

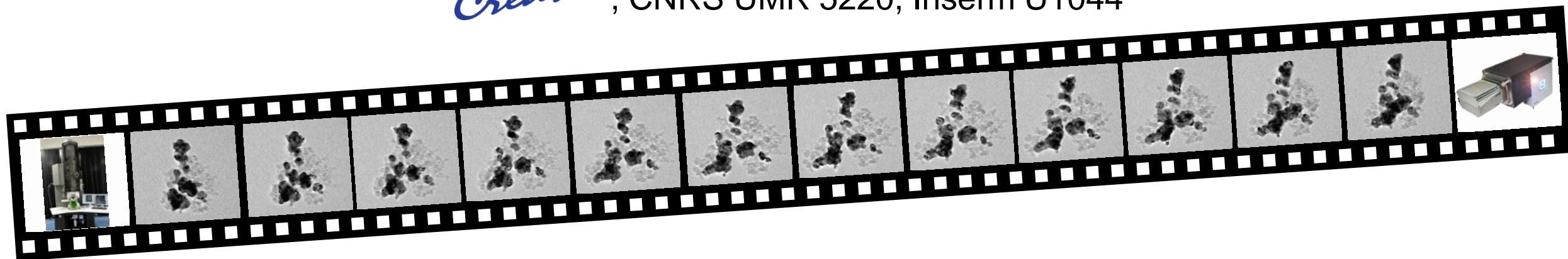
# Rapid Tomography in Environmental TEM: How Fast Can We Go to Follow the 3D Evolution of Nanomaterials in situ?

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Thomas GRENIER<sup>2</sup>, Voichita MAXIM<sup>2</sup>, Thierry EPICIER<sup>1</sup>

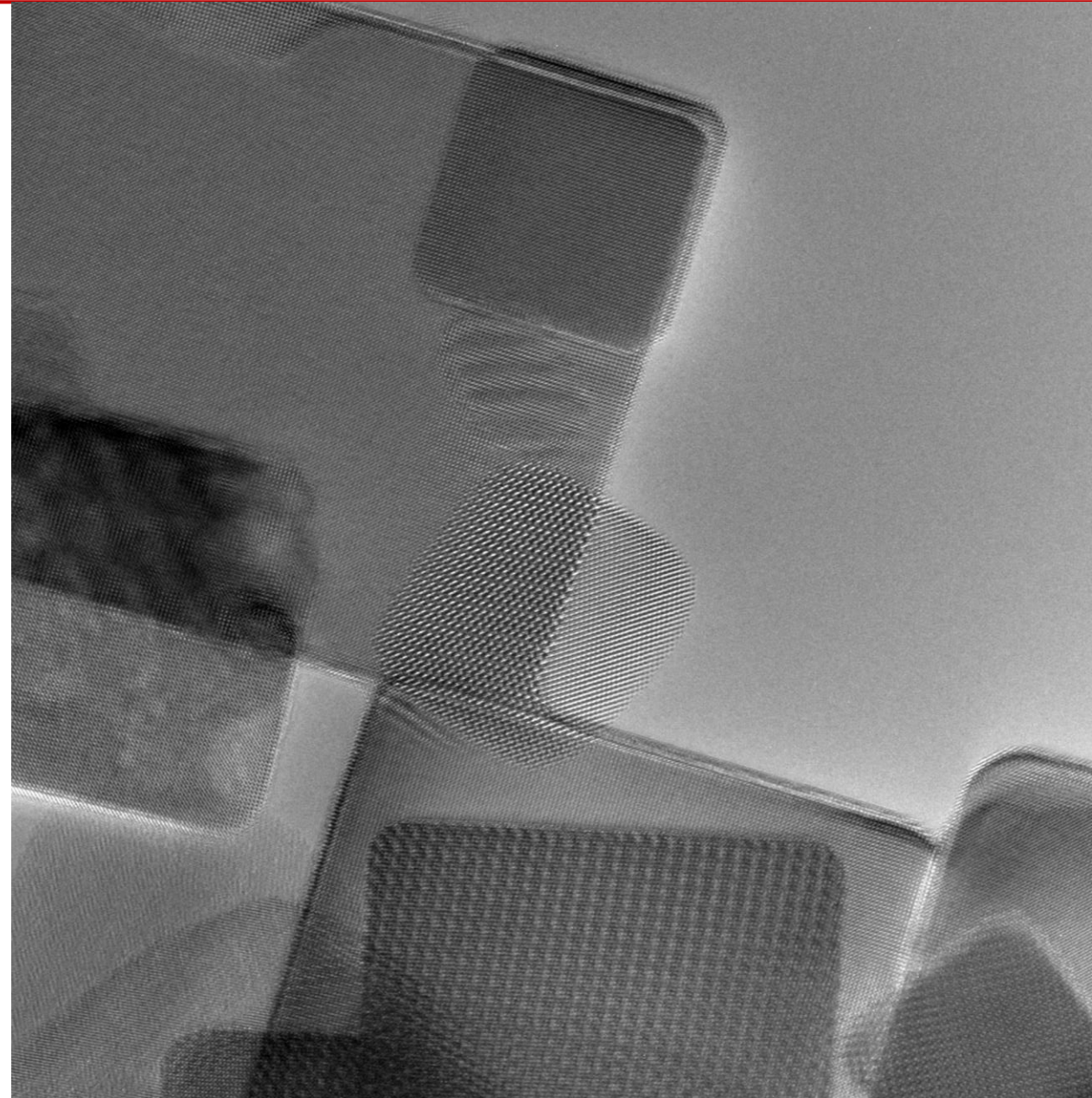
University of Lyon, INSA-Lyon, Bât. Blaise Pascal, 69621 Villeurbanne, France

<sup>1</sup>  Mateis, CNRS UMR 5510

<sup>2</sup>  Creatis, CNRS UMR 5220, Inserm U1044



- **Experimental Background on ETEM**
- **Fast 3D acquisitions**  
(Towards very fast tomography at the second level)
- **Perspectives (and conclusions):**  
**3D Operando ETEM**

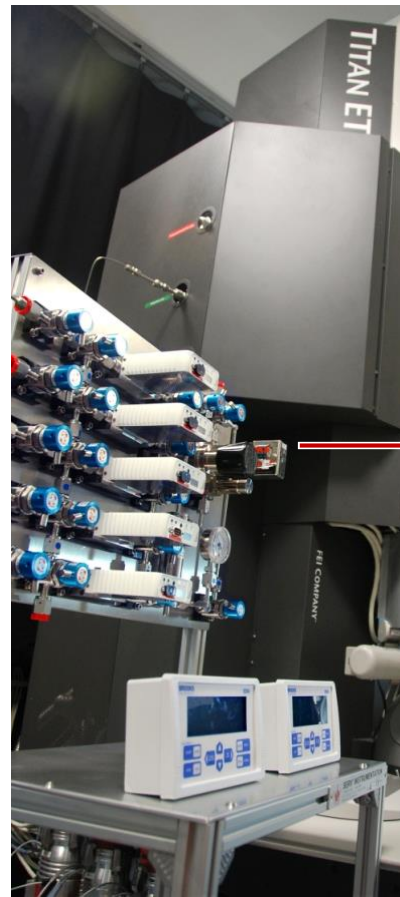
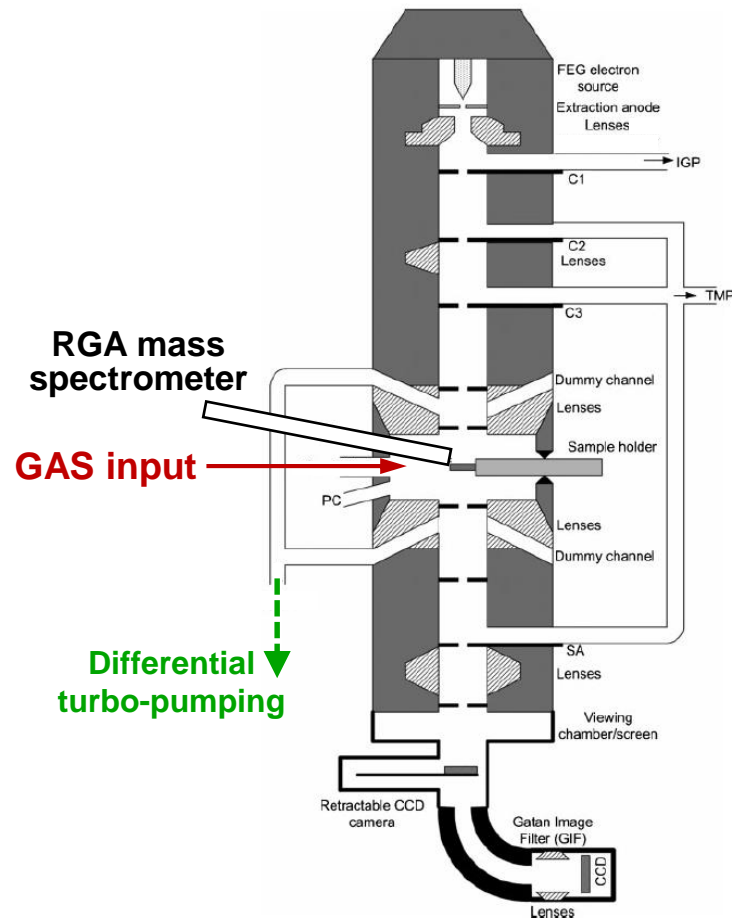




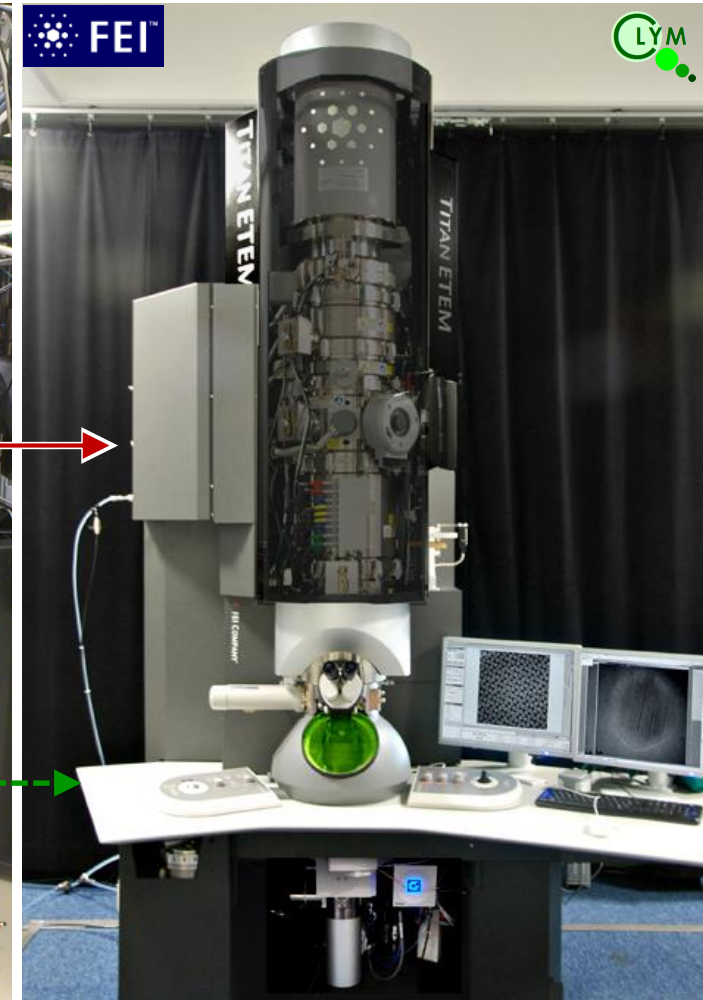
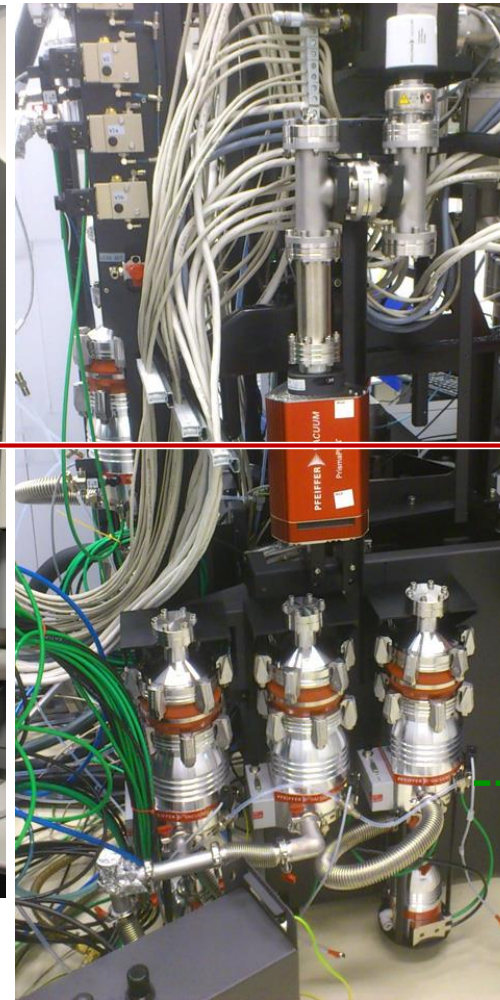
# Experimental background on ETEM

## ● Environmental microscope (differential pumping system)

## Dedicated Environmental TEM ( $\approx 10^{-6}$ mbar / a few mbar) Aberration-corrected 80-300 kV FEI Titan ETEM



Serv'Instrumentation



www.clym.fr

P. GAI et al., *MRS Bulletin* **33** (2008) 107

T.W. HANSEN et al., *Mat. Sci. & Technol.* **26** 11 (2010) 1338

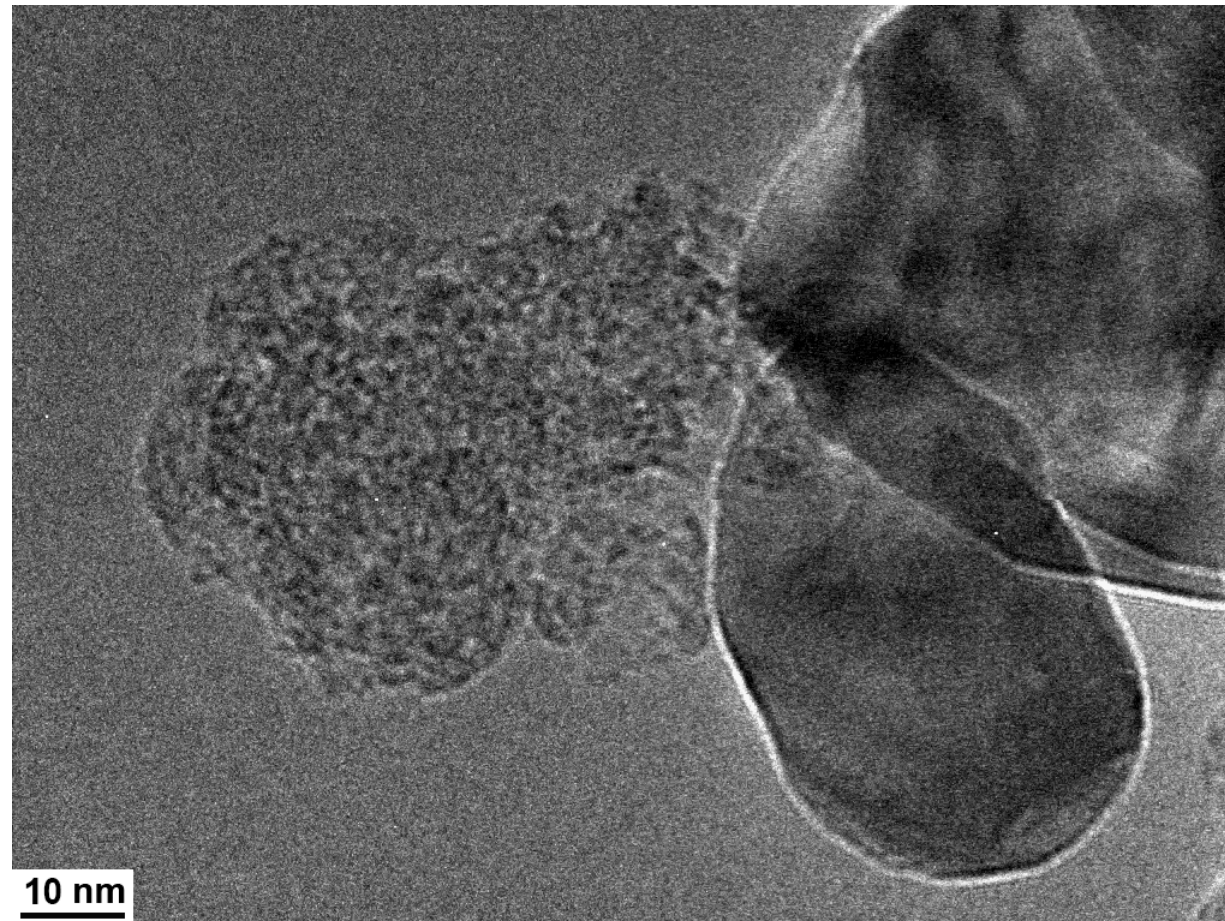


# Experimental background on ETEM

- Environmental microscope (differential pumping system)

Dedicated Environmental TEM ( $\approx 10^{-5}$  mbar / a few mbar)  
Aberration-corrected 80-300 kV FEI Titan ETEM

300 kV,  $T^\circ = 495^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $1.2 \cdot 10^{-2}$  mbar  $\text{O}_2$



Speed x5, total time 4 min 13 sec

Combustion of soot on  $\text{ZrO}_2$

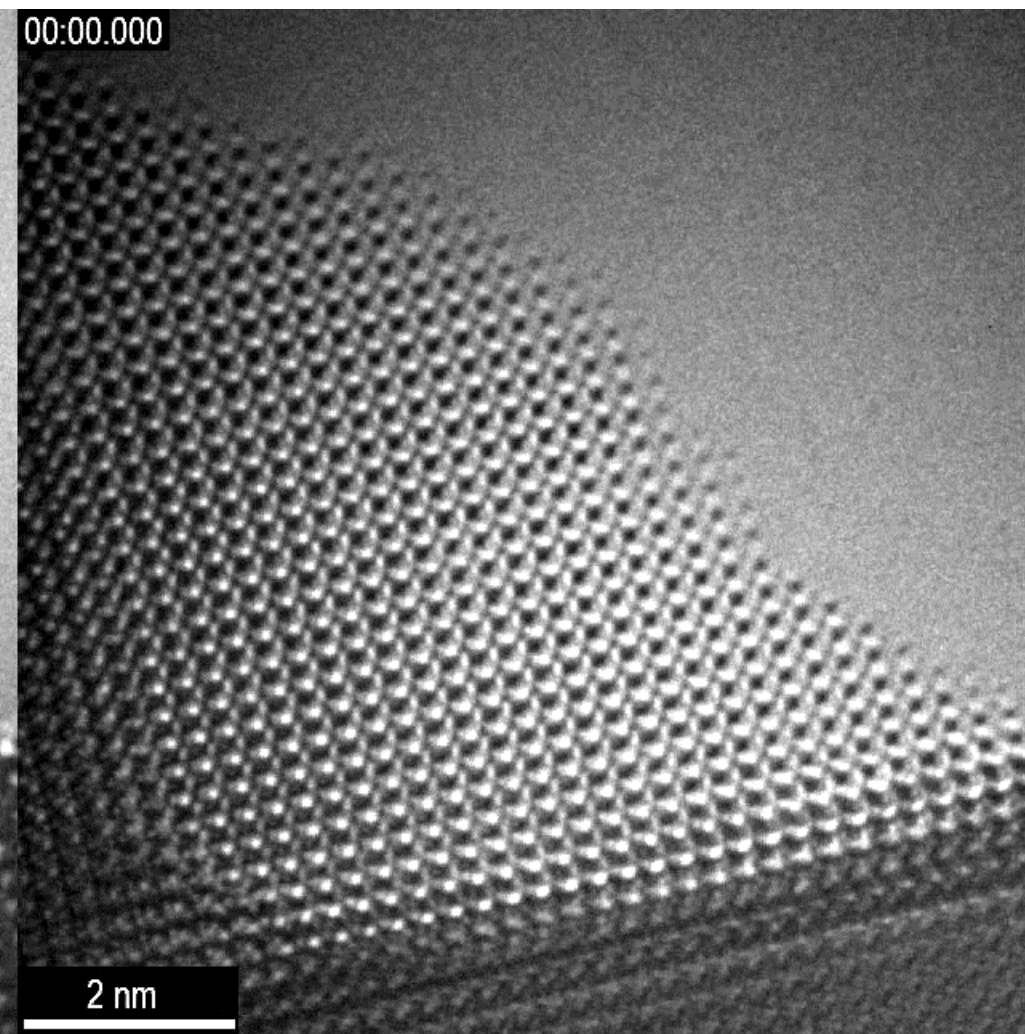
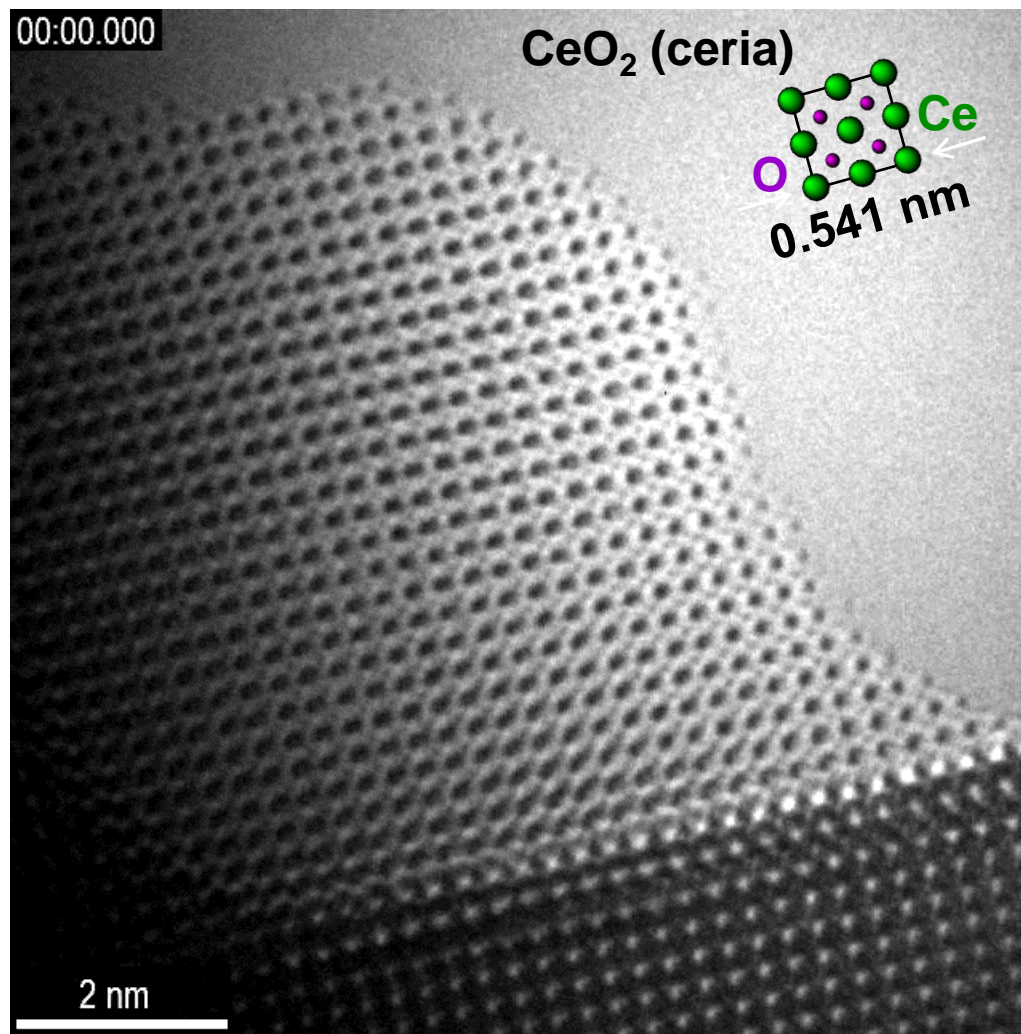
A. SERVE et al., *Applied Catal. A* **504** (2015) 74-80



# Surface effects: 'gas-control' of the atomic mobility

High Vacuum  $1 \cdot 10^{-6}$  mbar

$O_2$   $3 \cdot 10^{-3}$  mbar

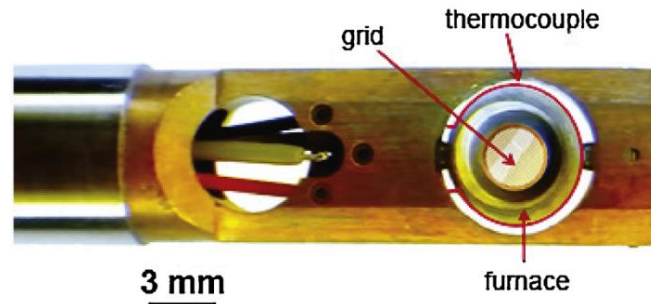


speed x0.2  
103 fps  
(2K images)

# Experimental background on ETEM

- Heating sample holders

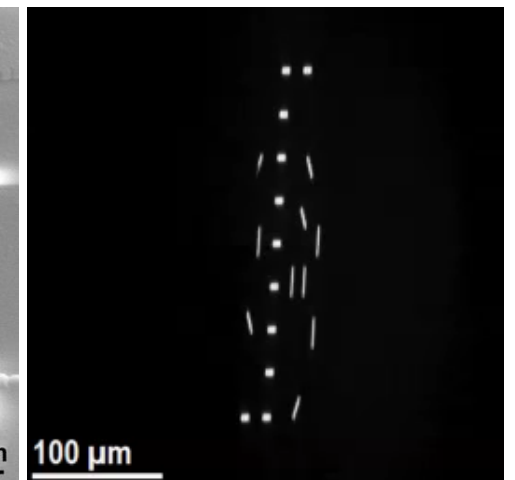
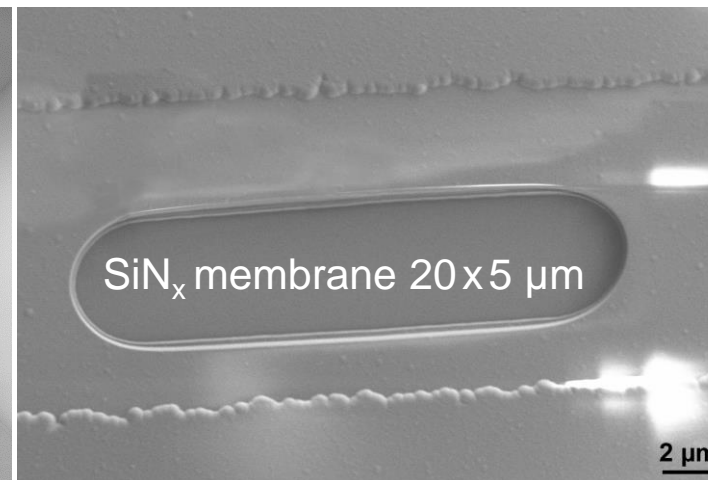
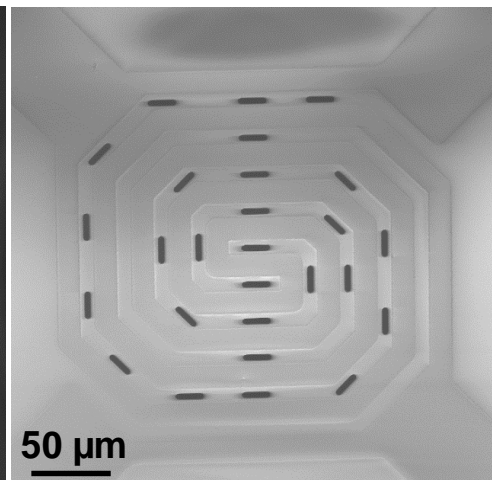
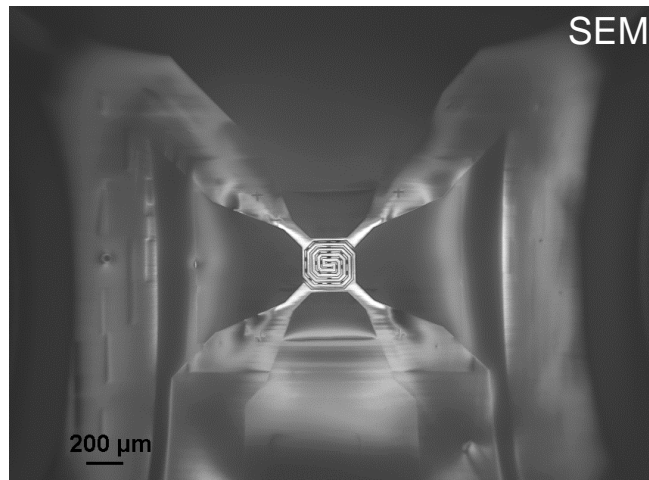
**Furnace based GATAN™ (900°C)**  
*Shadowing over ±36°*



**Wildfire S5 holder, DENS Solutions™**  
*(MEMS-based SiN<sub>x</sub> chips, 1300°C)*



**$\alpha$  tilt ± 72°**

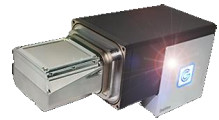




# FAST 3D ACQUISITIONS

(Towards very fast tomography at the second level)

- Need for 3D analyses under environmental conditions



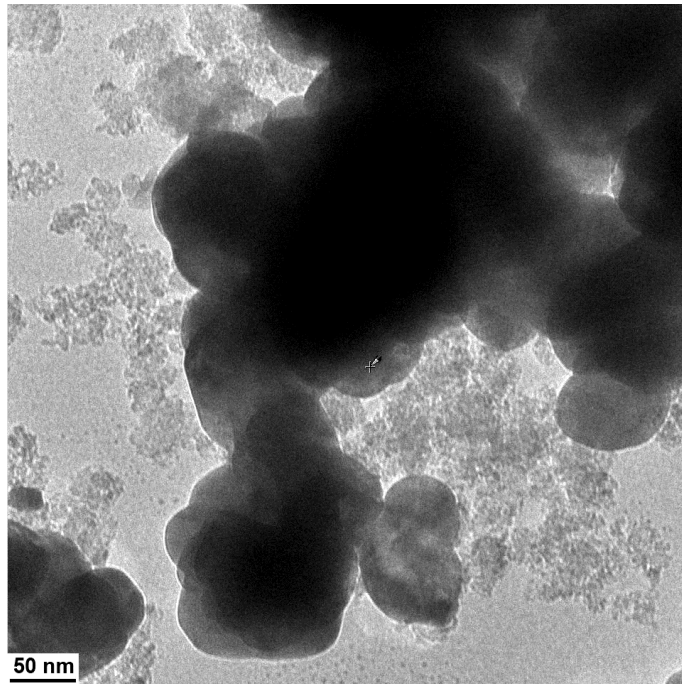
Oneview  
4K camera



US1000XP-P  
2K camera



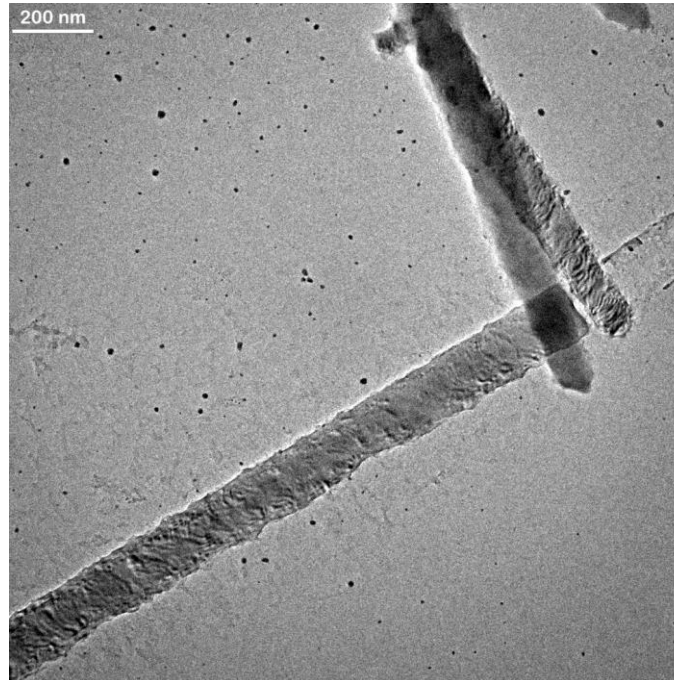
Combustion of soot on  $ZrO_2$   
 ETEM 80 kV, 500°C, 3 mbar  $O_2$



Total time 3 min 05 sec (speed x10)

A. SERVE et al., *Applied Catal. A* **504** (2015) 74-80

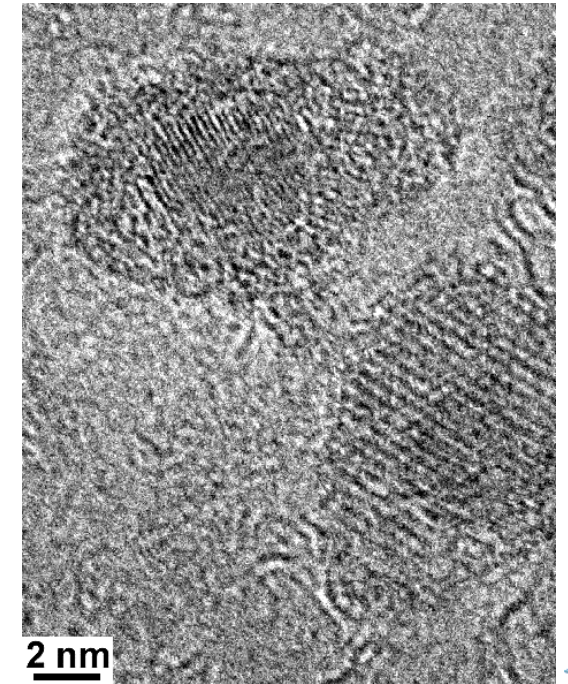
Melting of Si@Ge core-shell  
 nanowires  
 ETEM 300 kV, 1100°C, HV



Total time 2 min 10 sec (speed x10)

METSA experiment, 2016  
 (M.I. RICHARD, IM2NP)

Phase separation in  $Ag@In_2O_3$   
 core-shell NPs  
 ETEM 300 kV, 450°C, 1.3 mbar  $H_2$



Total time 4 min 45 sec (speed x20)

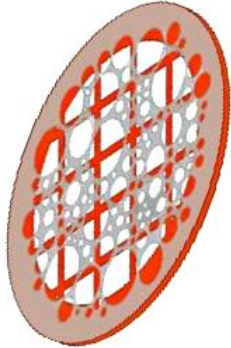
J. RAMADE et al., *to be published*

Thierry EPICIER, Univ. Lyon

# FAST 3D ACQUISITIONS

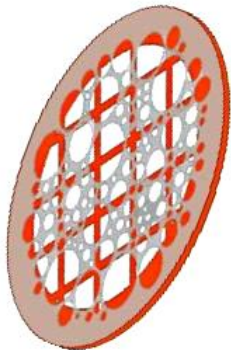
(Towards very fast tomography at the second level)

- Initial acquisition strategy: optimized 'step-by-step' tilt series**



Rotation angular amplitude: $2\alpha$	<b>140°</b>	<b>140°</b>
Elementary rotation step: $\delta\alpha$	<b>1°</b>	<b>2°</b>
Time for an elementary rotation: $t_{\delta\alpha}$	<b>1 sec</b>	<b>0.5 sec</b>
Pause after each rotation: $t_{pause}$	<b>0.5 sec</b>	<b>0.3 sec</b>
Acquisition time (exposure): $t_{exp}$	<b>0.2 sec</b>	<b>0.1 sec</b>
<b>Total acquisition time: <math>t_{total}</math></b>	<b><math>\approx 4 min</math></b>	<b><math>\approx 1 min</math></b>

- Refined acquisition strategy: continuous rotation tilt**

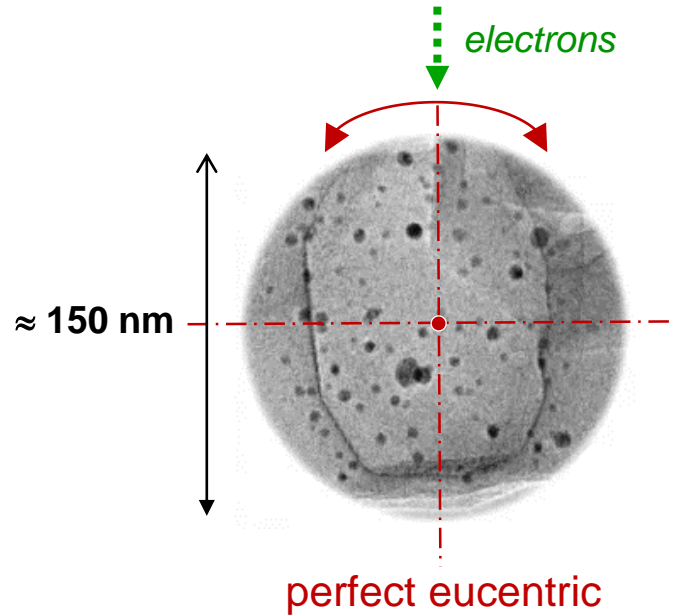


Rotation angular amplitude: $2\alpha$	<b>140°</b>	<b>140°</b>
Angular rotation speed $\omega$	<b>1°/sec</b>	<b>4°/sec</b>
<b>Total acquisition time: <math>t_{total}</math></b>	<b>2 min 20 sec</b>	<b>35 sec</b>



- Evaluation of rotation-induced blur effects: *2D Ghost* for reconstruction

*BF TEM image of Ag NPs in mesoporous silicalites*



Rotation angular amplitude:  $2\alpha$

**140°**

**140°**

**140°**

**140°**

Total acquisition time:  $t_{total}$

**30 sec**

**7 sec**

**5 sec**

**3 sec**

Angular rotation speed  $\omega = 2\alpha/t$

**4.7°/sec**

**20°/sec**

**28°/sec**

**46.7°/sec**

Number of frames per second:  $Fps$

**5**

**10**

**10**

**10**

Angular blur / frame:  $Blfr = \frac{2\alpha}{t.Fps}$

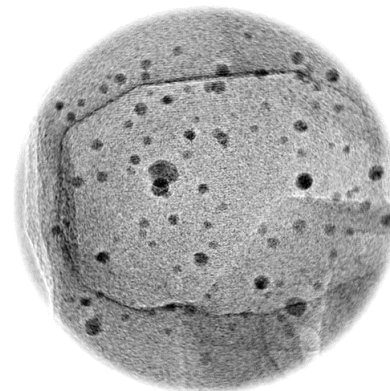
**0.93°**

**2°**

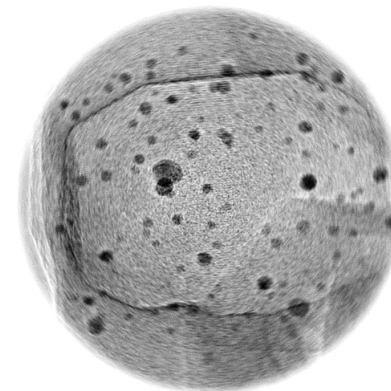
**2.8°**

**4.7°**

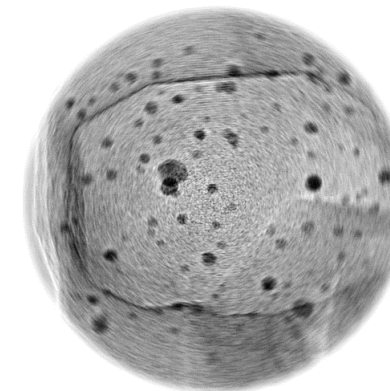
Image at zero tilt



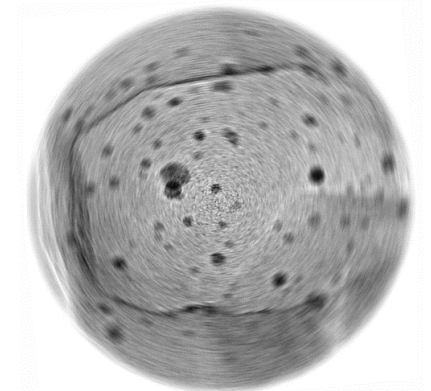
Blfr 1°



Blfr 2°



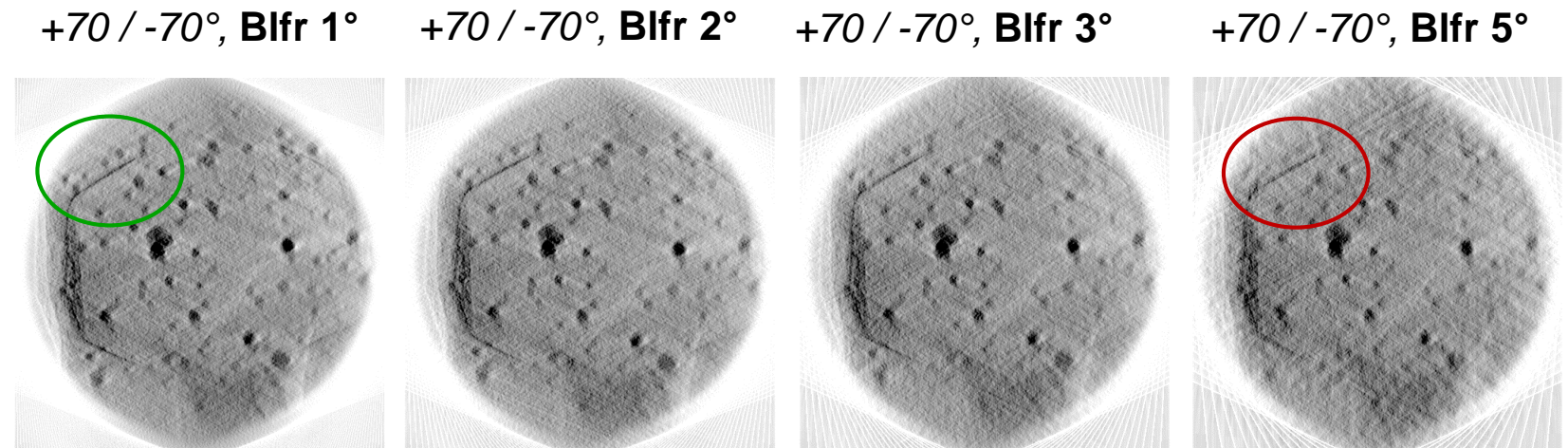
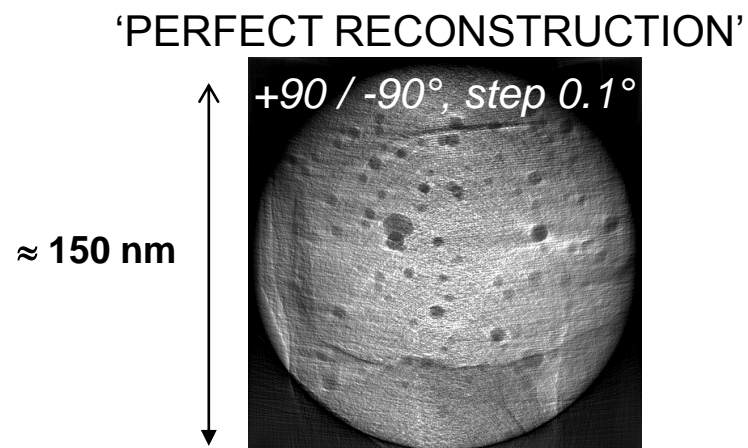
Blfr 3°



Blfr 5°

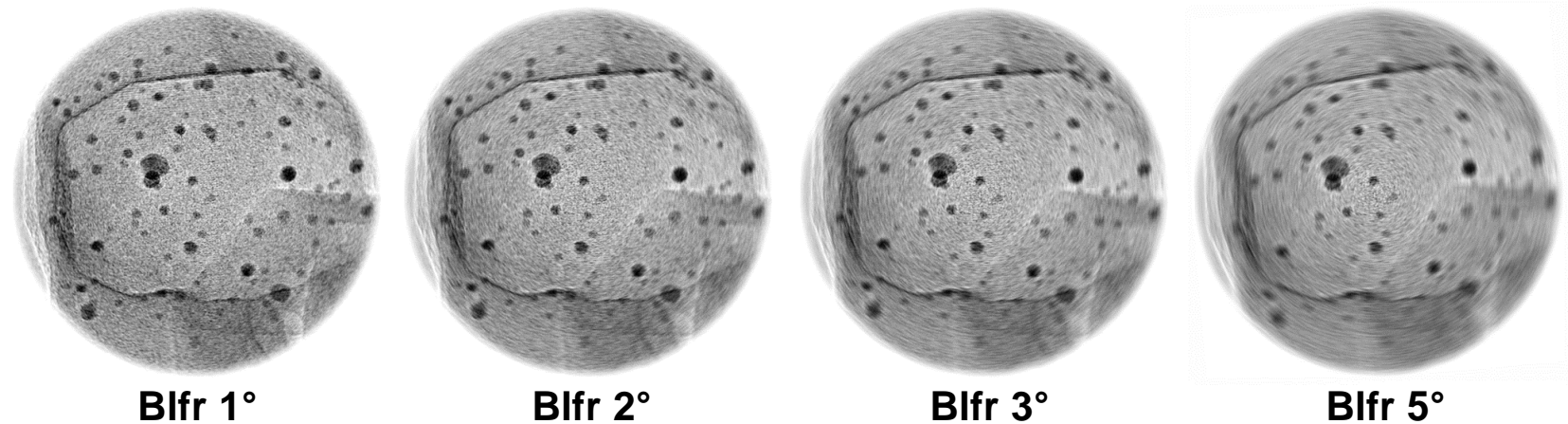
● Evaluation of rotation-induced blur effects: *2D Ghost* for reconstruction

*BF TEM image of Ag NPs in mesoporous silicalites*



Weighted Back Projection

Image at zero tilt



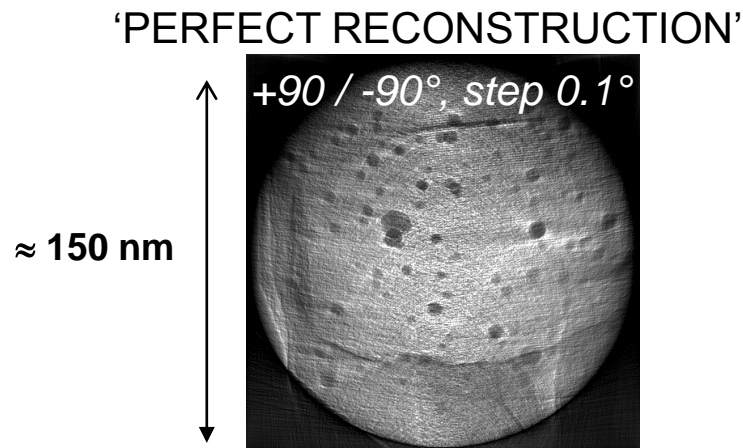


# FAST 3D ACQUISITIONS

(Towards very fast tomography at the second level)

- Evaluation of rotation-induced blur effects: *2D Ghost* for reconstruction

*BF TEM image of Ag NPs in mesoporous silicalites*



Weighted Back Projection

Rotation angular amplitude:  $2\alpha$

Total acquisition time:  $t_{total}$

Angular rotation speed  $\omega = 2\alpha/t$

Number of frames per second:  $Fps$

Angular blur / frame:  $Blfr = \frac{2\alpha}{t.Fps}$

140°

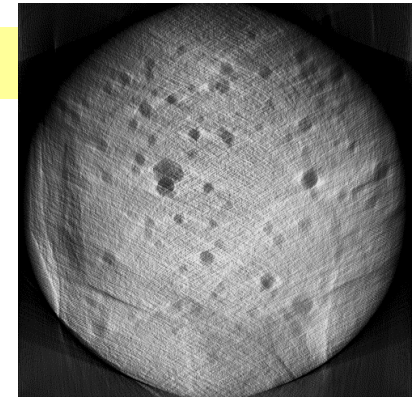
5 sec

28°/sec

100

0.28°

+70 / -70°, Blfr 0.3°



Oneview GATAN  
 2K, 100 images/sec

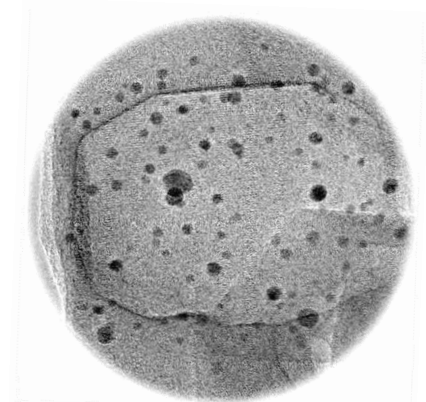
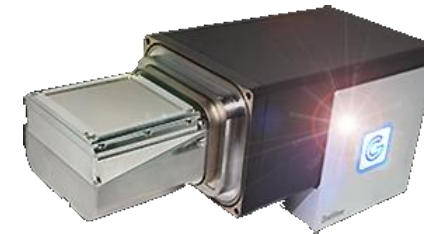


Image at zero tilt, Blfr 0.3°



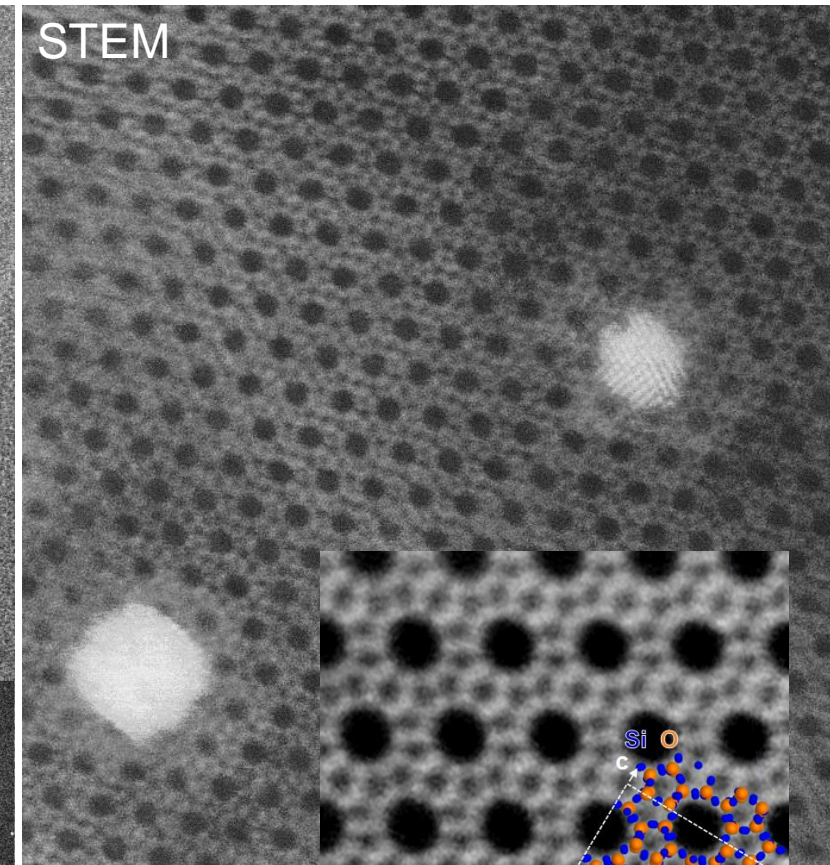
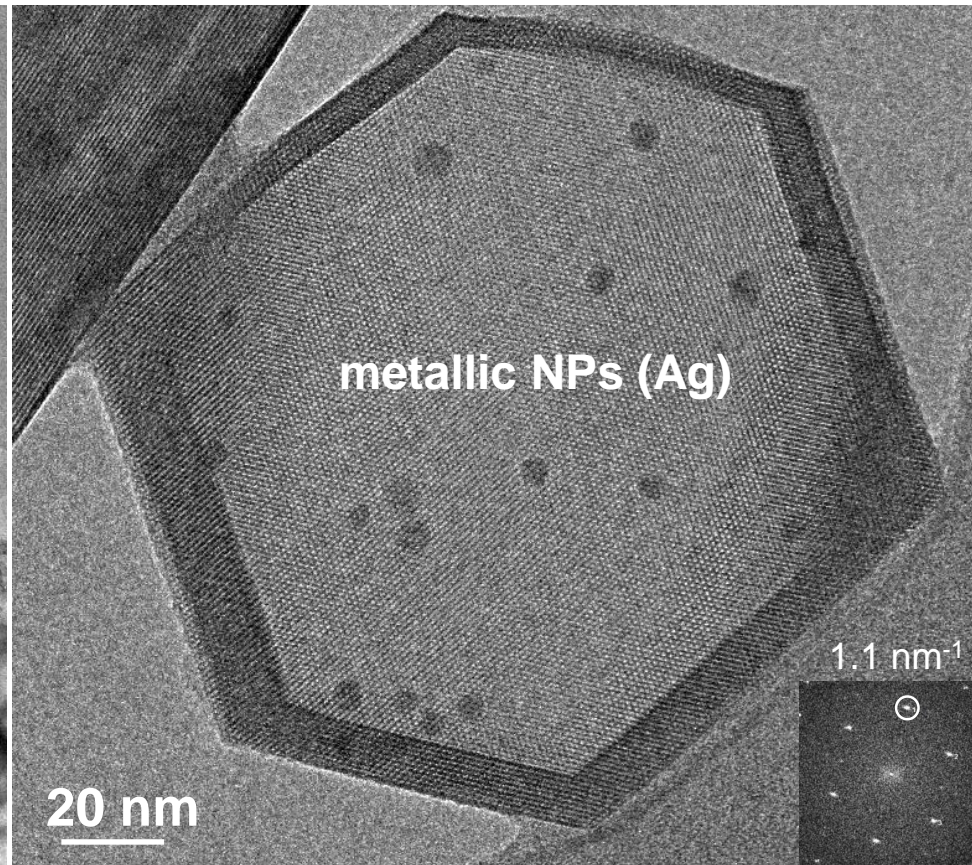
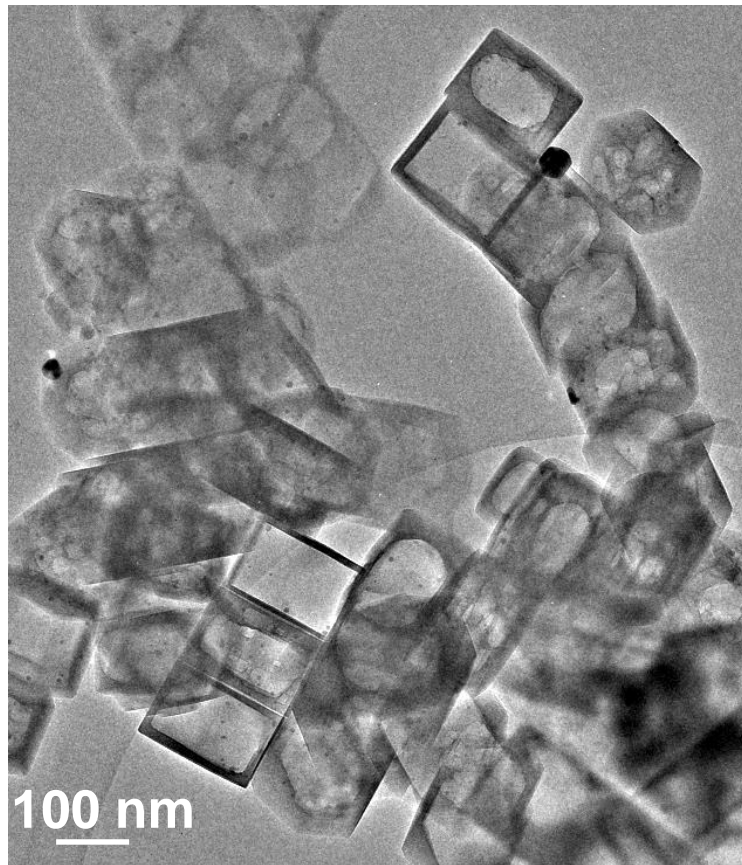
# FAST 3D ACQUISITIONS

(Towards very fast tomography at the second level)

- **In situ calcination of *silicalites*-encapsulated metallic NPs (Ag)**

Catalytic selectivity of molecules size through 'filtering' through the siliceous zeolite pores (*pore cut-off*  $\approx 0.7$  nm)

S. LI et al., *Chem. Commun.* **50** (2014) 1824-1826



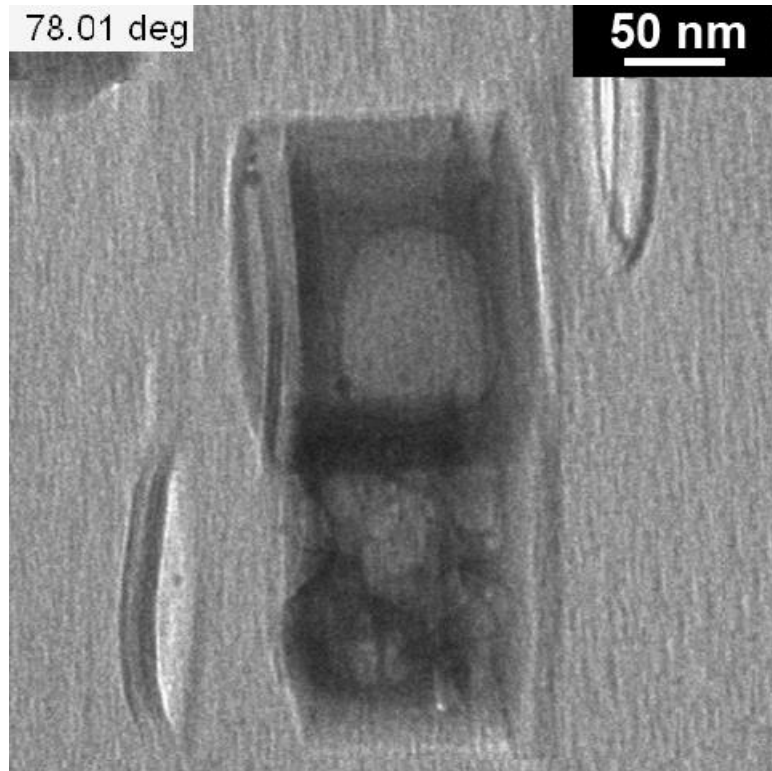
MFI orthorhombic structure  
[www.iza-structure.org](http://www.iza-structure.org)



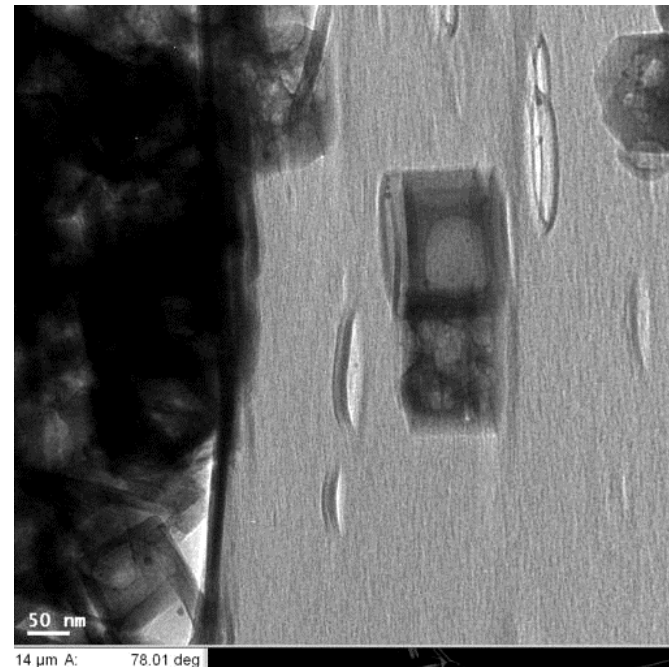
# FAST 3D ACQUISITIONS

(Towards very fast tomography at the second level)

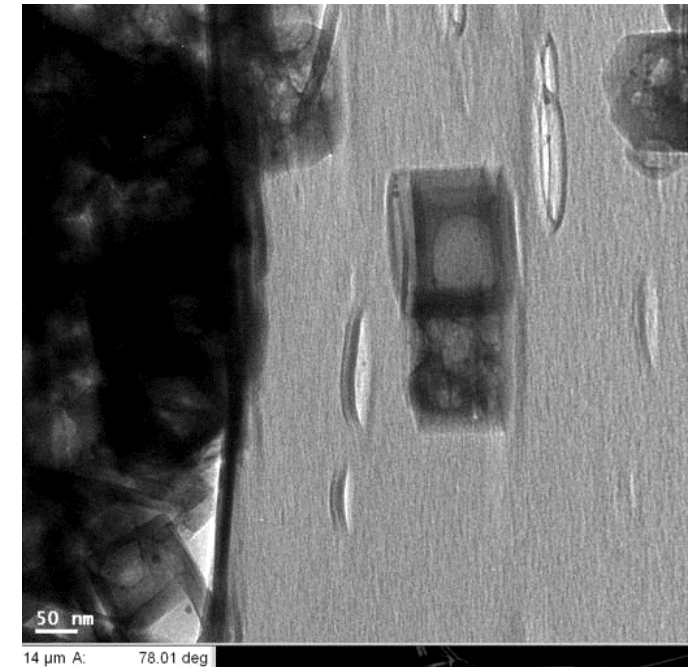
- In situ calcination of *silicalites*-encapsulated metallic NPs (Ag)



speed x20



speed x50



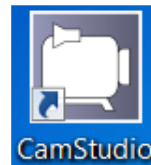
High Vacuum  
 20°C

Aligned tilt series 78° to -38° in **3 min 40 sec**  
 328 frames from a 1584 frames video sequence

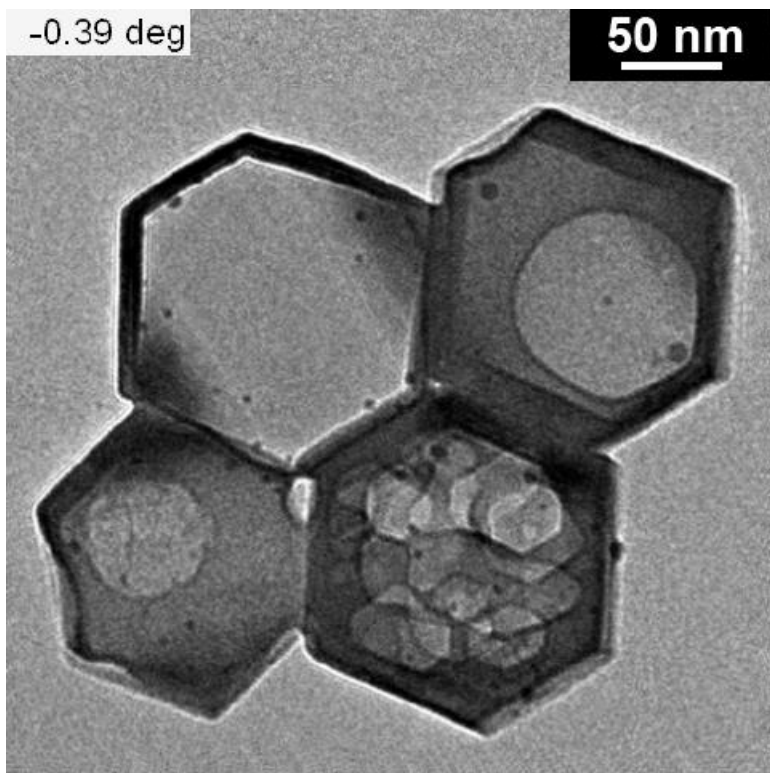
Raw series 78° to -38° in **3 min 40 sec**  
 1584 frames

Post-mortem automatic detection  
 and suppression of 'blurred' images  
 from **528 frames**

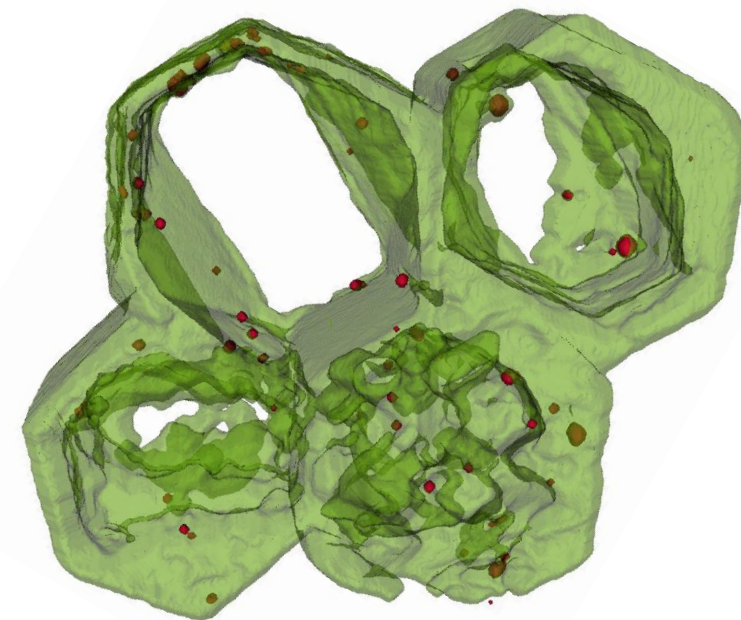
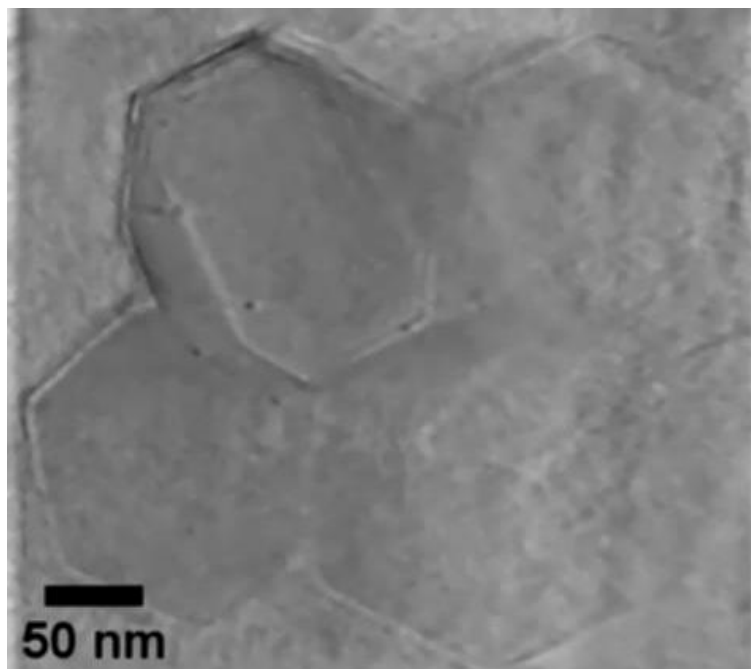
screen video capture



- In situ calcination of *silicalites*-encapsulated metallic NPs (Ag)



Tomogram



3D model

- In situ ETEM calcination (and 3D quantification) under  $O_2$  up to  $450^\circ C$ : results presented at IMC2014 [T. EPICIER et al., Proceed. IMC2014, ISBN 978-80-260-6721-4](#)



- Fast tomography of electron beam sensitive materials

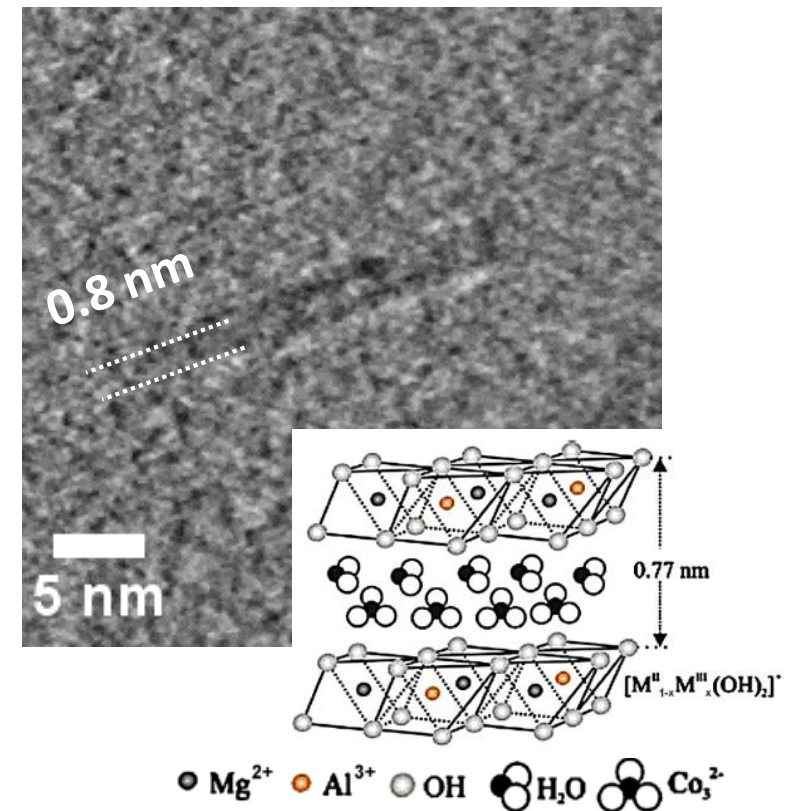
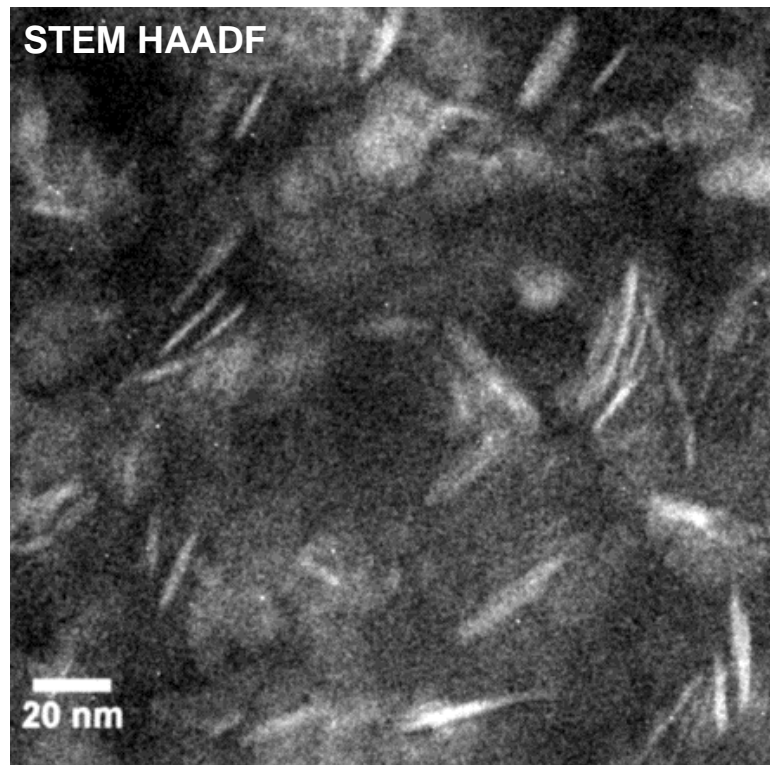
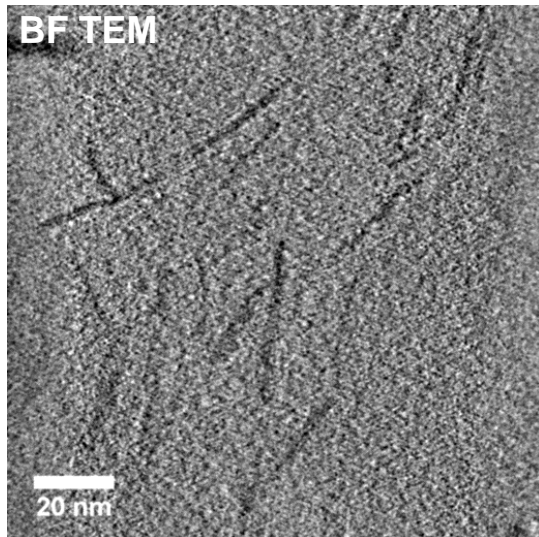
**Ex. 1: POLYMER NANOCOMPOSITES**

**Dispersion of  $Mg_3AlCO_3$  Layer-Double Hydroxide nanoplatelets in latex**



Starch-Based Polymeric Materials and Nanocomposites, ed. J. AHMED, B. K. TIWARI, S. H. IMAM, M.A. RAO, CRC Press, (2012) 416 p.

TEM preparation by cryo-ultramicrotomy (-62°C)  
 HV 20°C



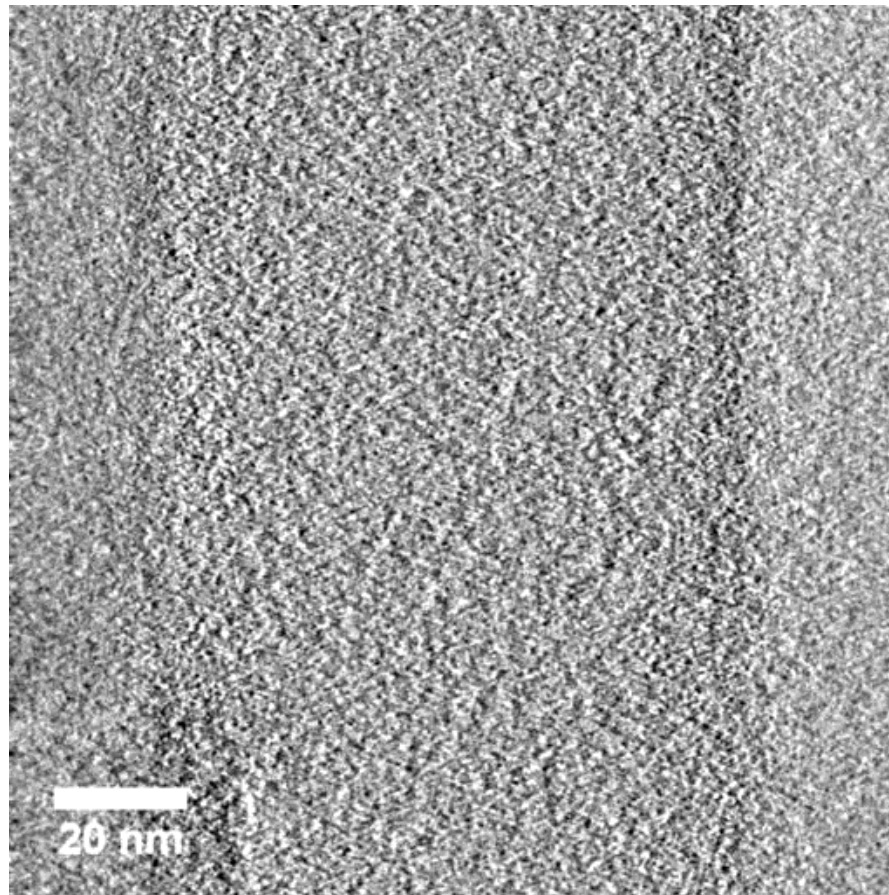
- Fast tomography of electron beam sensitive materials

**Ex. 1: POLYMER NANOCOMPOSITES**

**Dispersion of  $Mg_3AlCO_3$  Layer-Double Hydroxide nanoplatelets in latex**



**step-by-step series,**  
**+70 to -70°, 200 sec.**  
 (pause 0.5 sec,  
 total electron dose  
 $\approx 2.4 \cdot 10^4 \text{ e}^-/\text{Å}^2$  'validated'  
 by an irradiation test)



3D model ( $Mg_3AlCO_3$  LDH nanoplatelets)



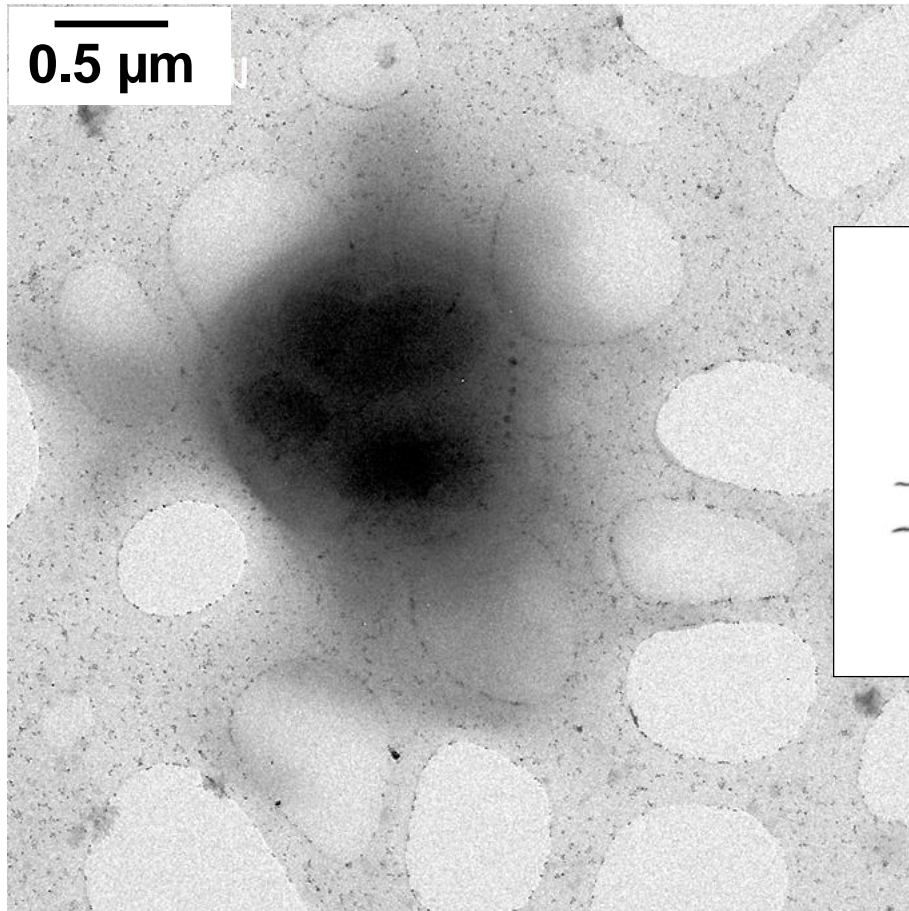


- Fast tomography of electron beam sensitive materials

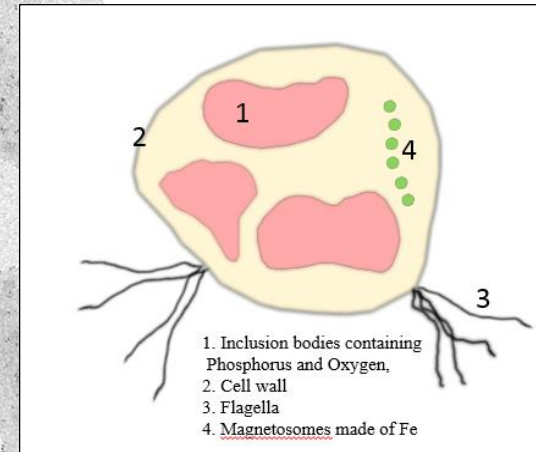
**Ex. 2: BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL: Magnetotactic bacteria**

R. BLAKEMORE, *Science* **190** (1975) 377–379

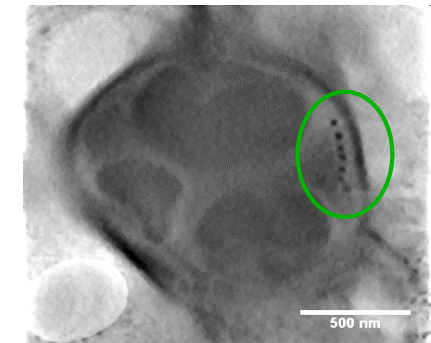
Images 1K, 0.2 sec



**step-by-step series,  
 -50 to 50°, 90 sec.  
 (pause 0.5 sec)**



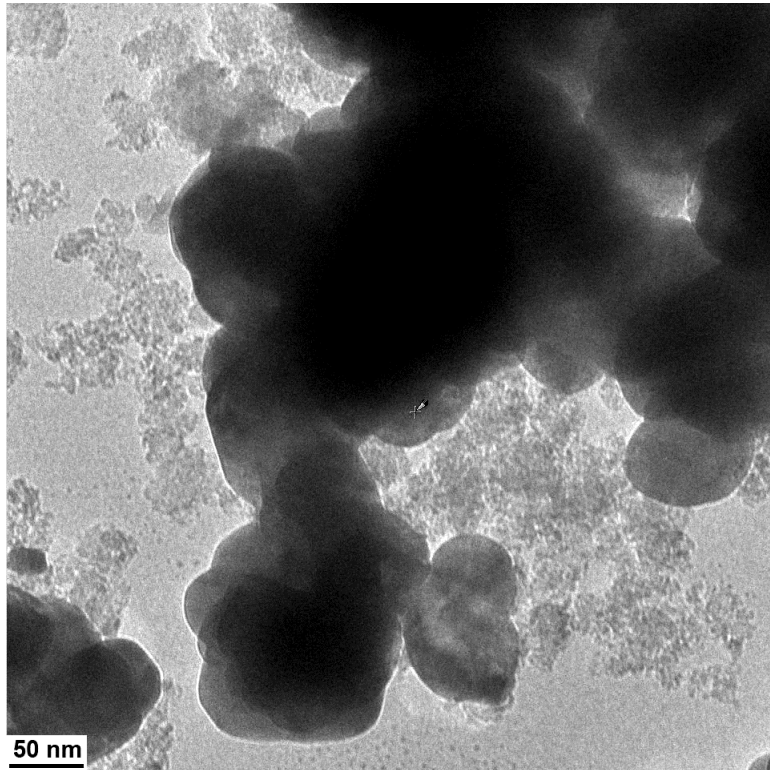
*Slice from the 3D model*



magnetosomes

## ● COMBUSTION of SOOT on ZrO<sub>2</sub>

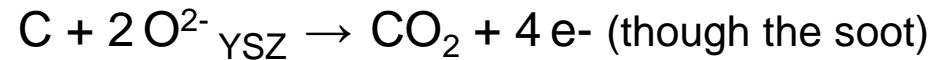
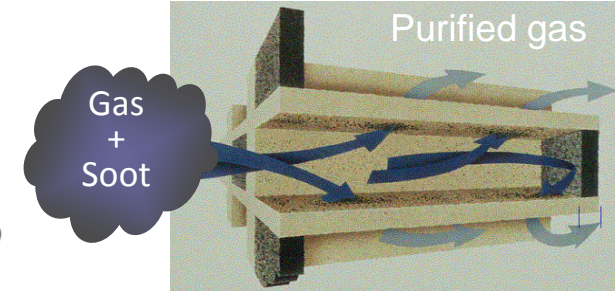
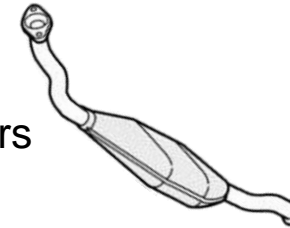
ETEM 80 kV, 500°C, 3 mbar O<sub>2</sub>



Total time 3 min 05 sec (speed x10)

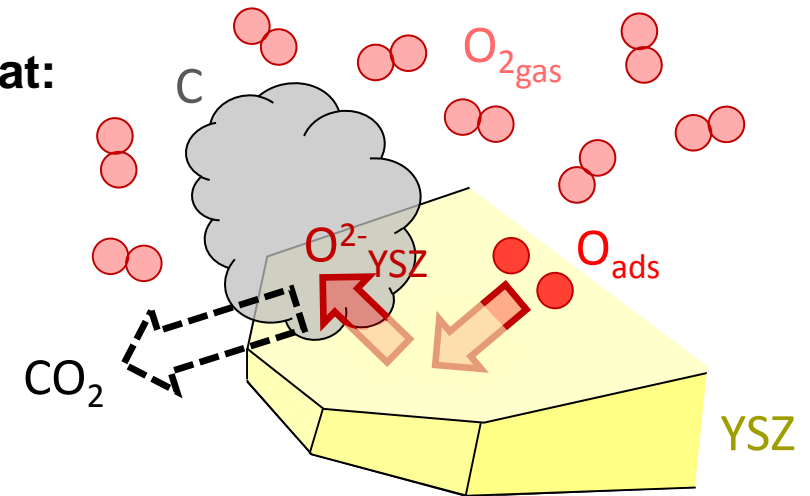


from Oct. 2010:  
**Diesel Particulate Filter**  
 compulsory on Diesel cars



**50% of soot conversion at:**

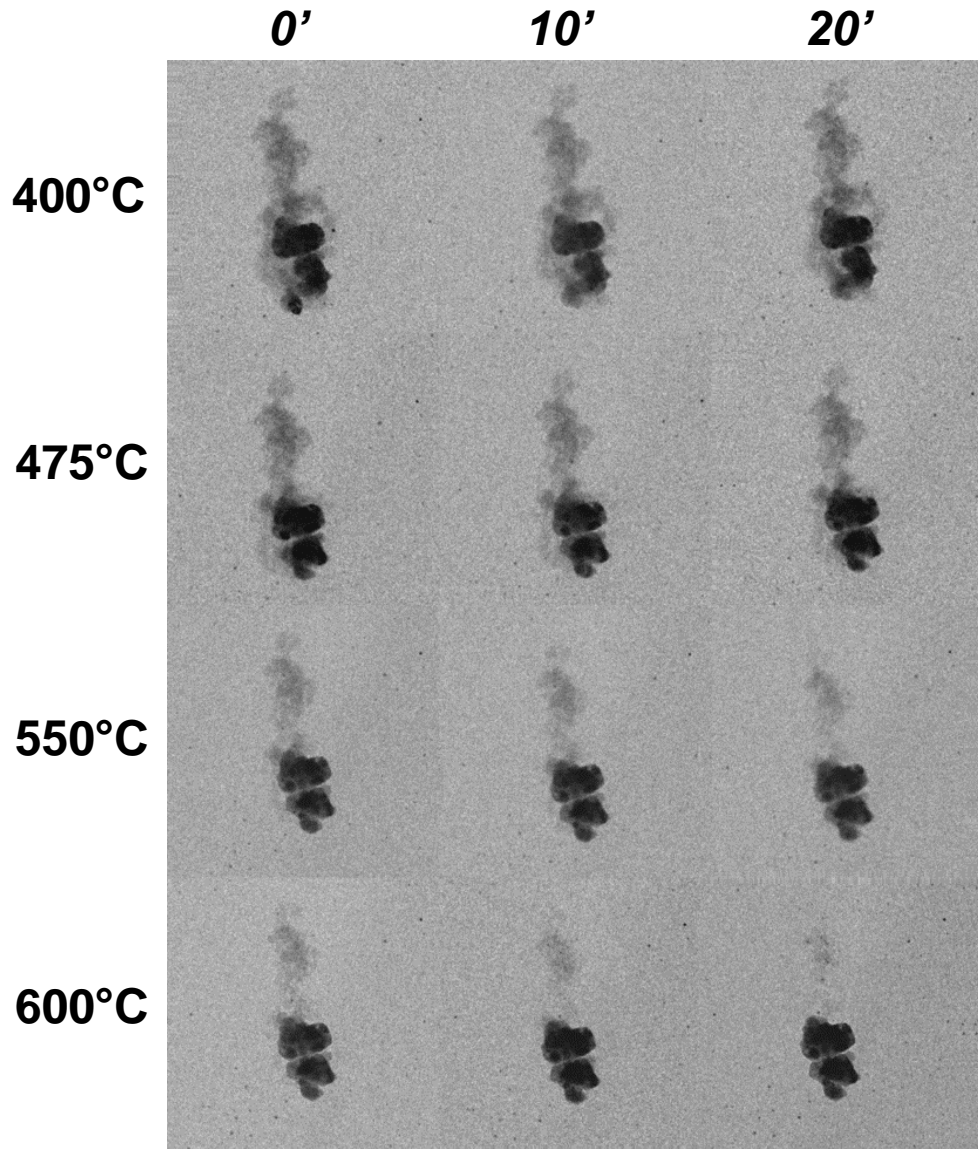
- 680°C without catalyst
- 520°C on YSZ



A. SERVE et al., *Applied Catal. A* **504** (2015) 74-80



# Perspectives (and conclusions): 3D Operando ETEM



400°C

475°C

550°C

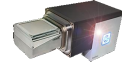
600°C

0'

10'

20'

100 nm



Images 4K, 0.04 sec

Exposure time  $\approx$  2 h 45 min

flux  $1.7 \text{ e}^- \cdot \text{\AA}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

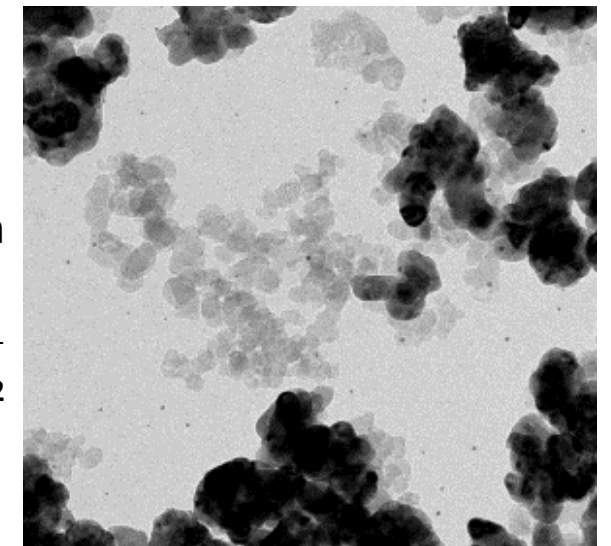
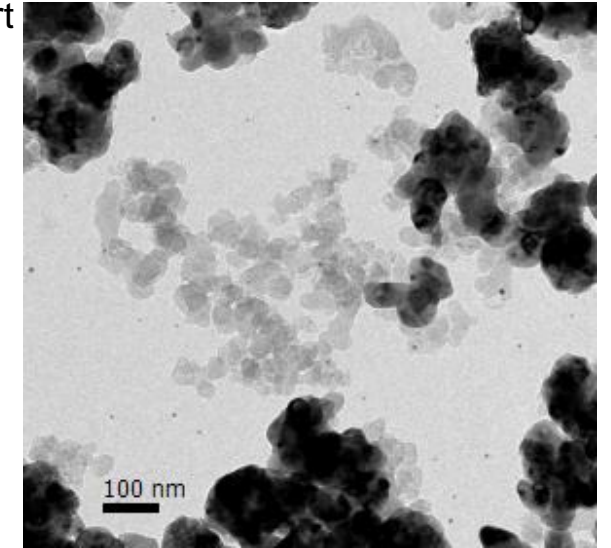
Total dose  $1.7 \cdot 10^4 \text{ e}^- \cdot \text{\AA}^{-2}$

Irradiation test 5 min

flux  $56 \text{ e}^- \cdot \text{\AA}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

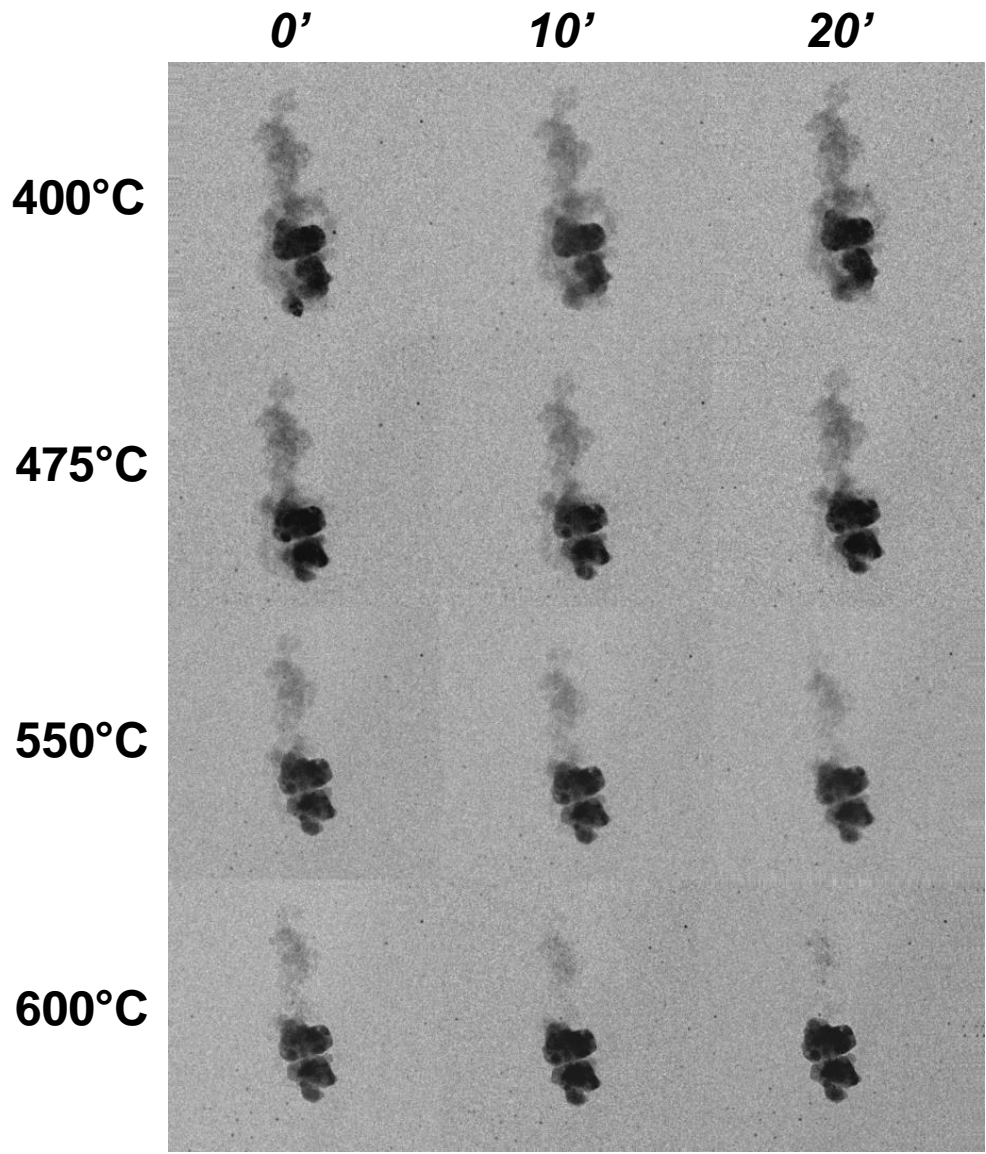
Total dose  $1.68 \cdot 10^4 \text{ e}^- \cdot \text{\AA}^{-2}$

test start



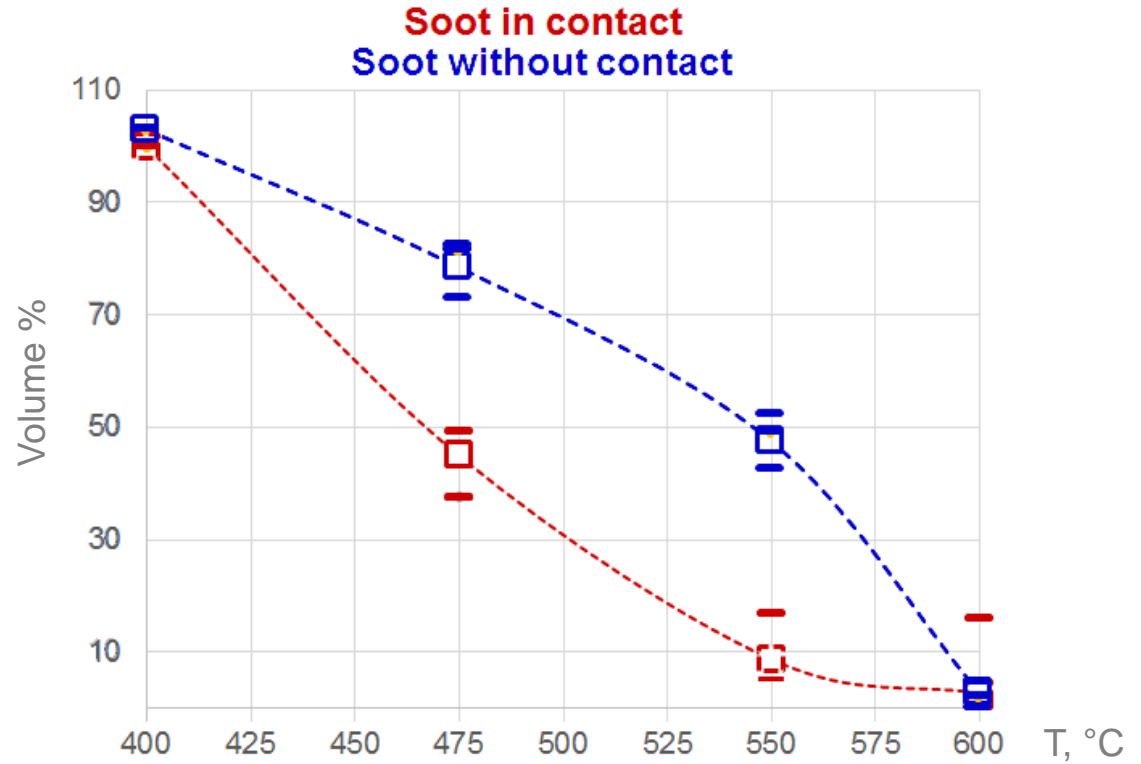
test end

# Perspectives (and conclusions): 3D Operando ETEM



 Images 4K, 0.04 sec

**'step-by-step' series, +70° to -71° in 130 sec, one tilt series every 5 min under 1.7 mbar O<sub>2</sub> at 400°C, 450°C, 475°C, 500°C, 525°C, 550°C, 600°C (Total 35 tilt series ≈ 2 h 45 min)**



100 nm



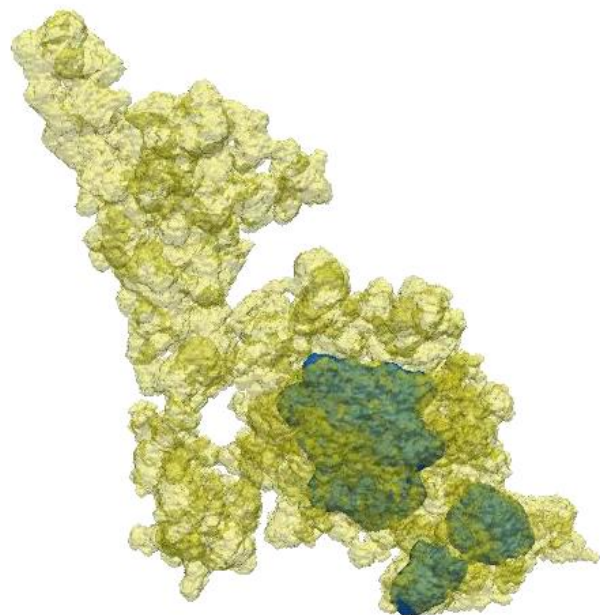
# Perspectives (and conclusions): 3D Operando ETEM

Time 0 sec at 400°C

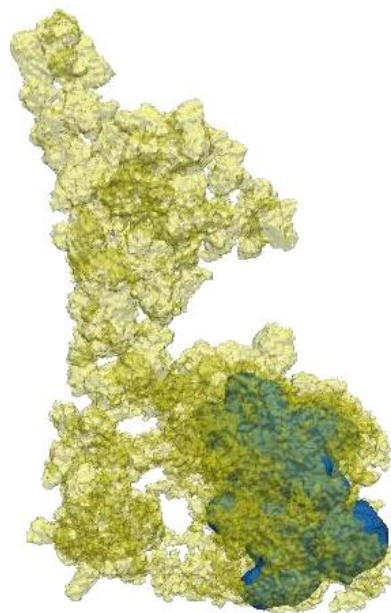
475°C

550°C

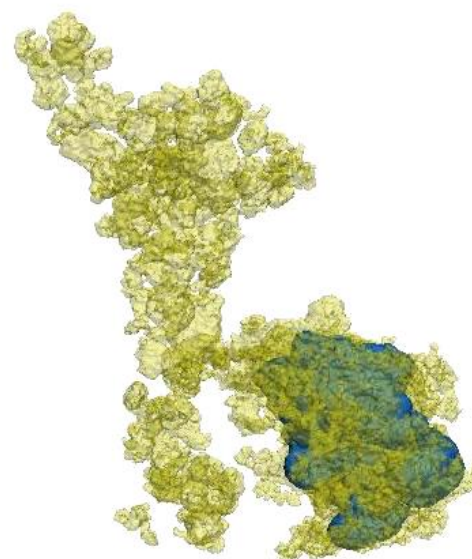
600°C



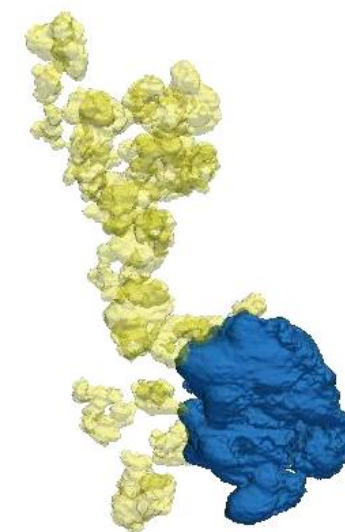
100 nm



Soot



ZrO<sub>2</sub>



- REMINDER: 3D acquisition at the SECOND LEVEL

Rotation angular amplitude:  $2\alpha$  **140°**

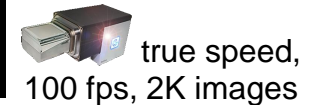
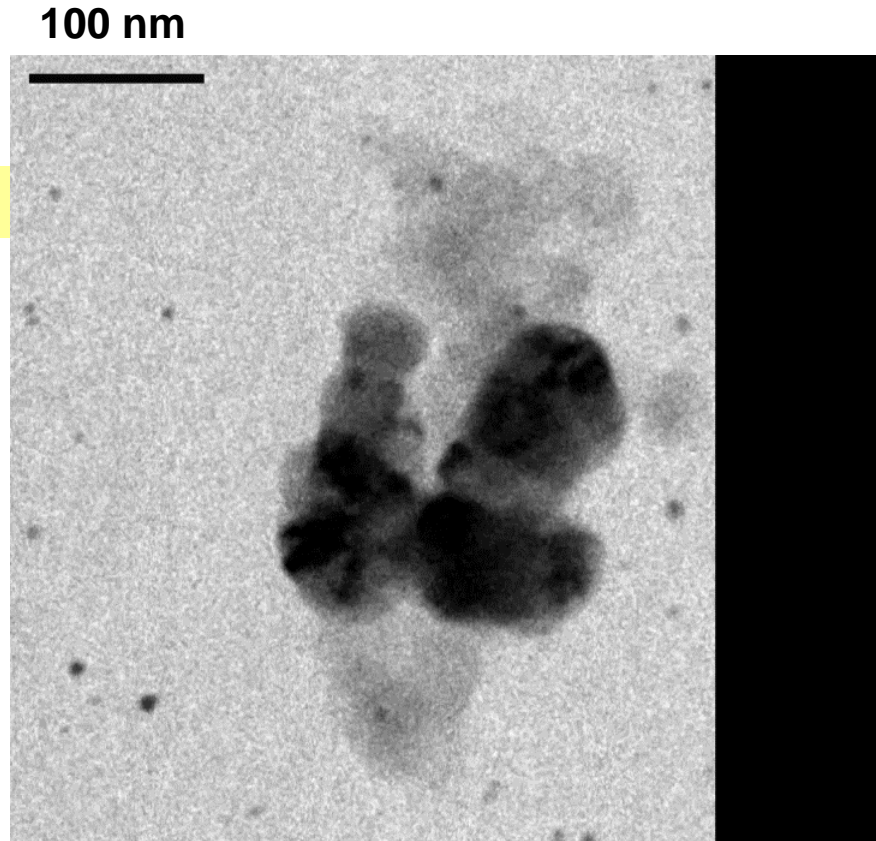
Total acquisition time:  $t_{total}$  **5 sec**

Angular rotation speed  $\omega = 2\alpha/t$  **28°/sec**

Number of frames per second: **Fps** **100**

Angular blur / frame:  $B_{lfr} = \frac{2\alpha}{t.Fps}$  **0.28°**

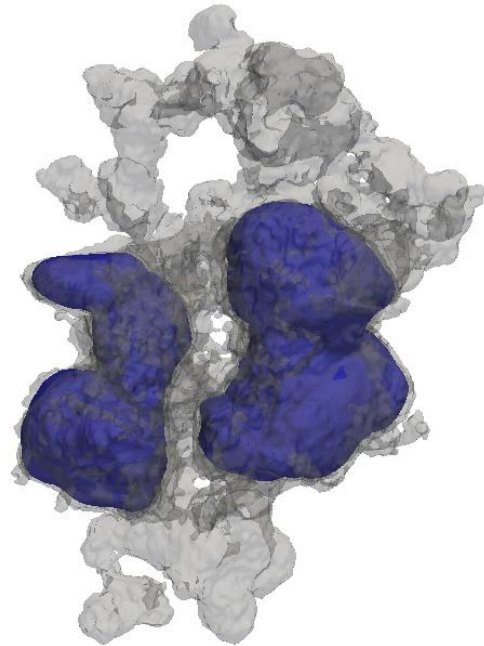
Oneview GATAN  
2K, 100 images/sec



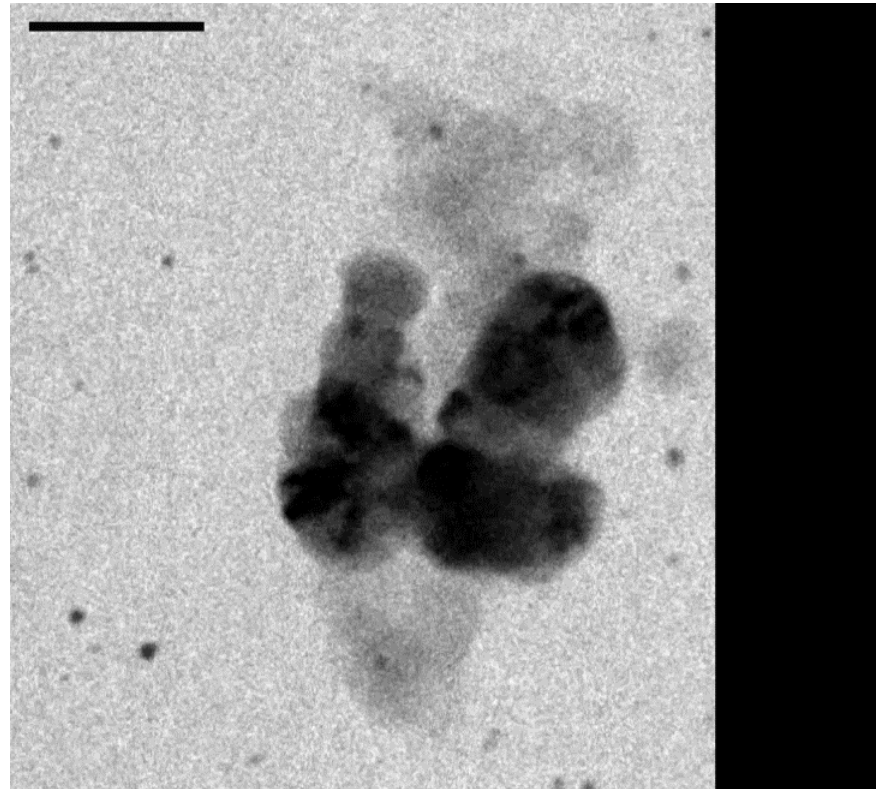
**tilt series +73°/-70° in 5.1 sec, 5 10<sup>-5</sup> mbar O<sub>2</sub>, 300°C**



- REMINDER: 3D acquisition at the **SECOND LEVEL**



100 nm



 true speed,  
100 fps, 2K images

*tilt series +73°/-70° in 5.1 sec, 5 10<sup>-5</sup> mbar O<sub>2</sub>, 300°C*

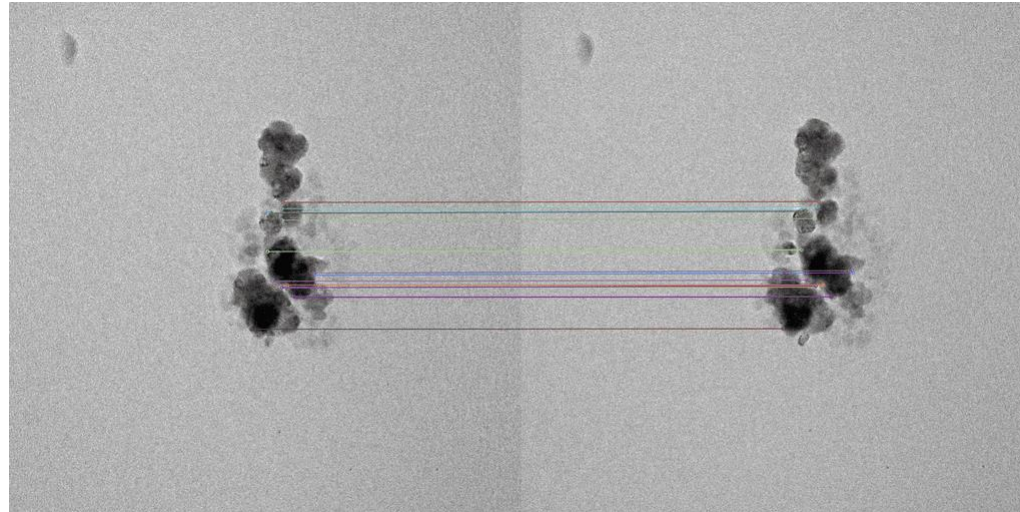
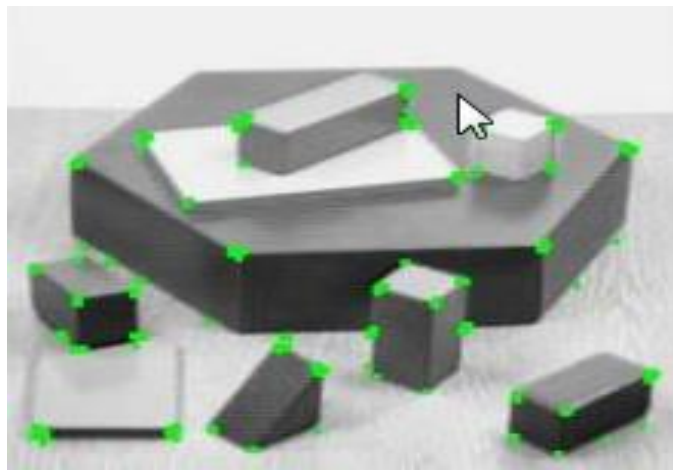
- Further improvements (running ANR project)



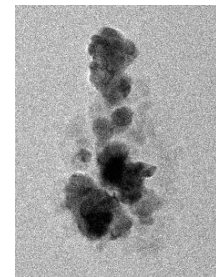
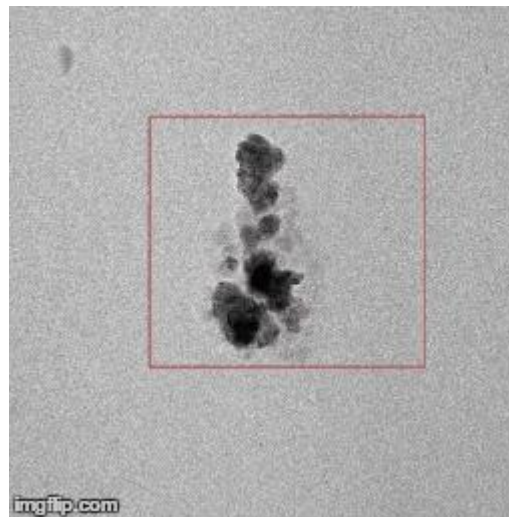
## 1) Live 'alignment'

Local descriptors

- SIFT (Scale Invariant Feature Transform)
- SURF (Speeded Up Robust Features)
- ORB (Oriented FAST and Rotated BRIEF)

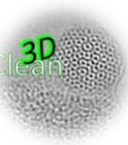


Soot on  $ZrO_2$   
 1.7 mbar  $O_2$ , 400°C  
 Post-mortem alignment,  
 0.25 sec/image

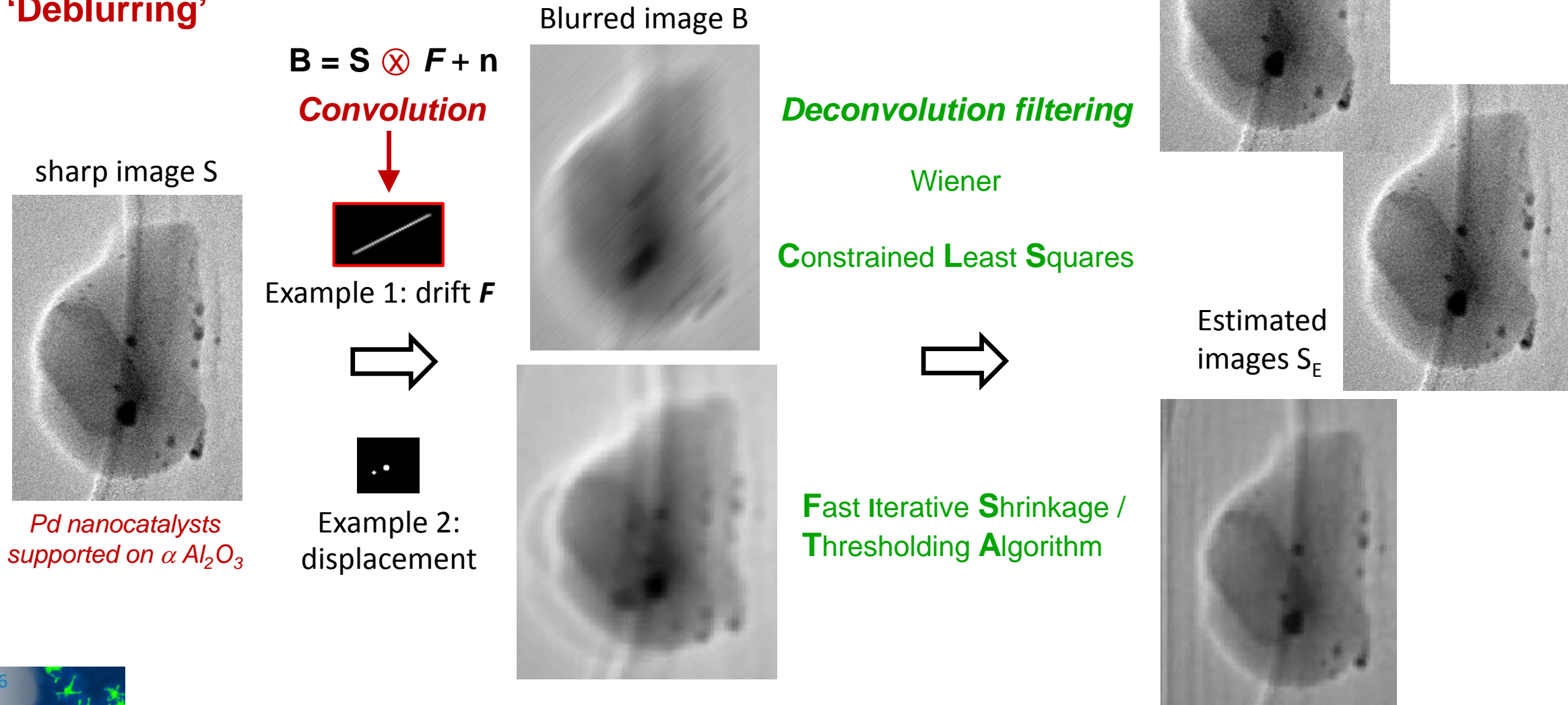




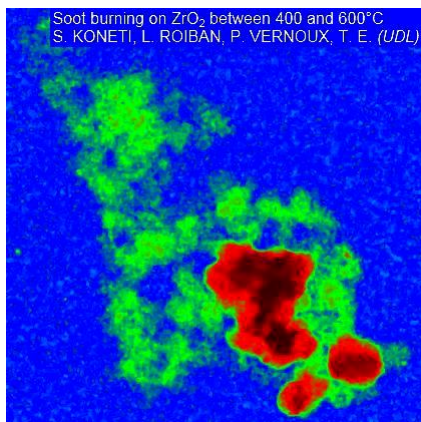
- Further improvements (running ANR project)



## 2) 'Deblurring'



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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