

6. FIB

Focused Ion Beam

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Electronique
CIME



Focused Ion Beam

a) Principles

How does it work..?

Ion sources, optics, interaction with the sample

b) Basic Application

imaging, milling, deposition, typical applications

c) TEM sample preparation, examples

d) FIB Nanotomography, 3D microscopy



FIB @ CIME



ZEISS
NVISION

Since July 2008

NVISION 40 from CARL ZEISS

Dual Beam = SEM + FIB

SEM: Schottky thermal field emitter

FIB: Ga LMIS

4 Gas Injector Systems

- Pt deposition ($C_9H_{16}Pt$)
- C deposition
- SiO_2 deposition (TEOS)
- Insulator Enhanced Etch (XeF_2)
- Selective Carbon Mill ($MgSO_4$)

2 Kleindiek Micromanipulator (in situ TEM lamella lift out)

Focused Ion Beam

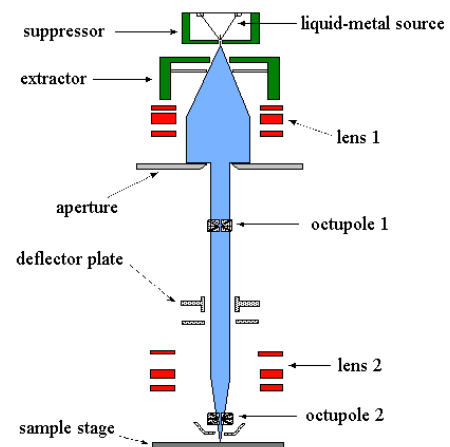
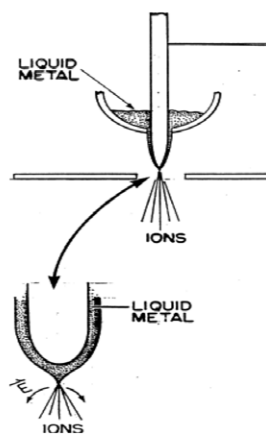
Mainly developed in 1970's and 80's
Ion column structure similar to that
of SEM

Source: Liquid Metal Ion Source
(LMIS).

Ex: Ga, Au, Be, Si, Pd,
B, P, As, Ni, Sb,
alloys ...

Principle:

A strong electromagnetic
field causes the emission
of positively charged ions



Schematic diagram of a FIB ion column
Source: IBM Almaden Research Center

**SIM = Scanning Ion
Microscope**

Why use ions instead of electrons?

Electrons

are very small
 inner shell reactions
 High penetration depth
 Low mass -> higher speed
 for given energy
 Electrons are **negative**
 Magnetic lens (Lorentz
 force)

Ions

Big
 -> outer shell reactions (no x-rays)
 High interaction probability
 less penetration depth
 Ions can remain trapped -> **doping**
 High mass -> slow speed but high
 momentum
milling !!!
 Ions are **positive**
 Electrostatic lenses

Advantage of Gallium:

Ga is metallic, low melting point, in the middle of the
 periodic table, no overlap with other elements in EDX



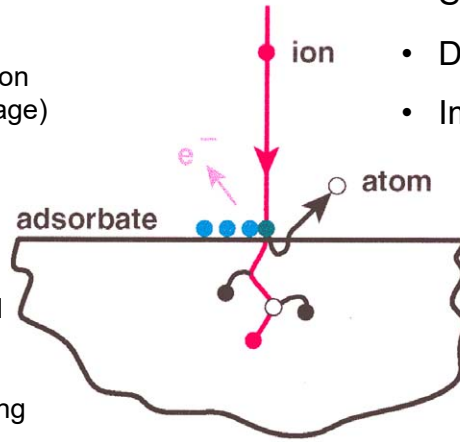
comparison

		FIB	SEM	Ratio
Particle	type	Ga ⁺ ion	electron	
	elementary charge	+1	-1	
	particle size	0.2 nm	0.00001 nm	20'000
	mass	1.2 .10 ⁻²⁵ kg	9.1.10 ⁻³¹ kg	130'000
	velocity at 30 kV	2.8.10 ⁵ m/s	1.0.10 ⁸ m/s	0.0028
	velocity at 2 kV	7.3.10 ⁴ m/s	2.6.10 ⁷ m/s	0.0028
	momentum at 30 kV	3.4.10 ⁻²⁰ kgm/s	9.1.10 ⁻²³ kgm/s	370
	momentum at 2 kV	8.8.10 ⁻²¹ kgm/s	2.4.10 ⁻²³ kgm/s	370
Beam	size	nm range	nm range	
	energy	up to 30 kV	up to 30 kV	
	current	pA to nA range	pA to uA range	
Penetration depth	In polymer at 30 kV	60 nm	12000 nm	
	In polymer at 2 kV	12 nm	100 nm	
	In iron at 30 kV	20 nm	1800 nm	
	In iron at 2 kV	4 nm	25 nm	
Average electrons signal per 100 particles at 20 kV	secondary electrons	100 - 200	50 - 75	
	back scattered electron	0	30 - 50	
	substrate atom	500	0	
	secondary ion	30	0	
	x-ray	0	0.7	



Ion - Solid interaction

- Secondary electron emission (SE-image)
2-3 SE per Ion !
- Surface chemical reactions
 - deposition
 - enhanced etching
- Sputtering
- Damage
- Implantation



3 basic “operating modes”

Emission of secondary ions and electrons

- FIB **imaging** a)
- low ion current

Sputtering of substrate atoms

- FIB **milling** b)
- high ion current

Chemical interactions (gas assisted)

- FIB **deposition**
- Enhanced (preferential) etching c)

Other effects:

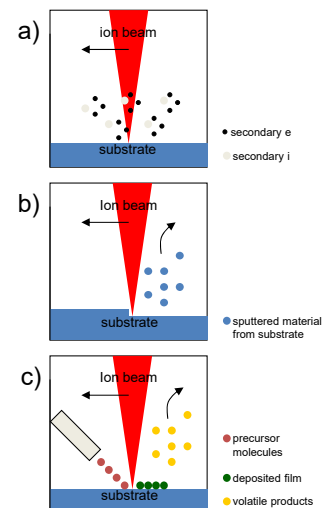
Ion implantation

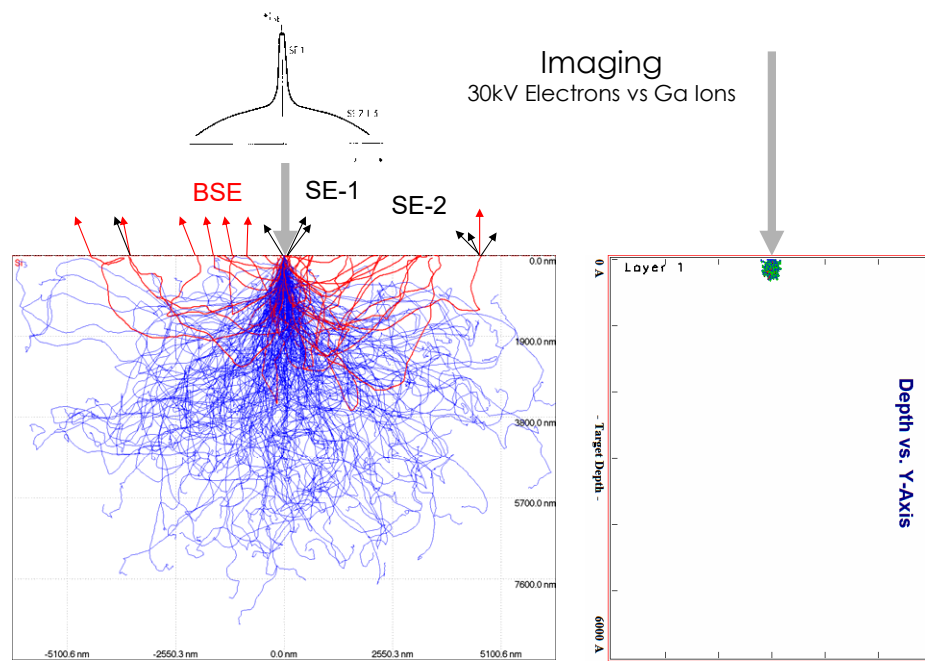
Displacement of atoms in the solid

- Induced damage

Emission of phonons

- Heating





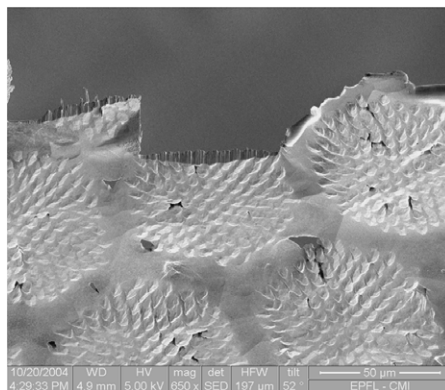
Monte-Carlo Simulation casino v2.42
<http://www.gel.usherbrooke.ca/casino/download2.html>
 Microscopie électronique: FIB

SRIM 2006
<http://www.srim.org/>
 Marco Cantoni

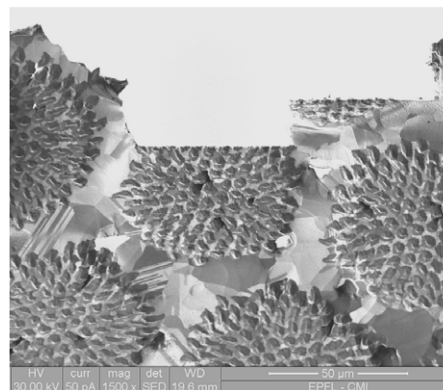
Semestre automne 2024



SE image contrast



e-beam 5kV



ion-beam 30kV 50pA

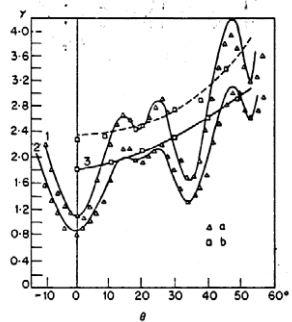
material (sputtering) contrast
 orientational contrast

Semestre automne 2024

Microscopie électronique: FIB

Marco Cantoni

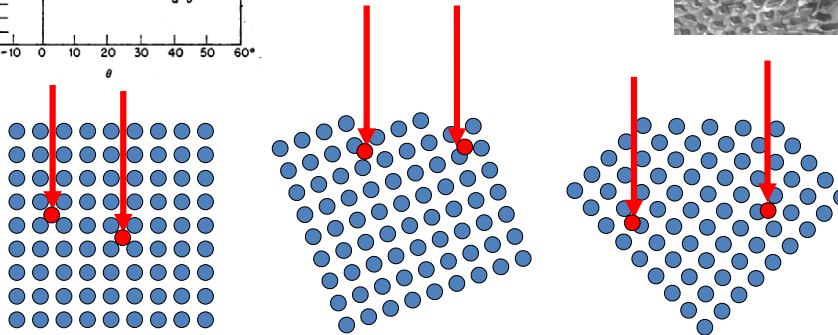
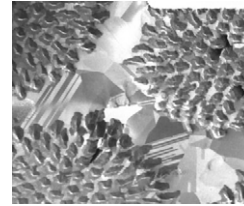




Channeling contrast

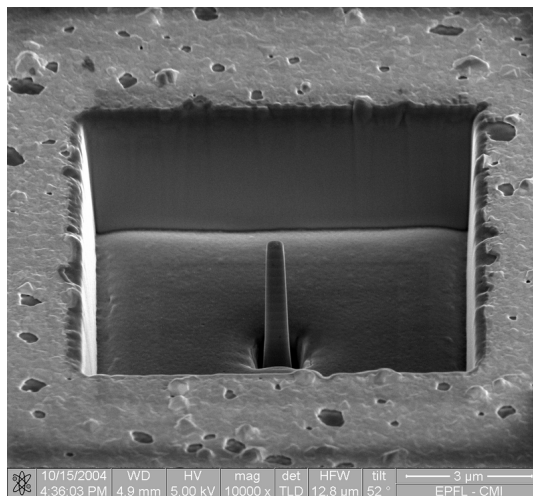
Secondary Electron Emission Coefficient vs. Angle, (100) Copper 30 keV Ar ions

G. Carter and J.S. Colligan, *Ion Bombardment of Solids*, (Elsevier 1968)



Atom columns align with the ion trajectory = higher penetration
-> less sputtering and less SE electrons

Milling

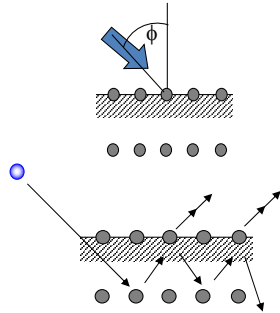


PZT-high aspect ratio „capacitor“, W. Adachi (EPFL-LC)

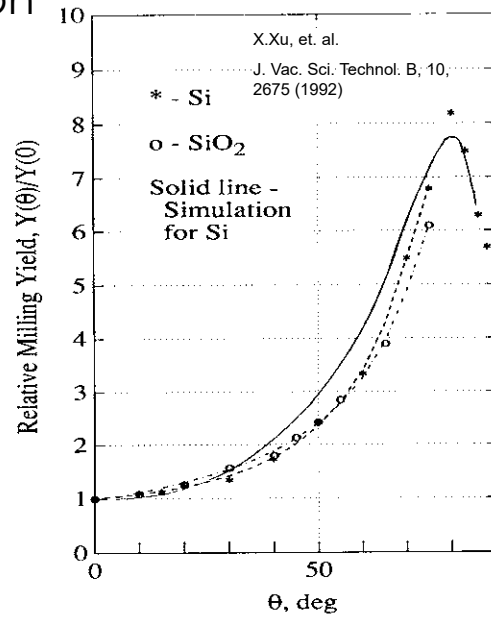
Material	Sputterrate [$\mu\text{m}^3/\text{nC}$]
Si	0.27
Thermal Oxide	0.24
TEOS	0.24
Al	0.3
Al ₂ O ₃	0.08
GaAs	0.61
InP	1.2
Au	1.5
TiN	0.15
Si ₃ N ₄	0.2
C	0.18
Ti	0.37
Cr	0.1
Fe	0.29
Ni	0.14
Cu	0.25
Mo	0.12
Ta	0.32
W	0.12
MgO	0.15
TiO	0.15
Fe ₂ O ₃	0.25
Pt	0.23
PMMA	0.4

Ion-Solid interaction Sputtering Yield

Sputtering yield depends on
incident angle ϕ

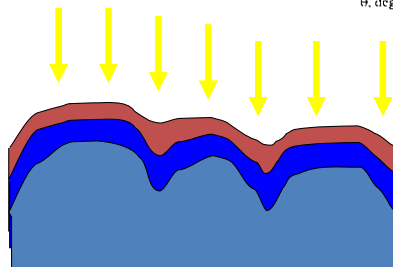
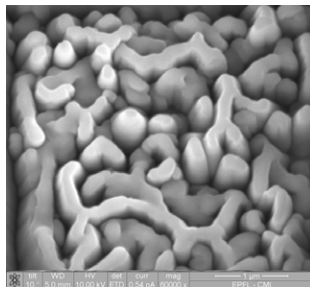
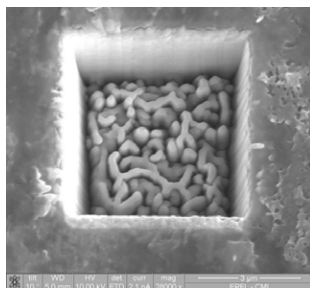
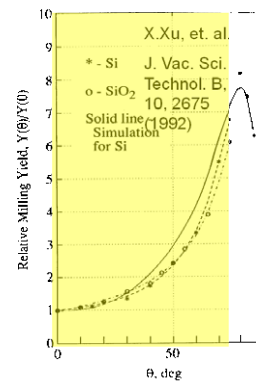
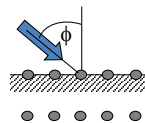


Higher probability of collision cascades near the
surface at higher ϕ
Sputtering yield has maximum for $\phi = 75^\circ$

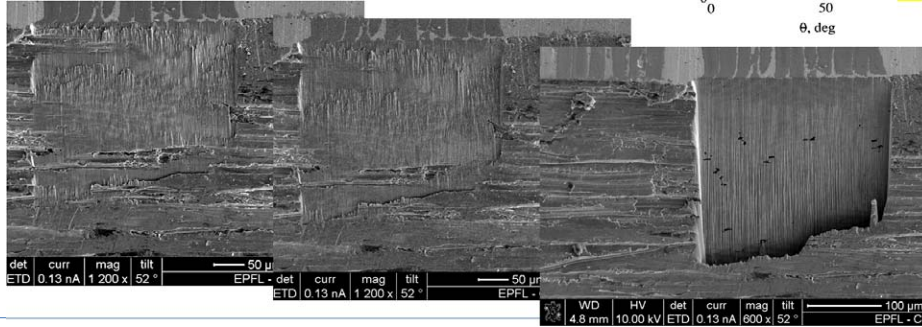
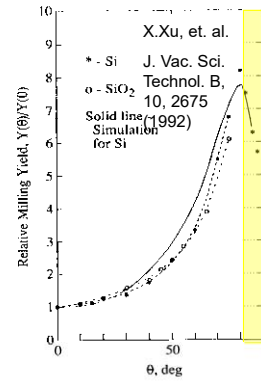
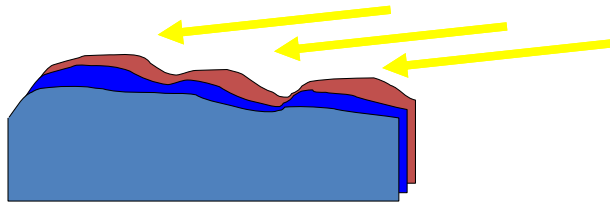


Milling

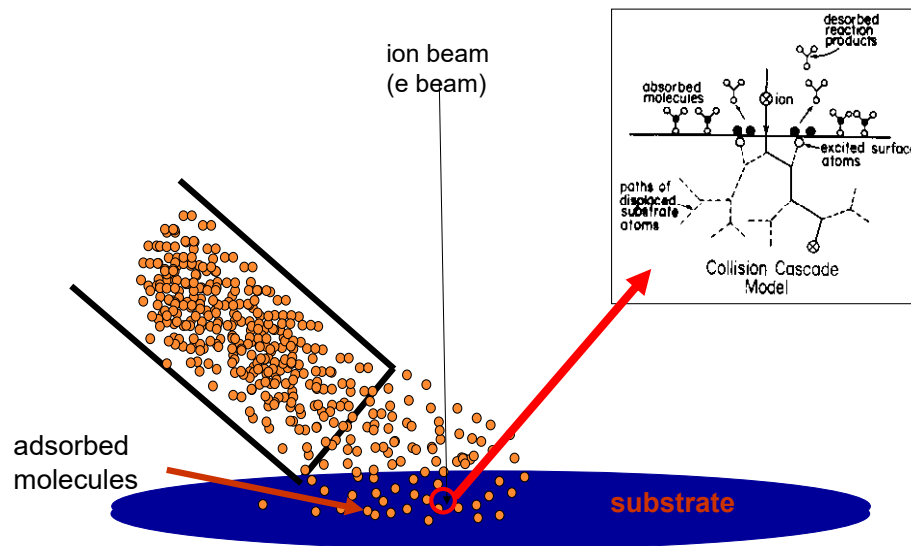
FIB milling of steel



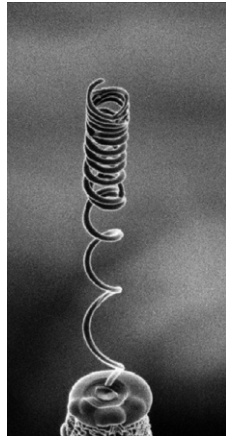
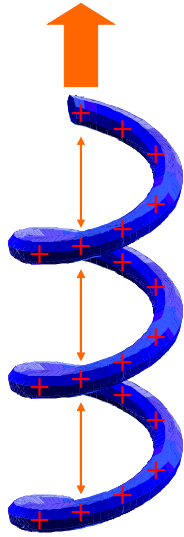
Polishing,
at shallow angles



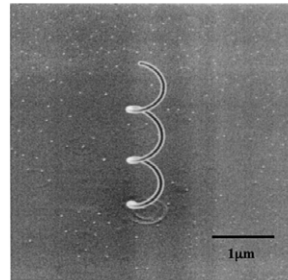
Gas assisted deposition



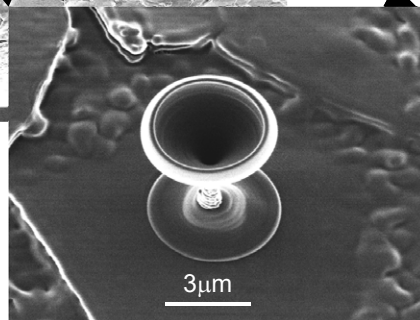
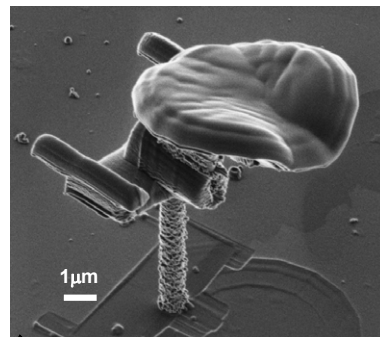
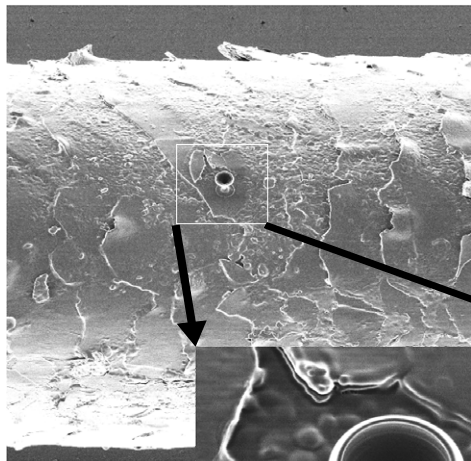
Nanofabricated structures



Coil 700nm pitch, 80nm line width,
diamond-like amorphous carbon,
FIB induced CVD



Shinji Matsui, et.al.
J. Vac. Sci. Technol B18, 3181
(Nov/Dec, 2000)
(Himeji Institute of Technology, Hyogo, Japan)



Courtesy Matsui

b) Basic Applications

"Industrial" applications (semiconductor industry)

sectioning for failure analysis

prototype circuit rewiring

mask repair

TEM sample preparation

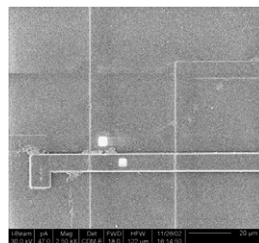
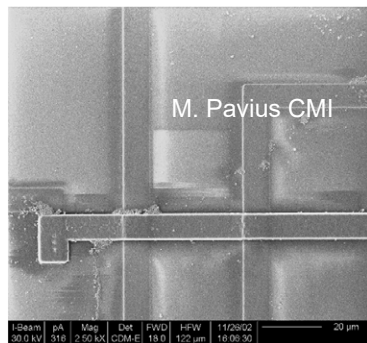
Research

Micromachining

Nanofabricated structures

TEM sample preparation

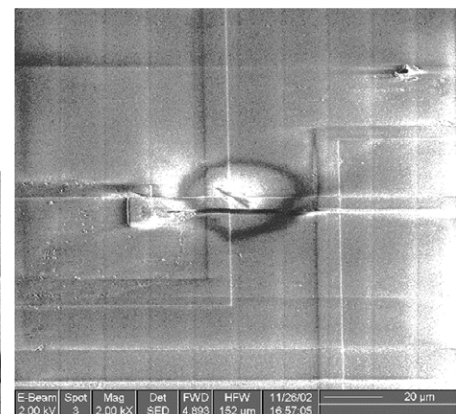
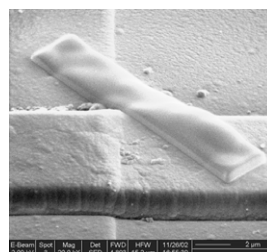
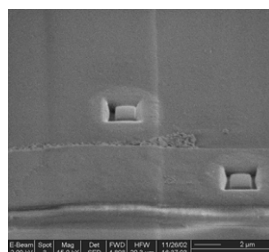
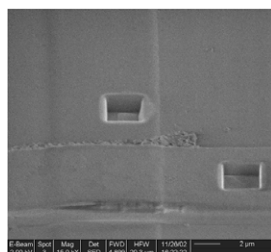
Applications Chip Modification



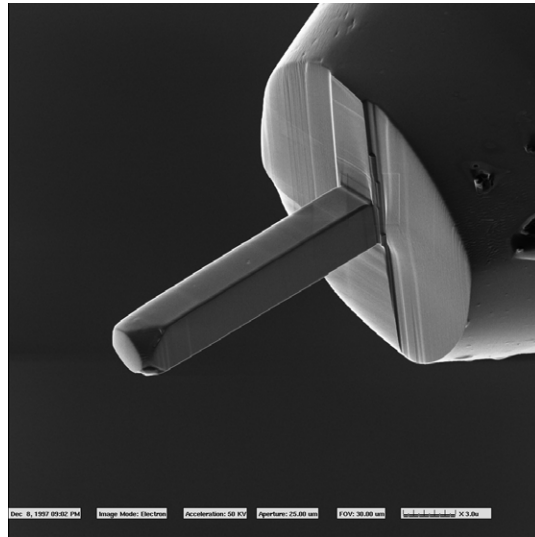
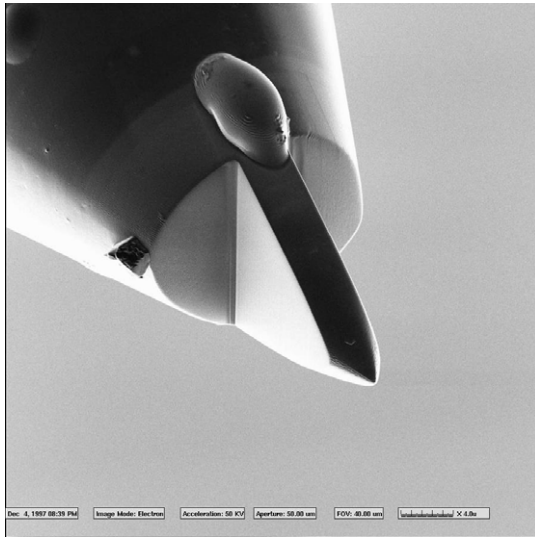
Insertion of electrical connection:

1) Removal of isolating layer (milling)

2) Pt deposition (FIB deposition)

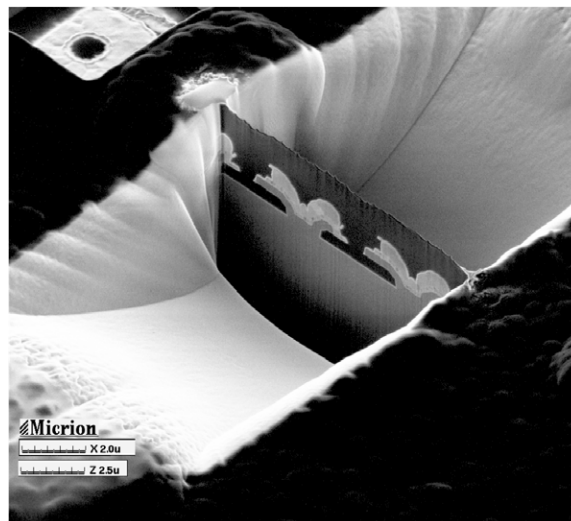


FIB-manufactured AFM-tips

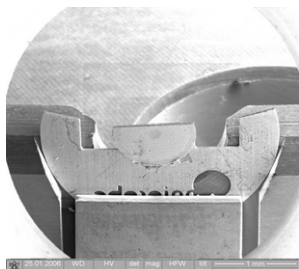


Failure analysis

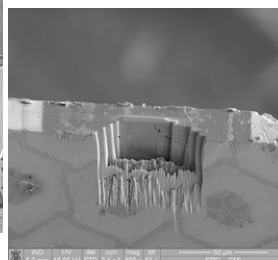
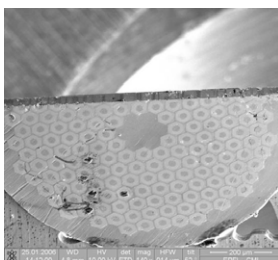
FIB cross-sectioning and
SEM imaging



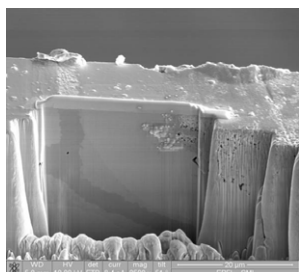
Pre-thinned (H-bar)



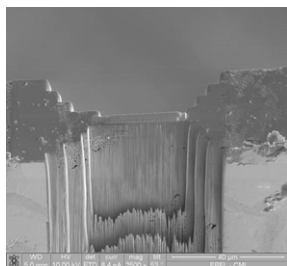
Prethinned sample on TEM-«grid»



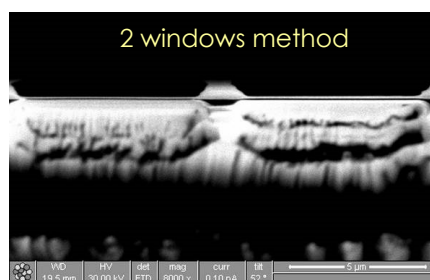
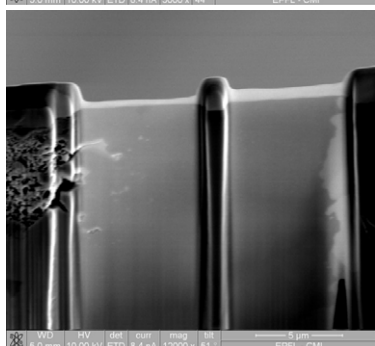
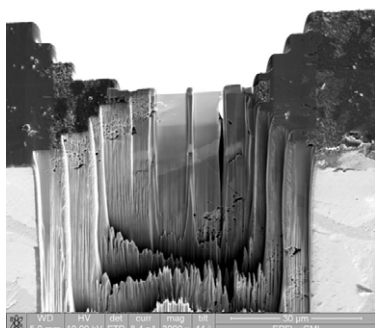
Rough milling at high currents



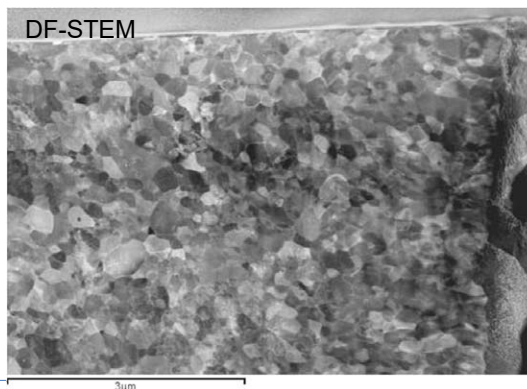
filling of voids

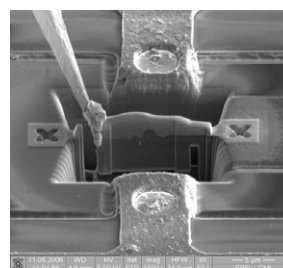


Nb₃Sn superconductor
P-Y. Pfyter (diploma work)

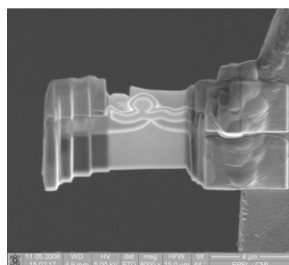


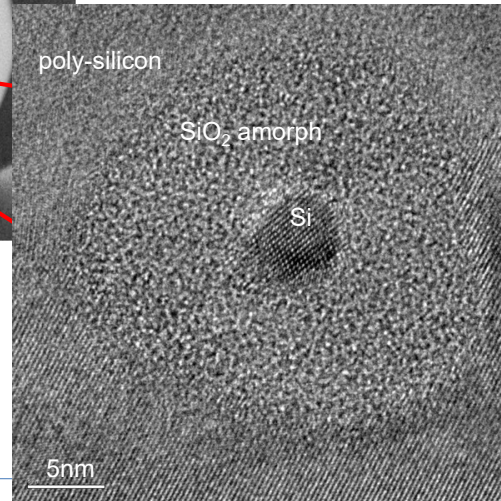
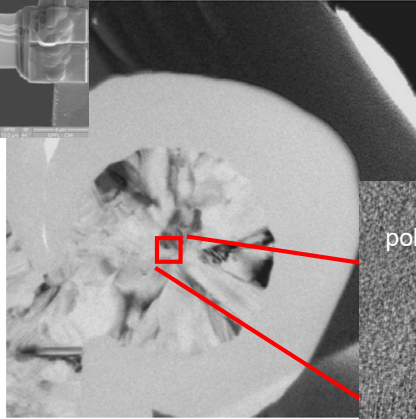
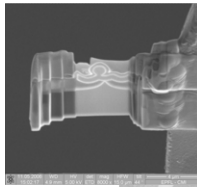
2 windows method





M. Pavius, V. Pott, CMI





TEM, HRTEM

TEM lamellae by FIB

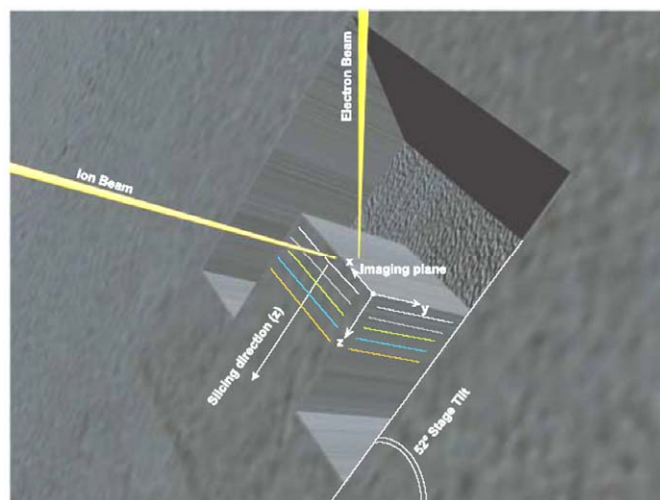
Focused Ion Beam adds a new dimension
to TEM specimen preparation

Take care of
artifacts !!!

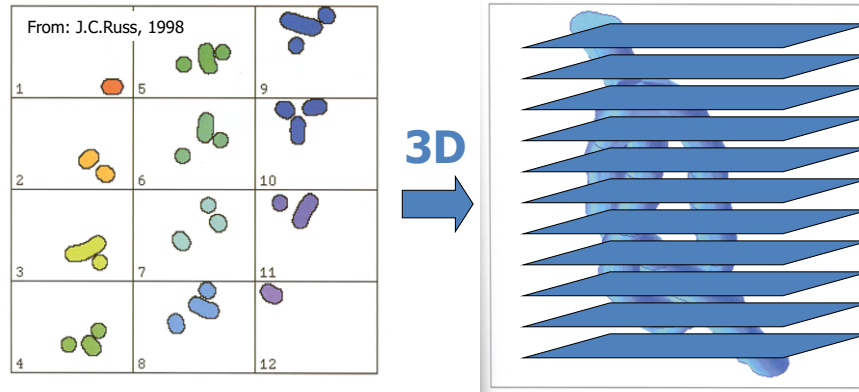
Large (10x5um) flat areas with uniform thickness (50-80 nm)
Preparation of heterogeneous samples with "difficult" material
combinations becomes possible
Precise selection of the lamella position possible (devices)

3D Microscopy

d) FIB Nanotomography 3D Microscopy



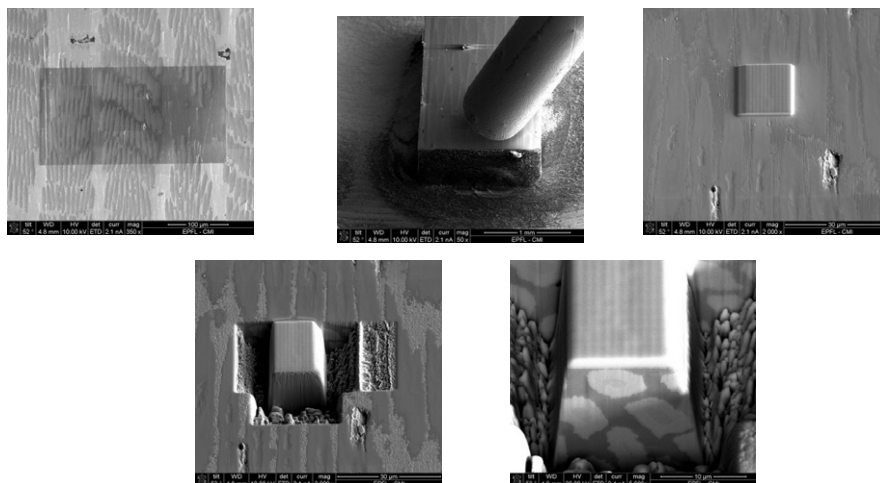
Problem of serial sectioning:
3D-reconstruction of disordered microstructures

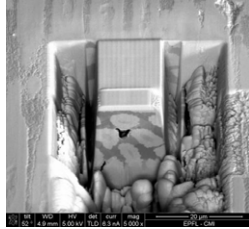


2D Volume fraction

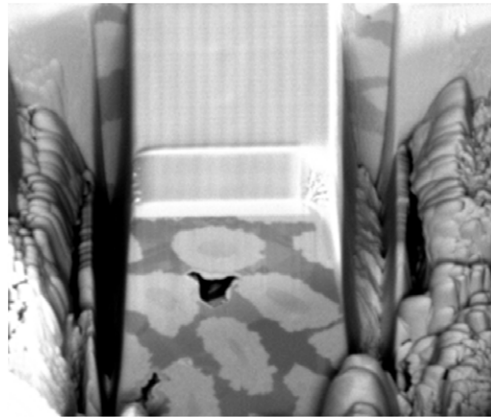
?? Nr of particles ??
?? Shape ??

3D slicing of multifilament
 Nb_3Sn superconductor



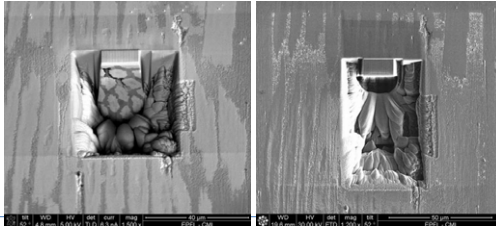


Preparing for slicing

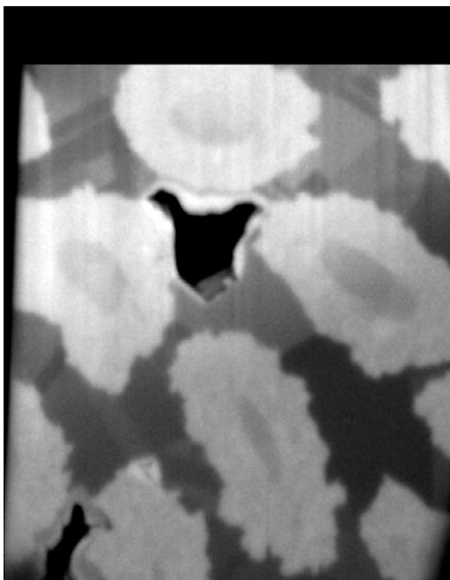


Automated milling and imaging of 170 slices (10h)

the end



align and crop

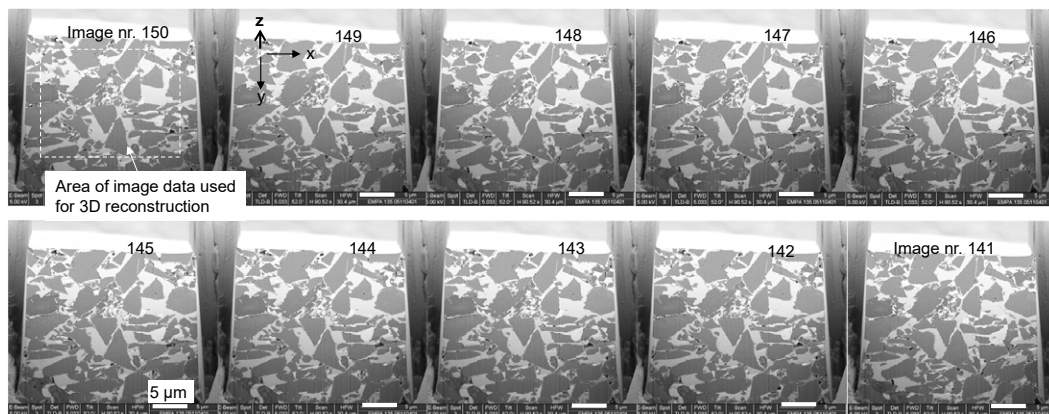
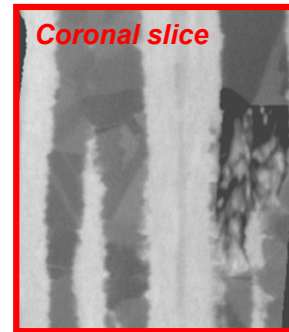
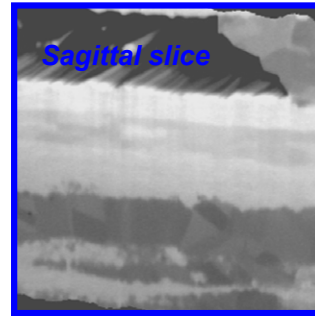
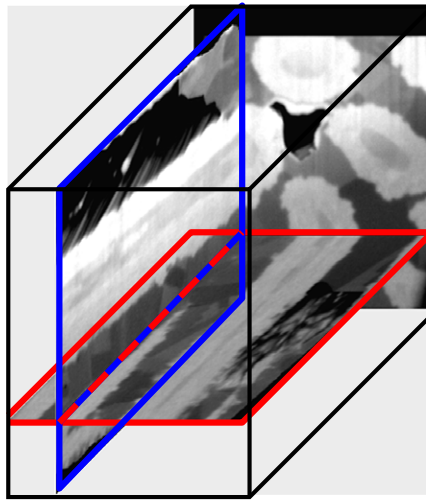


ImageJ

Image Processing and Analysis in Java

<http://rsb.info.nih.gov/ij/index.html>

3D volume rendering, reconstruction:
Orthogonal slices



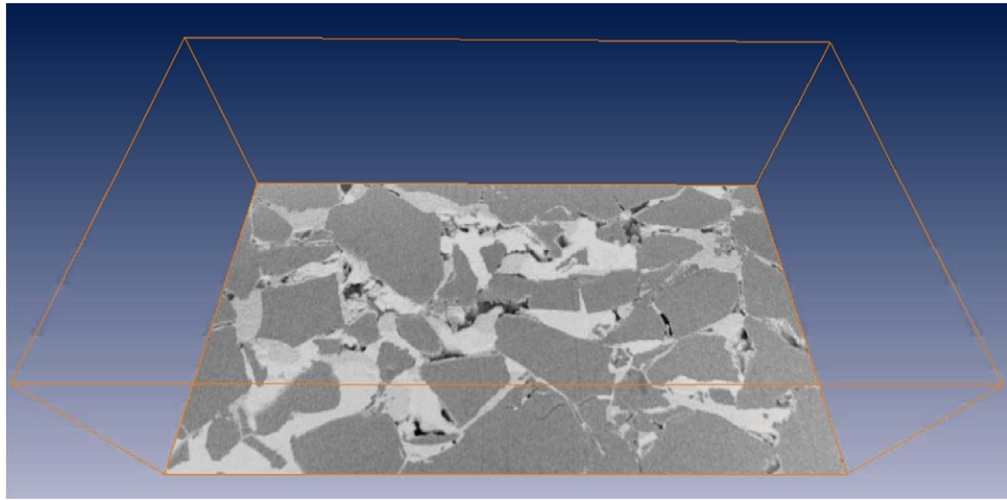
Quantitative microstructure analysis

- Algorithms
- object recognition
- stereological correction of boundary truncation
- extraction of statistical data (particle shape and size distribution)

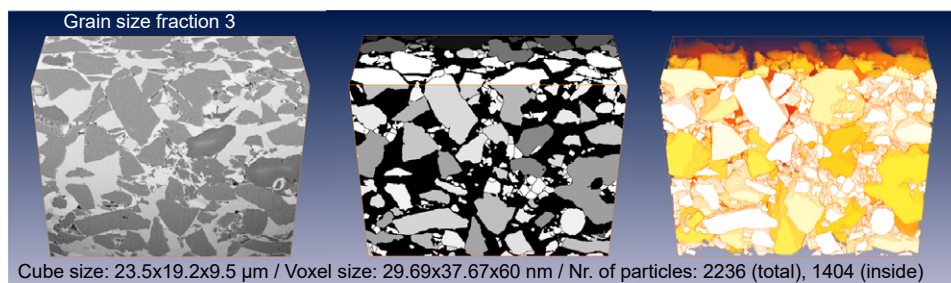
Particle recognition:
Edge detection in 3D,
Watershed for separation

Voxel:
75nm

Cube:
40 * 20 * 15 μm



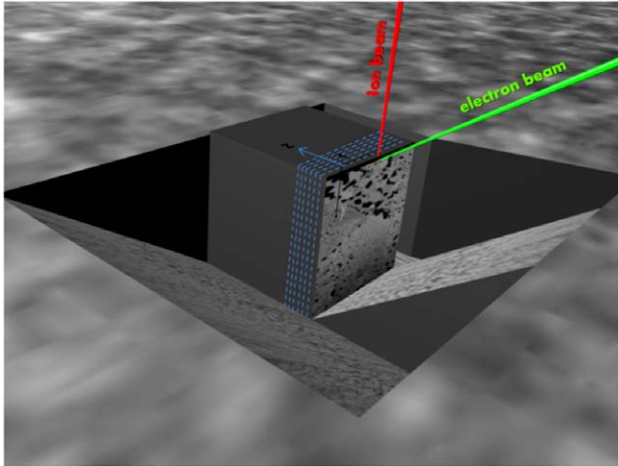
Size, 3D-shape, geometrical relationships between particles



Quantitative microstructure analysis → Algorithms

Münch and Holzer 2006
J.Amer.Ceram.Soc.
FIB-nt of particulate systems – part II:
Object recognition and
effect of boundary truncation

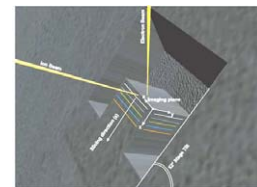
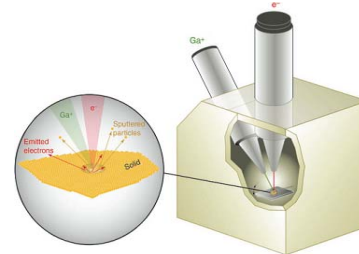
3D FIB/SEM: volume reconstruction



Three-dimensional analysis of porous BaTiO₃ ceramics using FIB nanotomography

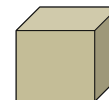
L. HOLZER, F. INDUTNYI, PH. GASSER, B. MÜNCH & M. WEGMANN
EMPA, Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research, Überlandstrasse 129, 8600 Dübendorf, Switzerland

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3D FIB/SEM: volume reconstruction

“Leitmotiv”
Isometric voxel size $x = y = z$



Slice thickness (z) = image pixel size (x,y)

Z dimension ~ X or Y, typical: 10nm, possible 5nm (3nm)

Image dimensions / data size (8-bit grey level tiff):

- 1024 x 786: 800 slices -> 640 Mb
- 2048 x 1572: 1600 slices -> 5 Gb
- 3096 x 2358: 3000 slices -> 21 Gb

Acquisition time ~1min / slice

(40-60 slices / hour)

-> high S/N ratio, beam current (1-1.5nA), detector efficiency

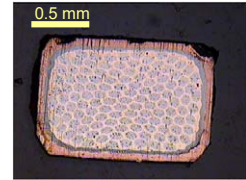
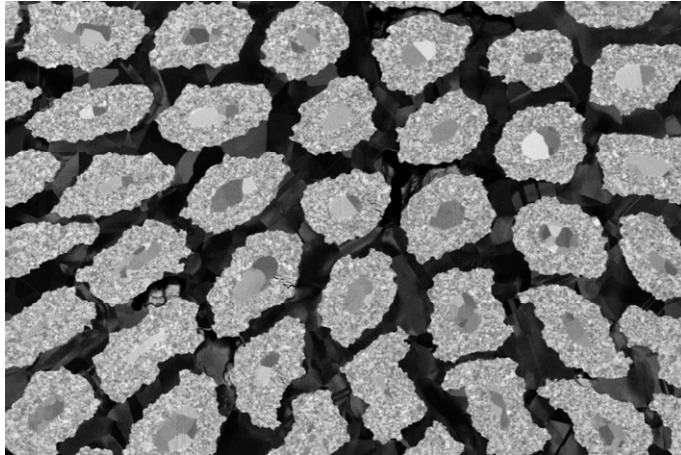
Dwell times/pixel 5- 15µsec. (detector signal -> 256 grey levels)

High throughput: minimise overhead, no tilting, rotating, drift correction

Z- Resolution: low kV !!!

3D FIB/SEM: volume reconstruction

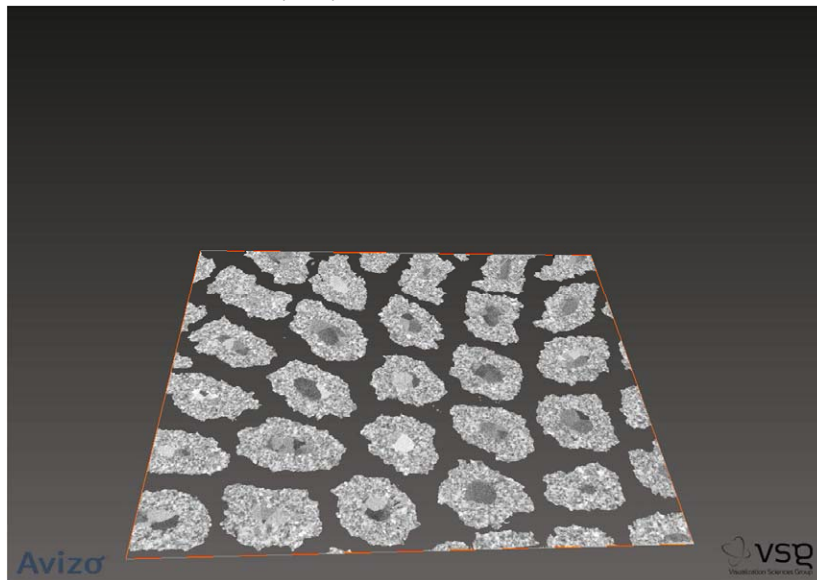
Nb_3Sn multifilament superconducting cable



Nb_3Sn superconductor multifilament cable:
14'000 Nb_3Sn filaments (diameter $\sim 5\mu\text{m}$) in bronze matrix

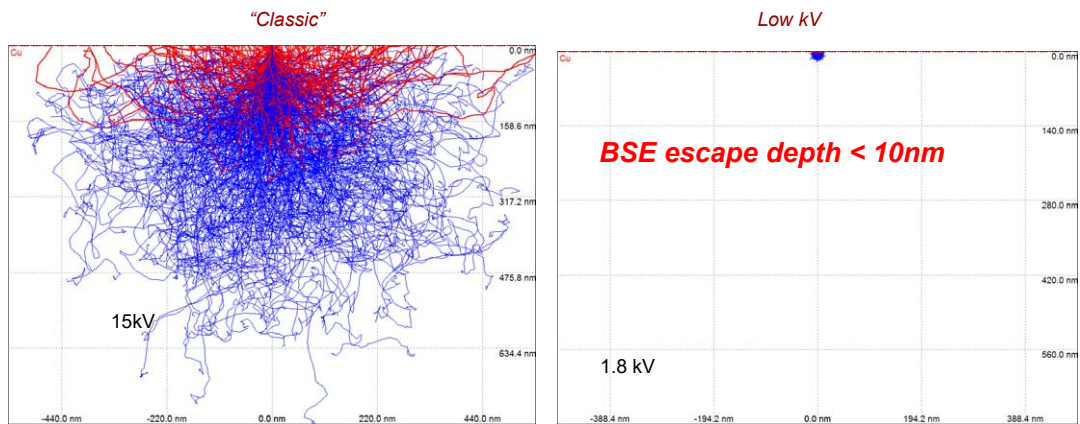
1.8kV EsB detector: Materials & orientation contrast

3D Microanalysis by FIB/SEM volume reconstruction



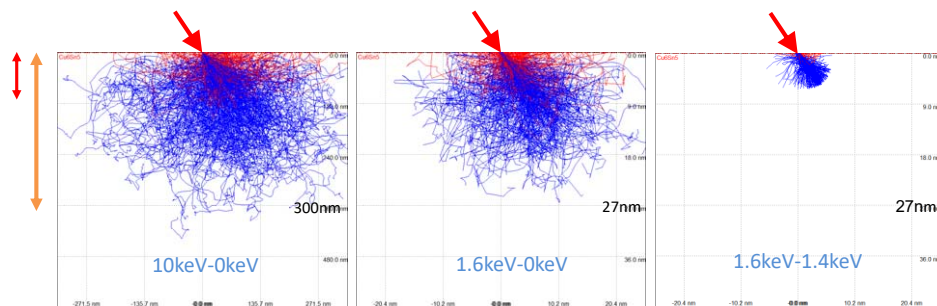
Materials & grain contrast
2048x1536x1700, (10x10x10nm voxel), 28hours

What is the spatial resolution ...?



Scatter range in Nb₃Sn:
Monte-Carlo Simulation (CASINO 2.42) of electron trajectories
backscattered electrons

What is the spatial resolution of BSE electrons ?

Scatter range in Nb₃Sn:

HT

10keV

1.6keV

1.6keV
(low loss, EsB grid at 1.4kV)

BSE esc. depth

100nm

10nm

2-3nm

penetration

300nm

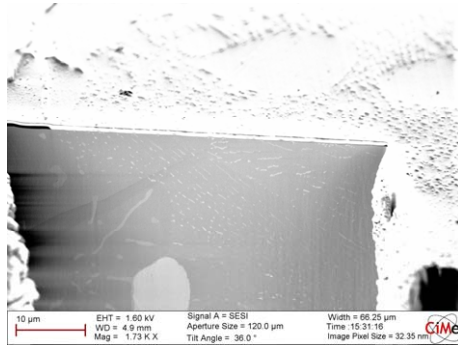
20nm

(20nm)

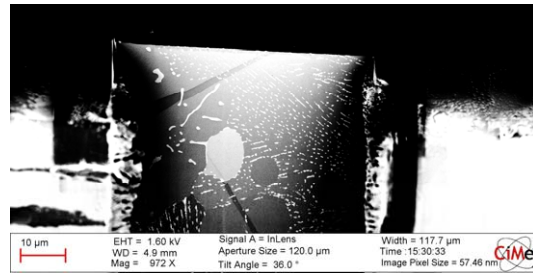
Energy selective BS

Pb-free solder SnAgCu:
"one detector is not enough"

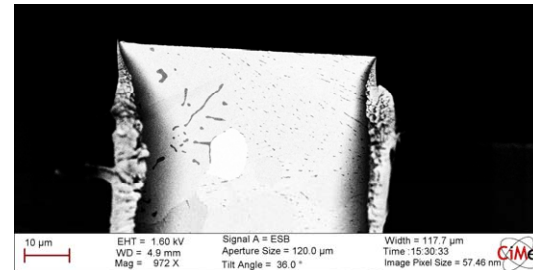
M. Maleki, EPFL-LMAF



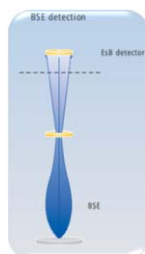
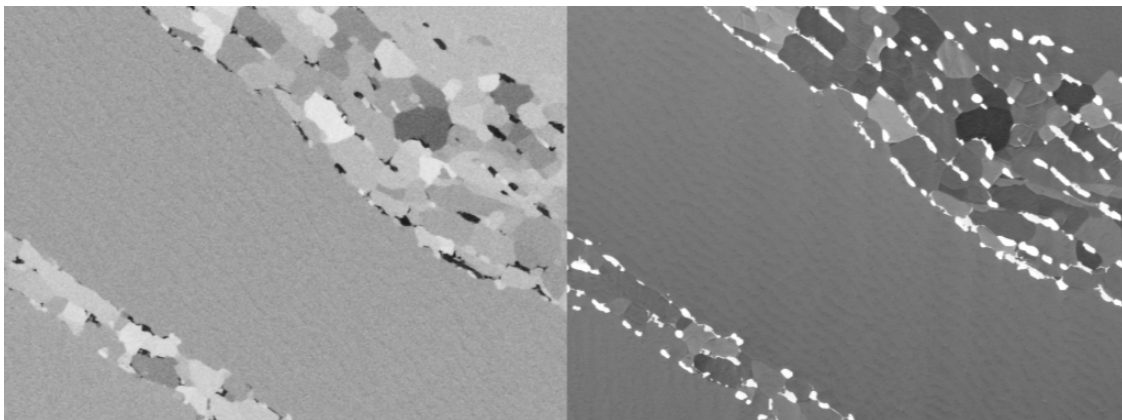
ETD (SE classic)



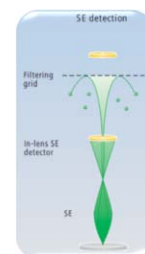
InLens: SE low energy

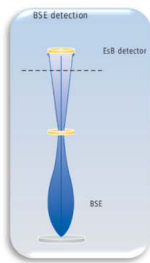
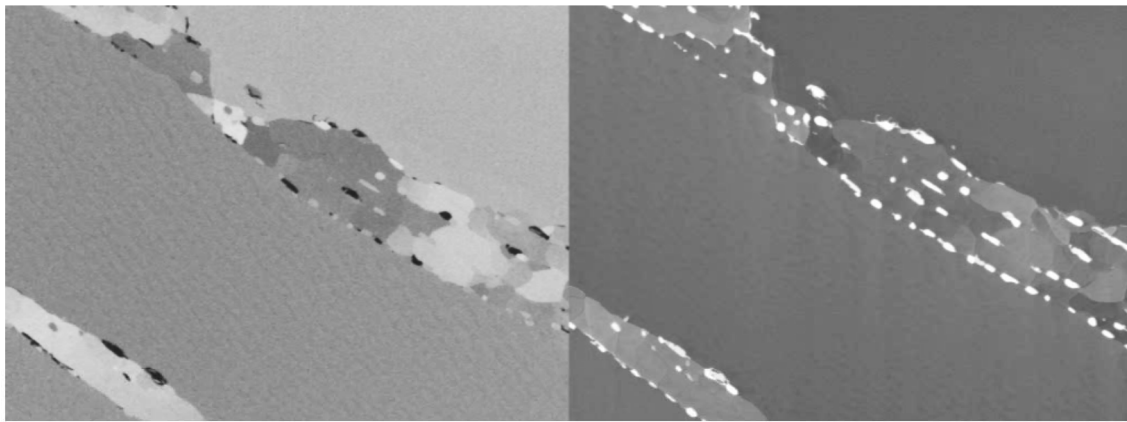


EsB: Energy selective Backscattered

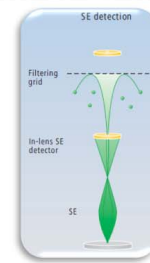


10x10x10nm voxel size, 2048x1536x2000
2 images (2x3Mb) / slice ...! (DUAL Channel !)
In parallel: image signal from in-lens SE and also
BSE detector
12Gb data

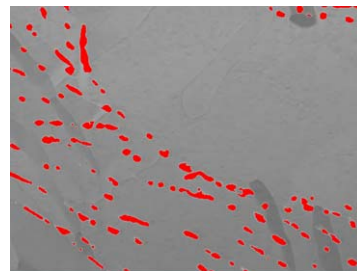
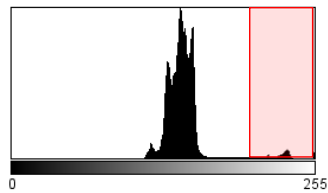
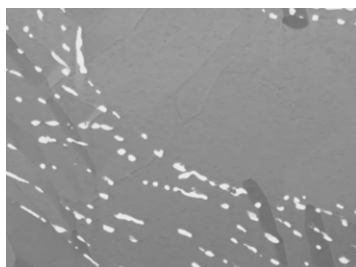


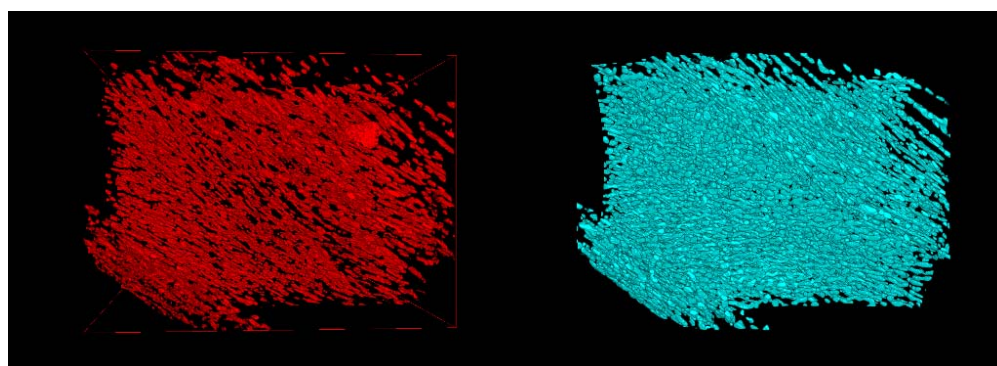
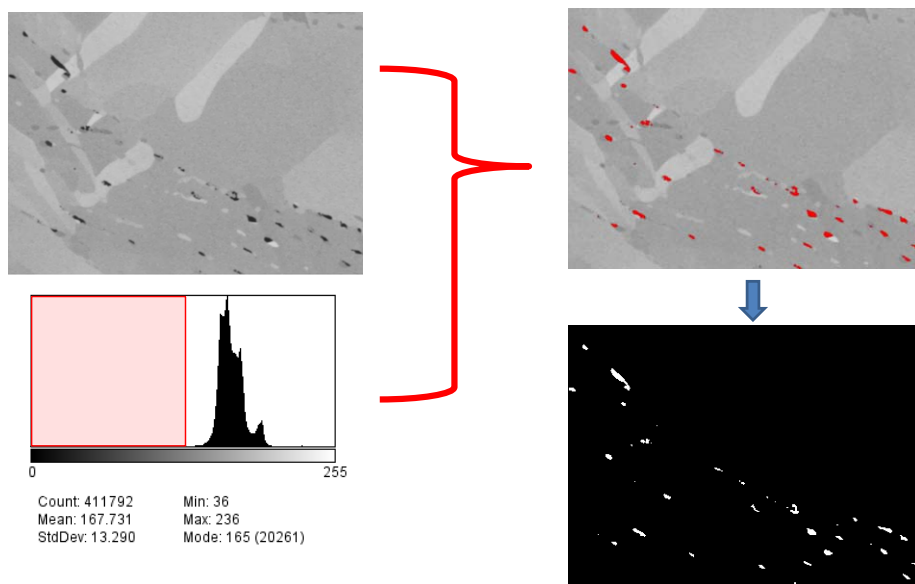


10x10x10nm voxel size, 2048x1536x2000
2 images (2x3Mb) / slice ...! (DUAL Channel !)
12Gb data



segmentation = identification of phases

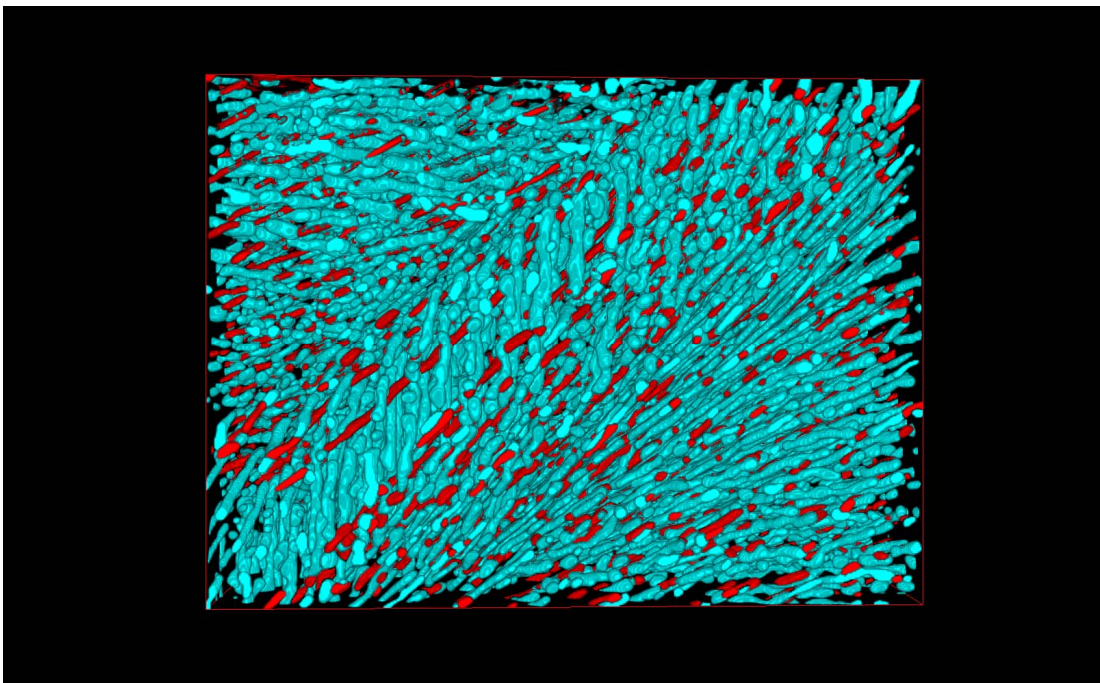
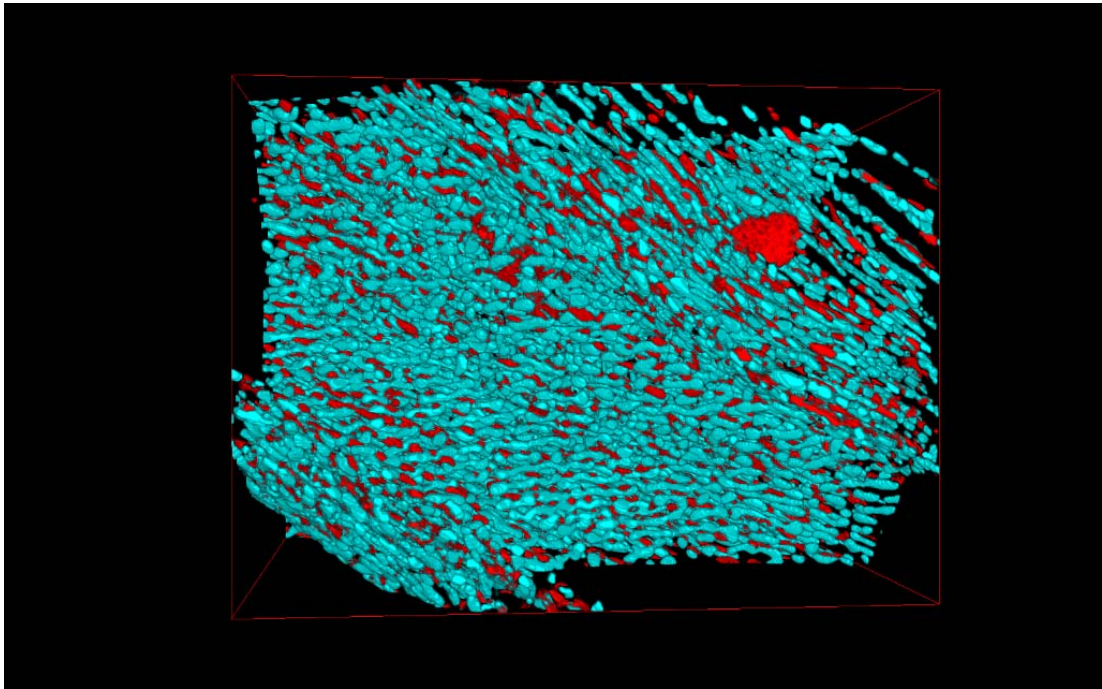




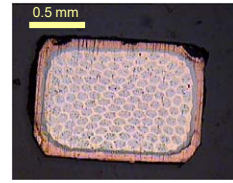
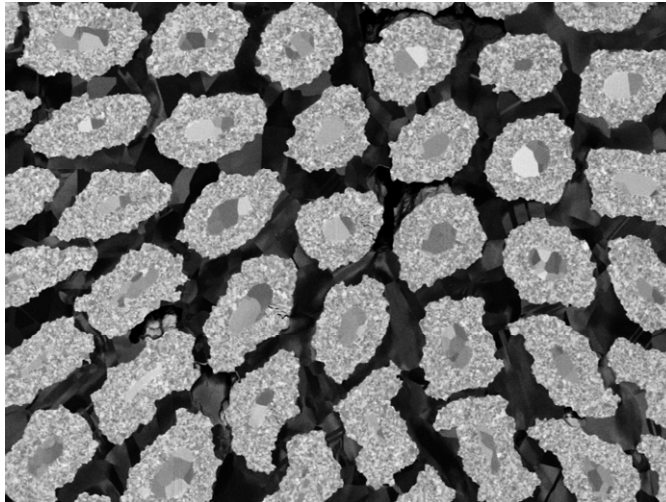
Phase 1: Cu_6Sn_5
Dark in EsB image
White in SE-InLens

Phase 2: Ag_3Sn
White in SE-InLens - Dark in EsB image

10x10x10nm voxel size, 2048x1536x2000 pixel/slices
2 images (3Mb) / slice 12Gb data
32 hours

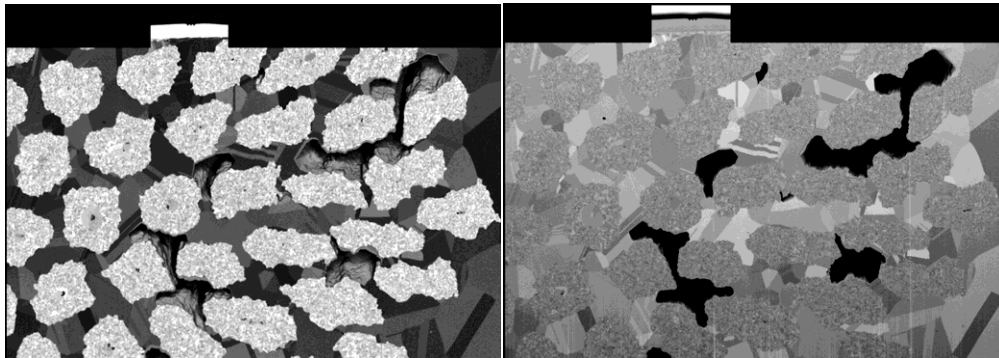


Nb_3Sn multifilament superconducting cable



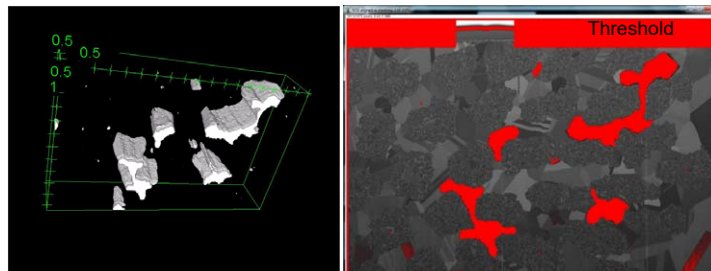
Nb_3Sn superconductor
multifilament cable:
14'000 Nb_3Sn filaments
(diameter $\sim 5\mu\text{m}$) in Cu matrix

1.8kV EsB detector: Materials & orientation contrast



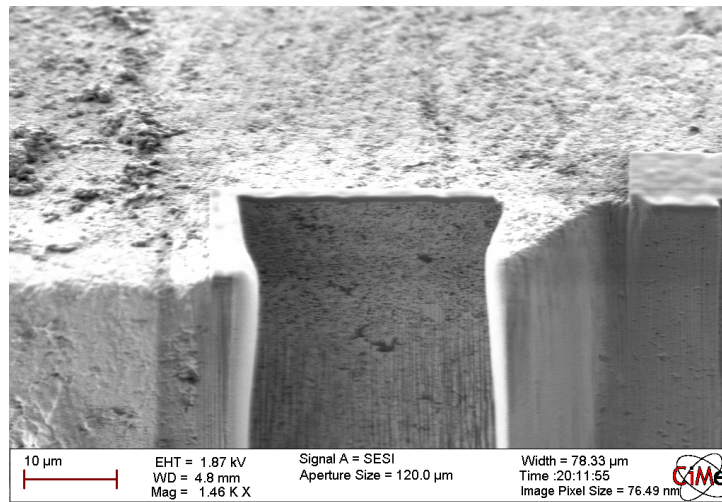
EsB

SE



Solid Oxide Fuel Cell cathode

P. Tanasini, LENI



Porous, non-conducting:
Resin infiltration, gold coating

The right conditions

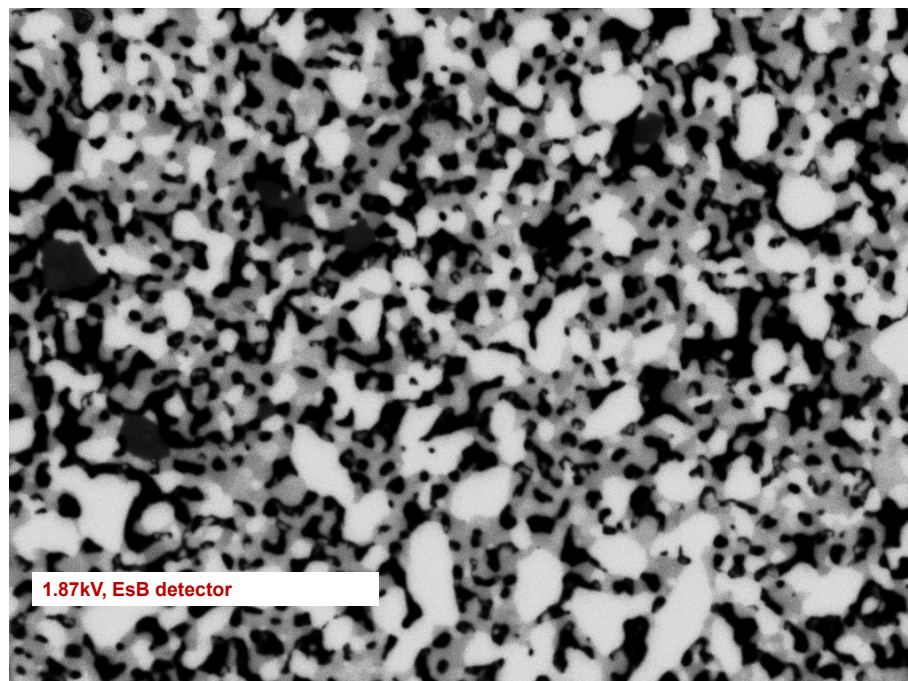
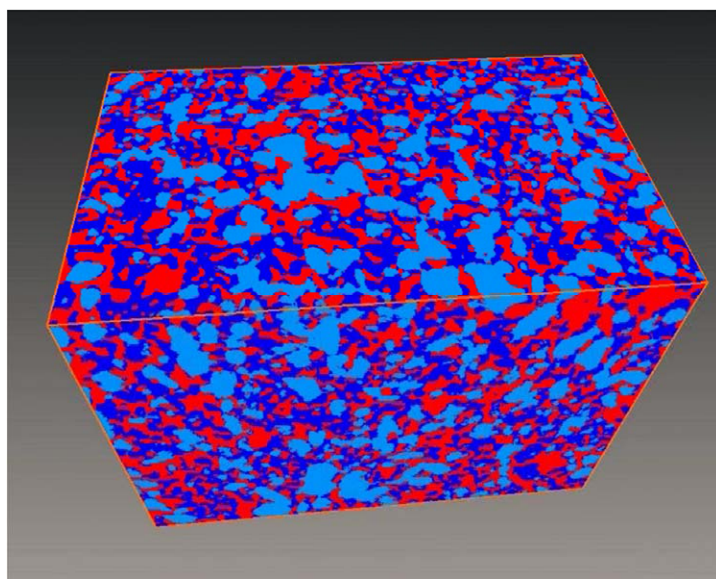
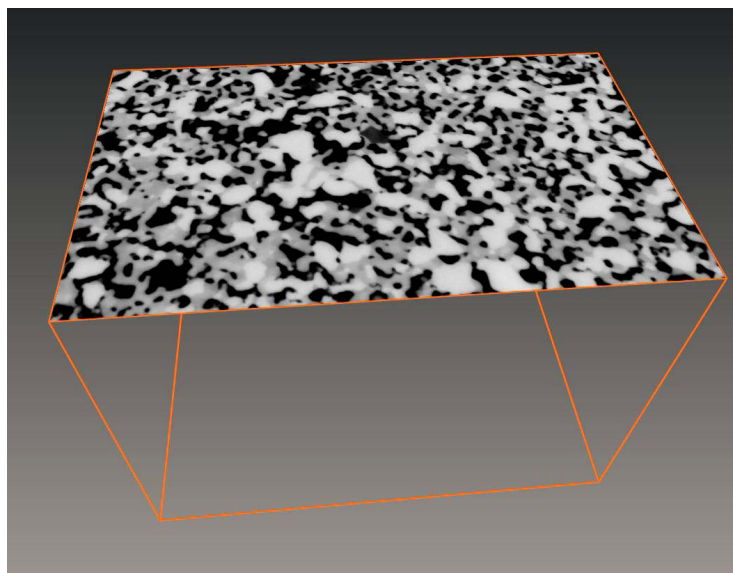
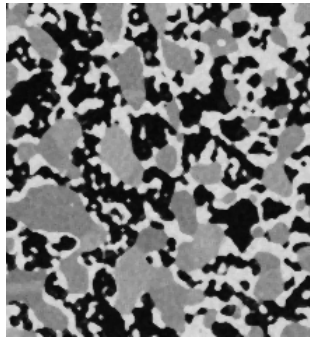


Image:
2048x1536
10nm pixel size

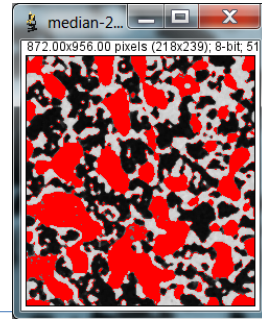
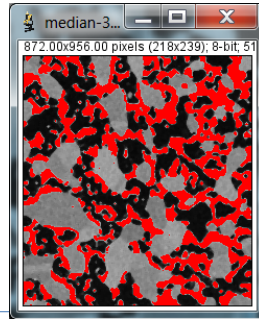
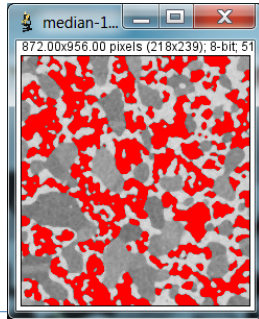
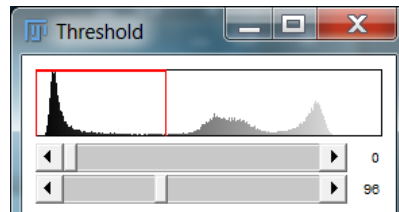
2200 images
36hours



Segmentation and
analysis



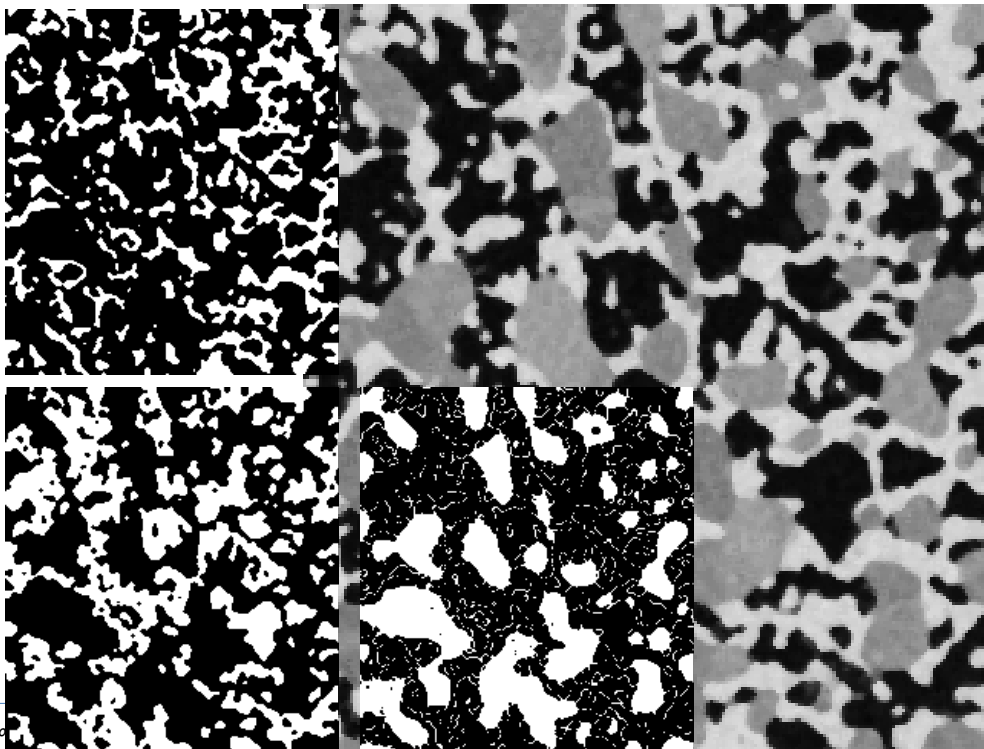
thresholding



Semestre automne 2024

Microscopie électronique: FIB

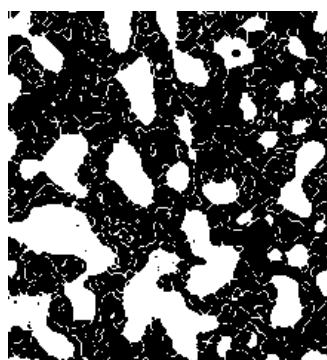
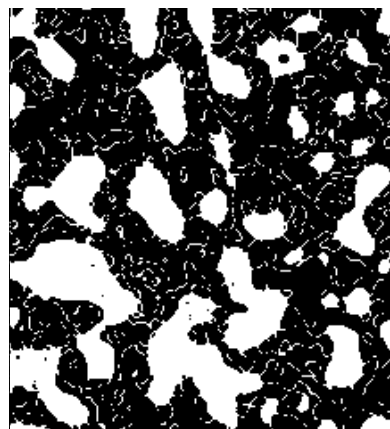
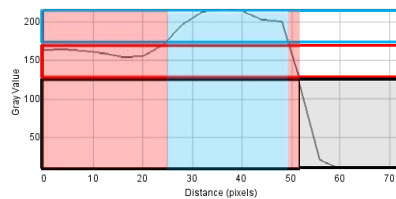
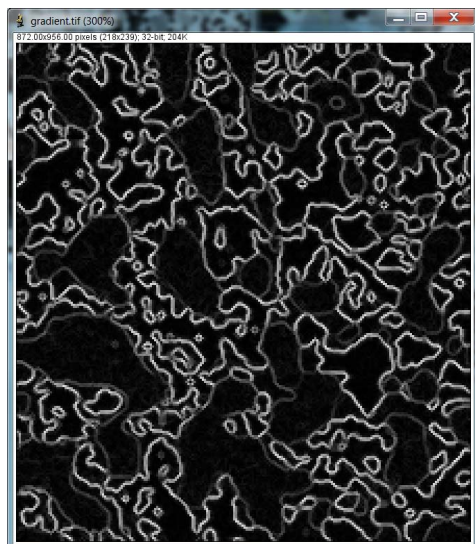
Marco Cantoni



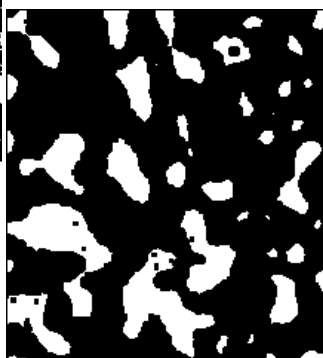
Semestre auto



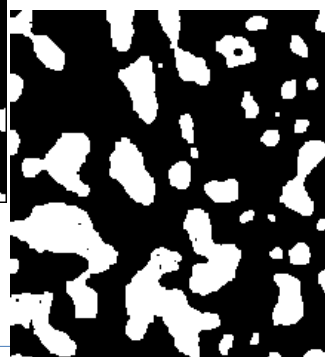
The gradient problem...

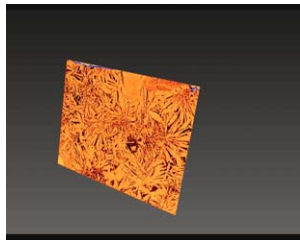


Erode
(shrink 1 pixel)

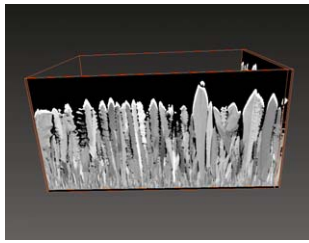


Dilate
(grow 1 pixel)

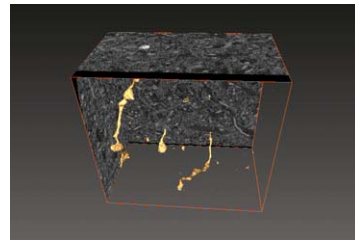




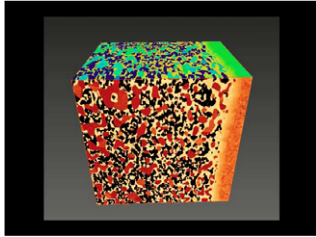
Cement, $(10\text{nm})^3$ voxel



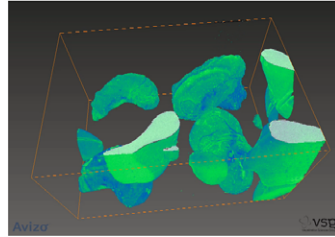
Solar cell: ZnO, $(10\text{nm})^3$ voxel



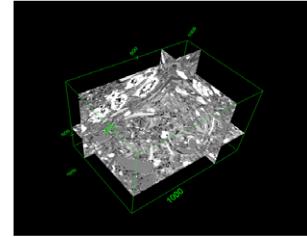
Rat brain, $(5\text{nm})^3$ voxel



SOFC, $(10\text{nm})^3$ voxel



Malaria parasite, $(8\text{nm})^3$ voxel

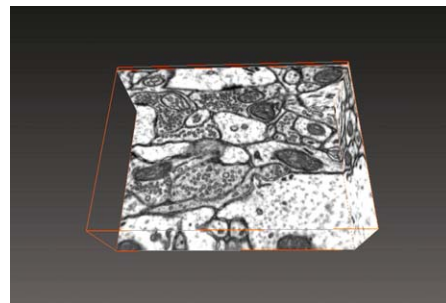
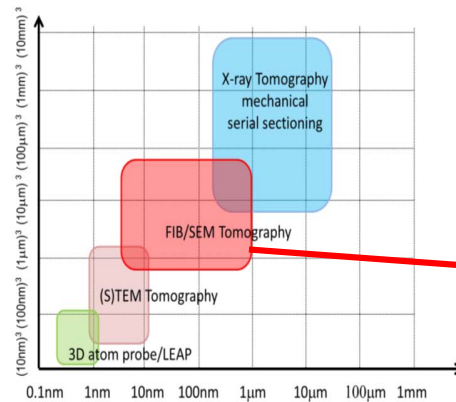


clay, $(10\text{nm})^3$ voxel

FIB/SEM Nanotomography, volume reconstruction
Typical voxel sizes

FIB-NT compared with other 3D-techniques

- Voxel size $\sim 5\text{-}10\text{nm}$
- Dwell time $\sim 10\mu\text{sec}$.
- 1 slice, image / min.
- HT: 1-2kV
- Escape depth of signal (BSE) $\leq 5\text{nm}$



$3\times 3\times 3\text{ nm}$ voxel brain tissue

**New possibilities in
3D-microscopy:
Combination with quantitative
analytical SEM techniques:
EBSD, EDX**

Focused Ion Beam *adds a new dimension to electron microscopy*

SEM goes 3D

- from 2D characterization and topography imaging to 3D volume analysis

TEM preparation

- « impossible » samples can now be prepared (heterogeneous samples)
- location of the transparent area can be selected with nm precision
- Parallel surfaces (uniform thickness) ideally for AEM