

# X-ray imaging

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Ragnvald Mathiesen



Fakultet for naturvitenskap og teknologi Institutt for fysikk



# X-ray imaging:

<u>Absorption</u>, phase, scattering loss, diffraction, fluorescent, coherent scattering, bright- & dark-field microscopy, ....

Wavelength ~ atomic length scale => Atomic resolution (as with EM) ?

#### Limitations:

- Direct X-ray detection > 5 µm pixel resolution
- Indirect detection: X-ray  $\rightarrow$  VL (scintillators) + light microscopy
- Efficient X-ray optics not possible ~  $M_{xo}$  < 30
- => Resolution wo. optics ~ 700 nm

w. optics ~ 50 nm

coherent < 10 nm

**Opportunities:** 

- Penetration depth -> buried-in structures in 3D samples

- Open sample environment -> time-resolved, in situ/operando w. real loads



# At REXC IFY-NTNU node:

- I. 2D X-ray µradiography absorption contrast (Oct. 2012 -)
  - spatial resolution: 3 µm @ 3 x 3 mm<sup>2</sup> field of view
  - $\le 6$  frames/s

→ "Time-resolved" studies of microstructure evolution and response in situ under external loads (e.g. temp., mech., chem. env.)

II. 3D X-ray µtomography - absorption contrast (May 2013 - )

- spatial resolution: 1µm @ 3 x 3 x 3 mm<sup>3</sup> volume
- ≥ 20 min/tomogram

→ 3D buried-in microstructures, static or in evolution under realistic in operando conditions (e.g. mech., env., ...)





#### Pixelled scintillator



Spatiotemporal performance ~  $\mu$ img setup ID22, ESRF (1999).



1.2 mm

*Equiaxed dendritic crystal growth in Al-Cu* - *diffusive interaction/impingement between adjacent grains* 

**REXC IFY (2012)** 



Near-isothermal & purely diffusive ("0g")

ESRF ID22 (2001)



Non-isothermal & diffusive-convective (1g)



RECX µradiography activities:

- 2012-13: *Equiaxed dendrite impignement & growth restriction* (UC Dublin). A. Murphy, PhD thesis 2013; Acta Mat 2013.
- 2013-16: FP7 NMP ExoMet.
  @NTNU: *Particle growth front interactions in NP-MMC processing*.
  1 PhD & 1 Post Doc.
- 2014-: Fe intermetallic phase formation in Al-Si (U. Jonkoping)

Two applications from SINTEF MC to NFR FRINATEK 2013: *Equiaxed dendritic growth/growth restriction/inoculation* (not granted)



### 2. RECX µtomography (2013-)



#### Nikon XT H225 $\mu$ -CT station

- High-power dual microfocus source
- Wide range of applications: materials, environments, sample sizes



RECX µtomography training samples



400 µm metal-coated polymer sphere



RECX µtomography training samples



Radio tube



RECX µtomography training samples



Our future Olympic athletes ?

Norwegian Centre for X-ray Diffraction, Scattering and Imaging

RECX µtomography activities:

REsource Centre for X-rays

RPI.

Yara – Polymer template morphologies UC Dublin – µporosity in BMG SINTEF/SAPA – casting defects in Al alloys

#### NTNU

- IMT: Metal intrusion in carbon electrodes
- IKJ: Cultural heritage/paintings
- IDT: Wiring in microcircuits
- IFY: Eutectics, various hybrid-structures



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# Hot tear and porosity in Al-casting

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NTNU RECX imaging Intl. links :

X-ray imaging centre, DTU, Denmark (Poulsen) X-ray imaging centre, U. Manch./Diamond (Withers, Lee) Inhouse instrument development ID6@ESRF (Detlefs, Snigirev)

## Conceptual layout HXRM – ID6@ESRF



- 2D-Bright Field microscopy: ~ 50 nm@1 kHz, A & φ
- 3D-Bright Field microscopy: ~ 100 nm@0.5 Hz, A & φ
- 3D-Dark Field microscopy: < 50 nm
- 3D Coherent-Dark Field microscopy: < 10 nm



Preparing synchrotron exp.

*Teaching* 

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ESRF, ID6, 2009



Al dendritic growth restricted by diffusive & convective transport of Cu