

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910789223103321
Autore	Goldstein Joseph <1939-2015, >
Titolo	Scanning Electron Microscopy and X-Ray Microanalysis : A Text for Biologists, Materials Scientists, and Geologists / / Joseph Goldstein, Dale E. Newbury, Patrick Echlin [et al.]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Springer US : , : Imprint : Springer, , 1992
ISBN	1-4613-0491-1
Edizione	[Second edition 1992.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (840 pages)
Disciplina	550
Soggetti	Earth sciences Developmental biology Materials science
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 1.1. Evolution of the Scanning Electron Microscope -- 1.2. Evolution of the Electron Probe Microanalyzer -- 1.3. Outline of This Book -- 2. Electron Optics -- 2.1. How the SEM Works -- 2.2. Electron Guns -- 2.3. Electron Lenses -- 2.4. Electron Probe Diameter versus Electron Probe Current -- 2.5. Summary of SEM Microscopy Modes -- 3. Electron-Specimen Interactions -- 3.1. Introduction -- 3.2. Electron Scattering -- 3.3. Interaction Volume -- 3.4. Signals from Elastic Scattering -- 3.5. Signals from Inelastic Scattering -- 3.6. Summary -- 4. Image Formation and Interpretation -- 4.1. Introduction -- 4.2. The Basic SEM Imaging Process -- 4.3. Detectors -- 4.4. Image Contrast at Low Magnification (100,000x) -- 4.7. Image Processing for the Display of Contrast Information -- 4.8. Defects of the SEM Imaging Process -- 4.9. Special Topics in SEM Imaging -- 4.10. Developing a Comprehensive Imaging Strategy -- 5. X-Ray Spectral Measurement: WDS and EDS -- 5.1. Introduction -- 5.2. Wavelength-Dispersive Spectrometer -- 5.3. Energy-Dispersive X-Ray Spectrometer -- 5.4. Comparison of WDS and EDS -- Appendix: Initial Detector Setup and Testing -- 6. Qualitative X-Ray Analysis -- 6.1. Introduction -- 6.2. EDS Qualitative Analysis -- 6.3. WDS Qualitative Analysis -- 6.4. Automatic Qualitative EDS Analysis -- 7. X-Ray Peak and Background Measurements -- 7.1. General Considerations for X-Ray Data Handling

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Sommario/riassunto

In the last decade, since the publication of the first edition of Scanning Electron Microscopy and X-ray Microanalysis, there has been a great expansion in the capabilities of the basic SEM and EPMA. High-resolution imaging has been developed with the aid of an extensive range of field emission gun (FEG) microscopes. The magnification ranges of these instruments now overlap those of the transmission electron microscope. Low-voltage microscopy using the FEG now allows for the observation of noncoated samples. In addition, advances in the development of x-ray wavelength and energy dispersive spectrometers allow for the measurement of low-energy x-rays, particularly from the light elements (B, C, N, O). In the area of x-ray microanalysis, great advances have been made, particularly with the

"phi rho z" [lj](pz)] technique for solid samples, and with other quantitation methods for thin films, particles, rough surfaces, and the light elements. In addition, x-ray imaging has advanced from the conventional technique of "dot mapping" to the method of quantitative compositional imaging. Beyond this, new software has allowed the development of much more meaningful displays for both imaging and quantitative analysis results and the capability for integrating the data to obtain specific information such as precipitate size, chemical analysis in designated areas or along specific directions, and local chemical inhomogeneities.

2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910557505503321
Autore	Lawford Richard G
Titolo	Achieving Water-Energy-Food Nexus Sustainability: a Science and Data Need or a Need for Integrated Public Policy?
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Frontiers Media SA, 2020
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (336 p.)
Soggetti	Environmental science, engineering & technology Science: general issues
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Sommario/riassunto	This eBook is a collection of articles from a Frontiers Research Topic. Frontiers Research Topics are very popular trademarks of the Frontiers Journals Series: they are collections of at least ten articles, all centered on a particular subject. With their unique mix of varied contributions from Original Research to Review Articles, Frontiers Research Topics unify the most influential researchers, the latest key findings and historical advances in a hot research area! Find out more on how to host your own Frontiers Research Topic or contribute to one as an author by contacting the Frontiers Editorial Office: frontiersin.org/about/contact

