3. Imaging system of x-ray microscopy
Optical layout
Principles of zone plate
Phase contrast
Tomography





#### **Optical Layout of NSRRC nano-TXM (I)**





#### Layout of superconducting wavelength shifter beamlines BL01A, BL01B and BL01C.





### Nano-TXM at BL01B (overview)



### **Nano-TXM (optical)**



manipulation system



#### A Fresnel Zone Plate Lens Used as a Diffractive Lens for Point to Point Imaging





#### Zone Plate Diffractive Focusing for Higher Orders



Courtesy of D. Attwood, Soft X-ray and EUV Radiation

Zone plate consists of concentric rings (zones) with zone width decreasing with radius.



#### **Zone Plate's Key Parameters**



SEM Image of a ZP and its zone profile

Key parameters: Number of zones > 100 required for good focusing Outermost (smallest) zone width Determines resolution and NA Zone materials, thickness, profile Focusing efficiency Focal length Working distance

# Zone Plate Performance



50nm zone width with 890nm Height

Zone plate efficiency~=15%

Outermost-zone AR=17.8 Table 4 Zone Plate Specifications

Outmost zone width:	50 nm
Diameter of the first zone plate lens:	85 μm
Diameter of the second zone plate lens:	75 μm
Diameter of the third zone plate lens:	70 μm
The common focal length at 8.5, 9.5, and 10.5 keV	30 mm
Zone Construction Material:	Au
Aspect ratio:	>15:1
Support membrane:	1 um Si₃N₄
	membrane
Focusing efficiency:	> 10%



#### Using Phase Effects to Achieve Higher Diffraction Efficiency



$$\Delta \phi = \left(\frac{2\pi\delta}{\lambda}\right) \Delta t \qquad (3.29)$$

For a  $\pi$ -phase shift

$$\Delta t = \frac{\lambda}{2\delta} \tag{9.25}$$

a factor of four can be gained in diffraction efficiency. For soft x-rays and EUV all materials are partially absorbing

$$n = 1 - \delta + i\beta \qquad (3.12)$$

Optimization is a function of  $\delta/\beta$ , as discussed by J. Kirz, J. Opt. Soc. Am. <u>64</u>, 301 (1974) and by G.R. Morrison, Ch. 8 in A. Michette and C. Buckley, <u>X-Ray Science and Technology</u> (IOP, Bristol, 1993).

#### **Challenges of Zone Plate Fabrication**

Precise high aspect ratio nano-structuring in high mass density materials, e.g. Au

Aspect ratio (AR) required for optimal focusing efficiency of x-rays in an Au zone plate

		Spatial Resolution		
	Energy (keV)	60nm (50nm zone width)	30nm (25nm Zone width)	
	8.0	18	36	
	9.0	20	40	
	10.0	23	46	
	11.0	25	50	

Grating structure with an aspect ratio of 18





Expose

Develop





Gold Plate







Courtesy of E. Anderson, LBNL

Professor David Attwood

# **Phase contrast helps**

**Refraction index** :  $n = 1 - \delta - i\beta$ 

 $\mathsf{E}(z) = \mathsf{E}_{0} e^{-i2\pi(-\delta - i\beta) z/\lambda} = \mathsf{E}_{0} e^{i2\pi\delta z/\lambda - 2\pi\beta z/\lambda}$ 

 $|(z) \sim |E(z)|^2 \sim |_0 e^{4\pi\beta z/\lambda}$ 

Absorption contrast  $\mu z = 4\pi\beta z/\lambda \sim \lambda^3$ 

Phase contrast  $\phi(z)=2\pi\delta z/\lambda \sim \lambda$ 

Zernike's phase contrast method in optical microscopy was invented in 1935 and Zernike was awarded the 1953 Noble Prize in Physic for this great achievement, making the observation of the biology transparent tissue come true. With the same approaches, the low-z material, biology tissue and dielectric material can be imaged by the full field x-ray microscope.

- Phase contrast is x10<sup>4</sup> higher than absorption contrast for protein in water
   @ 8keV
- Required dose reduced due to phase contrast



### Zernike's Phase Contrast Method in TXM



 $g(y) = e^{i \varphi(y)} \sim 1 + i \varphi(y)$   $\mathcal{F}[G(y)] \sim U_1(\nu) + i U_2(\nu)$   $\mathcal{F}^{-1}[i U_1(\nu) + i U_2(\nu)] \sim g_1(y') + g_2(y')$ 



# **Superior Modulation Transfer Function of X-ray Phase Contrast**

#### Phase contrast X-ray microscopy @ 4 keV – Applications I



# Phase Contrast Images of a Plastic Zone Plate



#### Without phase contrast



#### With phase contrast



Plastic zone-plate provided by *Xradia Inc*.

Rock from Gi-Gi Earthquake TXM (1111.29m, well A)



#### Absorption

Phase contrast

**Schematic Representation of the Tomography Principle** 



角。入射X射線透過樣品後在空間坐標系上有一個吸收投影圖 P(X', θ)

$$P(x',\theta) = \ln I_0 / I = \int \mu(x,y) dy'$$

其中 I<sub>0</sub>和 I 分別是入射和透射X射線的強度,μ(x,y)是樣品的吸收係數,它反映了樣品在這個面上的結構信息。轉動θ到不同位置,可以得到一系列的投影圖。現在已經有許多方法去解出這些 方程並得到吸收係數μ(x,y),從而就得到了這個二維圖的結構圖 像。同樣由一系列二維投影圖可以求出三維的吸收係數μ(x,x,





# Scientific Opportunities

- Nanotechnology: 3D imaging, structure and function dependence
- Semiconductor: electromigration, failure mechanism at small dimension
- Materials and engineering: crack initiation and propagation
- Geology, agriculture, and environmental science: imaging of soil sand stones in aqueous conditions
- Biology: imaging of cells and tissues in their natural state
- Biomedical: bones, implants, dental filling, etc.

# Multi-layered Cu Interconnected IC



# Elemental Contrast by Tuning Energy across Specific Absorption Edge



# Investigation of Key-hole Defects in Tungsten Plugs





A two-dimensional projection shows the key holes

Sample provided by Power Semiconductor Inc.

Schematic diagram showing the process for fabricating anodic alumina film with order nanochannels



Reproduced from C Y Liu et al, (2001), APL, 78, 120

#### Nanochannel rotation +- 5<sup>0</sup>







# 3D rendering of anodic alumina nanochannels



Virtual cross section through x-z plane.

# Vimentin of the Cervix Tumor (HeLa) Cells Immuno-labelled with DAB Chromogen with Ni Enhancement



Sample provide by Yeukuang Hwu, *Academia Sinica* 

Nuclear pore complex (NPC): a large (50-100 MD) collection of proteins which organize the ~9 nm openings in nuclear membranes of eukaryotic cells.



FIGURE 3. Distribution of nuclear pore complexes (NPC) in tumor mammary epithelial cells. The left image is the control, which was not exposed to primary anti-NPC antibodies but did receive secondary gold-tagged antibodies and silver enhancement, and is free of label. Blue dots in the right image are antibody labeled, silver enhanced NPC molecules. Scale bar = 1  $\mu$ m.

<u>C. Larabell</u> (LBNL): cell biologist, using confocal & electron microscopy

- Immunocytochemistry: a method for identifying structure-function relationships of cells and proteins in cells by looking at the subcellular location of these proteins
- Critical proteins inside cells are labeled so that X-rays could be used to identify them
- X-ray microscopy gives cell biologists a whole new way of looking at their samples

C. Larabell (LBNL) ALS XM-1



Transmission x-ray microscope image of mouse 3T3 fibroblasts, a type of connective-tissue cell, with spatial resolution of 36 nm, clearly shows features -- such as nucleoli and the sharp nuclear membrane -- not resolvable with optical confocal microscopy.

• The <u>basic information</u> about the organization of cells and subcellular structures is critical for our understanding of cellular functions – central theme in cell biology.

• The <u>challenge</u> in cell biology has been to obtain the best resolution 3D morphological information about cells that are examined in a state most closely resembling their natural environment.

• <u>X-ray microscopy</u> is proving to be a powerful method in that (a) it provides far better resolution thar confocal laser microscopy, and (b) one can examine whole, fully-hydrated cells, avoiding potential artifacts introduced by the dehydration, embedding and sectioning that is required for electron microscopy.

• <u>Cellular imaging</u> is of critical importance in the post-genomic era as we face the daunting task of determining the function of the vast number of genes and gene products identified as a result of modern molecular biology techniques.



- Flash-frozen, whole, fully hydrated cells
- Soft x-ray microscope, depth of field  ${\sim}10\mu m$

=> Unique 3D information about cells and interactions of intracellular organelles

Drosophila embryonic cell (G. Schneider, LBNL)

Green = nucleolus Gold = sex-determining protein (labeled with 1nm Au & Ag-enhanced)



# Tomography in a TXM

- TXM is *much* faster for tomography!
- D. Weiß *et al.*, *Ultramicroscopy* 84, 185 (2000). See also G. Schneider *et al.*, *Surf. Rev. Lett.* 9, 177 (2002)
- *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*, frozen in liquid nitrogen.
- Rendering: organelles highlighted by optical density

衣滴蟲



Fig. 6. Several organelles of the specimen identified by watershed segmentation of the reconstructed linear absorption coefficient (LAC): chloroplast (green), pyrenoid (blue), spherical vesicles (red), and flagellar roots (brown). One quadrant of the chloroplast has been cut away to reveal the pyrenoid. Also displayed is one slice of the reconstructed linear absorption coefficient. The diameter of the alga is approx. 7.4 mm. Visualization using the Amira system developed at ZIB (http://amira.zib.de).

# Chromosome Immuno-labelled by Au nano-particles



Incoperated with C-H Lin of NYMU





# Wing Scale of Papilio Bianor

15um



#### 孔雀青頰蝶



#### TXM with phase contrast



### **Bacteria Mediated Stainless Steel Corrosion**



Incoperated with C-S Jean of NCKU

### **Bacteria Mediated Stainless Steel Corrosion**





Incooperated with C-S Jean of NCKU

#### **Taiwan Chelungpu-fault Drilling Project (TCDP)**



TXM 1111.29m (phase contrast)





15um

## **Alignment of Image Series**



Incorporated with Fu-Rong Chen, National Tsing-Hua University



![](_page_46_Picture_1.jpeg)

Before alignment

Aligned by phase correlation function

# TIE(Transport Intensity Equation) (Non-interference Phase Retrieval)

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

Incorporated with Fu-Rong Chen, National Tsing-Hua University

# Phase Retrieval of Fault Rocks

![](_page_48_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_2.jpeg)

Phase image from Zernike Phase Ring

![](_page_48_Picture_4.jpeg)

**Reconstructed Phase** 

#### **Performance of NSRRC TXM**

Energy 8-11 keV	Spatial resolution (nm)	Phase contrast	2D Field Of View (μm)	3D Tomography volume (μm)
	60	Yes	15x15	-
20	30	(Yes, 2005)	5x5	-
	60x60x60	Yes	-	15x15x15
30	(30x30x30)	(Yes, 2005)	-	(5x5x5)
Material analysis capability	Cu, Zn, Ga, Ge, As, Ta, W, Au, Hg, Pb, etc.			

#### Performance of world wide Full Field X-ray Microscopy

	NSRRC	ESRF	ALS	Spring-8
	(Taiwan)	(Europe)	(U.S.)	(Japan)
Туре	Full-Field	Full-Field	Full-Field	Full-Field
	Hard X-ray	Hard X-ray	Soft X-ray	Hard X-ray
Energy	8-11Kev	4Kev	270~500ev	8.75 Kev
	variable	Fixed	Water window	Fixed
Resolution	30nm 60nm Phase contrast	60nm Phase contrast	15nm	250nm
Penetration depth	Above 100um Silicon	Below 10um silicon	1~2um for soft material	Above 100um Silicon
DOF	50um	10~20 um	1~0.5 um	200um

Fast Freeze Cryo Fixation Strongly Mitigates Radiation Dose Effects

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

rrrrrr

W. Meyer-Ilse, G. Denbeaux, L. Johnson, A. Pearson / CXRO-LBNL

#### Fast Freeze Cryo Fixation Strongly Mitigates Radiation Dose Effects

![](_page_52_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### **Cryogenically Fixed 3T3 Fibroblast Cells**

![](_page_52_Picture_3.jpeg)

1<sup>st</sup> Exposure

![](_page_52_Picture_5.jpeg)

40<sup>th</sup> Exposure

W. Meyer-Ilse, W. Bates, G. Denbeaux, L. Johnson, A. Pearson / MSD C. Larabell, D. Yager, T. Shin / Life Sciences Division

Professor David Attwood

# Conclusions

- The NSRRC nano-TXM has demonstrated the 2D and 3D imaging capabilities with sub-60 nm spatial resolution.
- 2. Sub-30nm spatial resolution is achieved by using 3<sup>rd</sup> diffraction of zone plate.
- 3. The capability of phase contrast has been demonstrated.
- Future developments include the cryomicroscopy, elemental contrast, sample preparation, optical upgrade, etc.

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