# Scanning Electron Microscopy

An Introduction by Lorenz Lechner

# Learning Goals

- Basic Operating Principles
- SEM Hardware
- Understand/aquire SEM images
- SEM Applications
- Focused Ion Beam Microscopy





# Some history...



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This movable testing stand for airplane engines, developed at Roosevelt Flying Field, will travel seventy miles an hour.

A WHEELED building which travels 70 miles an hour is the result of experiments at Roosevelt Field, Long Island, to develop a testing plant for airplane engines. A shack-like structure and an engine testing stand were mounted on a chassis which can be propelled under its own power at better than mile-a-minute speed. The advantage of the novel device lies in the fact that engine tests may be conducted at any part of the field, owing to the mobility of the testing stand.

#### Machine Magnifies 10,000 Times

USING electrons instead of light rays to "see" tiny objects, a German scientist has developed a machine which, by magnification in two stages, enlarges objects about 10,000 times. Maximum enlargement usually possible with optical instruments is 3,500 times. Glass lenses cannot be used in the electron microscope. Electric or magnetic fields take their place, bending the electron streams as lenses bend or focus light rays.

Modern Mechanix (Nov. 1934)





Ernst Ruska + Max Knoll



# This is not an SEM...

...since transmission electron microscopy is fundamentally different!



# Basic Operating Principle

### Hardware







# **Electron Optics**

### **Electron Interaction**



#### Interaction Volume



# **Electron Species**



Electrons Energy

SEM Imaging

### Fundamentals



Figure 7-4 The focused beam of electrons is scanned in a raster pattern over the specimen surface. The first scan is from A to A', with the beam moving down and then scanning line B to B', etc. (Redrawn from Postek, et al, 1980.)





# Large Depth of Focus

#### "Infinite Focus"

For small aperture And Large working distance



### Contrast Mechanisms



**Figure 7-16** Three dimensionality and contrast are due to the yield of secondary electrons from various parts of the specimen. Areas marked B face the beam and are in line of sight with the detector so that they will appear bright, I (intermediate brightness) faces the beam but fewer secondaries reach the detector since it is not in line of sight, D is dark in appearance since the beam does not strike this area and no secondaries are generated.



Figure 7-18 The edge effect, or enhanced electron emission, occurs along the edges of thin raised areas since secondary electrons may exit from both sides of the structure.

# Secondary Electrons



Fig. 6.5a, b



Fig. 6.5a, b. Illustration of the surface tilt and shadow contrast with micrographs of  $Ge_{38}P_8I_8$  crystals in the (a) SE and (b) BSE mode

Fig. 6.6. SE signal intensity across spheres with diameters larger and smaller than the electron range R and increase of the SE signal at an edge caused by diffusion contrast



### Backscattered Electrons



**RE-Bild** 



# Accelerating Voltage







#### 10µm



#### Detectors





#### 200nm

Signal A = InLens

EHT = 1.50 kV




#### **Everhart-Thornley Detector**



#### 100µm

Signal A = SE2

EHT = 10.00 kV

WD = 11 mm



#### 100µm ├────

Signal A = SE2

EHT = 10.00 kV





### ESB Detector

Energy and angle selective BSE







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### **BSE Detector**



#### 100µm

Signal A = QBSD EHT



100µm

Signal A = QBSD

EHT = 20.00 kV

# Suitable Samples



# Charging Effects



## Special SEM





### Environmental SEM









Minimal Scattering Scatter < 5% m < 0.05 Partial Scattering 5% to 95% Scatter m from = 0.05 to 3.0 Complete Scattering Scatter >95% m > 3.0

## Analytical Tools

#### Measuring

#### Full 2D Measurement capabilities After Calibration



Software Enhanced 3D Measuremnt

1 🖦 🗝

Scm

**HULL** 

## Elemental Analysis





### EDX

Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectroscopy





120.0 µm = 60 steps IPF [001]



175.0 µm = 70 steps IQ 74.352...385.66

EBSD **Electron Backscatter Diffraction** 

001





## Summary

- Basic Operating Principles
- SEM Hardware
- Understand/aquire SEM images
- SEM Applications

# Focused Ion Beam Microscopy

## Microscope







Helios Nanolab





#### lon Interaction

SE, SI, sputtered particles, amorphization, etc.




# Milling



ap	4/24/2006	HV	mag	det	WD	HFW	5 μm
ape	1:13:39 PM	10.00 kV	10000 x	ETD	5.1 mm	24.0 µm	FEI Nova NanoLab 600

## Gas Deposition





#### EBID

# Applications



R. Klengel, Fraunhofer IWM

X-sectioning



#### **TEM-Sample Preparation**

### NanoProbing



