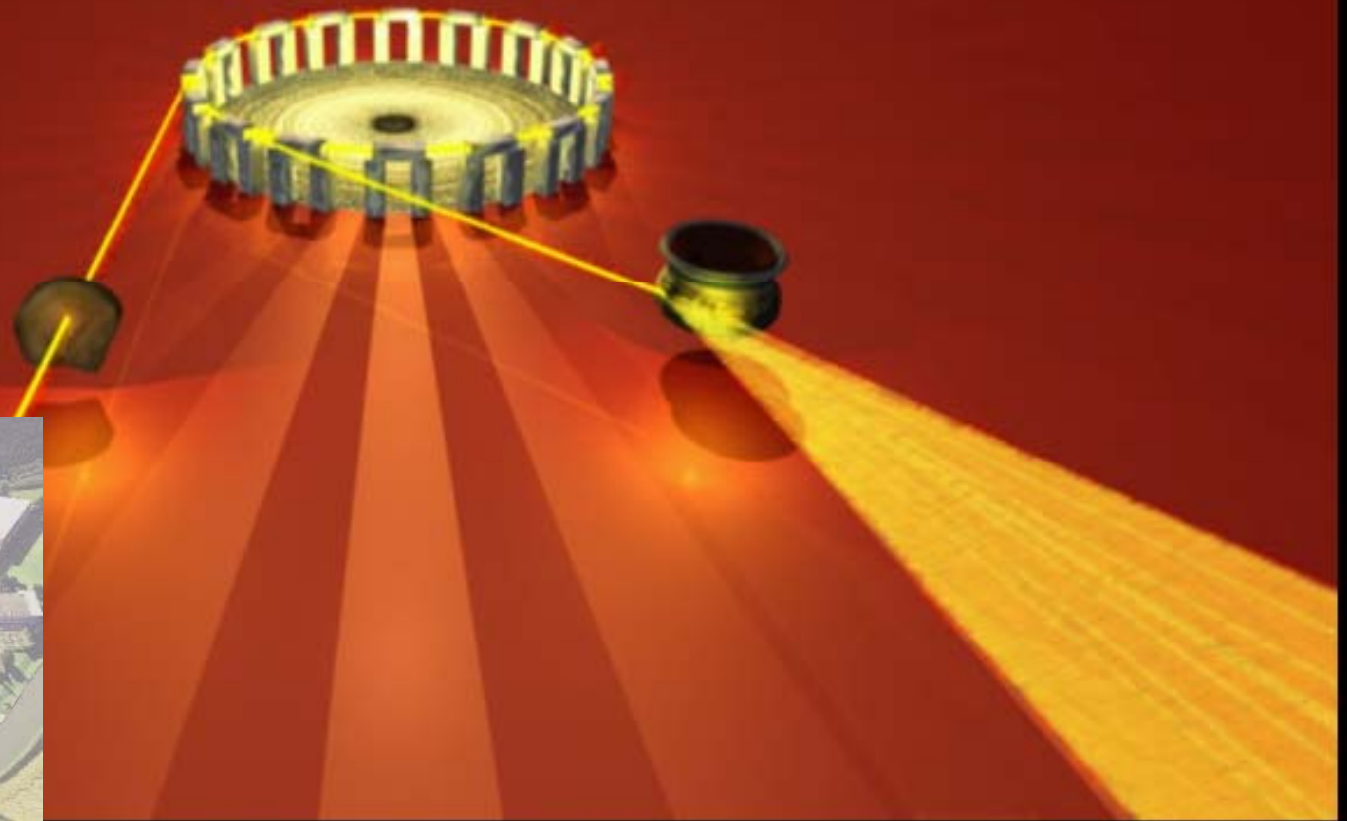


# Trends in the Application of Synchrotron Technology to Art and Archaeology

**Manolis Pantos**  
**Daresbury Laboratory**

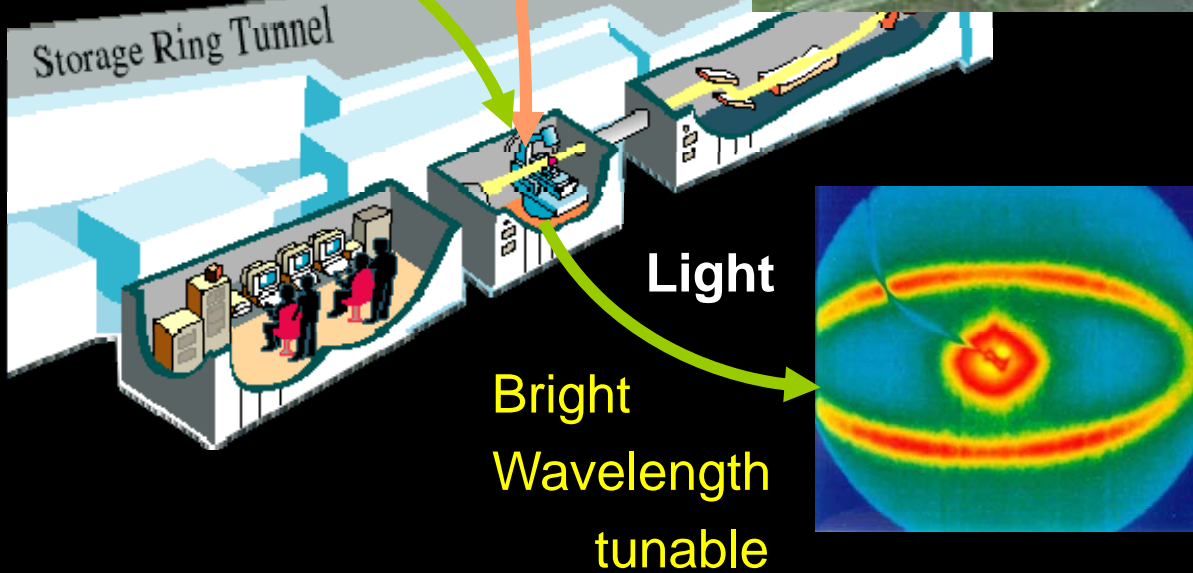
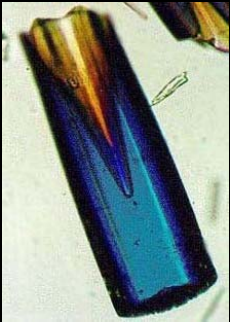
<http://srs.dl.ac.uk/arch/>



# What is a Synchrotron?

Diverse type of samples

Small – Many -  
Difficult

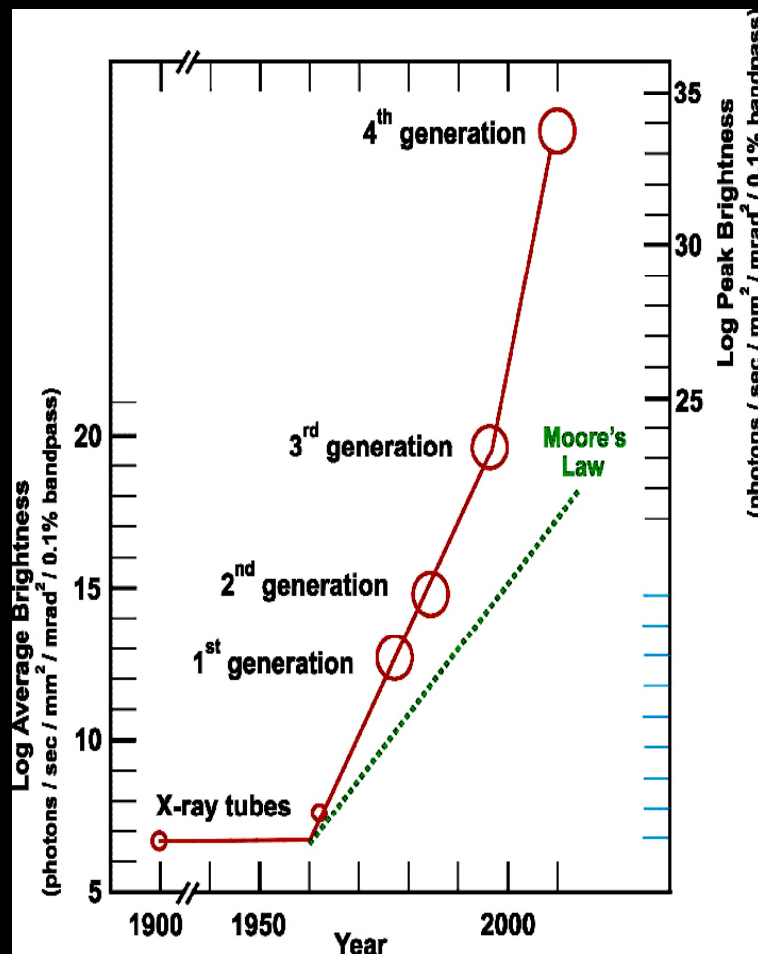


Fast  
collection  
Large volume

**What would You like to do at a Synchrotron?**

# The Three Key SR Features

Brilliance: Fast data collection, Small sample size  
 Beam footprint: 2D or 3D studies to sub-micron length scale  
 Tunability: Choice of energy region to suit the problem



SLS  
 DIAMOND  
 SOLEIL  
 ALBA  
 SESAME  
 BOOMERANG

Legend:  
 ■ 3rd generation  
 ■ 4th generation  
 ● Planned sources

## SR sources around the world

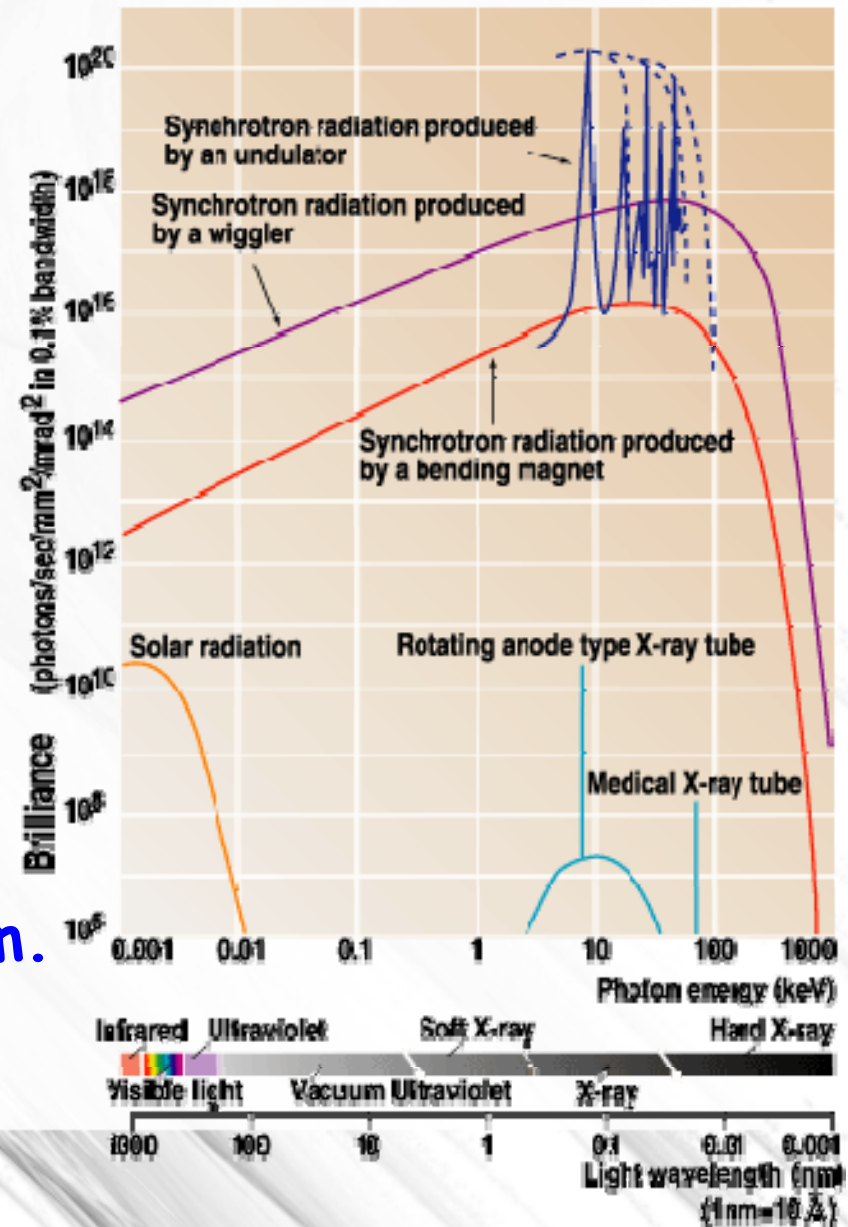
[http://www.spring8.or.jp/ENGLISH/general\\_info/overview/sr.html](http://www.spring8.or.jp/ENGLISH/general_info/overview/sr.html)

SR has enabled the development of techniques for Advanced Materials Science

## Archaeology is about People

Properties of materials can be probed by the interaction of light with matter.

The properties of materials that can be probed by light map directly onto the synchrotron radiation spectrum.

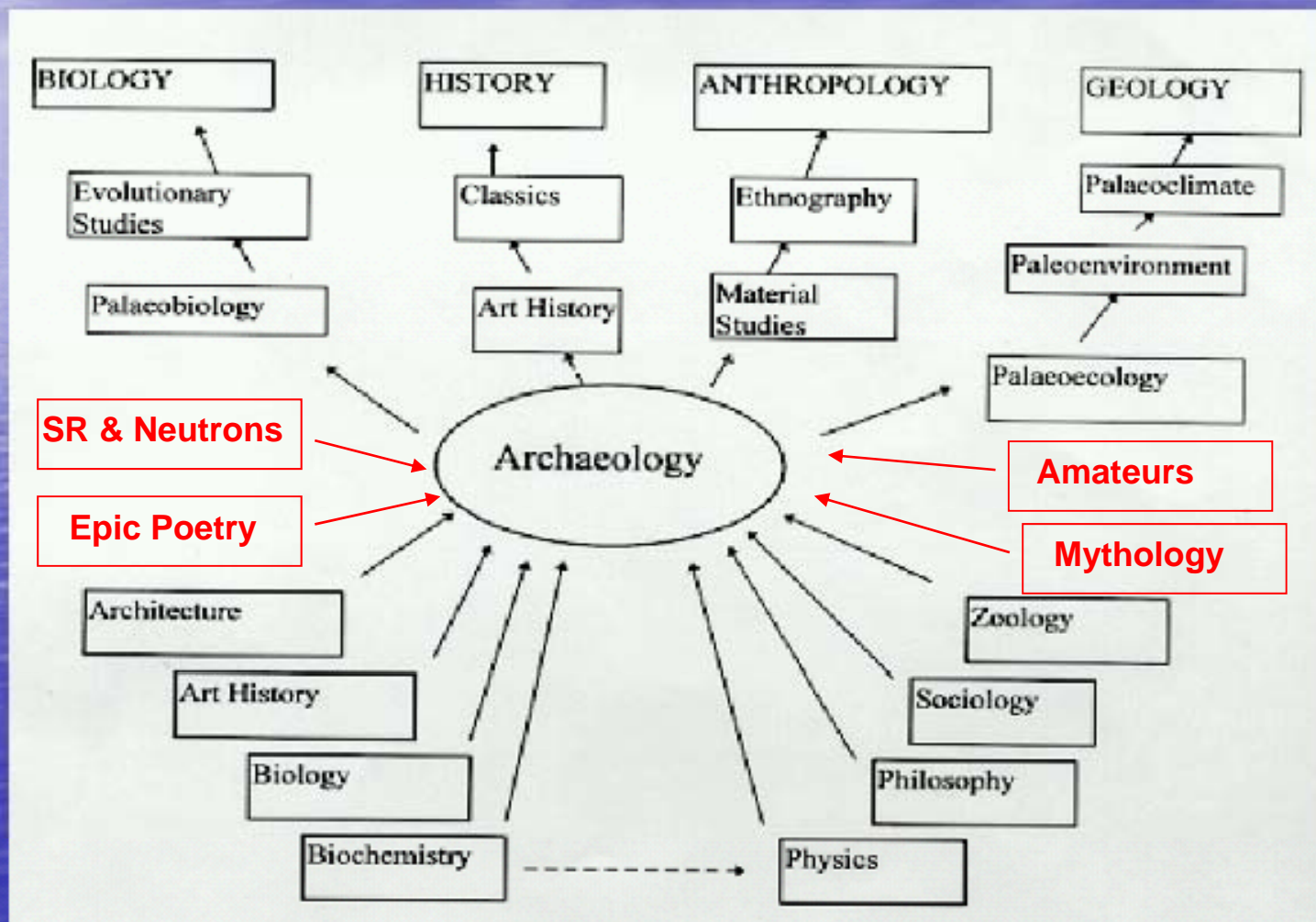


# Traditional Materials Science Questions in Archaeology



- What? Identification of material e.g. pigments
- How? Manufacturing technology, e.g. alloy or glaze composition
- Where? Chemical fingerprinting of raw materials
- When? Chemical/technological typologies to assist dating/provenance/‘authenticity’
- Why? Technological choices - practical/conservative/‘ritual’

# Academic Links in UK Archaeology





Chapel of St Agatha, Barcelona, Catalonia

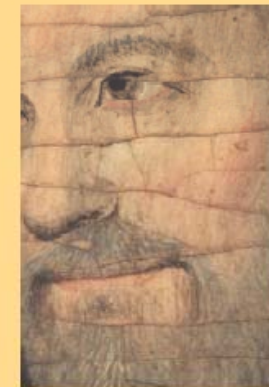
# Gothic Catalan Paintings

Jaume Huguet  
1415-1492  
Barcelona

UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA  
Departament de Química Inorgànica  
Departament de Cristal·lografia, Mineralogia i Dipòsits Minerals

## CARACTERITZACIÓ DE MATERIALS EN LA PINTURA GÒTICA SOBRE TAULA

química i tecnologia  
en l'obra  
de Jaume Huguet

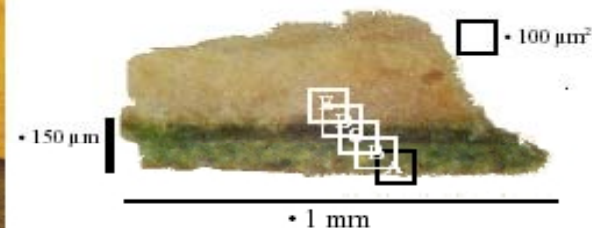


Nativitat Salvadó i Cobrés

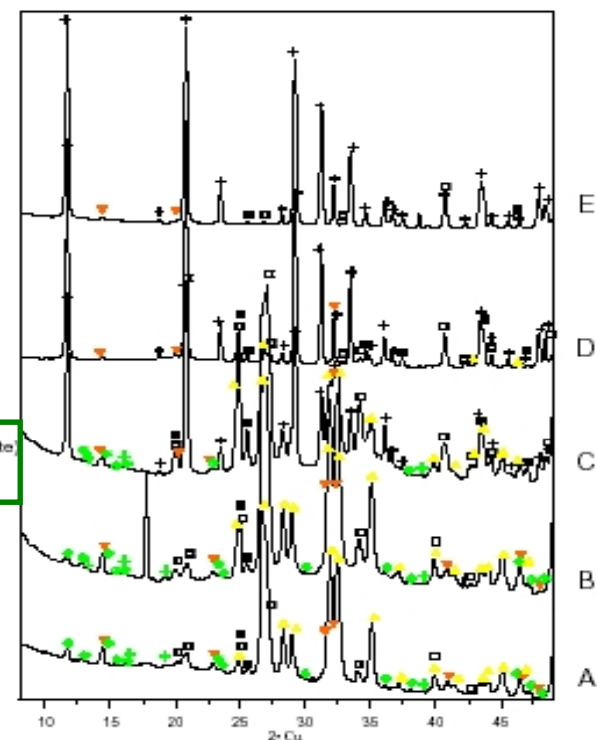
BARCELONA, 2001

# Use of green pigments from Gothic altarpieces

## Retaule del Conestable



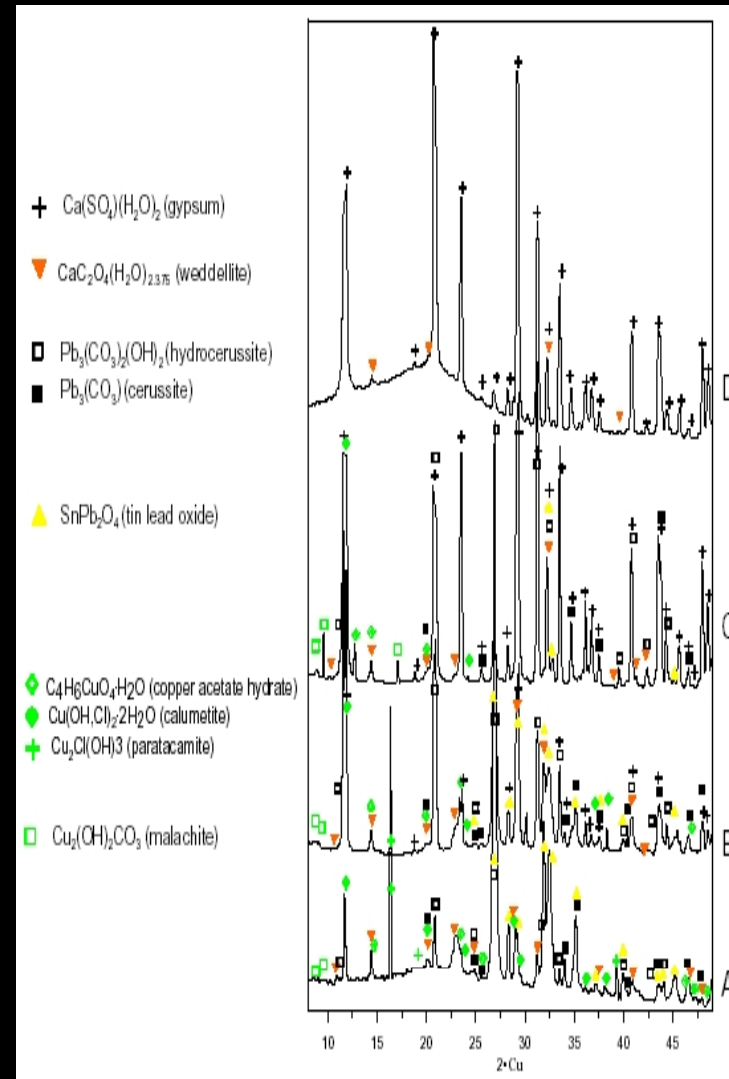
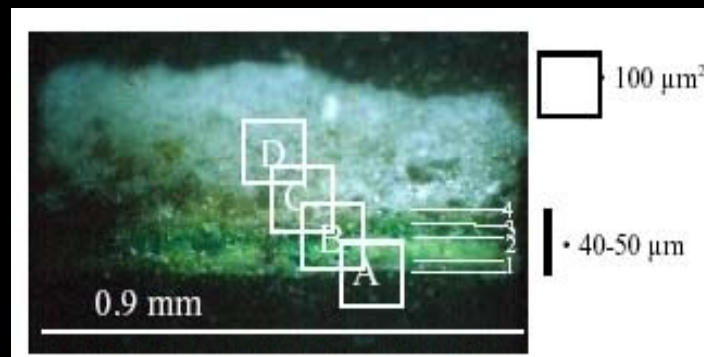
- ✦  $\text{Ca}(\text{SO}_4)(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$  (gypsum)
- ▼  $\text{CaC}_2\text{O}_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{2.375}$  (weddelite)
- $\text{Pb}_2(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2$  (hydrocerussite)
- $\text{Pb}_3(\text{CO}_3)_2$  (cerussite)
- ▲  $\text{SnPb}_2\text{O}_4$  (tin lead oxide)
- ◆  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{CuO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (copper acetate hydrate)
- $\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (malachite)
- ✦  $\text{Cu}_2\text{C}(\text{OH})_3$  (paratacamite)



Jaume Huguet born ca. 1415, Valls died 1492, Barcelona



# Thin Section XRD



The diffraction data reveal the composition of Jaume Huguet's green paints and the preparation layers as well as the presence of alteration products. **The copper chlorides were selected intentionally.**

N. Salvadó, T. Pradell, E. Pantos, M.Z.Papiz, J. Molera, M. Seco and M. Vendrell-Sa, *Identification of copper based green pigments in Jaume Huguet's Gothic altarpieces by Fourier transform infrared micro-spectroscopy and synchrotron radiation X-ray diffraction*, J. Sync. Rad. (2002) Vol. 9, pp. 215-222.

## *THE ANCIENT LUSTRE CERAMICS*

LUSTRE : Is a decorative metal-like film applied on the surface of medieval glazed luxury ceramics pottery giving a gold-like metallic shine.



*Museum of Ceramics, Palau Real, Barcelona*

*15<sup>th</sup> century lustre decorated dish from de Moresque workshop of Paterna.*

## Technology Transfer



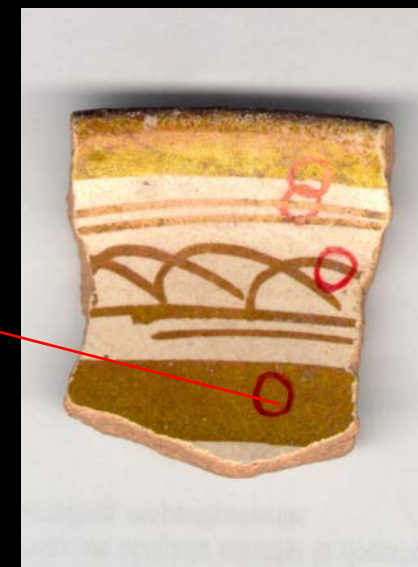
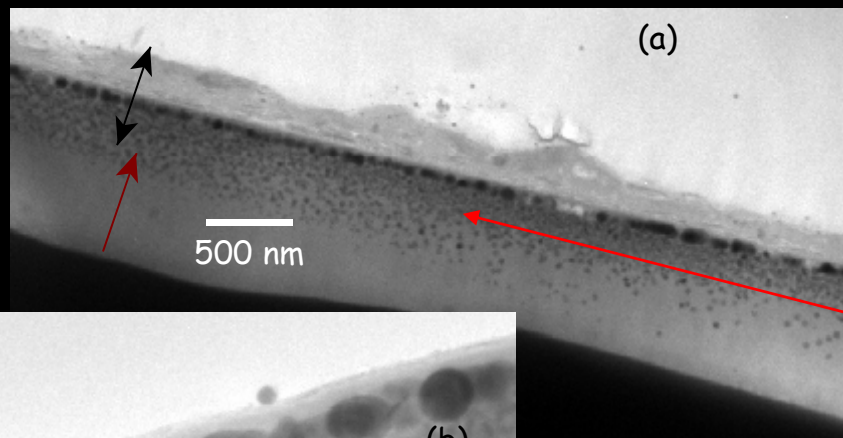
*When was lustre pottery first produced ?*

- Irak 9<sup>th</sup> AD : Abbasid court of Samarra.



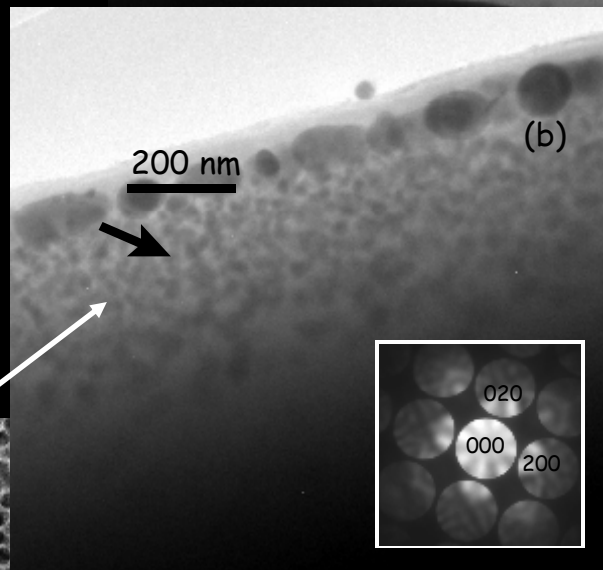
The collapse of the Fatimid dynasty in Egypt (end of 12<sup>th</sup> AD) resulted in the emigration of the potters to safer areas first to **Syria, Iran** and then through Sicily, Mallorca and Tunis to the **islamic kingdoms in the Iberian Peninsula**.

Composite layer  
200-500 nm  
tin glaze

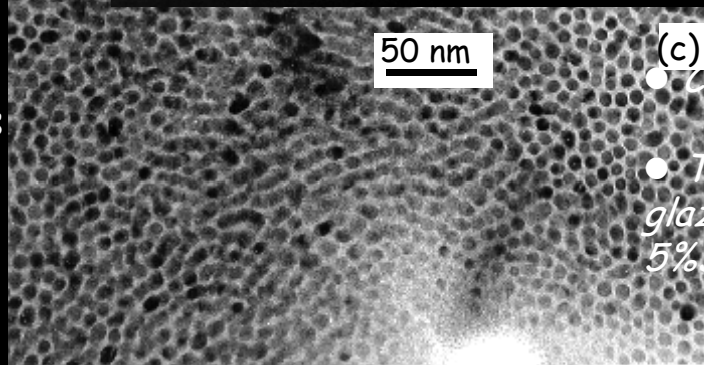


Glassy layer

Copper  
nanocrystals  
(10-50 nm)



Silver  
nanocrystals  
(5-10 nm)



## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LUSTRE LAYER:

metal + Si- glass composite layer (200-500 nm thickness) of typical composition 13%Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 71%SiO<sub>2</sub>, 16%FeO, 1.5%PbO, 2.5%K<sub>2</sub>O, 5%CaO and 4.5%Na<sub>2</sub>O.

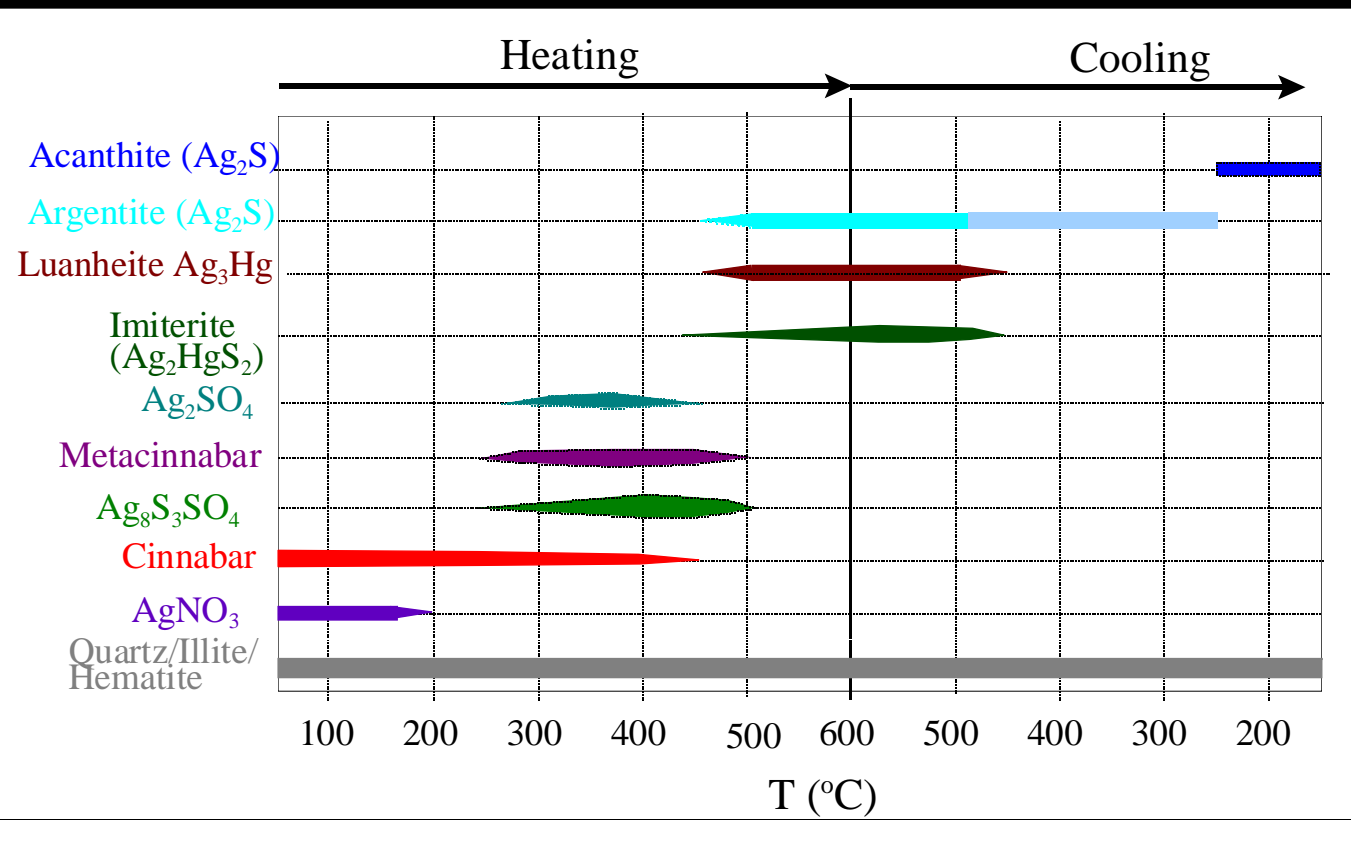
- Copper and silver nanocrystals (5 to 50 nm size).
- The lustre layer is stuck on the tin opacified lead glaze, of typical composition 49%SiO<sub>2</sub>, 36%PbO, 5%SnO<sub>2</sub>, 6% K<sub>2</sub>O, 2%Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and 2%CaO.

Luster pottery from the 13th to the 16th century: a nanostructured thin metallic film.

J.Pérez-Arantequi, J.Molera, A.Larrea, T.Pradell, M.Vendrell-Saz, I.Borgia, B.G.Brunetti,  
*J. American. Ceramic Society*, **84** [2], 442-446 (2001).

# Hard X-rays for time resolved studies

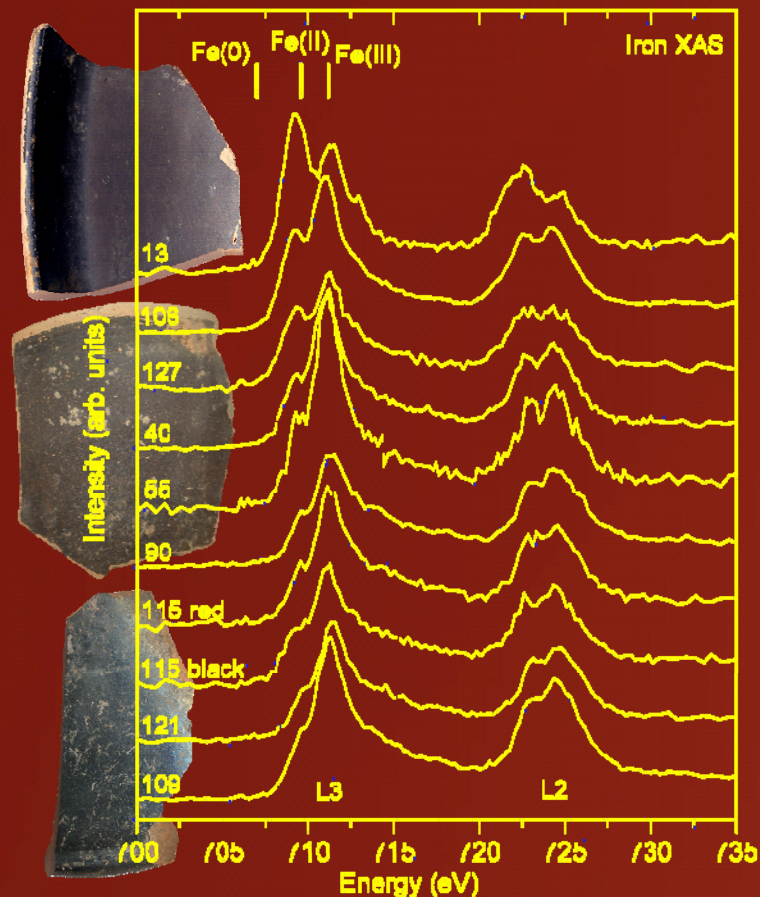
High penetration, non-destructive.  
Mineralogical and texture information in seconds.  
Ideal for time-temperature studies.



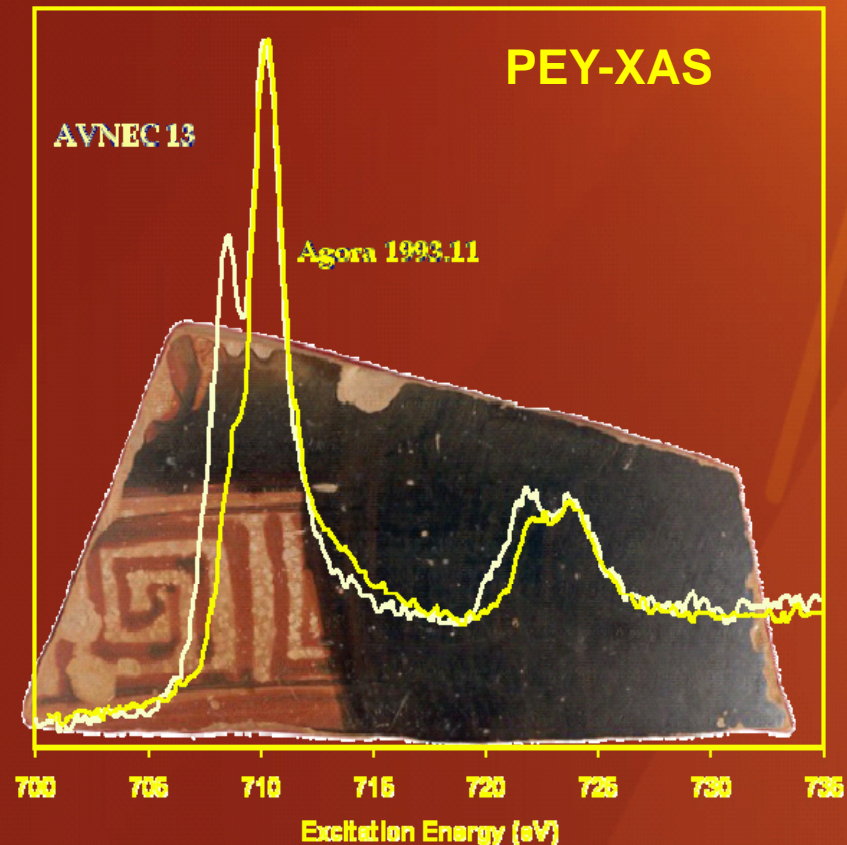
90keV SR-XRD of on-line heated ceramic powders have revealed the technological processes involved in the production of lustre ware from medieval Spain.

# Fluorescence and Electron Yield XAS

Partial Electron Yield (PEY) measurements in the L-edge of iron (700-740eV region), probe the top 10nm of the surface of the glass. Unlike fluorescence XAS, electron emission is a first-order process, more sensitive to the local environment of the absorbing atom.



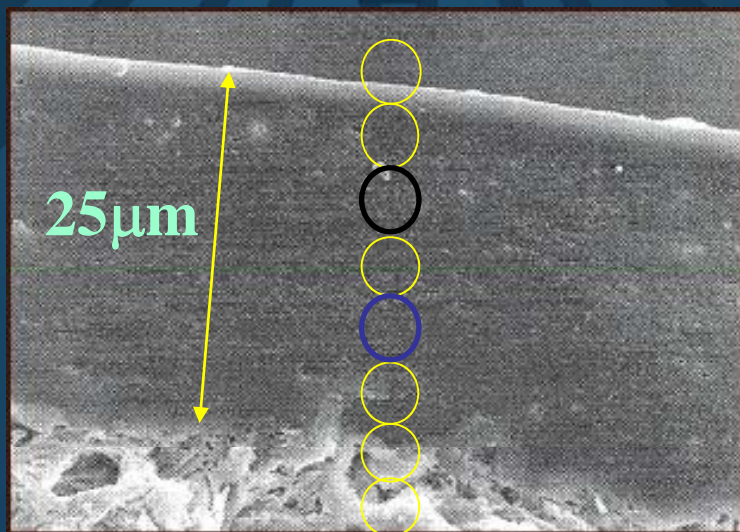
Colour correlates with content in iron oxide type at the top surface layer.



PEY-XAS results on BG previously studied with fluorescence XAS tell the same story.

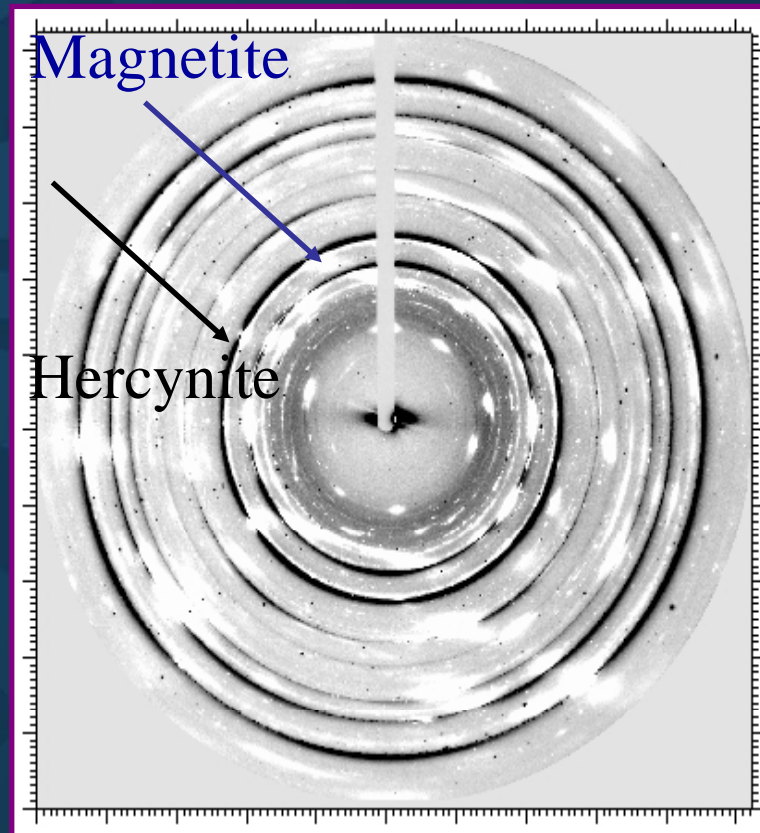
**Question:** Any concentration gradients?

# Spatially resolved micro-XRD

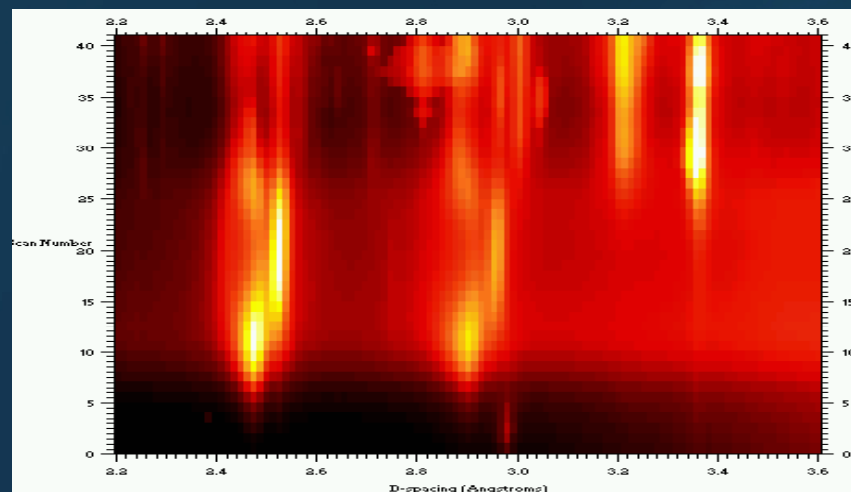


Microfocus beamline ID13  
European Synchrotron Radiation Source, Grenoble.

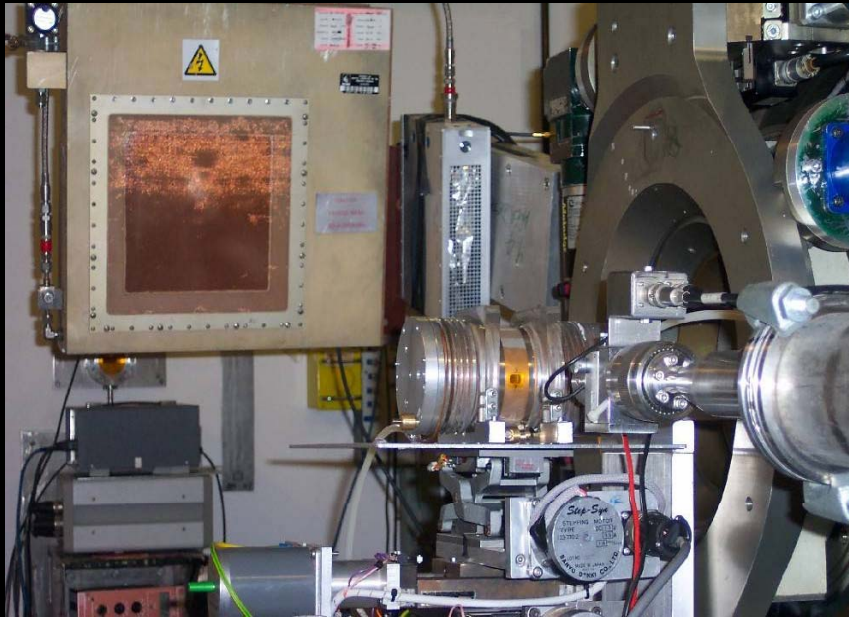
Right: The sequence of diffraction patterns shows a variation in hercynite/magnetite ratio across the gloss.



Above: Difference pattern at 10 and 20 μm from the surface

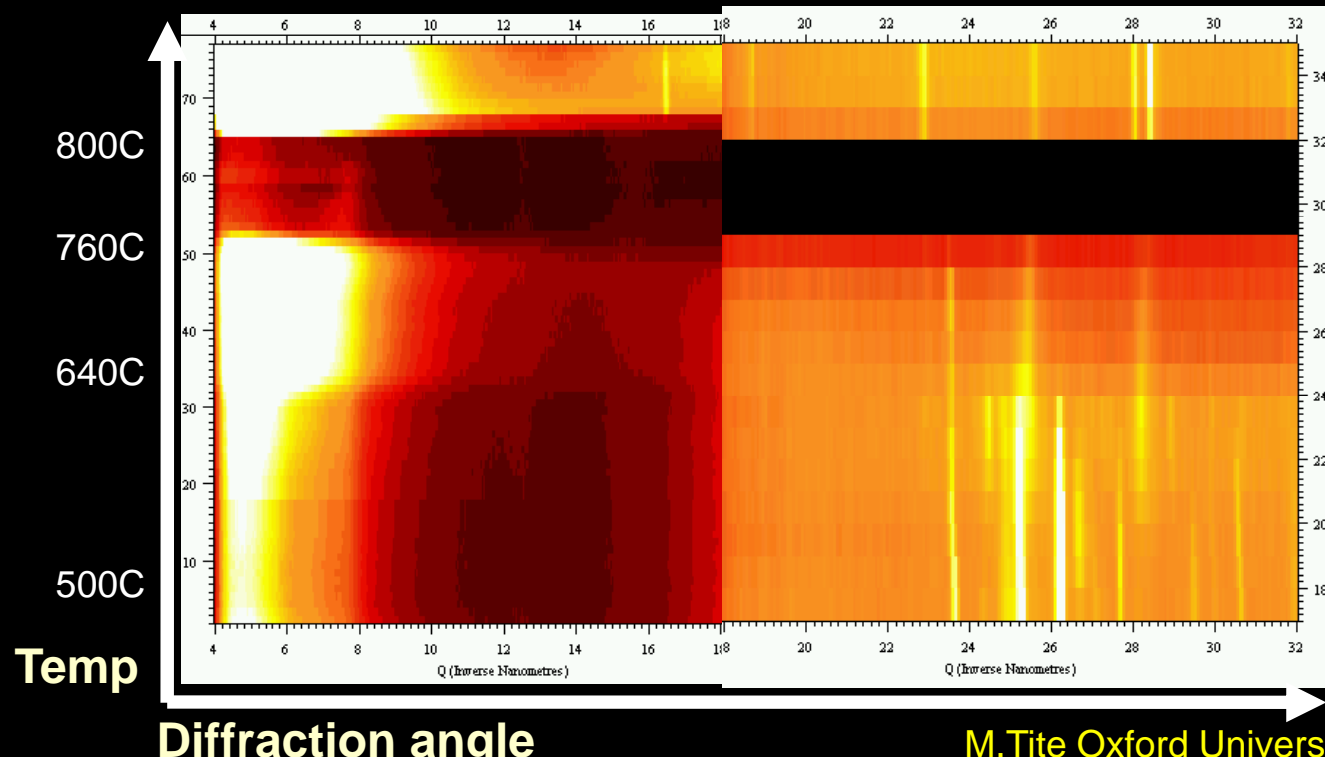


# The Art and Science of Glaze Making



SR modalities offer the opportunity for time-resolved experiments, in -situ, at high angular and time resolution.

The role of process parameters such as slip composition, kiln atmosphere and firing protocol need to be studied at will.



SAXS and WAXS of glaze mixtures heated at 5°C/min from 25 to 1000°C.

Diffraction patterns recorded every 1min.



## Corinthian type helmets



Low resolution images of helmets from <http://www.hellenic-art.com/armour/helmets.htm> and <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/shefton-museum/>



***First Aias son of Telamon, bulwark of the Achaians, brake a battalion of the Trojans and brought his comrades salvation, smiting a warrior that was chiefest among the Thracians, Eussoros' son Akamas the goodly and great. Him first he smote upon his thick-crested helmet ridge and drave into his forehead, so that the point of bronze pierced into the bone; and darkness shrouded his eyes.*** Homer, *Iliad* VI 5-11. (transl. by Andrew Lang, Walter Leaf and Ernest Myers, Macmillan 1912).

The object is a battle helmet of Corinthian type - the only one for which we know the ancient Greek name. Along with his shield, corslet and greaves, it formed part of the armour of the Classical Greek infantryman: such men formed the core of the citizen armies of the Greek city-states, and had to be rich enough to provide their own equipment.

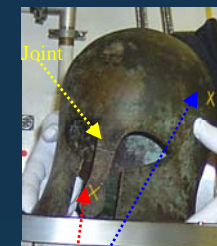
The fact that the metal on this helmet is rather thin and that it lacks the common crest suggests that our man may have been rather limited in his means. Padded with a leather or felt lining whose fixing holes can still be seen along the edges, the helmet protected the head, face and neck of the wearer very effectively (A.Jackson, *Annual of the British School at Athens*, in preparation). However, he could see little and hear almost nothing.

The Corinthian helmet has been called "one of the great independent achievements of early Greek technology". It was beaten out of a single sheet of bronze, probably on a rod-anvil, and like all body-armour it was made to measure: this required exceptional skill on the part of the smith, but once discovered the design was so efficient that it was still being used in fifteenth-century Italy, more than 2000 years after its invention around 700 BC. However, by the seventeenth century the art had been lost and had to be re-invented for modern replicas.

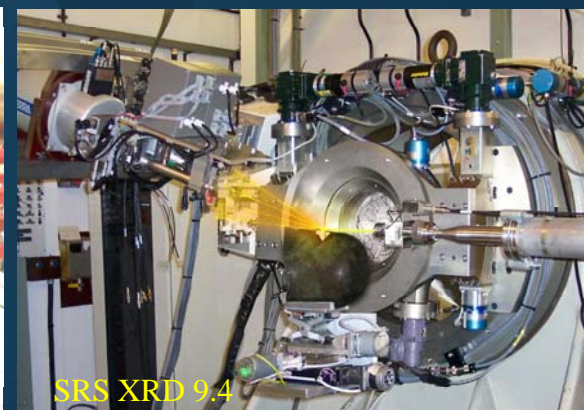


## The technology of the Corinthian-type Hoplite Helmet

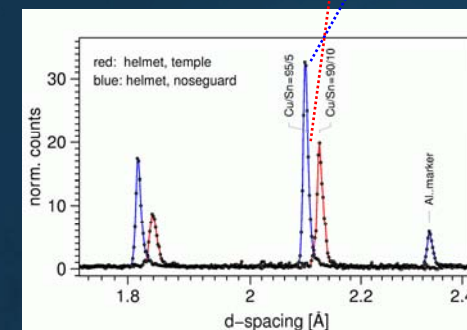
*Key objective: To check whether the repaired noseguard end-piece is of the same material as the rest of the helmet.*



SRS FTIR 13.3



SRS XRD 9.4



The helmet will be studied with SR-mFTIR in reflection mode and with XRF and surface SR-XRD at the SRS beamlines 13.3, 16.1 and 9.4 (photo-montage by G.A.Pantos). The objective is to characterise the corrosion products and the elemental composition.



4000 3000 2000 1000  
absorbance/wavenumber  $\text{cm}^{-1}$



## Corrosion products - XRD

Tiny flakes (ca.  $100\mu\text{m}$ ) extracted from the corrosion layers inside the helmet were examined with SR-XRD using a CCD detector.



Example of phase id from one of the corrosion flakes.

### Corrosion phases identified

Malachite  $\text{Cu}_2(\text{OH})_2\text{CO}_3$   
Cerusite  $\text{PbCO}_3$   
Romarchite  $\text{SnO}$   
Anglesite  $\text{PbSO}_4$   
Cuprite  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$   
Antlerite  $\text{Cu}_3(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_4$   
Brochantite  $\text{Cu}_4\text{SO}_4(\text{OH})$   
Chalcocite  $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$   
Digenite  $\text{CuS}_{1.8}$   
Azurite  $2\text{CuCO}_3 \cdot \text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2$   
Hydroxided Nitrate of copper and zinc  
 $\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_4(\text{NO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Cu}_2(\text{OH})_3\text{NO}_3$

### Soil minerals

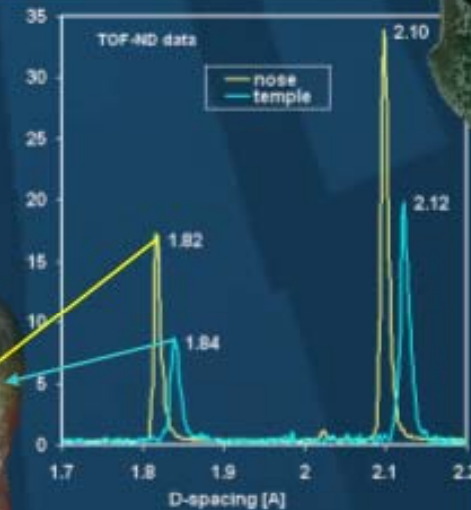
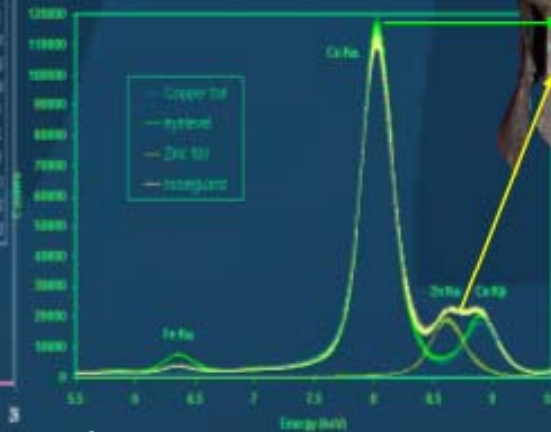
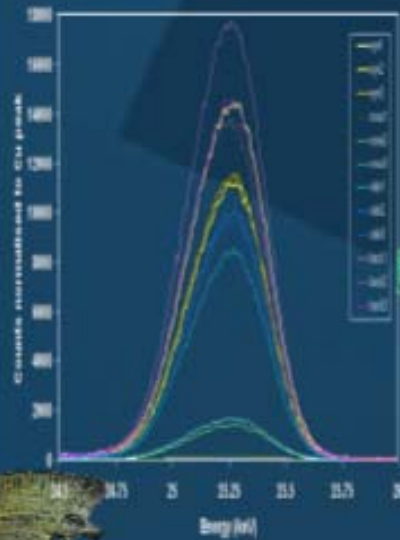
Quartz, Calcite, Gypsum, Hematite, Illite, Feldspars.

Synchrotron X-ray diffraction and X-ray fluorescence together with neutron diffraction have answered the question of whether the repaired noseguard is original: It is a modern replacement, made of a copper-zinc alloy, while the rest of the object is a copper-tin alloy, with small amounts of lead and iron.



## The Alloy Composition

The noseguard added piece contains Zn, the head does not. Sn varies at various locations on the head. Fe content also differs. There are traces of Pb.



Rietveld fitting of neutron diffraction data showed conclusively that the bulk composition of the noseguard and the head is very different.

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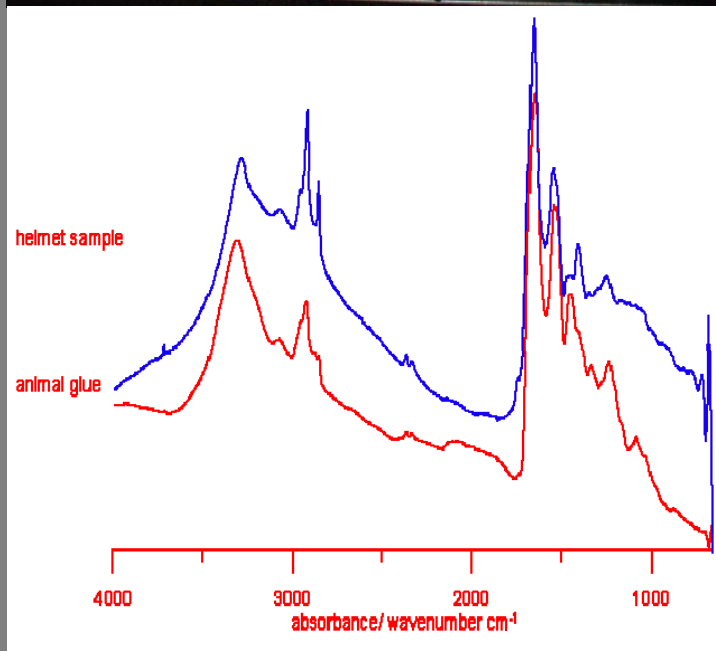


# Micro-FTIR in reflection mode



It was possible to identify the chemical nature of corrosion products in reflection mode, and with a beam cross-section of **10 $\mu$ m**.

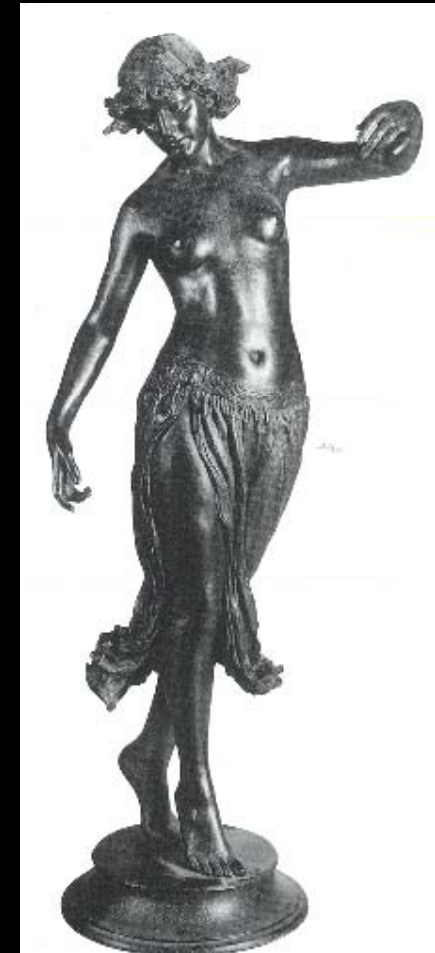
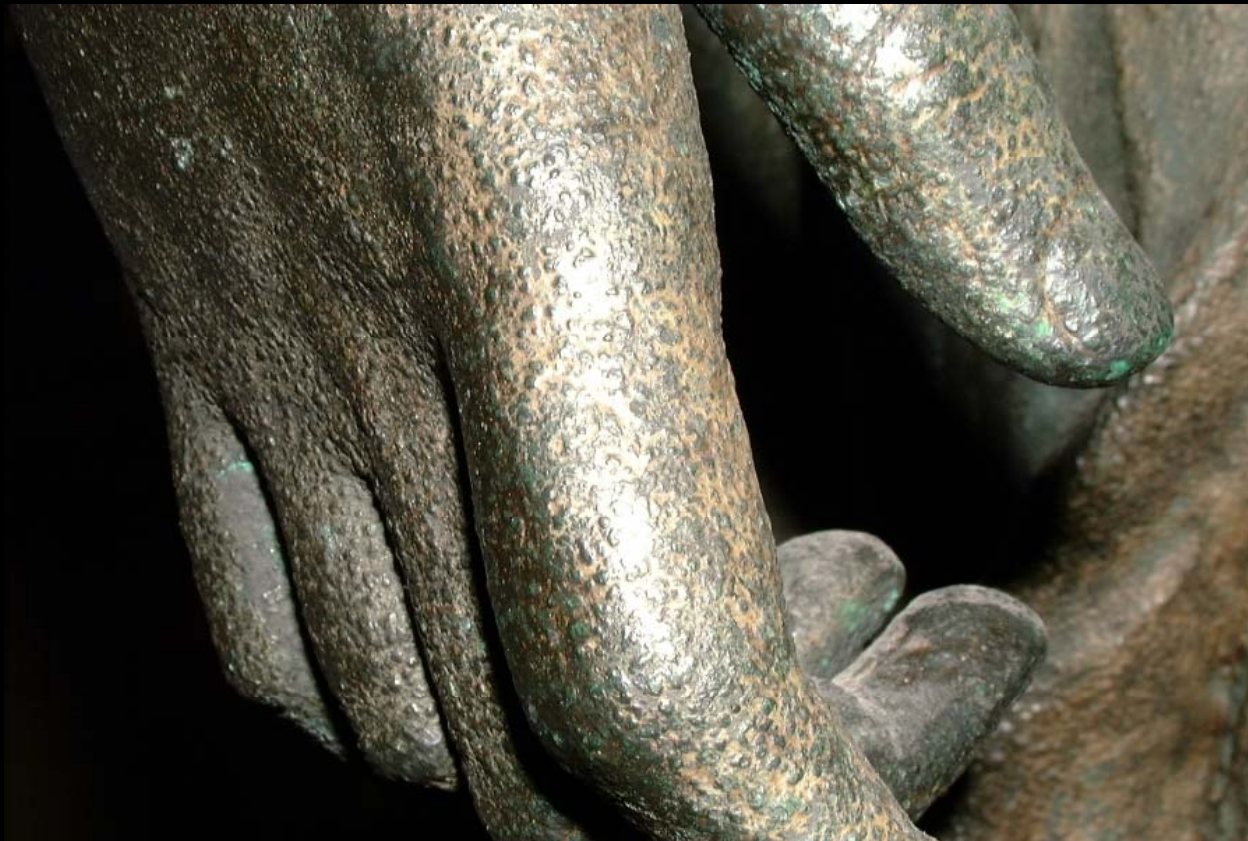
It was quickly established that the helmet had been coated (by a previous owner) with an animal glue. In glue-free locations, the composition of some of the surface deposits could be identified.



**Small flakes of corrosion products were extracted from the inside of the helmet and were studied in a diamond cell.**

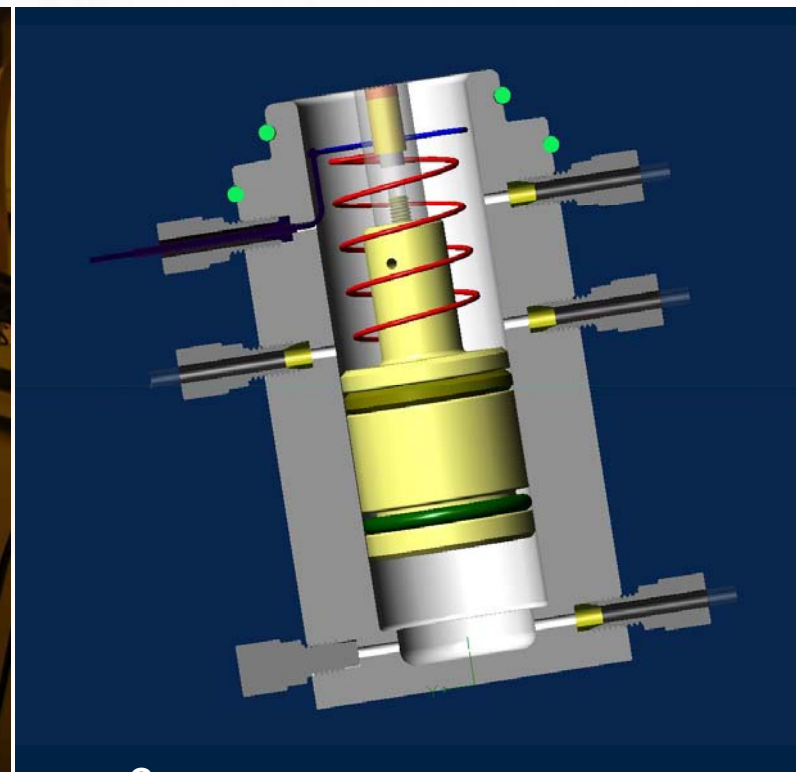
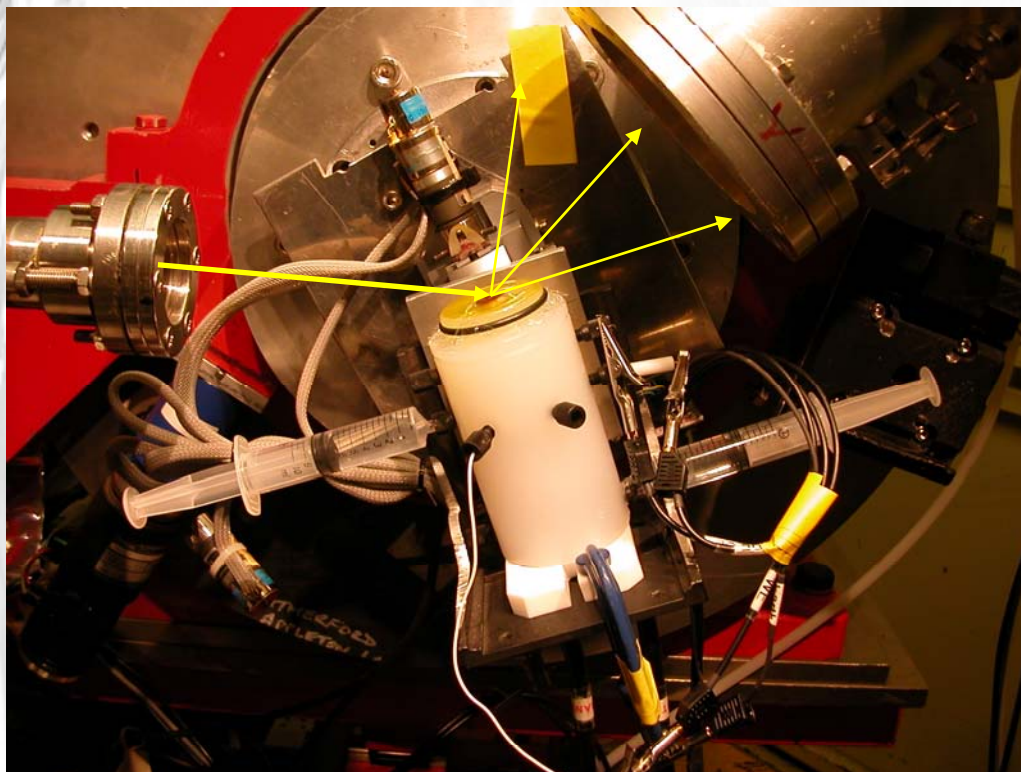
**Several corrosion products have been identified, none of them chlorides, which in the long run would initiate reactions that can turn the metal into a heap of dust.**

# Preservation of cultural heritage



Dancing Nymph, Merseyside Museum

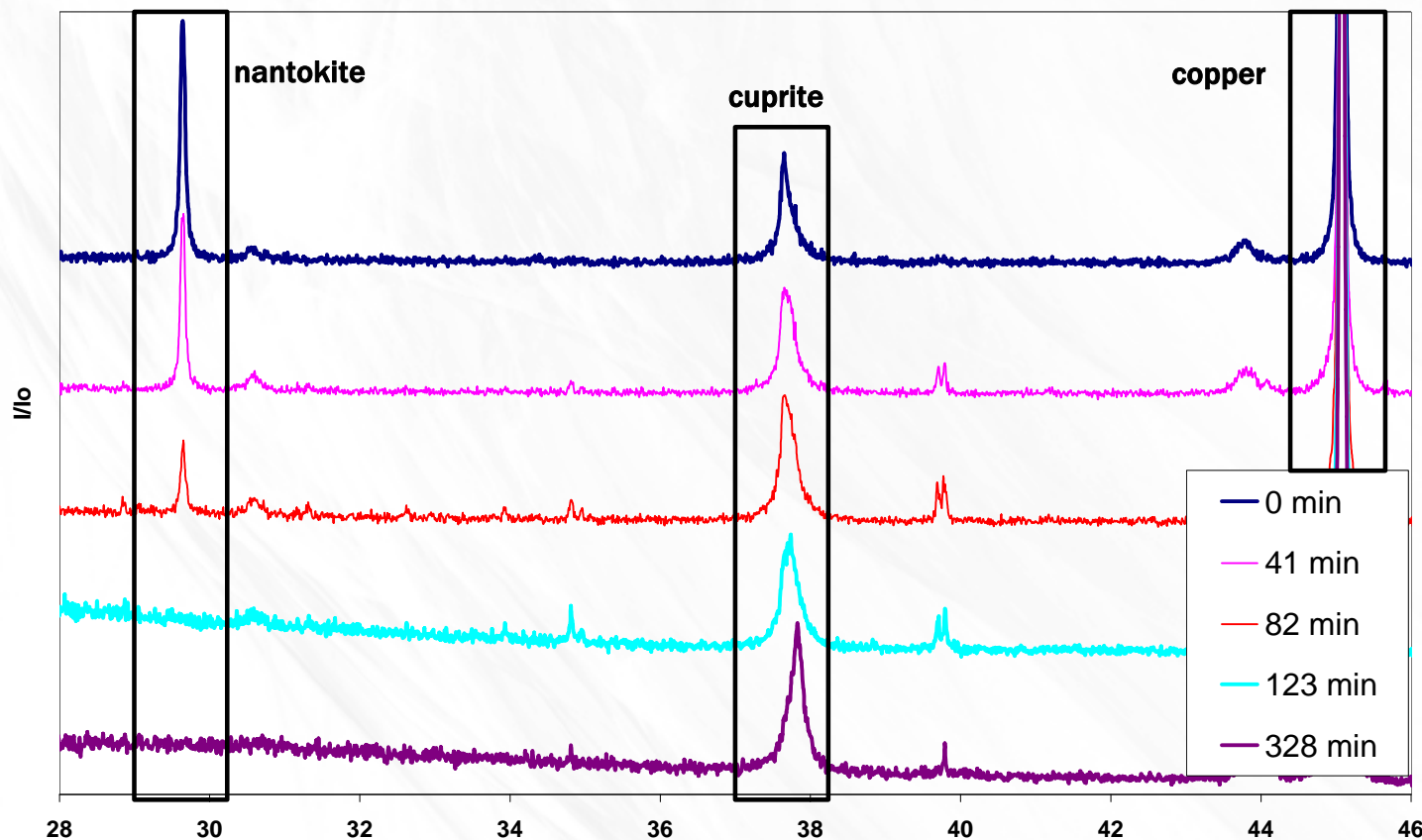
# In-situ time-resolved measurements



Daresbury SRS, station 2.3  
SRS, station 2.3, Daresbury



# In-situ time resolved measurements - XRD data



Data collected 5 Feb 05



# Structural damage to waterlogged wrecks



**Mark Jones, Glenn McConachie**  
**Mary Rose Trust, Portsmouth**  
**Theo Skinner**  
**National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh**

## Mary Rose

Launched – 1511

Sunk – 1545

Wreck found – 1971

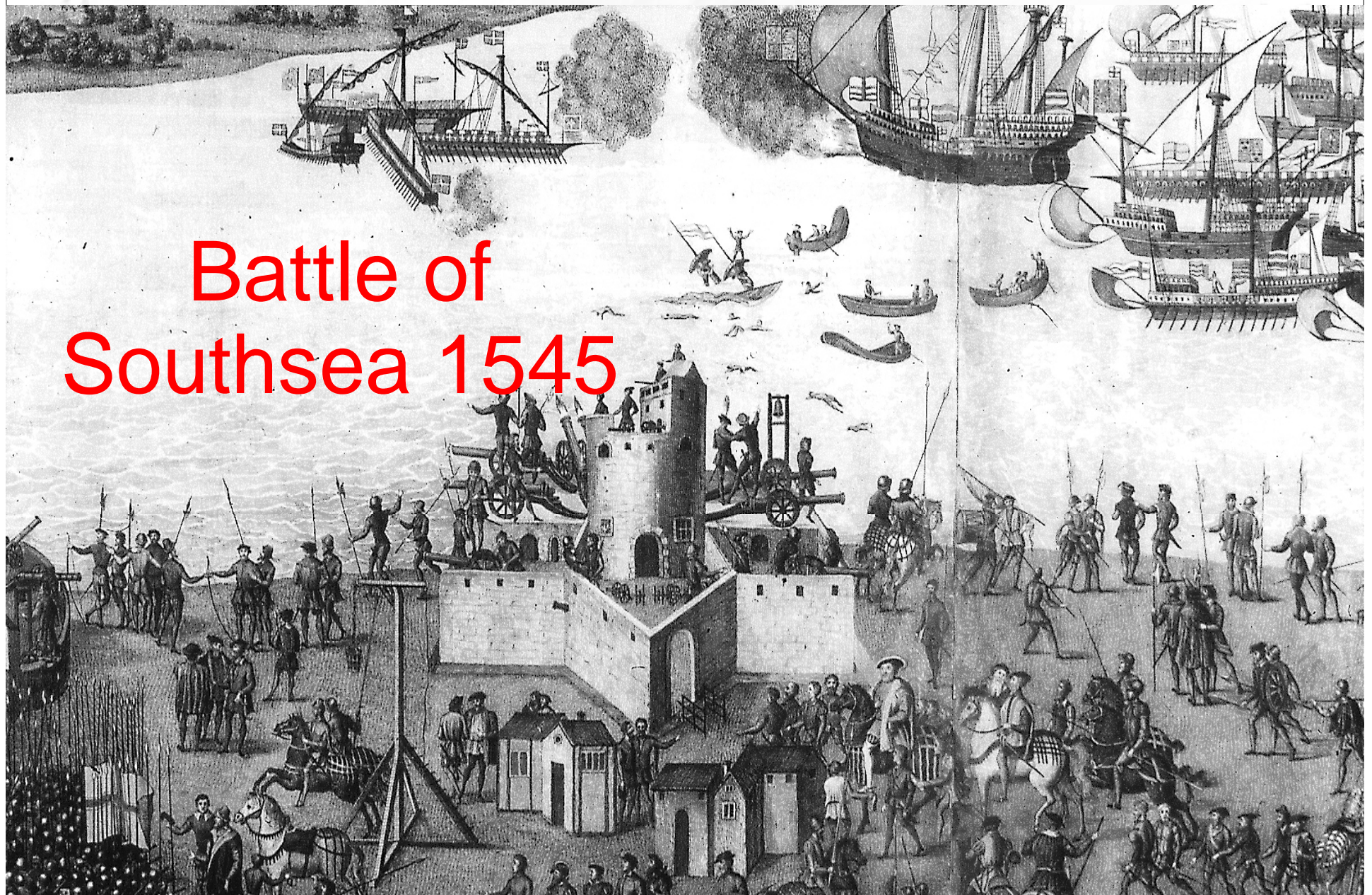
Wreck raised – 1982

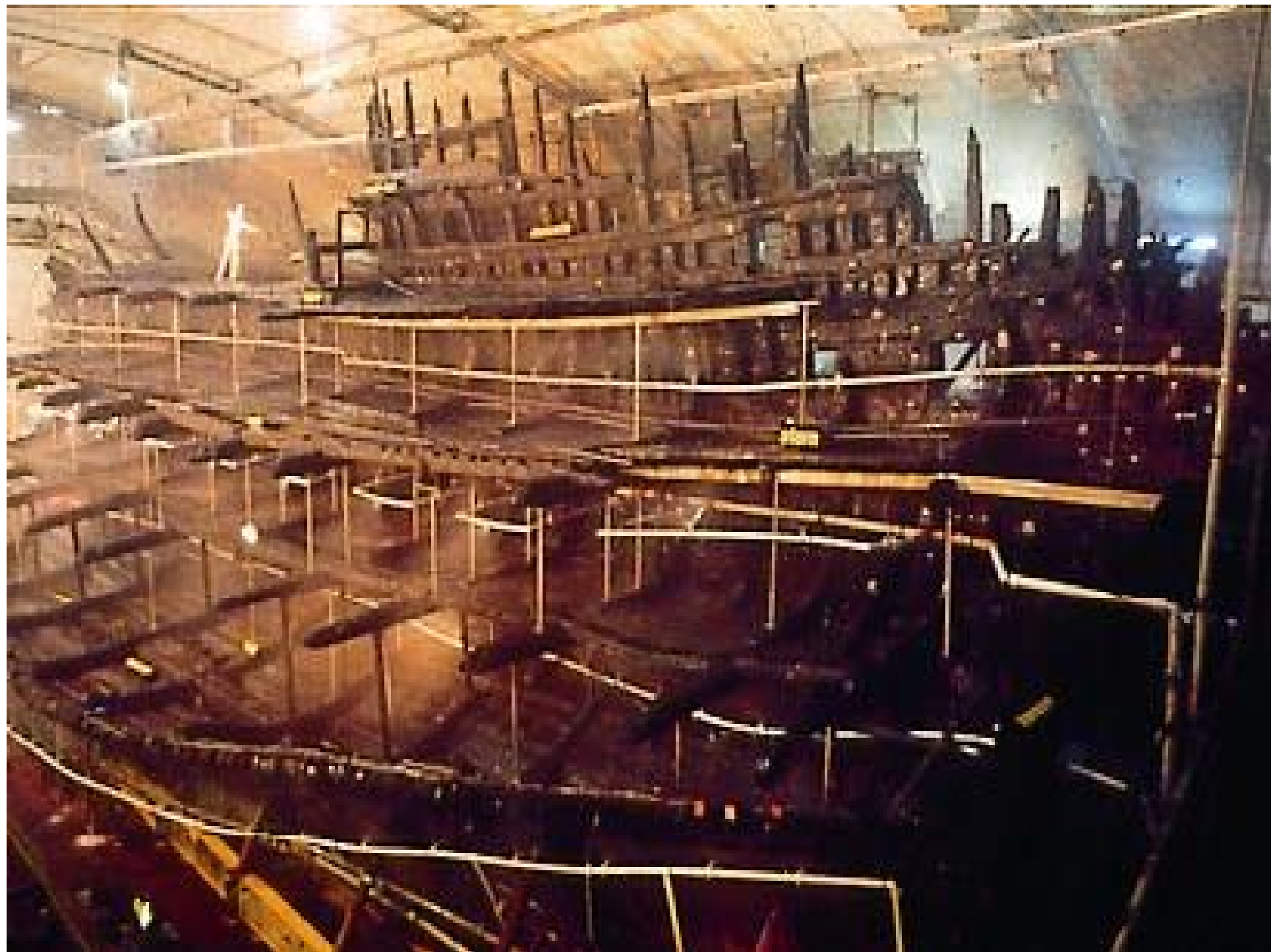


**Henry VIII 1509–1547**

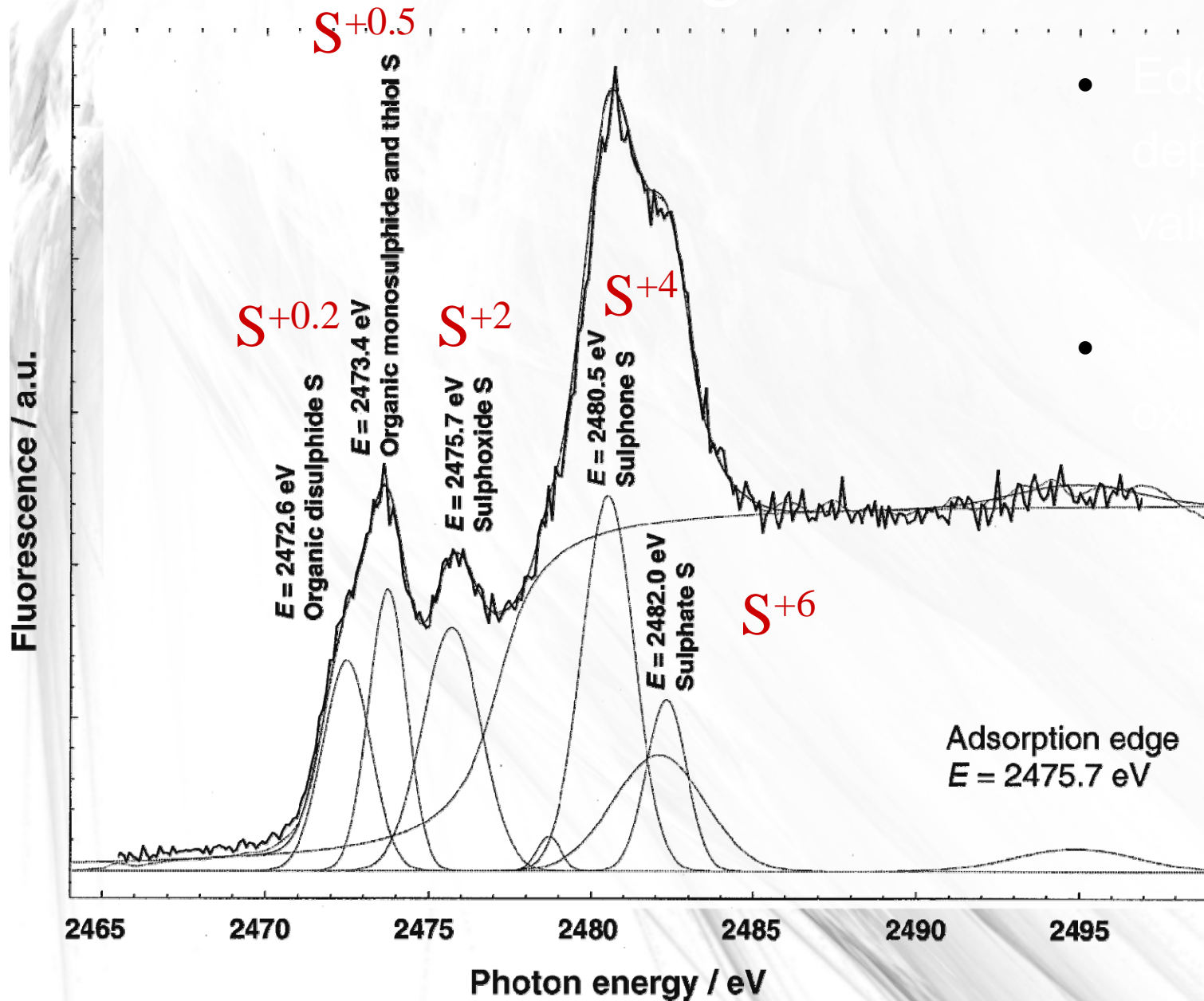


# Battle of Southsea 1545





# S K-edge XANES



Edge position depends on valency

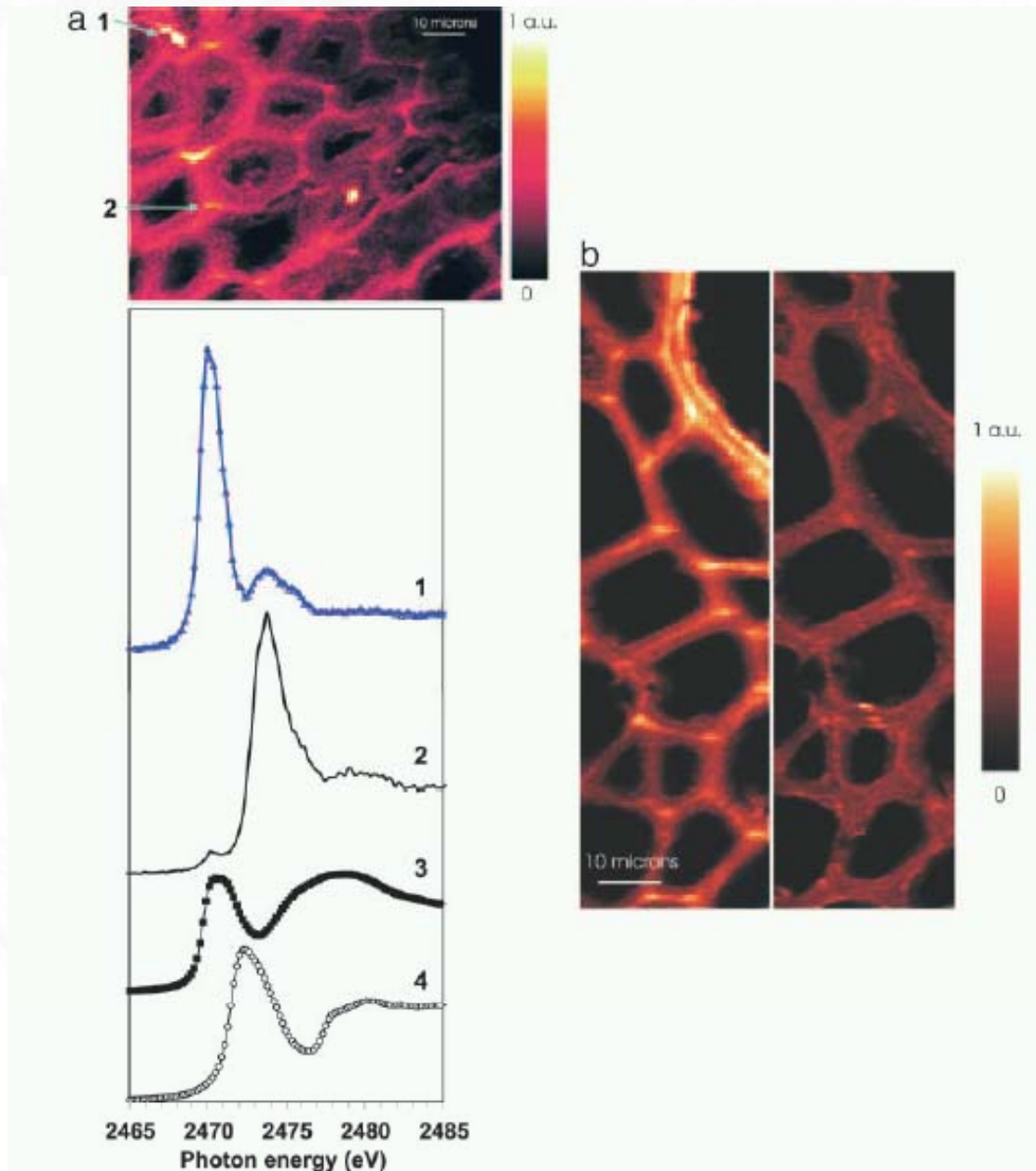
# Micro-speciation of Sulphur in marine timber

Hull timber  
under spray  
treatment

Soft X-ray microscopy of  
reduced sulphur in cellular  
structure of wood from the  
Mary Rose.

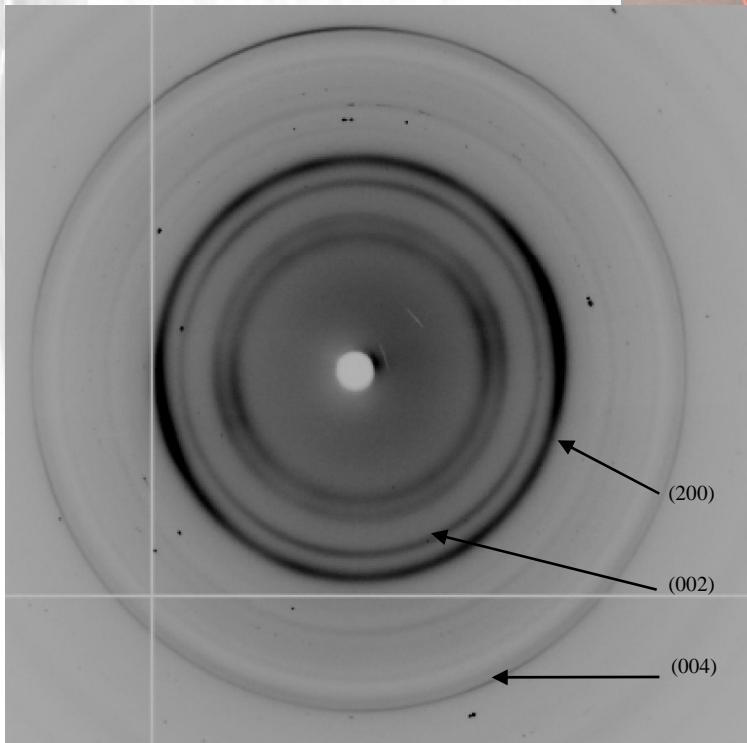
From points 1&2

Pyrrhorite  $F_{1-x}S$   
and pyrite  $FeS_2$   
standards



X-rays interact weakly with organic matter.

SR gives strong scattering signal.



An X-ray diffraction image of historical paper from the Museums of Scotland, taken at beamline 14.1 at the Daresbury synchrotron.

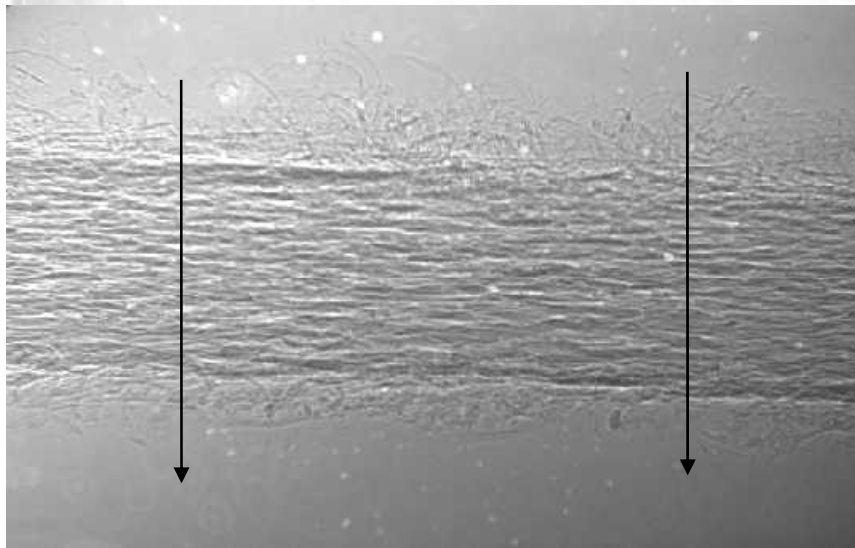
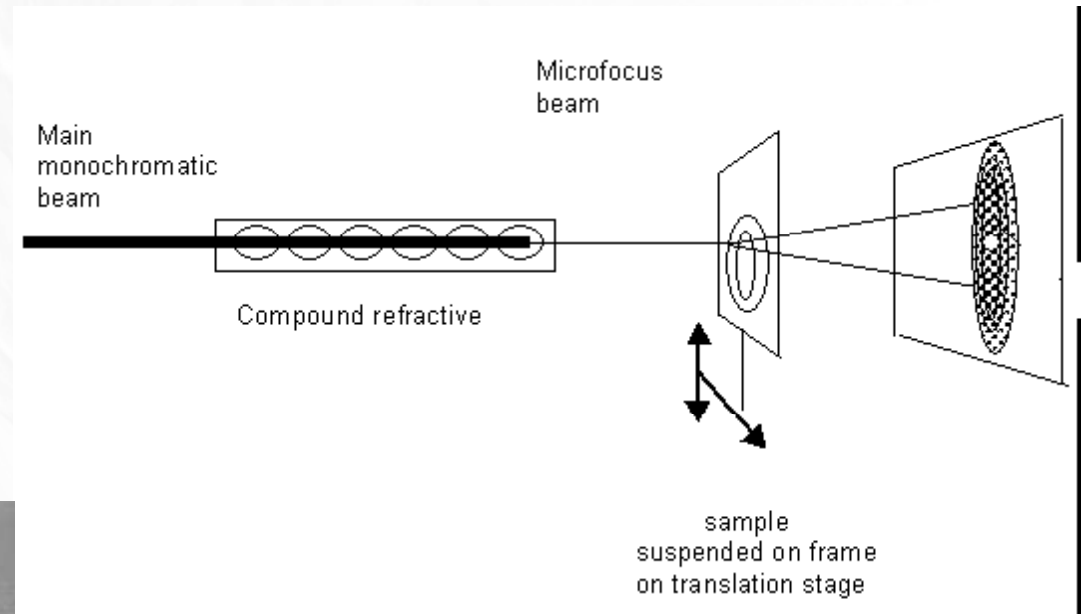
Kennedy C.J., Hiller J.C., Lammie D., Drakopoulos M., Vest M., Cooper M., Adderley W.P., Wess T.J. (2004) Microfocus X-ray diffraction of historical parchment reveals variations in structural features through parchment cross sections. *Nano Letters*, **4**, 1373-1380



# Microfocus X-ray Diffraction

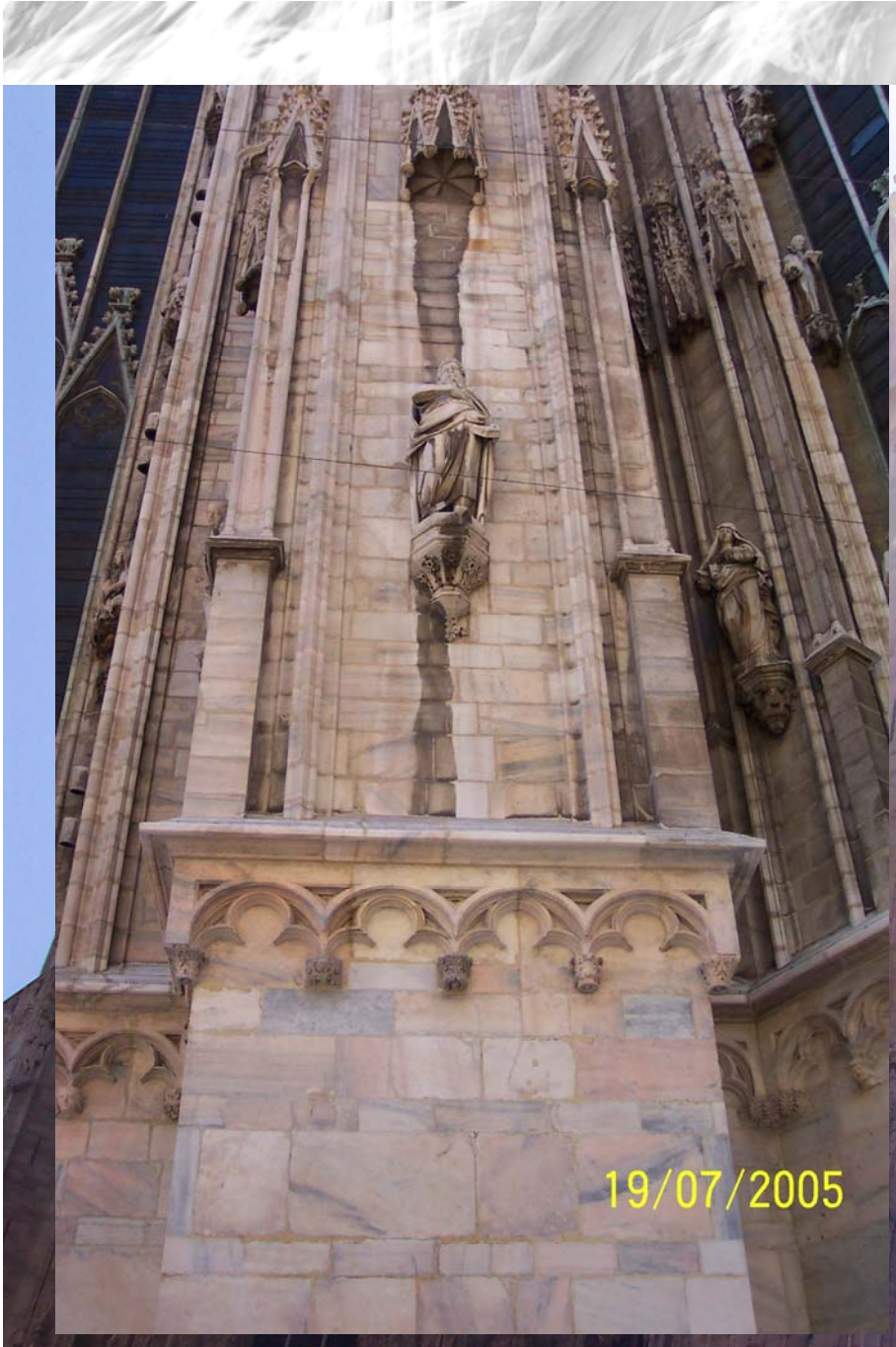
ESRF ID18F: Very small  
beam size ( $1.5\mu\text{m} \times 15\mu\text{m}$ ).

Allows surface-to-surface  
scans of the parchment to be  
taken (up to 200 images).



1 mm

Localised (e.g. surface)  
effects can thus be  
monitored.



# Stone weathering and bioremediation

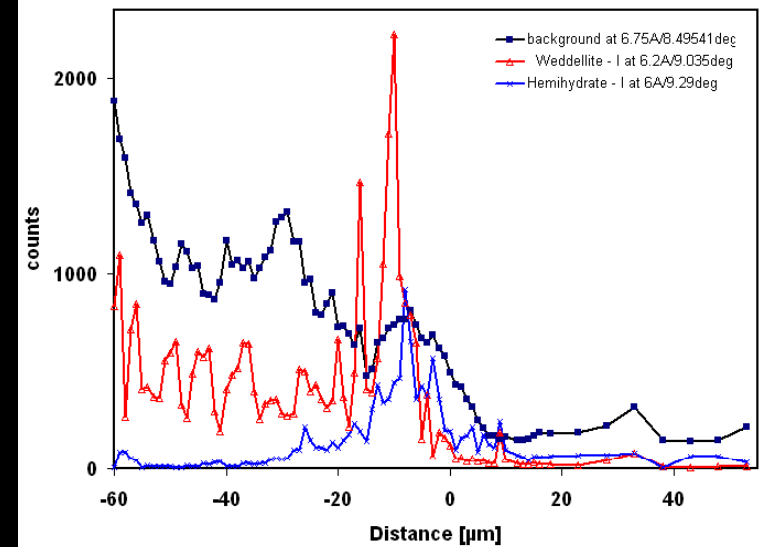
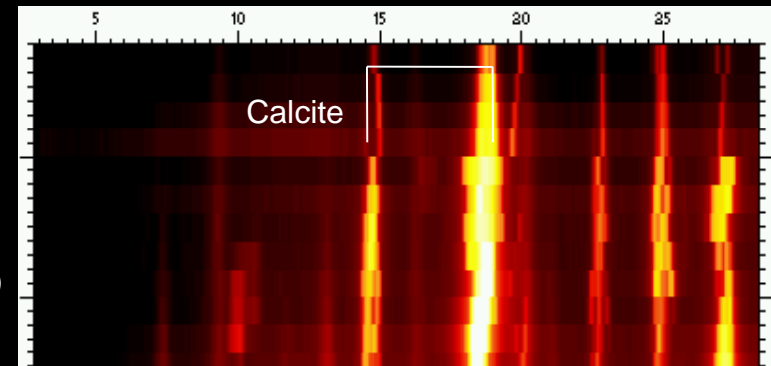
Biodeterioration includes several mechanisms such as surface formation called patina (consisting in films or crusts); organic pigment production, salt precipitation and recrystallization, corrosive and oxidative processes caused by cell excretion of inorganic and organic acids.



Bioremediation techniques can use bacteria to link the mineralization processes which remove stone crusts to the consolidation phenomenon of calcification.



SR micro-imaging modalities can be used to characterise mineral changes in stones during bioremediation treatment in laboratory studies and the extent of penetration into the stone.



Diffraction map across Duomo marble in 100 micron steps

# Trends

Characterisation of painting pigments and ceramic glazes

Issues of manufacture and evolution of techniques

Deterioration studies – paper, stone, ink, metals

Time-resolved studies for reproduction or monitoring ageing/alteration effects

Special objects: authenticity, provenance

Overlap with conventional techniques

Overlap with other “big” techniques involving use of large scale facilities

80% of applications address cultural heritage area – 20% archaeology

Interest in SR-CH growing both from sources and future users

# Challenges

Engaging archaeologists and archaeological scientists  
museum curators and conservation scientists  
Relations of trust over long time

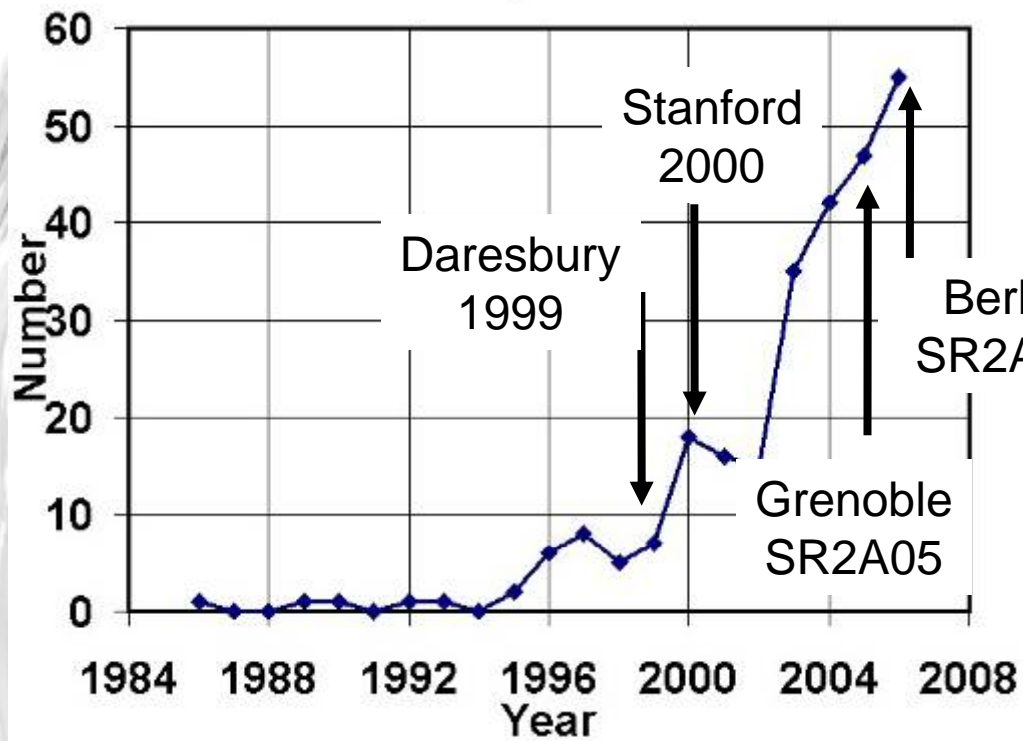
Funding from diverse sources. CH not frontline science  
PR of high interest to SR sources

Access to beamline facilities and resident personnel  
on a long-term basis

Sample preparation handling – very small or large objects

Space-resolved measurements can produce large datasets  
Problems of interpretation

Time-resolved studies require a lot of beamtime  
Processes can not be rushed



Nothing succeeds like success

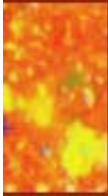


Footprint as

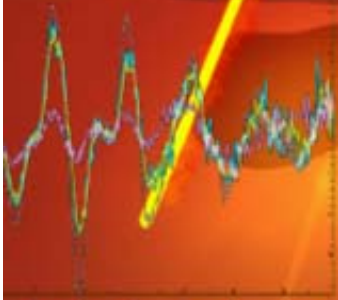
co

# Probing the Past

## Vegetable, Animal or Mineral



Ca EXAFS Summed Data



$\mu$ XRD



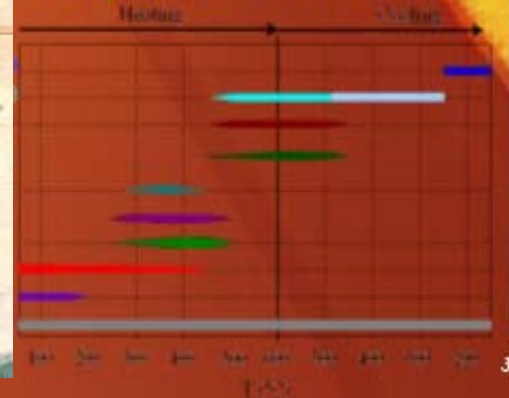
High



PEY-XAS



Temperature-resolved XRD



31<sup>st</sup> Sym