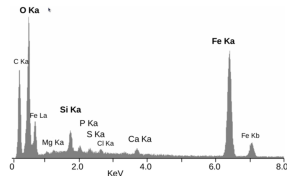
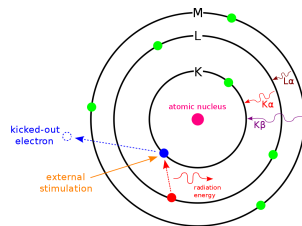


Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Energy-dispersive_X-ray_spectroscopy

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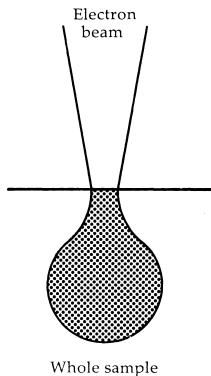
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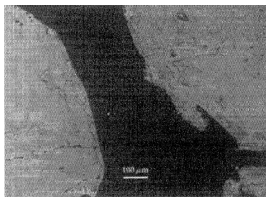
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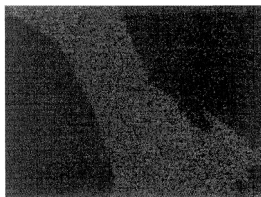
Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

X-Ray Fluorescence (EDX): Example

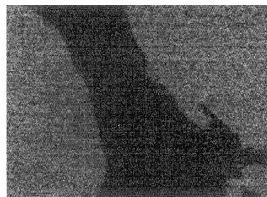
BSEI (left) and X-ray dot maps of Si (middle) and Cr (right).



BSE Image



X-ray dot map (Si)

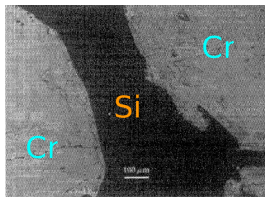


X-ray dot map (Cr)

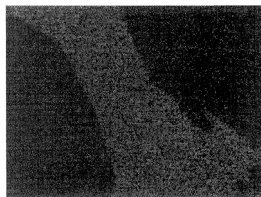
Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

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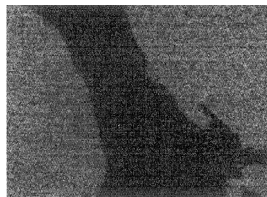
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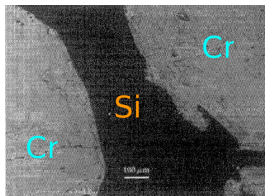


X-ray dot map (Cr)

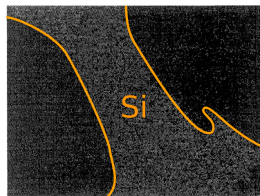
Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

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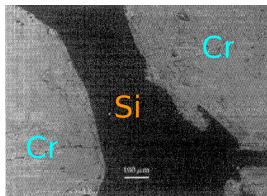


X-ray dot map (Cr)

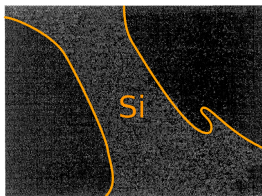
Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

X-Ray Fluorescence (EDX): Example

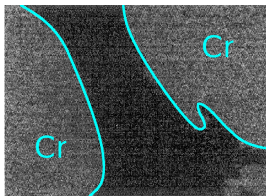
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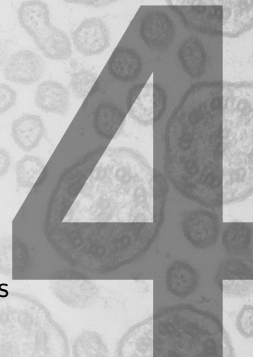


X-ray dot map (Cr)

Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

Overview: Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)

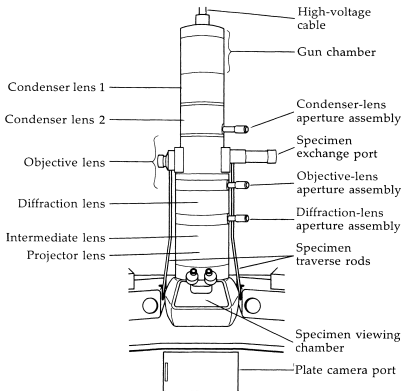
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Controlling Electrons
- 3 Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- 4 Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)**
 - Technical Issues
 - Operation Modes and Contrast Mechanisms



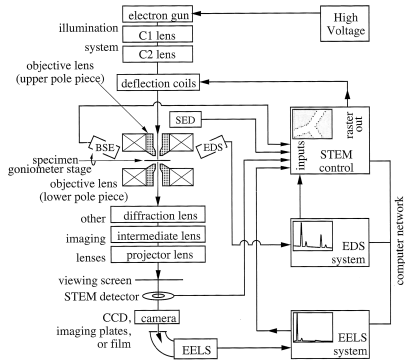
Overview: Technical Issues

- 4 Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)
 - Technical Issues
 - Layout
 - Electron-Specimen Interaction
 - Sample Preparation
 - Operation Modes and Contrast Mechanisms

Layout



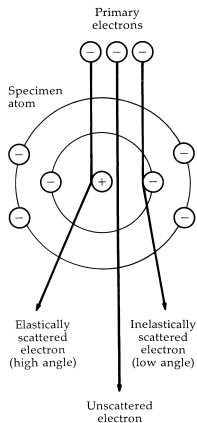
Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Electron-Specimen Interaction

- ▶ Possible interactions:
 - Absorption
 - Elastic scattering
 - Inelastic scattering
 - Diffraction
- ▶ **Absorption**: does not contribute significantly to image contrast (cf. optical microscopy)
- ▶ **Elastic scattering**: due to **interactions with nuclei** (⇒ large deviation, little energy loss)
- ▶ **Inelastic scattering**: due to **interactions with electrons** of the specimen (⇒ slight deviation, significant energy loss)



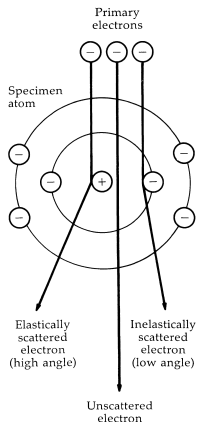
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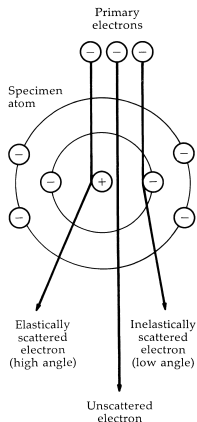
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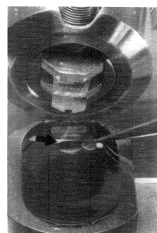
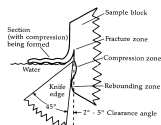
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Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

Sample Preparation

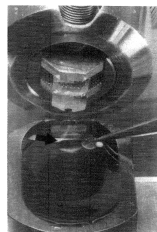
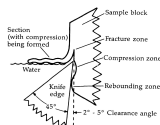
- ▶ Only thin ($\lesssim 100 \text{ nm}$) samples can be imaged; often sectioning required (cf. SEM)
- ▶ Preparation is often an intricate procedure. Depends on ...
 - material (organic samples, semiconductors, ...)
 - and imaging technique/contrast mechanism.
- ▶ Preparation techniques:
 - Fixation/Dehydration
 - Staining (heavy metals)
 - Ultrathin sectioning (\rightarrow Microtome)
 - **Mechanical milling** ("Polishing")
 - **Chemical etching**
 - **Ion etching**



Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

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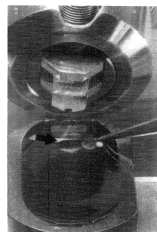
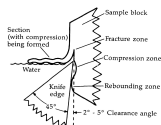
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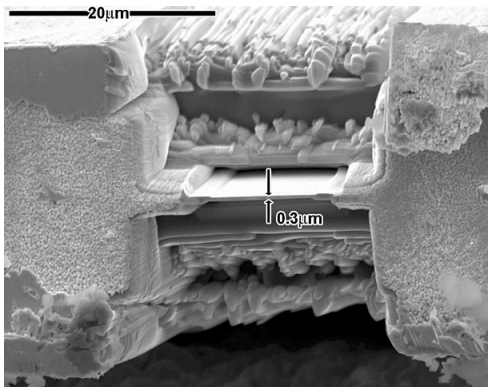
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Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

Sample Preparation: Example

Prepared TEM sample, milled by a focused ion beam.



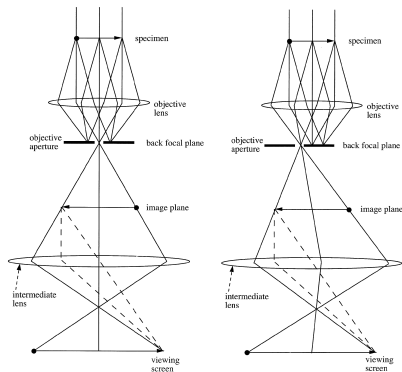
Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transmission_electron_microscopy

Overview: Operation Modes and Contrast Mechanisms

- 4 Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)
 - Technical Issues
 - Operation Modes and Contrast Mechanisms
 - Bright-Field (BF) & Dark-Field (DF) Imaging
 - Selected Area Diffraction (SAD)
 - High-Resolution Imaging (HRTEM)
 - High-Angle Annular Dark-Field (HAADF)

Bright-Field (BF) & Dark-Field (DF) Imaging

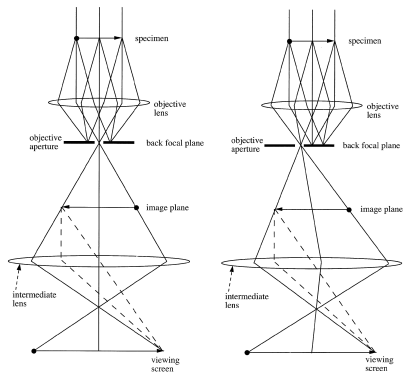
- ▶ Conventional imaging modes of TEM
- ▶ Setup: Intermediate lens focused on the **image plane** of the objective lens.
- ▶ Without objective aperture: little contrast (→ Mass-thickness contrast)
- ▶ With objective aperture in **back focal plane**: Only electrons diffracted by a specific angle contribute to the image.
- ▶ *k*-space truncation
⇒ **No atomic resolution possible**



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Bright-Field (BF) & Dark-Field (DF) Imaging

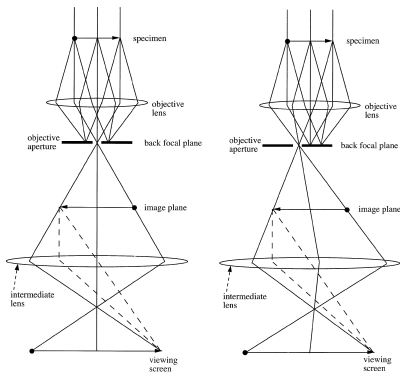
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Bright-Field (BF) & Dark-Field (DF) Imaging

► Bright-field image:

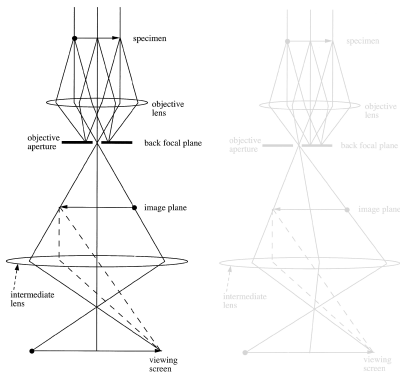
Transmitted electrons pass.

- Mass-thickness contrast
(\Rightarrow areas with heavy atoms/
thick regions: dark)
- Diffraction contrast
(\Rightarrow crystalline areas : dark)
- Areas without sample \Rightarrow **bright**

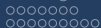
► Dark-field image:

Diffracted electrons pass.

- Diffraction contrast
(sensitive for lattice defects)
- Areas without sample \Rightarrow **dark**



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]



Bright-Field (BF) & Dark-Field (DF) Imaging

► Bright-field image:

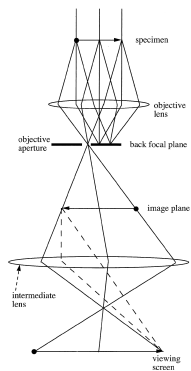
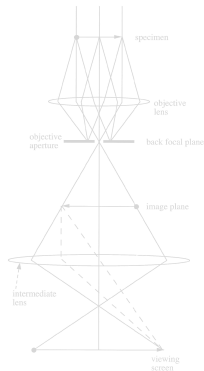
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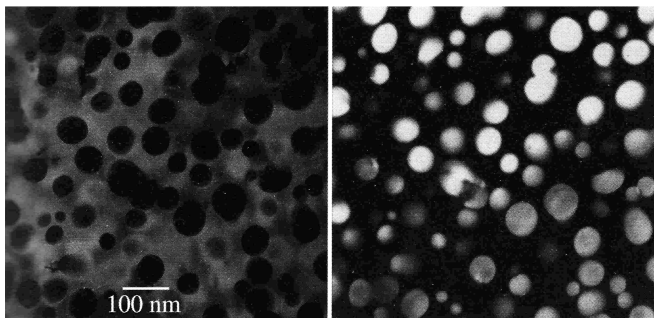
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Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Bright-Field (BF) & Dark-Field (DF) Imaging: Example

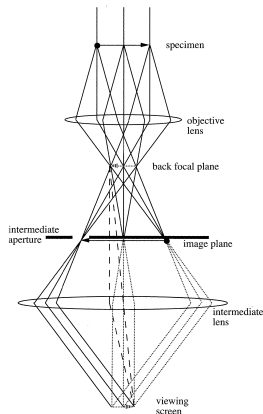
BF (left) versus DF (right) images of an Al-Li alloy.



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Selected Area Diffraction (SAD)

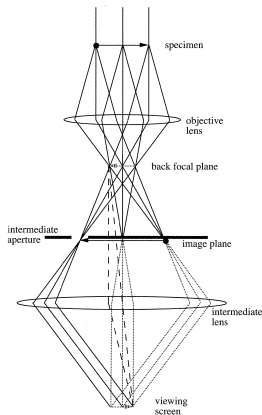
- ▶ Conventional imaging mode of TEM
- ▶ Setup: Intermediate lens focused on the **back focal plane** of the objective lens.
- ▶ Without intermediate aperture: Diffraction pattern of whole sample
- ▶ With intermediate aperture in **image plane**: Only electrons from the selected region contribute to the diffraction pattern (→ SAD).
- ▶ Usage: Analysis of **polycrystalline** specimens / lattice defects; preparation for DF imaging



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Selected Area Diffraction (SAD)

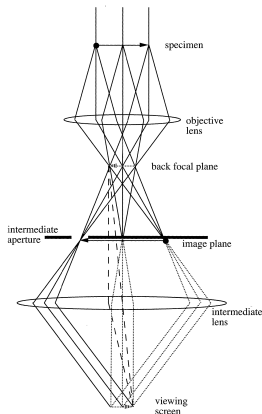
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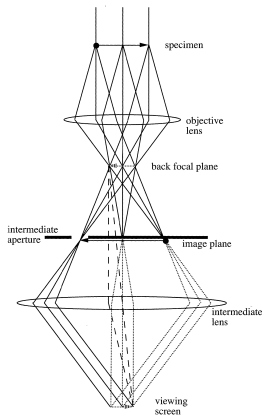
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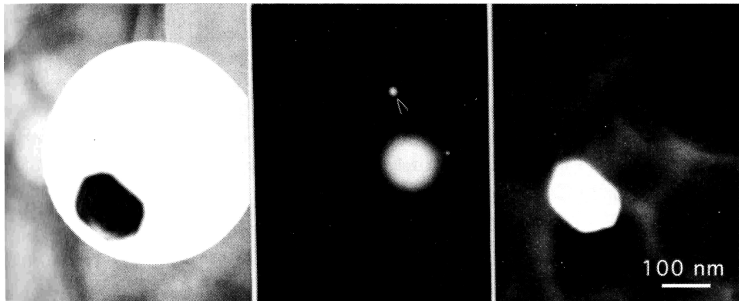
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Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Selected Area Diffraction (SAD): Example

BF image of Al_{12}Mn with SAD aperture (left), **SAD** image (middle) and **DF** image of the marked diffraction spot (right).



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

High-Resolution Imaging (HRTEM)

- ▶ Highest TEM resolution: $\gtrsim 0.05$ nm
- ▶ Setup: Intermediate lens focused on the **image plane** of the objective lens.
- ▶ Objective aperture in **image plane**: Large (\Rightarrow transmitted and diffracted beam included)
- ▶ Phase contrast: **Interference** of transmitted and diffracted electrons
- ▶ Interpretation: Intricate. **Simulation** of specimen and microscope required.
- ▶ Usage: Analysis of crystallographic structures/defects and interfaces

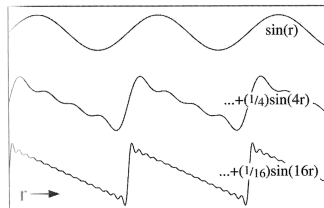


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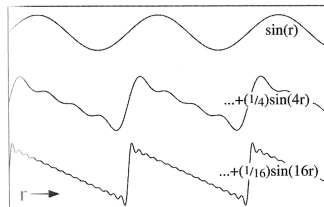


Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]



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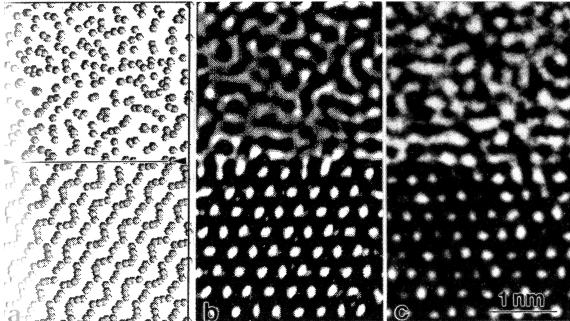
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Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

High-Resolution Imaging (HRTEM): Example

Interface of crystalline Pd_3Si and amorphous $\text{Pd}_{80}\text{Si}_{20}$
(Left: atomic **model**, Middle: **simulation**, Right: **HRTEM image**).



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

High-Resolution Imaging (HRTEM): DALI

DALI = Digital Analysis of Lattice Images

- ▶ Digital analysis of HRTEM images:
 - 1 Detection of lattice sites
 - 2 Calculation of reference lattice
 - 3 Calculation of displacements
- ▶ Result: Vector field of lattice deformation
- ▶ Vegard's law \Rightarrow Concentration map
- ▶ Application: Analysis of quantum dots/wells (cross-section)

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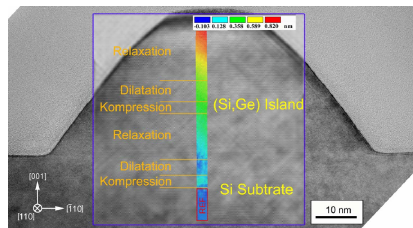
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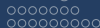
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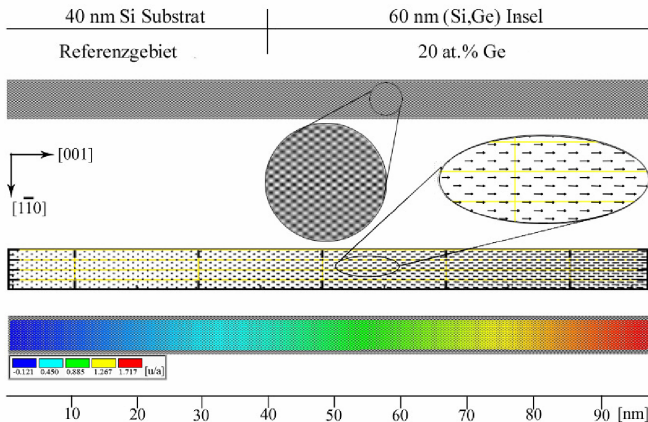
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Source: http://crysta.physik.hu-berlin.de/~ines/freiburg_2006_dgk/haeusler_vortrag_dgk_2006_freiburg.pdf



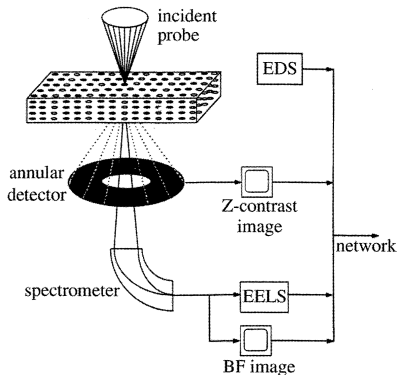
High-Resolution Imaging (HRTEM): DALI - Example



Source: http://crysta.physik.hu-berlin.de/~ines/freiburg_2006_dgk/haeusler_vortrag_dgk_2006_freiburg.pdf

High-Angle Annular Dark-Field (HAADF)

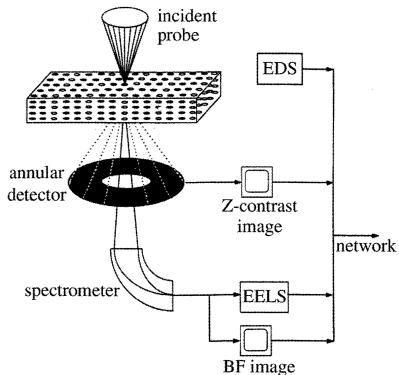
- ▶ High resolution imaging: ~ 0.1 nm
- ▶ Setup: **STEM** with annular detector
- ▶ Signal: high-angle ($\sim 6^\circ$) **incoherent** elastically scattered electrons (cf. HRTEM)
- ▶ Z-contrast: Scattering depends strongly on atomic number Z .
- ▶ Image: Atomic-resolution compositional map
- ▶ Allows parallel **EELS** measurement.



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

High-Angle Annular Dark-Field (HAADF)

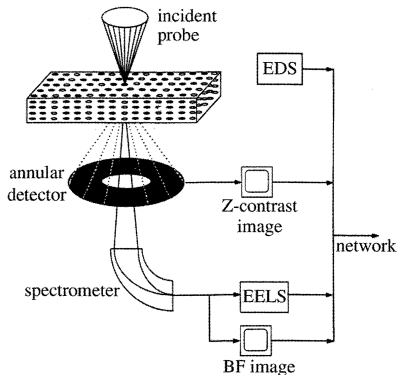
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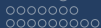
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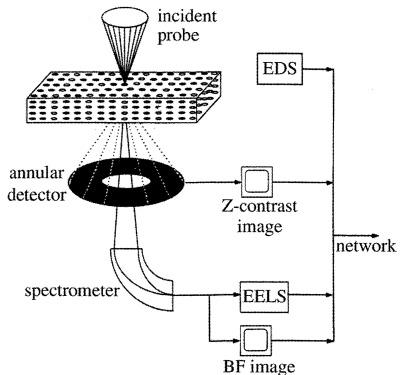


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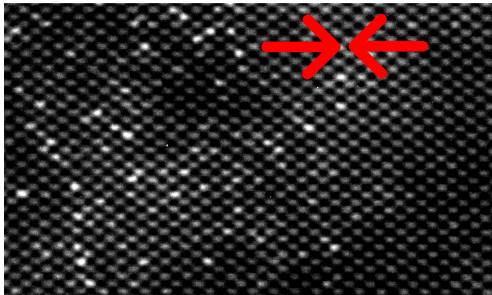
- ▶ **High resolution imaging:** ~ 0.1 nm
- ▶ **Setup:** **STEM** with annular detector
- ▶ **Signal:** high-angle ($\sim 6^\circ$) **incoherent** elastically scattered electrons (cf. HRTEM)
- ▶ **Z-contrast:** Scattering depends strongly on atomic number Z .
- ▶ **Image:** Atomic-resolution compositional map
- ▶ Allows parallel **EELS** measurement.



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

High-Angle Annular Dark-Field (HAADF): Example

HAADF image of an interface between Sb-doped Si (left) and undoped Si (right).



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

That's it! Therefore ...

Thank you for your attention.



Source: <http://www.zeiss.com/smt>

References & Bibliography

- [Flegler et al., 1993] Flegler, S., Heckman, J., and Klomparens, K. (1993).
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- [Fultz and Howe, 2002] Fultz, B. and Howe, J. (2002).
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- [Newbury, 1986] Newbury, D. (1986).
Advanced scanning electron microscopy and x-ray microanalysis.
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- [Reimer and Pfefferkorn, 1977] Reimer, L. and Pfefferkorn, G. (1977).
Raster-Elektronenmikroskopie.
Springer-Verlag.

Side Note: Lab-Six Gun

- ▶ **Electron source:**
Heated LaB_6 -crystal on tungsten wire
- ▶ **Emission mechanism:**
Thermionic emission
- ▶ **Usage:**
Second most common design



Source: http://www.snaggledworks.com/em_for_dummies/gun.html

Side Note: Lab-Six Gun

► Advantages:

- Beam current up to $10 \times$ that of a tungsten gun
- Smaller area of emission
- Energy spread is about $1/2$
- Duration of life $10 \times$

► Disadvantages:

- Better vacuum required
- Finding saturation is more difficult
- Much more expensive



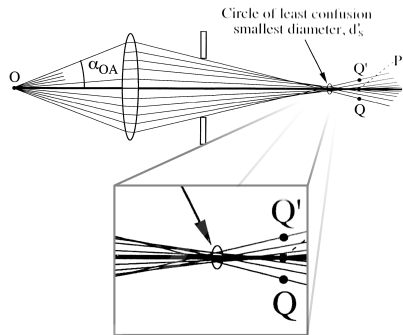
Source: http://www.snaggledworks.com/em_for_dummies/gun.html

Side Note: Spherical Aberration

- ▶ **Effect:** Changes focus of off-axis rays.
⇒ Rays furthest from the optic axis are focused most strongly.
- ▶ **Quantitative description:**

$$d_s = 0.5 \cdot C_s (U_a, f) \cdot \alpha_{OA}^3$$

- ▶ **Counteractions:**
Complete elimination impossible.
 - Reducing the focal length f ,
 - the aperture α_{OA}
 - and the accelerating voltage U_a .
- ▶ **Relevance:** Major factor; limits the practical resolution.



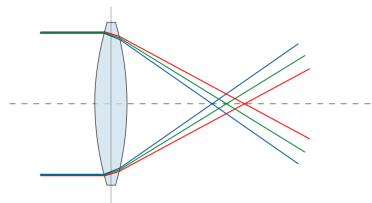
Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Side Note: Chromatic Aberration

- ▶ **Effect:** The focal length depends on the electron velocity/energy.
 $\Rightarrow E_1 > E_2$ implies $f_1 > f_2$.
- ▶ **Quantitative description:**

$$d_c = \Delta E/E \cdot C_c(f) \cdot \alpha_{OA}$$

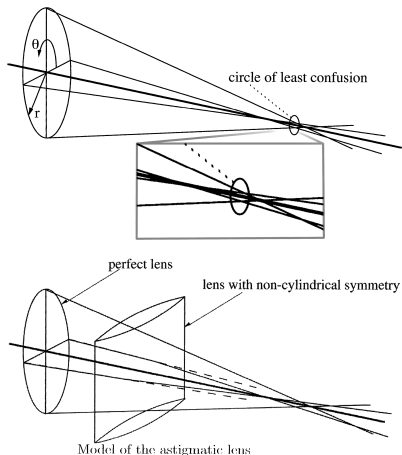
- ▶ **Counteractions:**
 - Reduction of the energy spread $\Delta E/E$ (high-quality electron guns, **thin samples**),
 - the aperture α_{OA}
 - and the focal length f .
- ▶ **Relevance:** Relevant factor; blurs the image.



Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chromatic_aberration

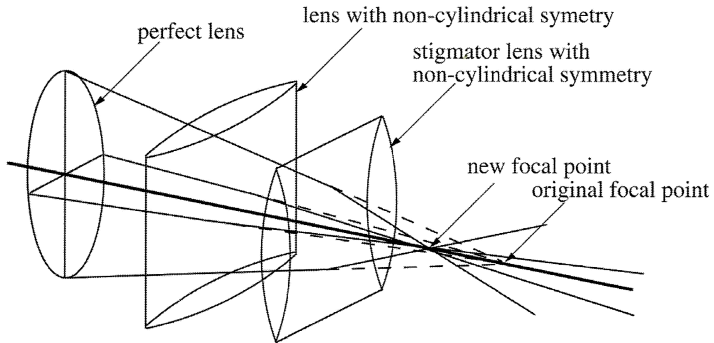
Side Note: Astigmatism

- ▶ **Effect:** Defects of lens symmetry cause anisotropic lens strengths.
 ⇒ Distorted beam of electrons results in distorted images/reduced resolution.
- ▶ **Counteractions:**
 Well correctable problem.
 - Reduction of manufacturing defects (lenses & apertures)
 - and contaminations.
 - **Stigmator lenses** (octapole stigmator)
- ▶ **Relevance:** Common problem; Stigmation has to be performed frequently.



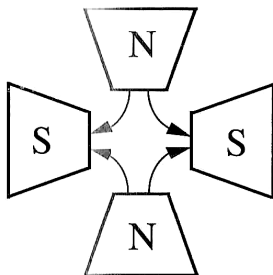
Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Side Note: Correcting Astigmatism (“Stigmation”)

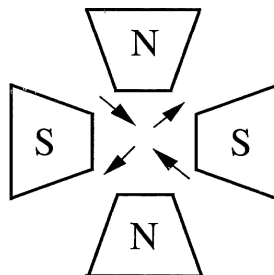


Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Side Note: Correcting Astigmatism (“Stigmatism”)



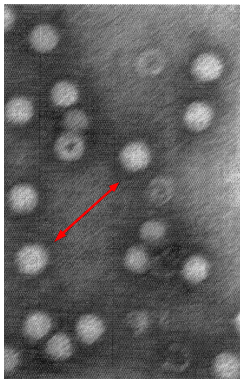
Fields



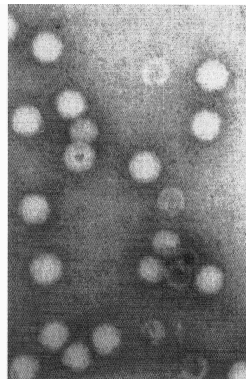
Forces

Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Side Note: Astigmatism and Stigmatism - Example



Astigmatic objective-lens...



... after proper stigmatism.

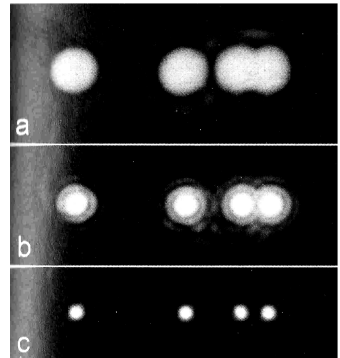
Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

Side Note: Apertures and Diffraction

- ▶ **Effect:** Apertures truncate the k -space components. \Leftrightarrow Diffraction of electrons at aperture fringes.
- ▶ **Quantitative description (Rayleigh criterion):**

$$d_d = 0.61 \cdot \lambda_e \cdot \alpha_{OA}^{-1}$$

- ▶ **Counteractions:**
 - Maximising aperture angle α_{OA}
 - and energy (reducing λ_e).
- ▶ **Relevance:** Not relevant due to aforementioned aberrations (cf. optical microscopy).

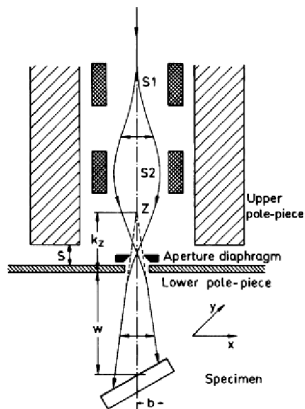


Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Side Note: Deflection Coils

- ▶ **Location:**
Directly above the objective aperture.
- ▶ **Mechanism:**
Electrostatic or electromagnetic deflection by multipole setups.
- ▶ **Common setup:**
2 deflection units per direction (S1 and S2)
⇒ Beam passes objective aperture.
- ▶ **Magnification** determined by scanned area:

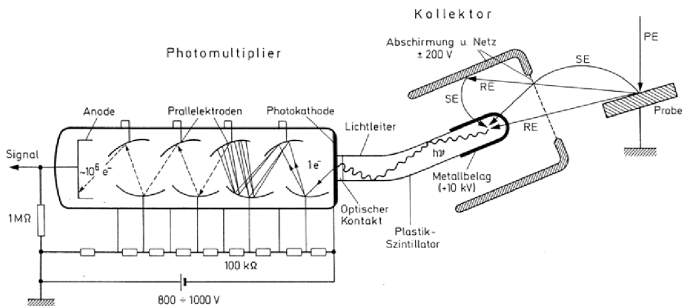
$$M = \frac{\text{Screen width}}{\text{Scan width}}$$



Source: [Reimer and Pfefferkorn, 1977]

Side Note: Everhart-Thornley Detector

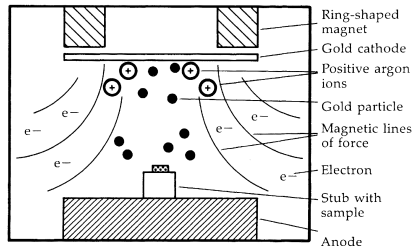
Detection of secondary electrons.



Source: [Reimer and Pfefferkorn, 1977]

Side Note: Sample Preparation

- ▶ **Nonconducting samples:** Beam of electrons → **charging**
- ▶ Charged areas cause **abnormal contrasts** in SE images.
- ▶ **Coating with gold:** used for SE imaging (→ sputter coater)
- ▶ **Coating with carbon:** used for BSE and X-ray analysis (→ carbon string evaporator)
- ▶ **Uncoated samples:** proper accelerating voltage required; ionised environment (→ ESEM).



Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

Side Note: Sample Preparation - Example

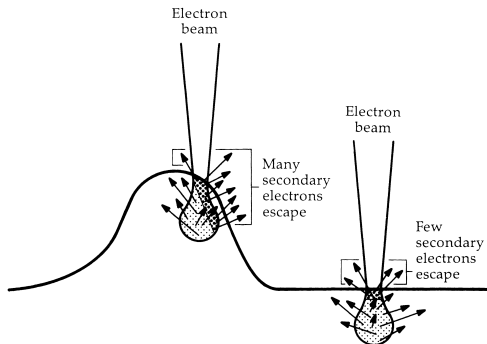
Gold coated spider, prepared for SEM.



Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scanning_electron_microscope

Side Note: Edge Contrast

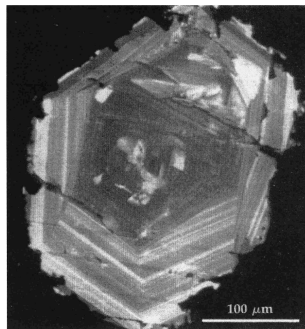
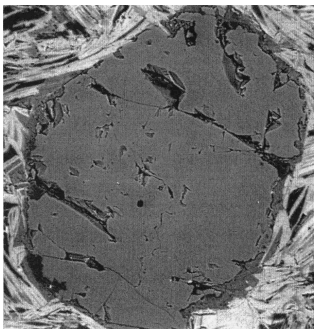
Tilted surfaces and edges are brighter than flat surfaces.



Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]

Side Note : Cathodoluminescence - Example

SEI (left) and CLI (right) of a polished corundum grain (Al_2O_3).

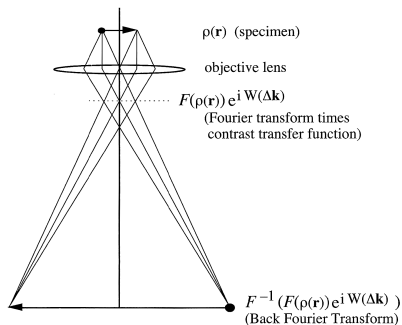


Source: [Flegler et al., 1993]



Side Note: Fourier Optics

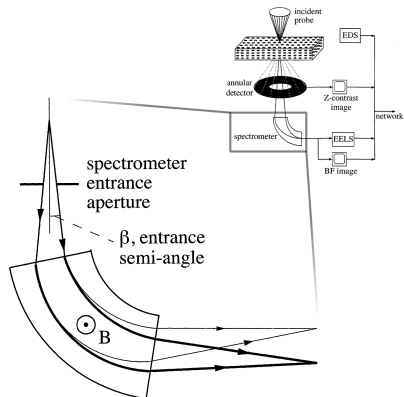
- ▶ **Diffraction** of electrons determined by charge distribution $\rho(\mathbf{r})$.
- ▶ **Objective lens** creates **real image** and causes **phase distortion** $W(\Delta\mathbf{k})$ (\rightarrow spherical aberration).
- ▶ **Fourier plane (Back focal plane)**: Fourier transform $\mathcal{F}[\rho]$ of image.
- ▶ **Gaussian plane (Image plane)**: (Distorted) image $\mathcal{F}^{-1}[\mathcal{F}[\rho] \cdot e^{iW}] \approx \rho(\mathbf{r})$.



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Side Note: Electron Energy Loss Spectroscopy (EELS)

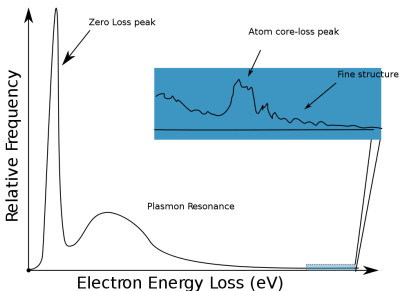
- ▶ Analytical / imaging mode for **STEM**.
- ▶ Setup: Magnetic prism (energy dispersive element) below specimen.
- ▶ Signal: **Inelastically** scattered electrons
- ▶ Energy loss due to
 - Electronic transitions (→ Band gap)
 - Inner shell ionization (→ X-Rays)
 - Phonon/Plasmon excitations
 ⇒ Depends on material.
- ▶ Results: Compositional map.
Area resolved ($\sim 1\text{ nm}$) pressure and thickness measurements.



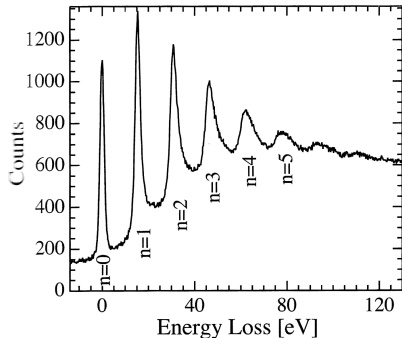
Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]

Side Note: EELS - Example

Schematic EELS (left) and high resolution spectrum of plasmon excitations (right).



Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/EELS>



Source: [Fultz and Howe, 2002]