

Single-shot laser-ionization mass spectrometry for direct atomic analysis

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Framing the problem ...

SURFACE/SOLID
ANALYTICAL
TECHNIQUES



INFORMATION

MORPHOLOGICAL

CHEMICAL

STRUCTURAL

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INFORMATION

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Surface sensitivity

Atomic composition

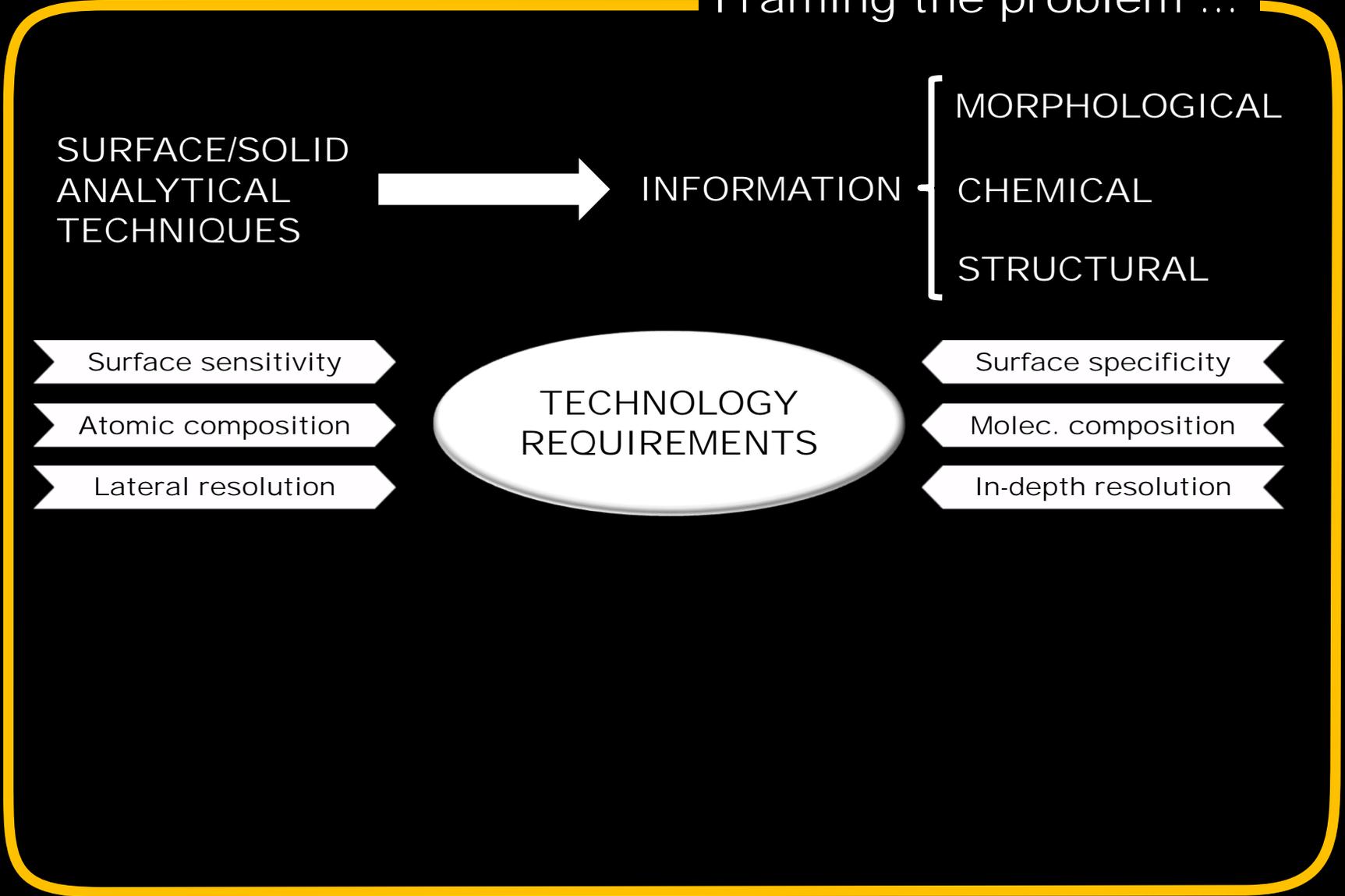
Lateral resolution

TECHNOLOGY
REQUIREMENTS

Surface specificity

Molec. composition

In-depth resolution



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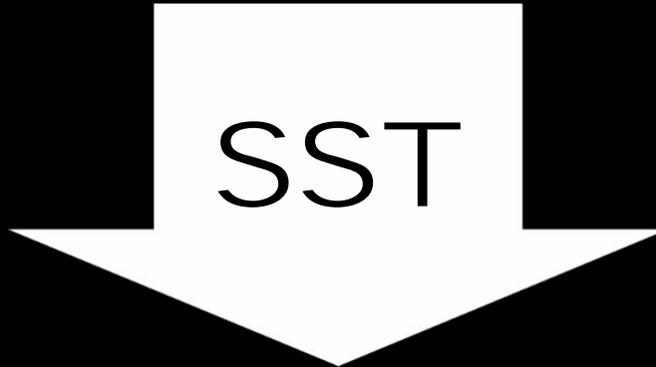
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SST



Points to consider ...

Direct laser ionization of solids (LIMS, laser-ionization mass spectrometry) is an amazing way to get full atomic information about sample microlocations.

Spatial resolutions as low as a few microns are easily attainable with conventional optics, with sampling mass in the low femtogram per pulse range.

It has few limitations with respect to sample type (all of them shared with other vacuum-based techniques).

The only limitation of the technique relies on its moderate reproducibility and sensitivity.

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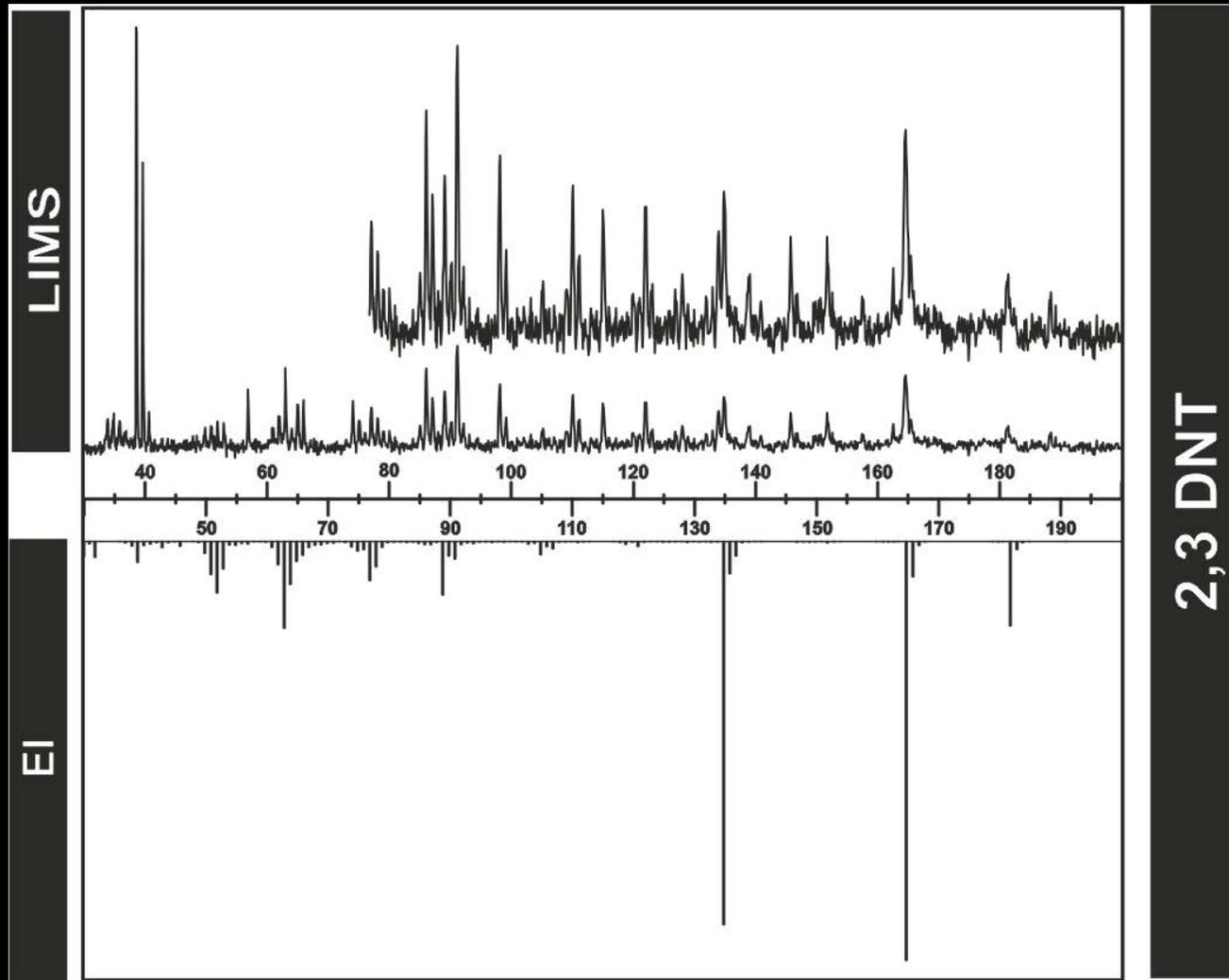
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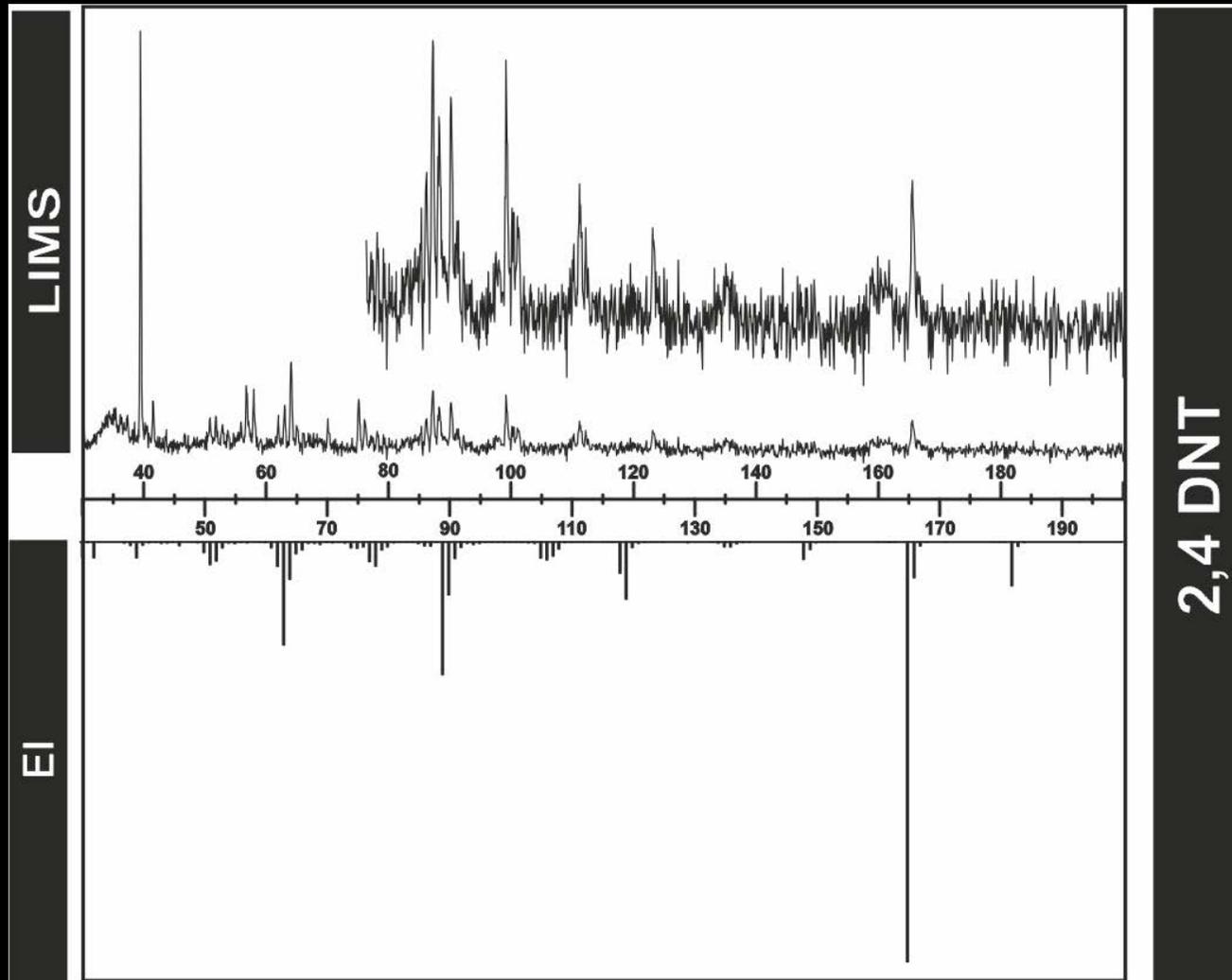
Points to consider ...

Everything turns much more
difficult under SINGLE SHOT
conditions

SS fingerprinting ...

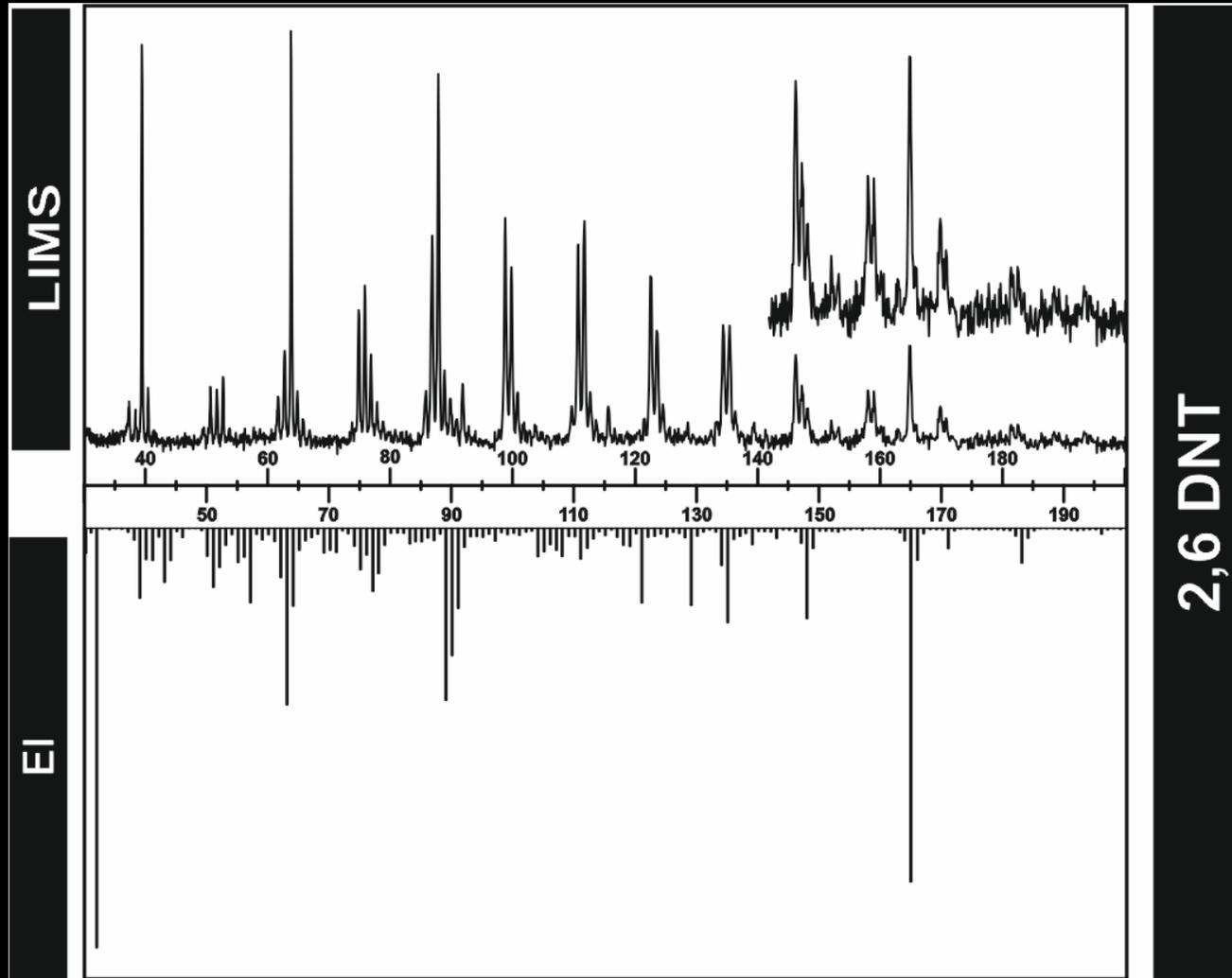


SS fingerprinting ...

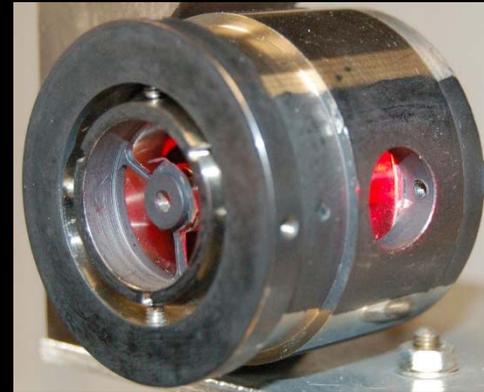
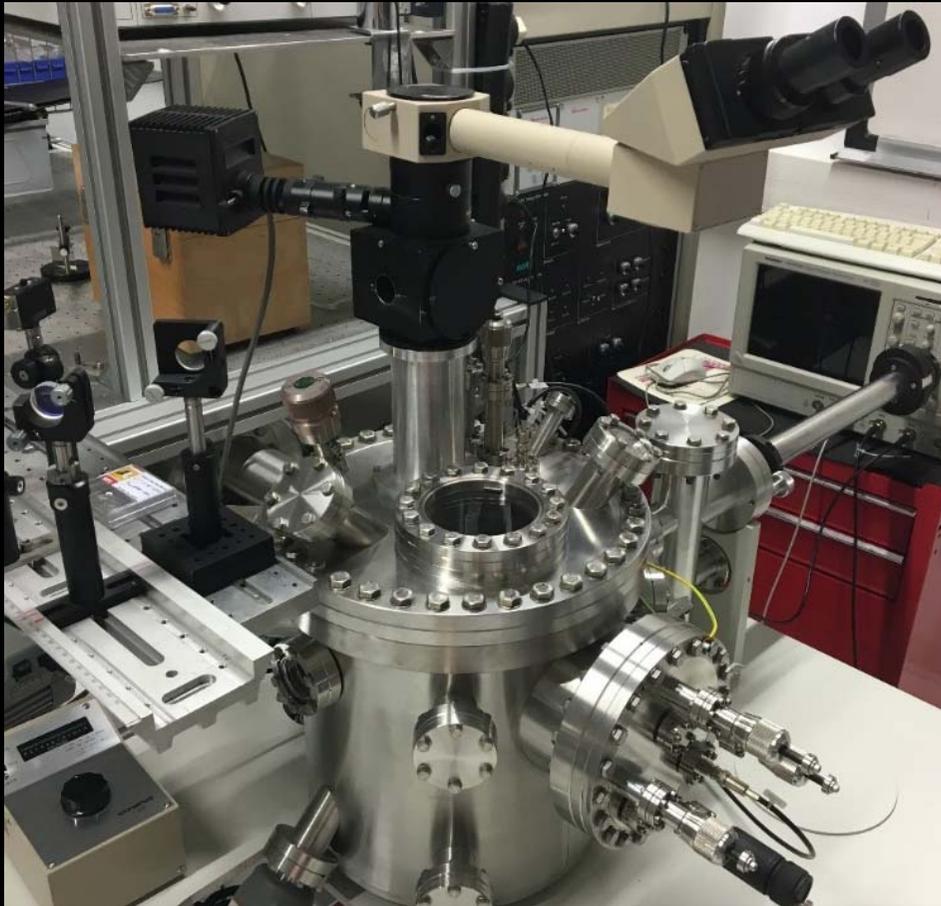


2,4 DNT

SS fingerprinting ...

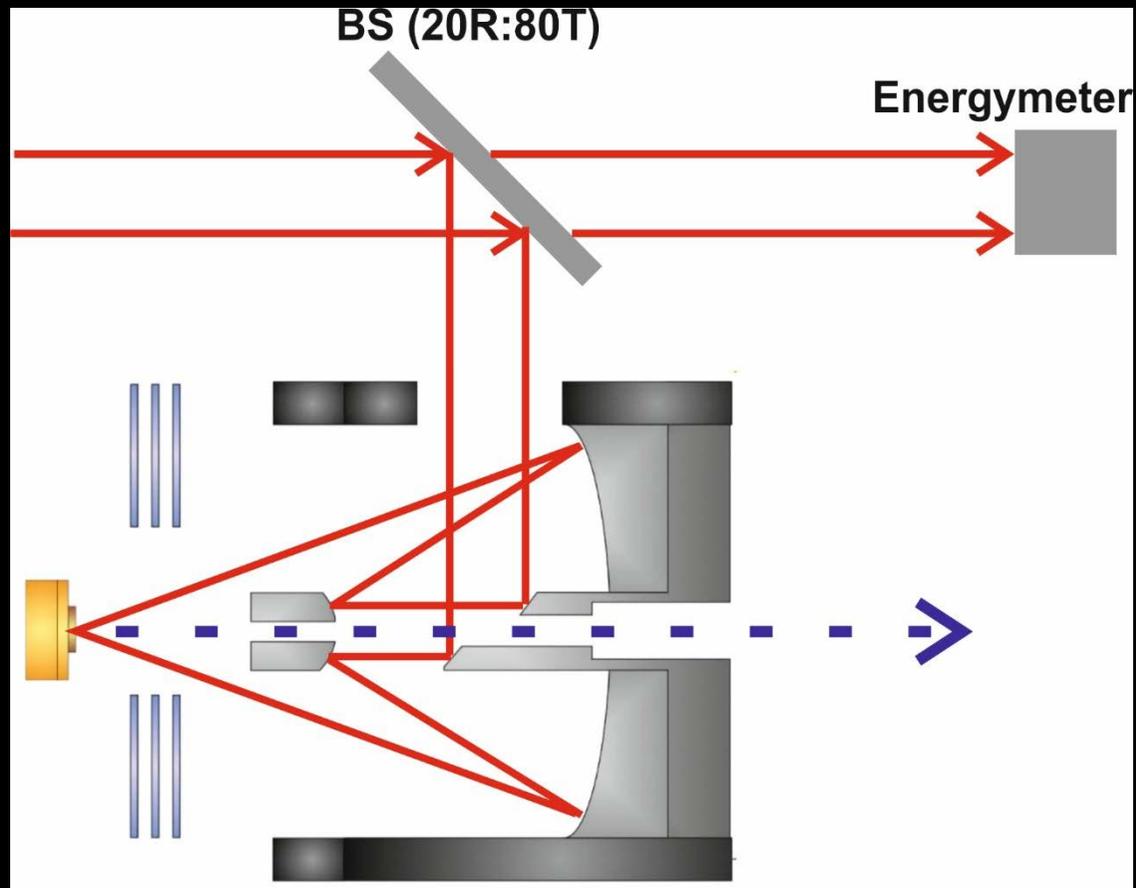


Weird things ...

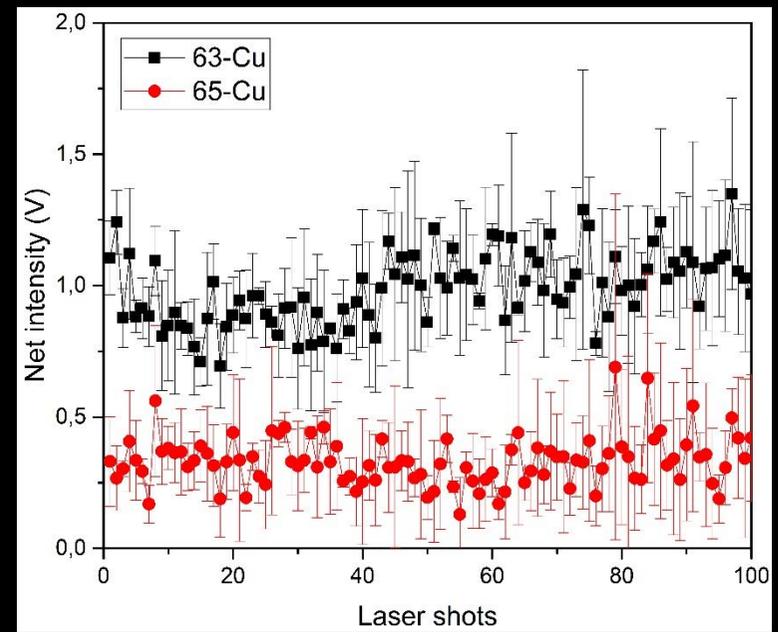
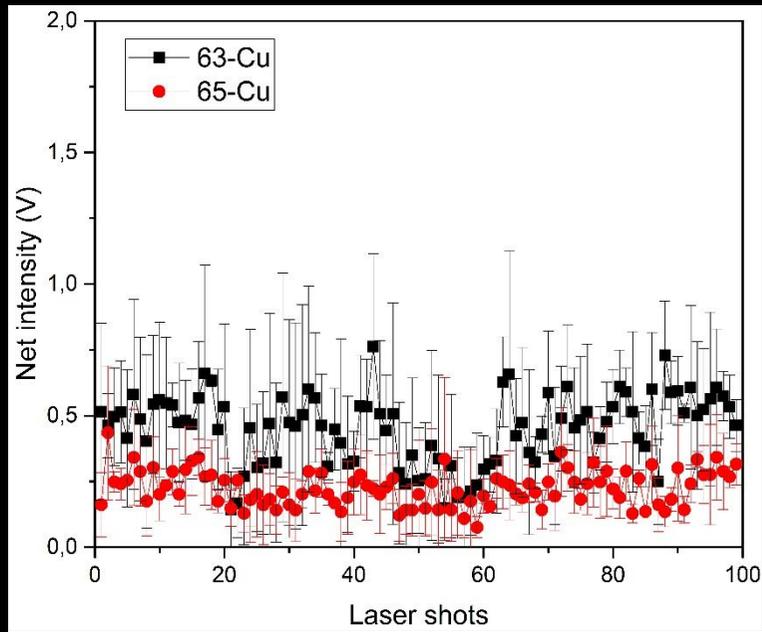


- Totally reflective metal system
- 180 nm – 5 μm
- Ion lenses
- Whole on-axis geometry
- Smaller craters
- High magnification (150x)

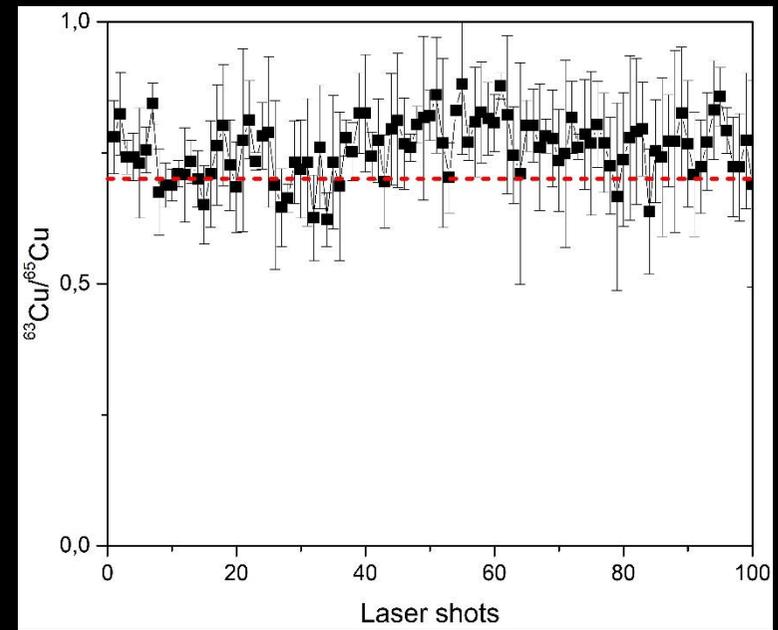
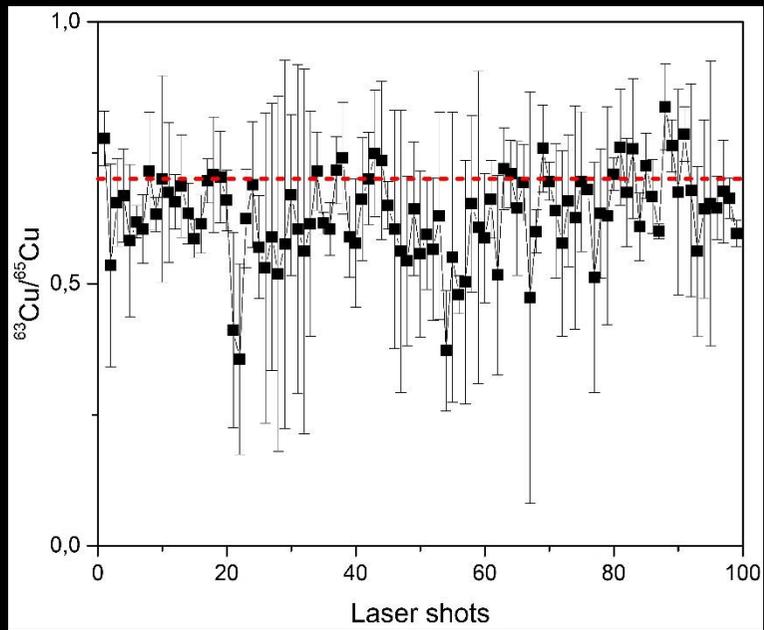
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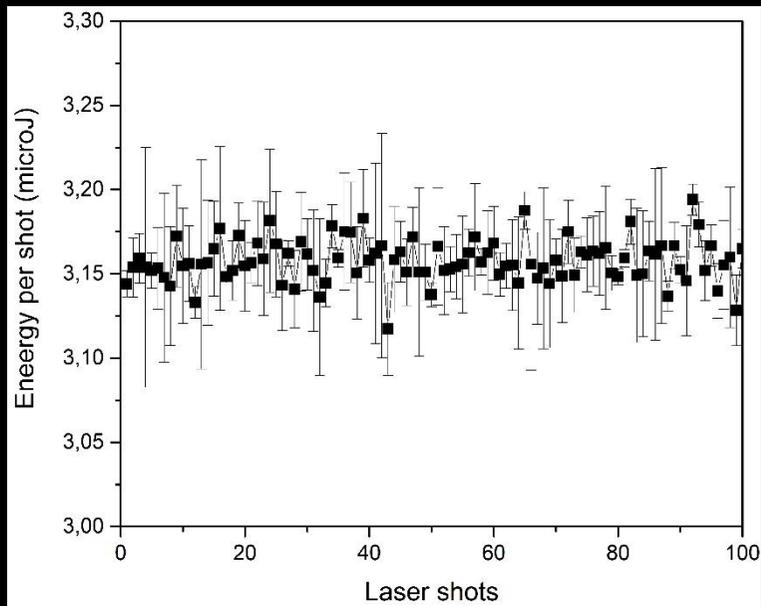
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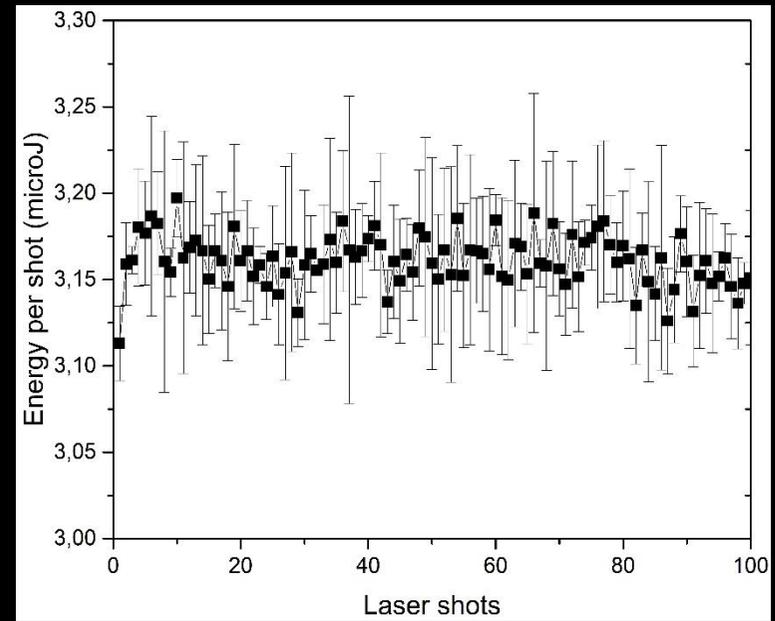
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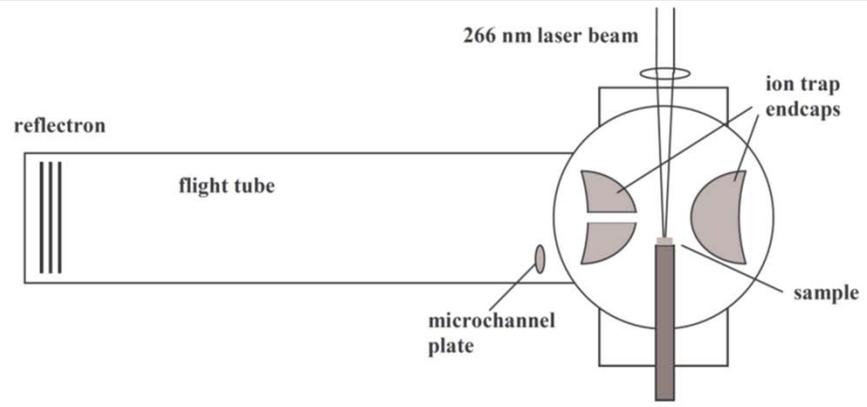
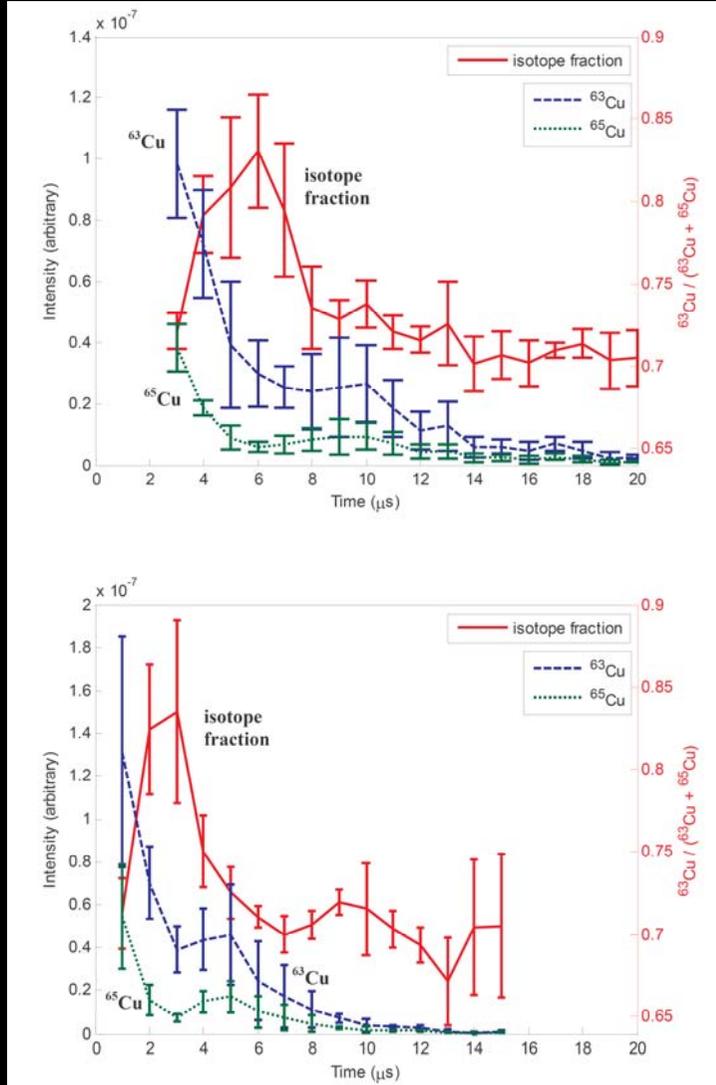


RSD: 0.42%



RSD: 0.44%

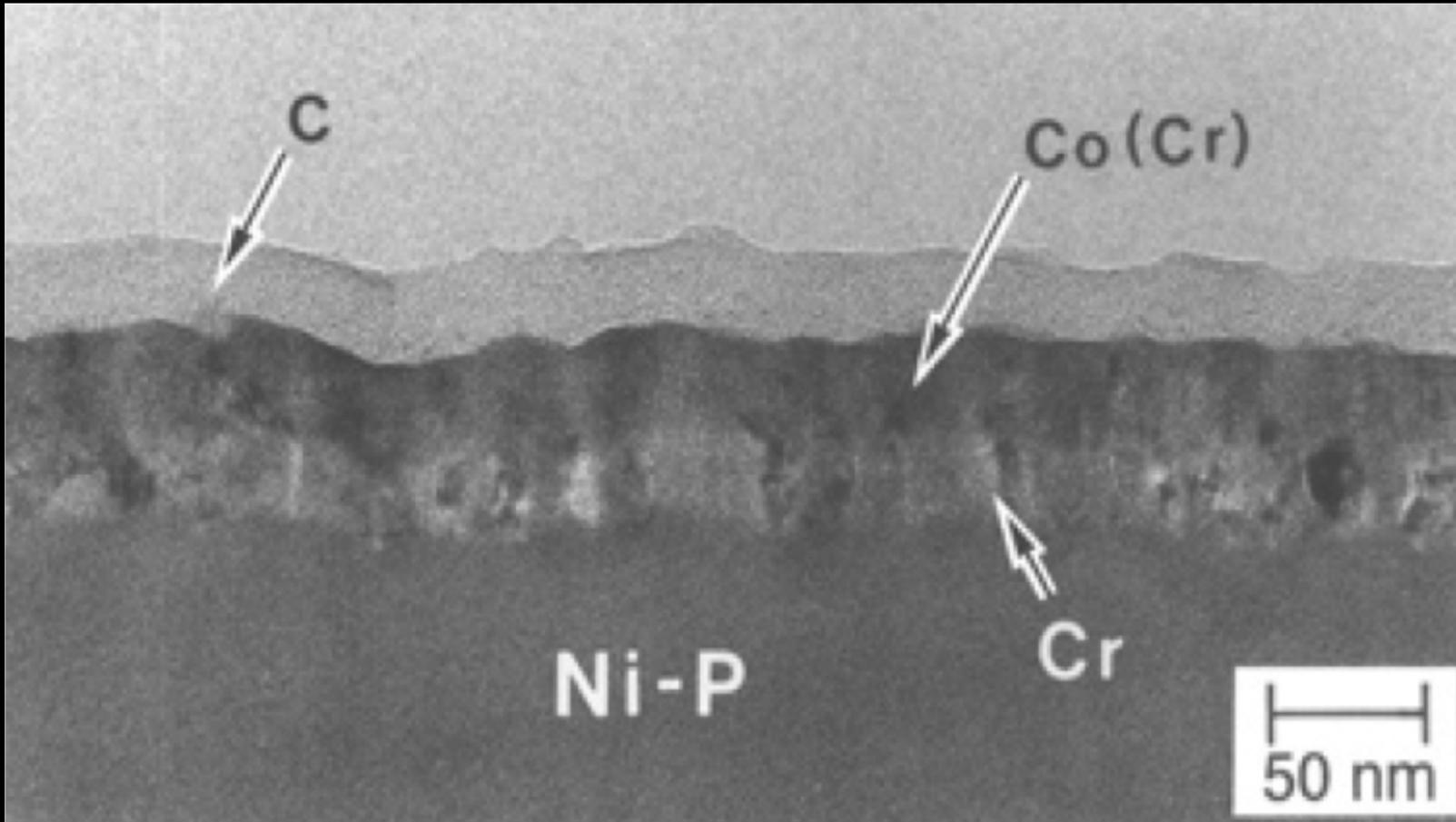
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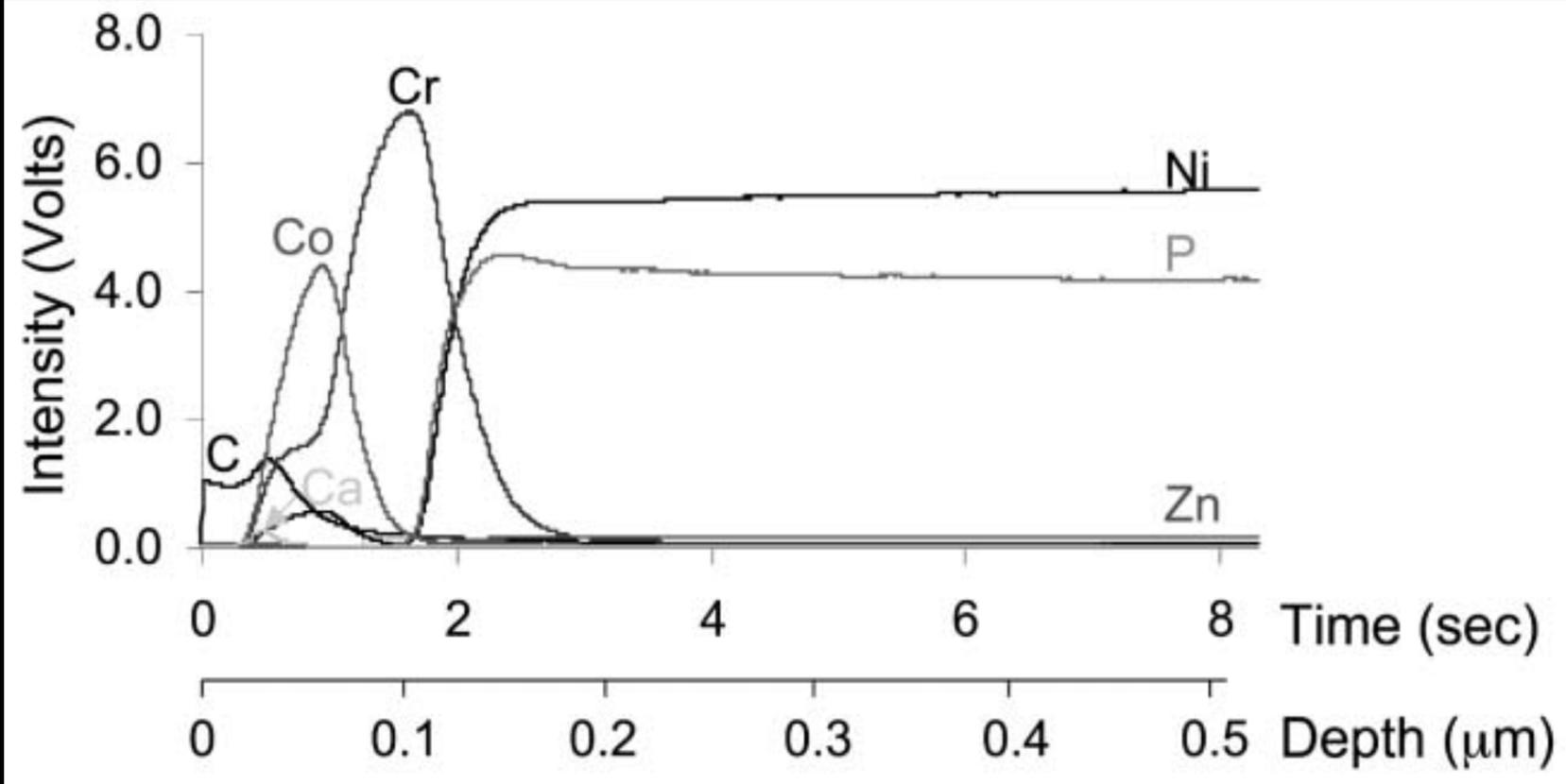


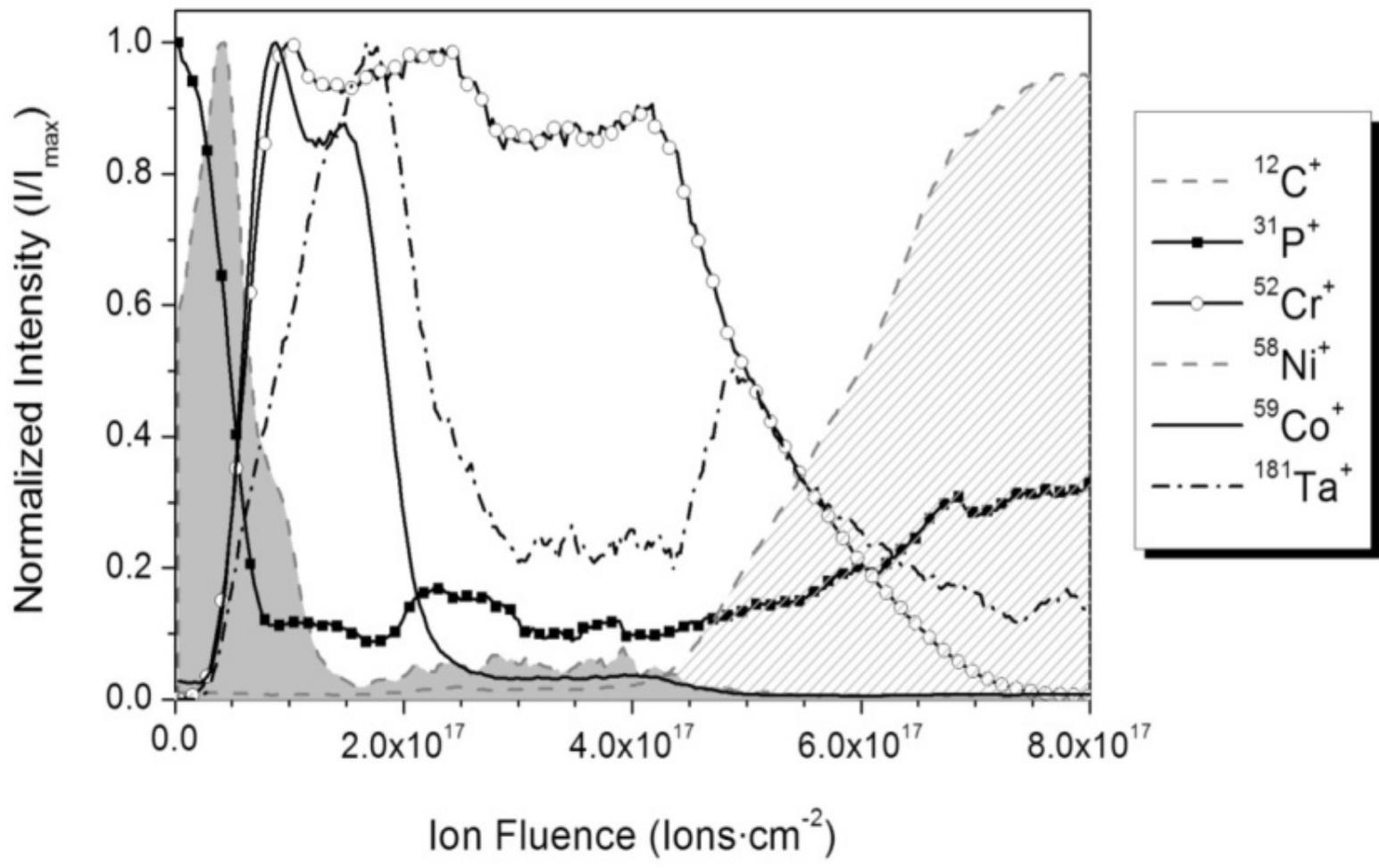
Separation of Copper Isotopes in the Laser Plume

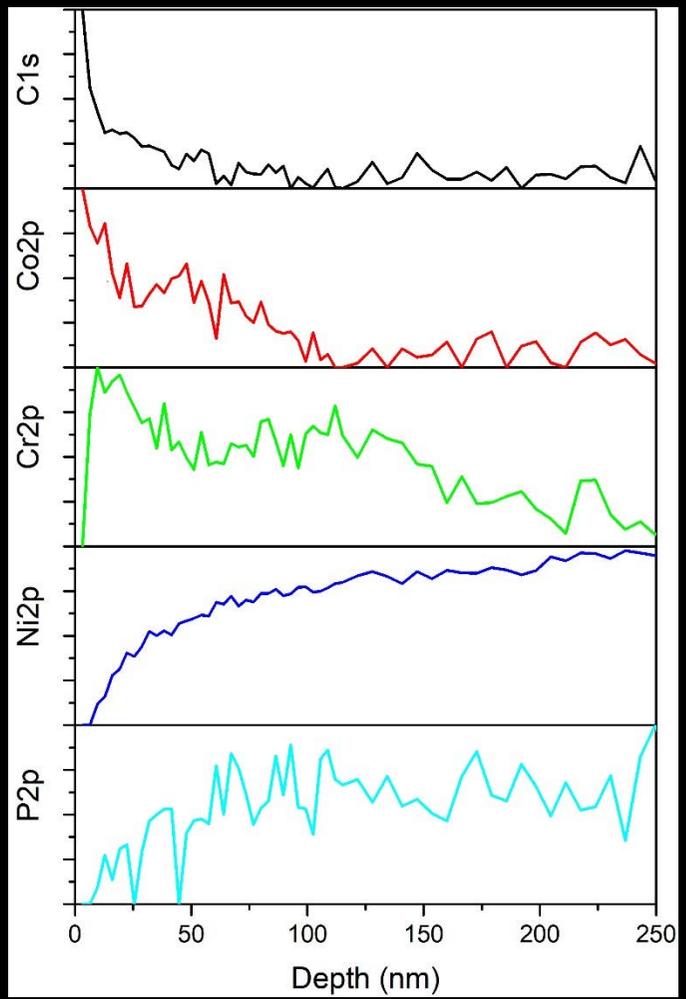
Timothy Wu Suen, Xianglei Mao, and Richard E. Russo

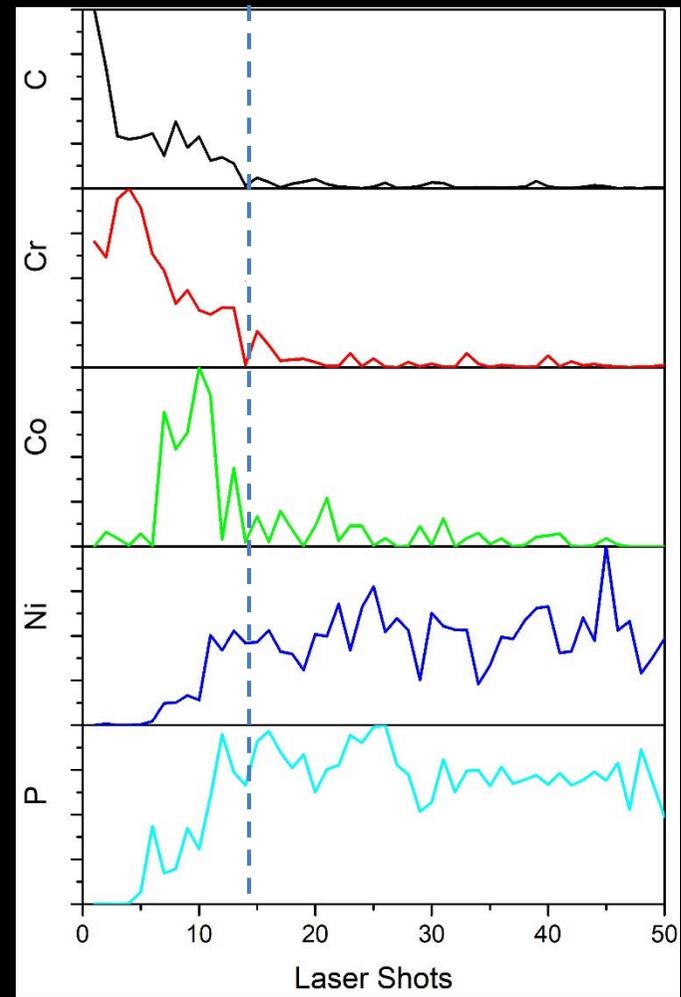
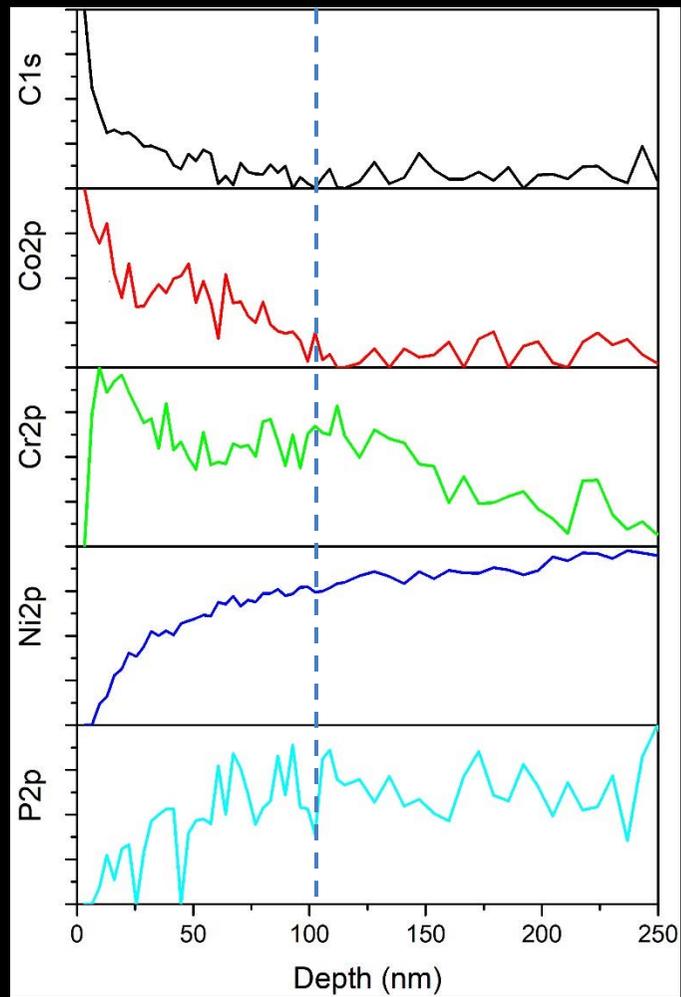
CP1278, *International Symposium on High Power Laser Ablation 2010*, edited by C. R. Phipps
© 2010 American Institute of Physics 978-0-7354-0828-9/10/\$30.00

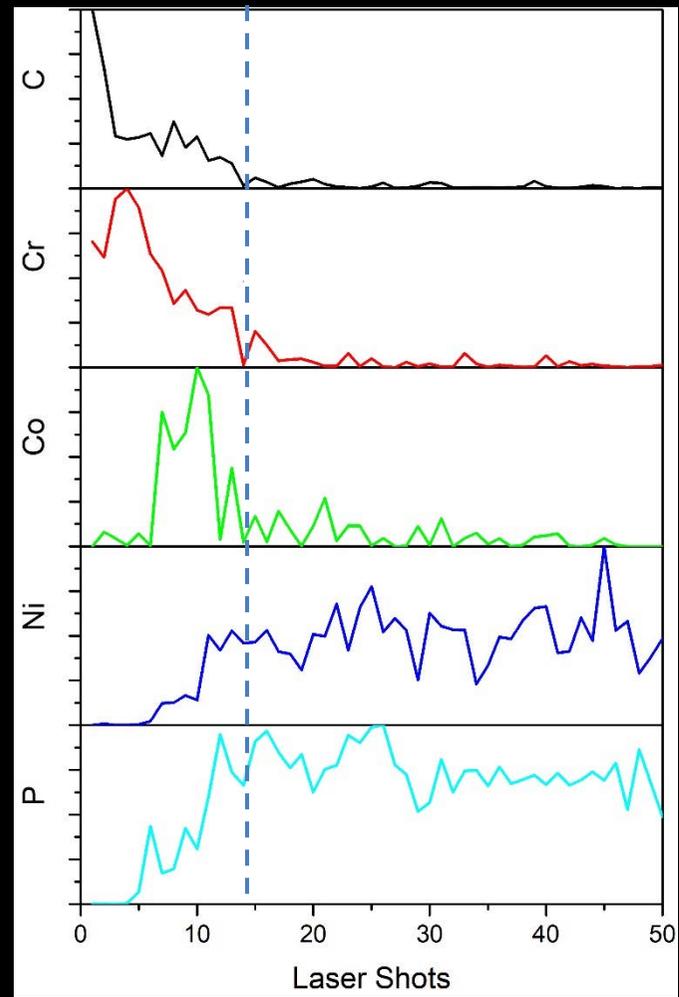
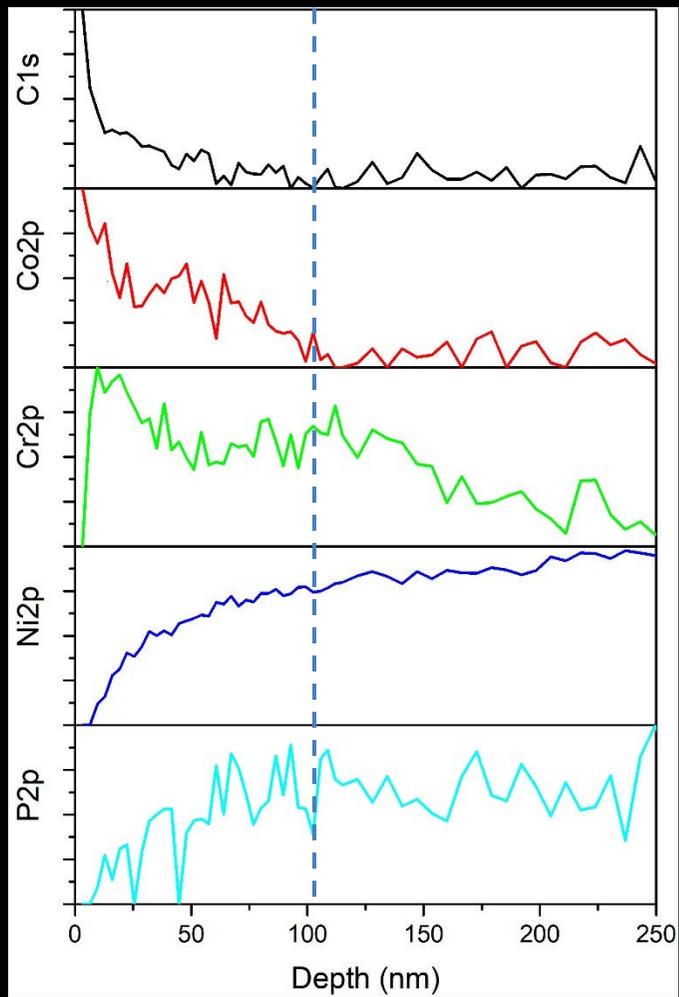




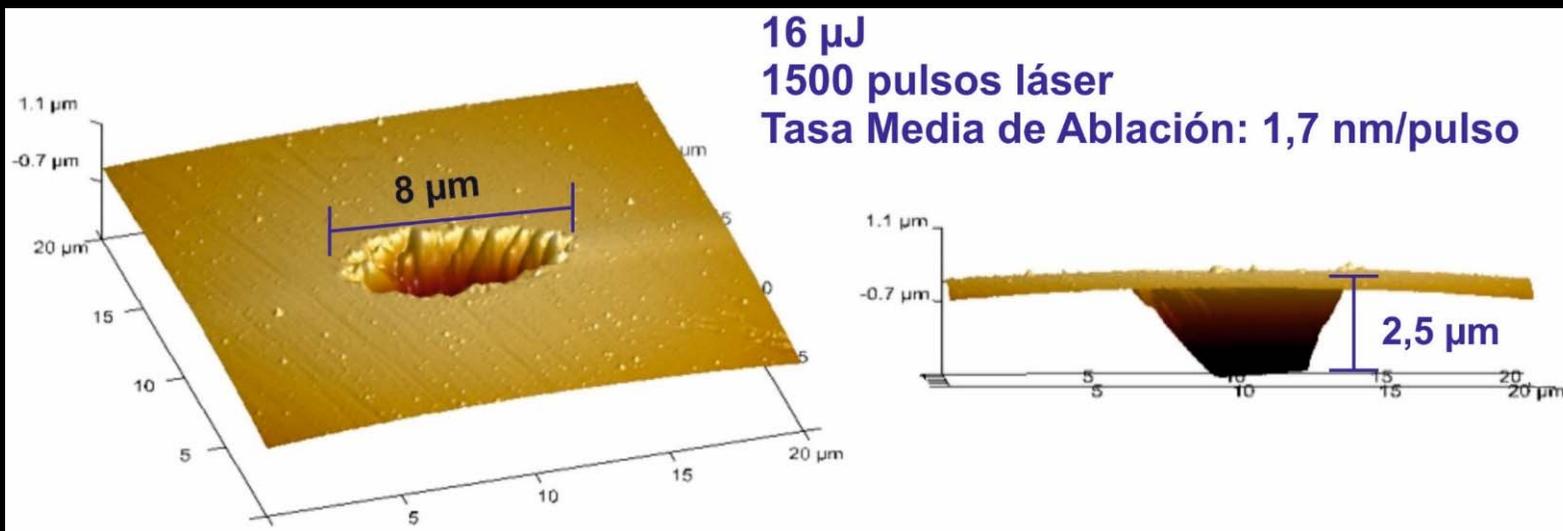




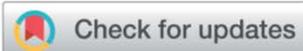




AAR aprox. 7 nm/pulse



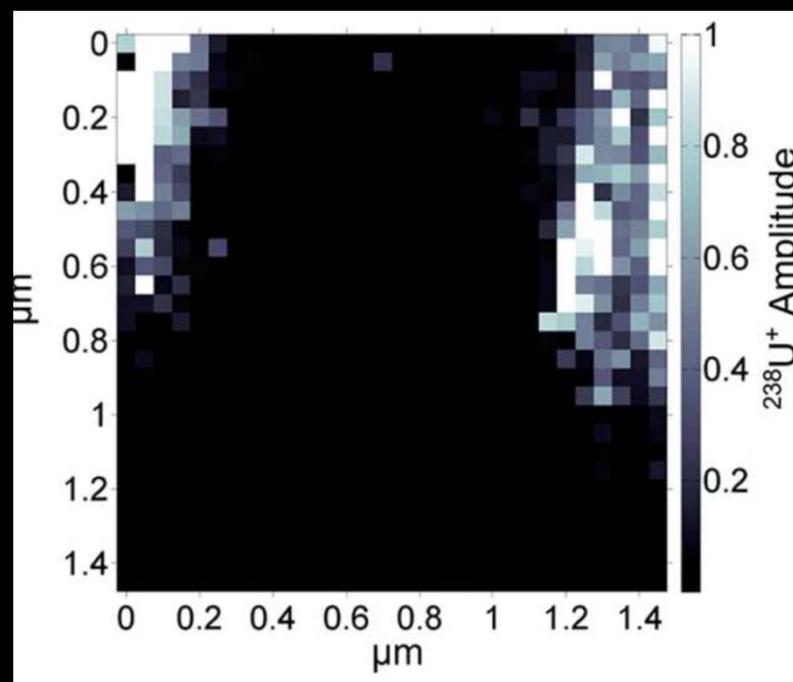
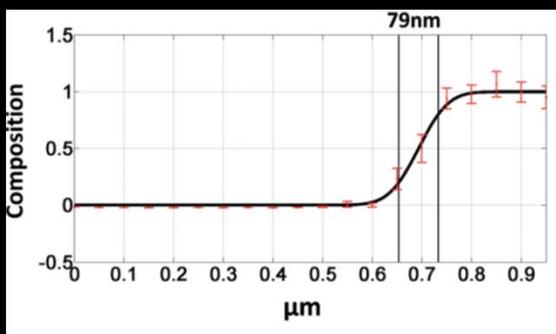
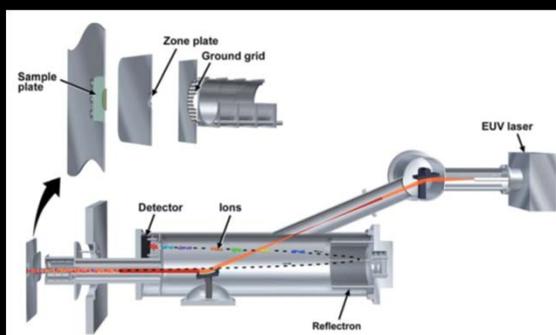
Energy/pulse (μJ)		AAR (nm/pulse)
21		2,174
16		1,682
11	2,433	1,622



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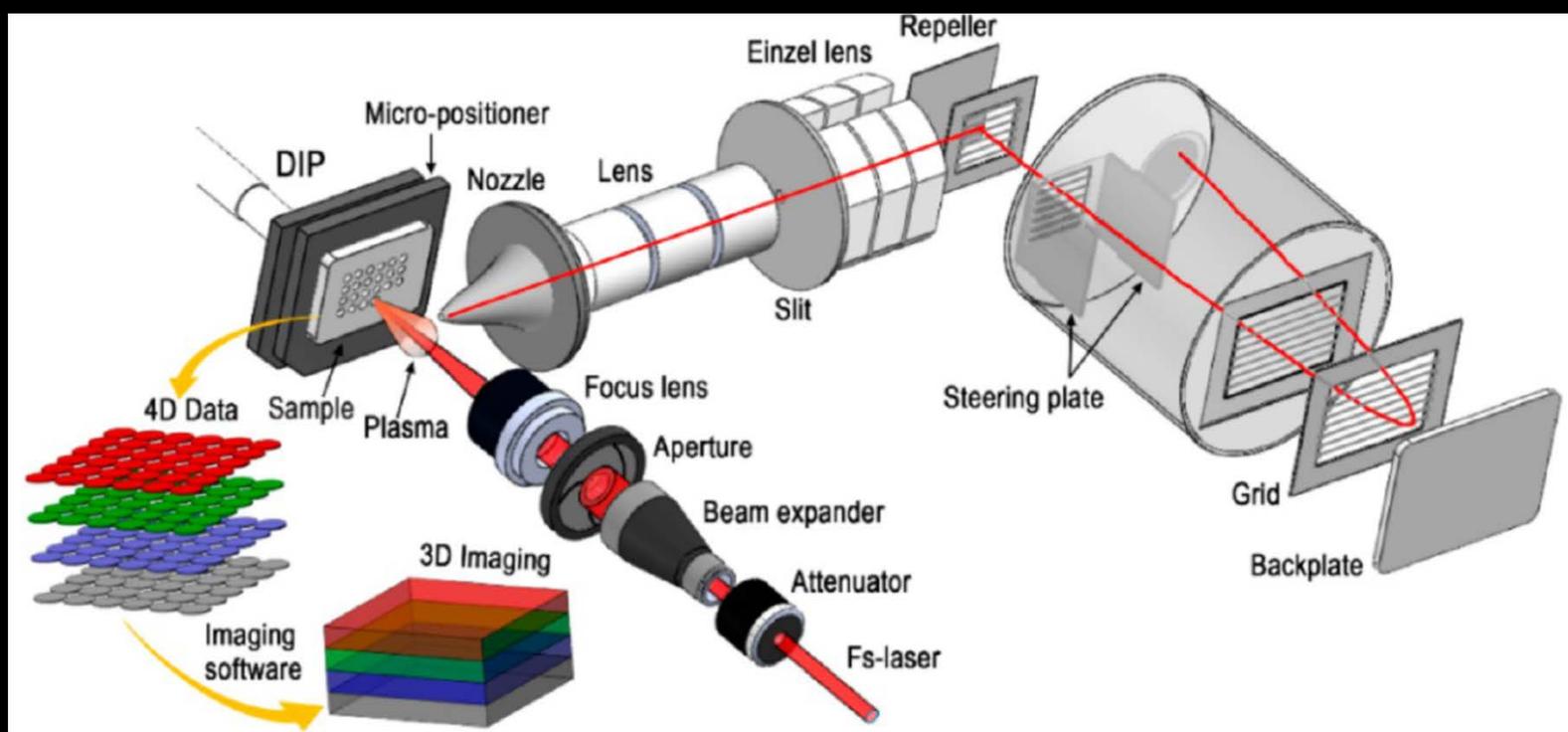
Characterization of extreme ultraviolet laser ablation mass spectrometry for actinide trace analysis and nanoscale isotopic imaging

Tyler Green,^a Ilya Kuznetsov,^a David Willingham,^b Benjamin E. Naes,^b Gregory C. Eiden,^b Zihua Zhu,^b W. Chao,^c Jorge J. Rocca,^a Carmen S. Menoni^a and Andrew M. Duffin^{*b}



Three-Dimensional Elemental Imaging of Nantan Meteorite via Femtosecond Laser Ionization Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry

Miaohong He,[†] Yifan Meng,[†] Shanshan Yan,[†] Wei Hang,^{*,†,‡,§} Wenge Zhou,[§] and Benli Huang[†]



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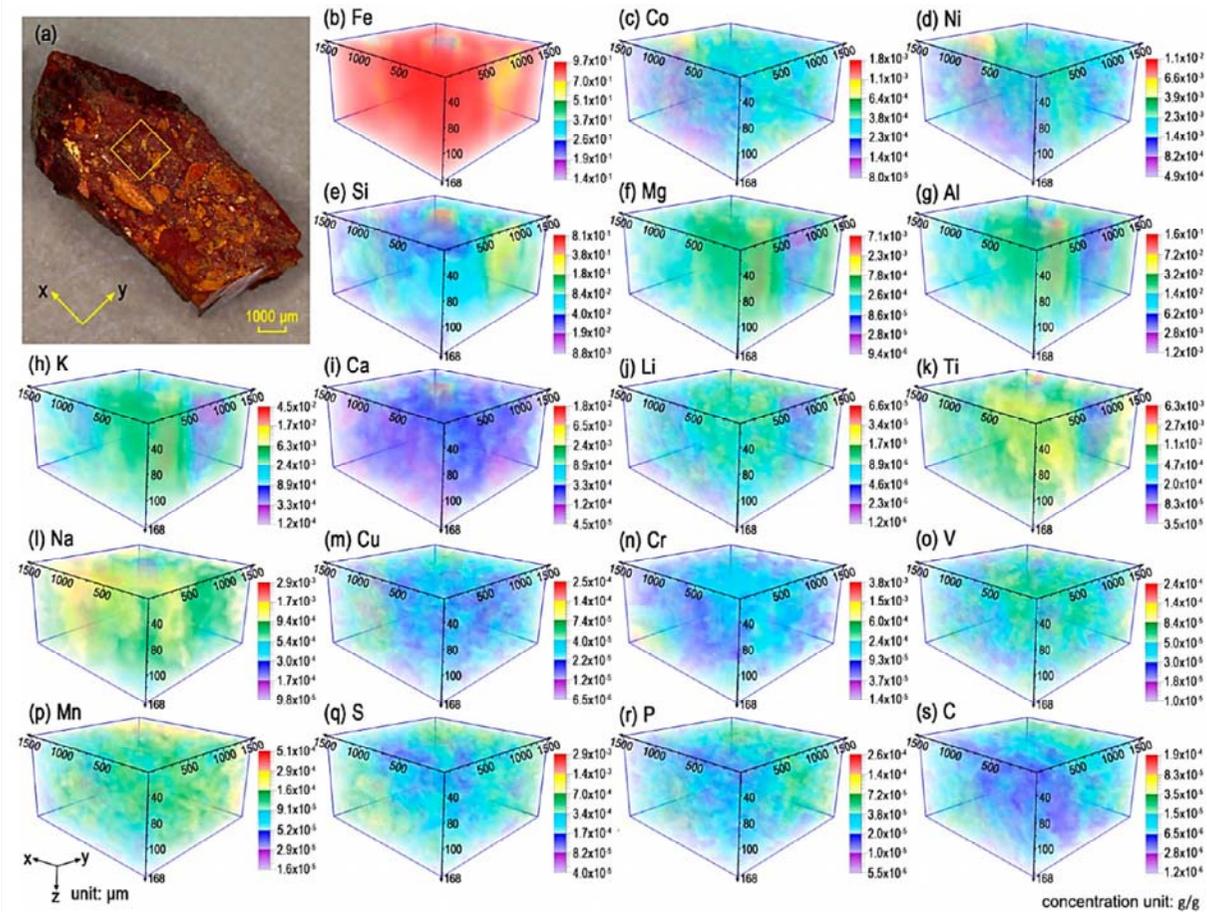
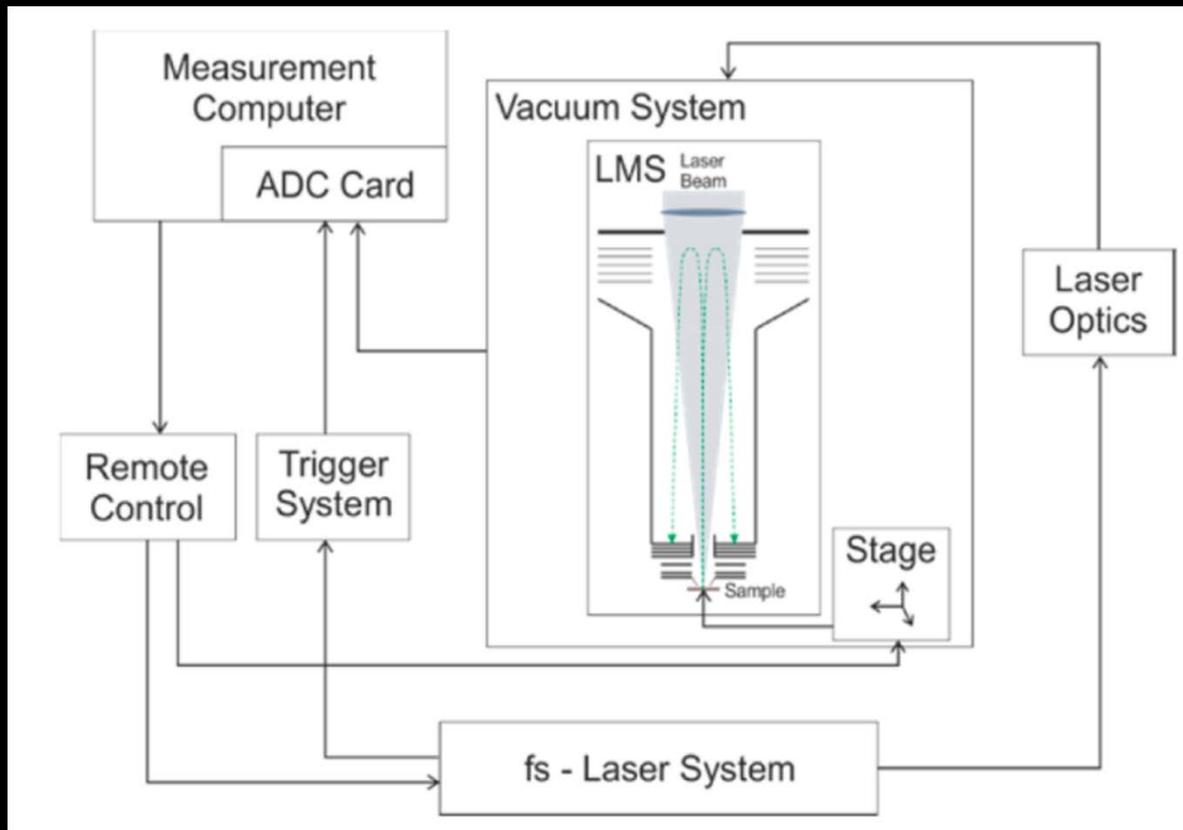


Figure 5. 3D element distributions recorded in the Nantan meteorite. The dimensions of the area are $1.5 \times 1.5 \text{ mm}^2$. (a) Photograph of the meteorite and (b-s) particular elemental distributions in the meteorite (g/g in concentration).

Toward Three-Dimensional Chemical Imaging of Ternary Cu–Sn–Pb Alloys Using Femtosecond Laser Ablation/Ionization Mass Spectrometry

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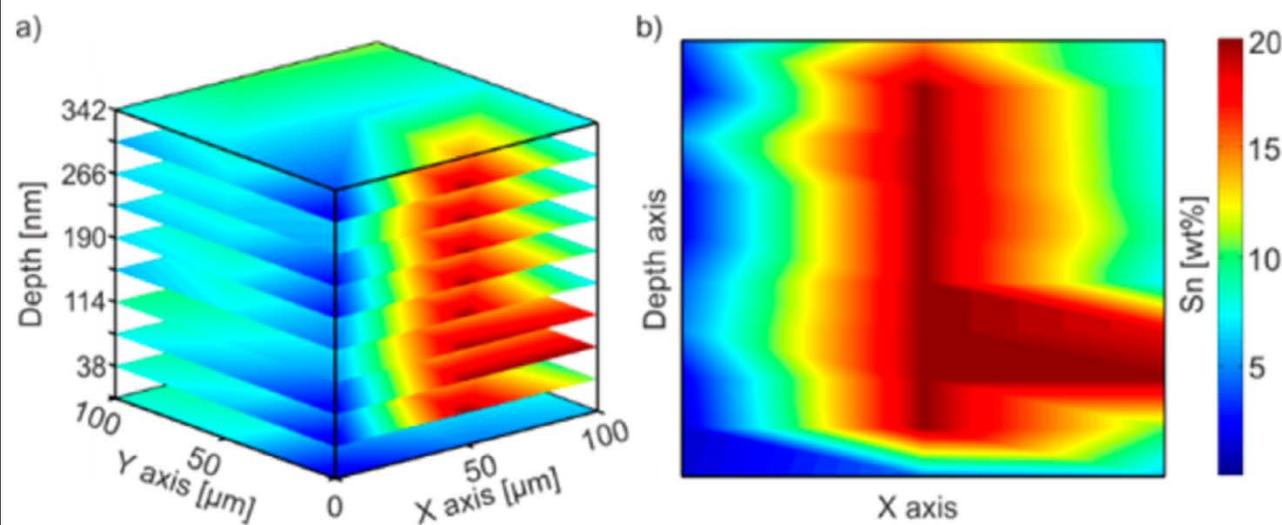


Figure 8. Tin-rich grain in the CuSn10Pb10 sample observed over 3×3 spots of the raster array and 10 consecutive depth layers (accumulated mass spectra): (a) slice plot illustrating the grain inside the Cu matrix; (b) X/depth interpolation of the 10 layers.

Take-home notes ...

LIMS maybe is not a SST, but may face almost any problem related to condensed-phase

Under well-controlled conditions, extraordinary results come out, comparable to well-established techniques

Laser-induced ions, even at a low-fluence regime are horses difficult to be saddled, introducing large inhomogeneities in the measurements, but not as large to impair the generation of results of quality

New groups of laser spectroscopists with strong mass spec background are demonstrating that LIMS can be as good as many other solid-analysis techniques. It is just a matter of perseverance and solid backgrounds.