
MPGDs face2face with art and industry

- EDXRF imaging system

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Workshop MPGD Applications Beyond Fundamental Science



OUTLINE

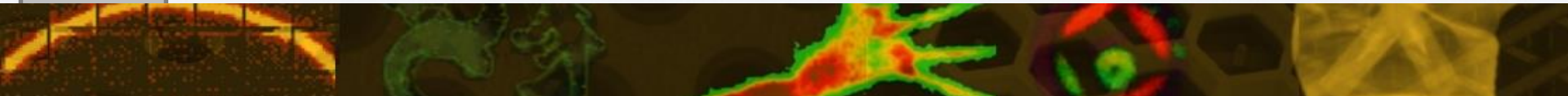
Motivation

MPGDs and 2D-imaging

EDXRF imaging system

Applications/Proof of concept - face2face with art and cultural heritage

Next step - portable prototype / applications for industry



MOTIVATION

What we know about X-RAY FLUORESCENCE IMAGING?

... It is a powerful and non-destructive technique to obtain elemental map distributions in materials.

Requires ...

- **Spatial-resolved** information for elemental mapping;
- **Energy-resolved** information for elemental identification;

Are commonly based on ...

- Scanning systems;
- FF-XRF systems

MOTIVATION

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PROBLEM ?!

- Expensive !
- Small active area !
- Some systems require low temperature operation !

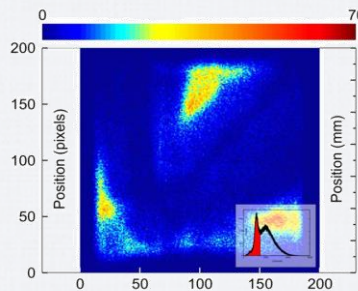
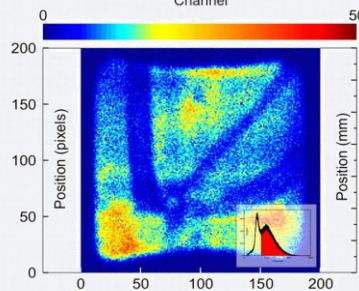
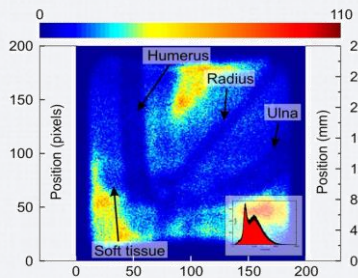
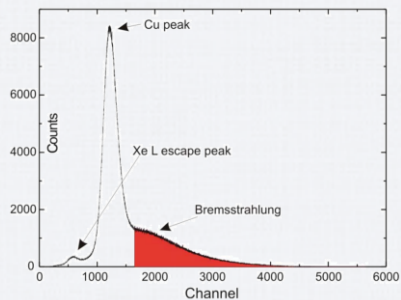
MOTIVATION

- **MPGDs present excellent single photon counting imaging capabilities:**



MOTIVATION

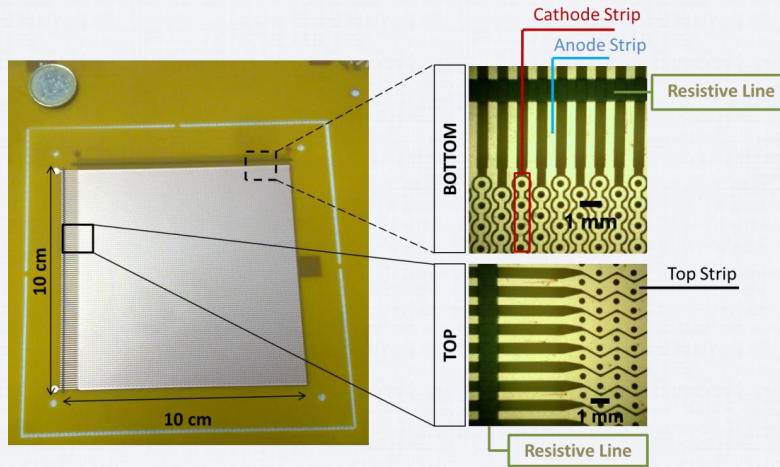
MPGDs present excellent single photon counting imaging capabilities:



- Full field of view imaging operation (2D)
- Possible $R_p > 50 \mu m$
- No noise (set threshold)
- High counting rate capability
- Large area (up to $50 \times 50 \text{ cm}^2$)
- Very soft X-rays detection capability ($< 1 \text{ keV}$), due to its high gain
- Room temperature operation
- Versatility and portability
- Low cost and low complexity

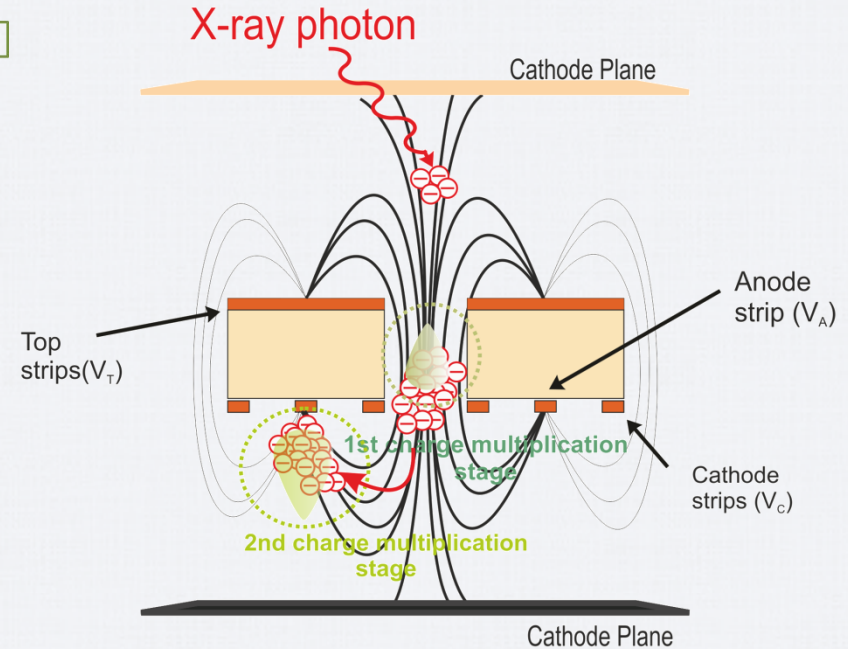
MPGDs and 2D-imaging

Example - THCOBRA detector (10x10 cm²)



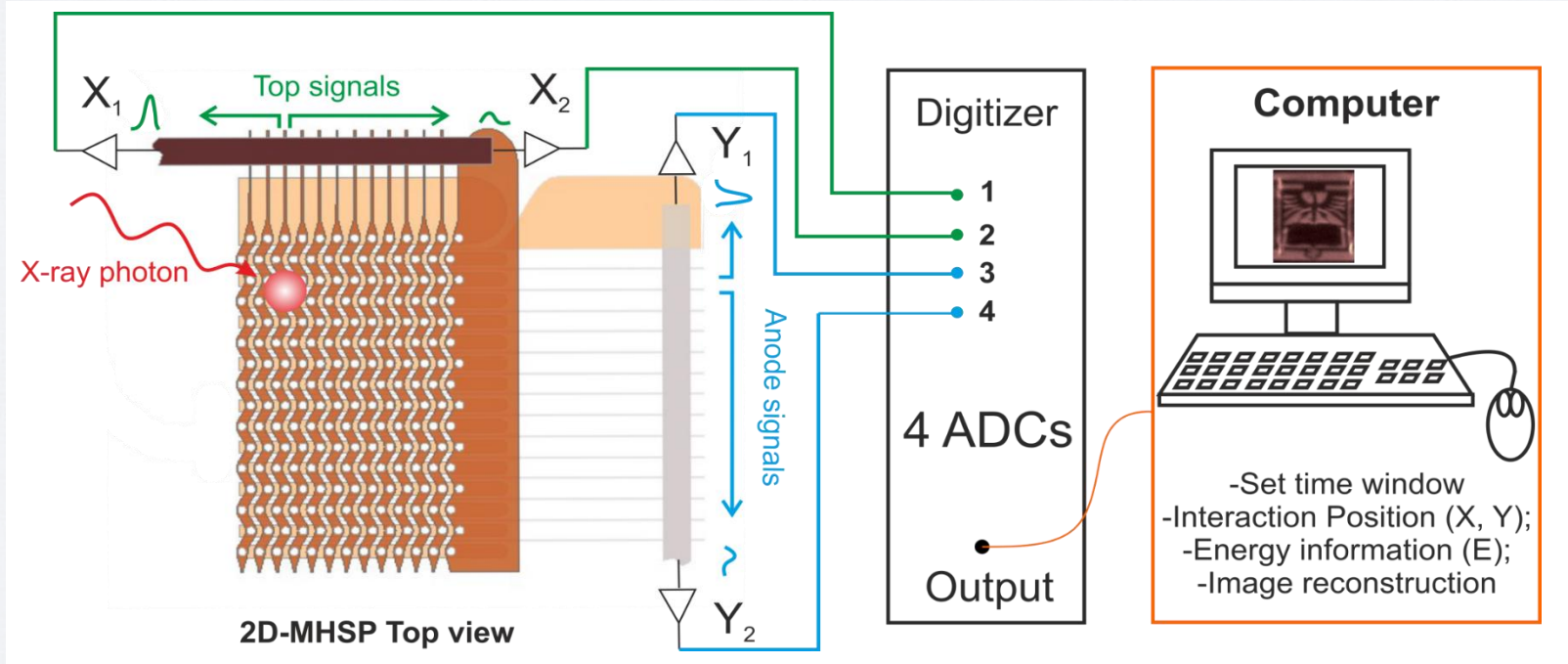
- Double side structure
- Substrate: PCB 400 μm
- Holes $\varnothing = 300 \mu\text{m}$
- Cathodes 200 μm
- Anodes 200 μm
- Pitch 1 mm

operation principle



MPGDs and 2D-imaging

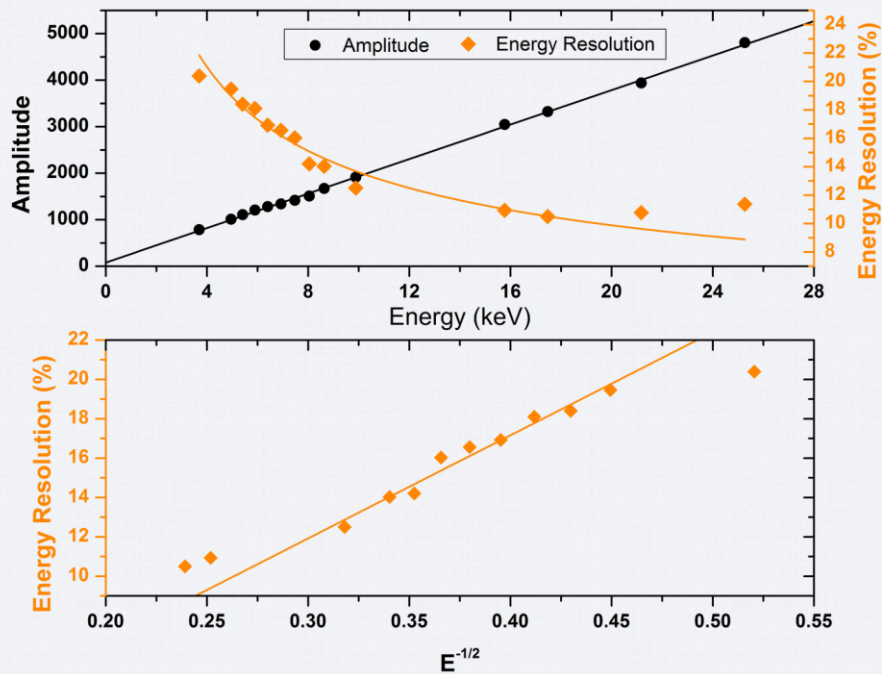
MPGDs and 2D-imaging



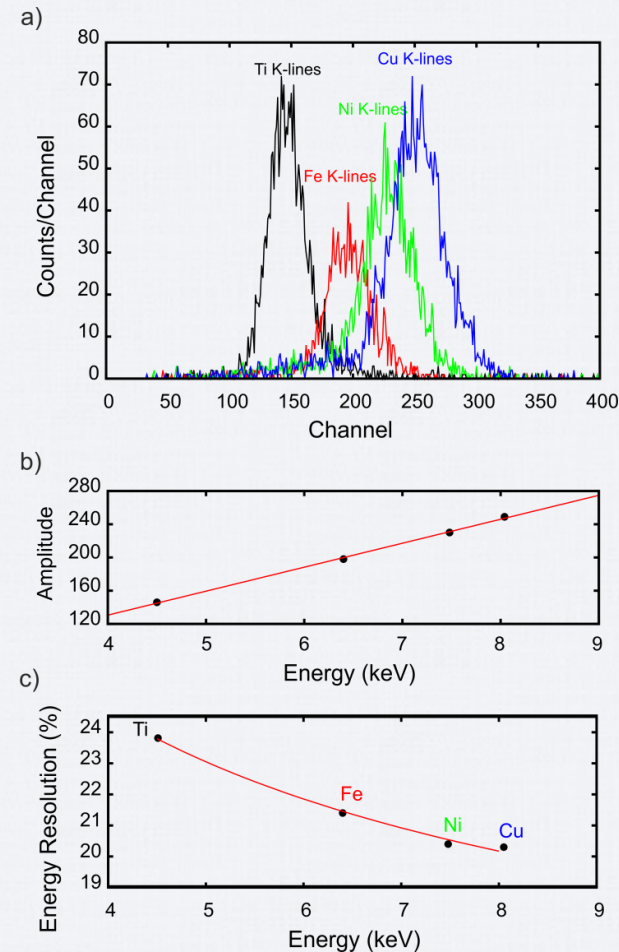
MPGDs and 2D-imaging

Energy Resolution and linearity

MHSP - Xe @ 1 bar



THCOBRA - Ne/5%CH₄@ 1 bar



MPGDs and 2D-imaging

Position resolution

Depends on...

Signal-to-Noise Ratio $\sigma_x = \frac{l}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{Z}{R} \right) \frac{N}{S}$

Photoelectron range – gas dependence

MPGDs and 2D-imaging

Position resolution

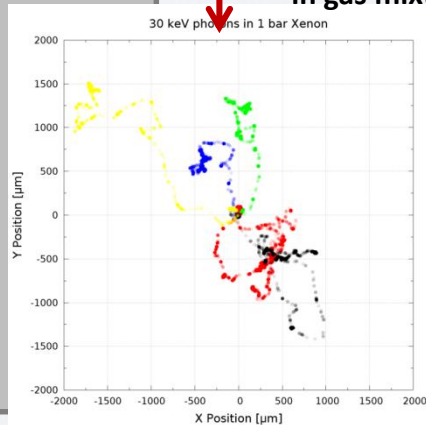
Depends on...

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Photoelectron range – gas dependence

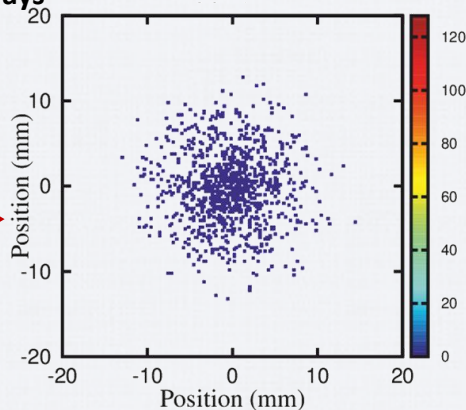
SIMULATIONS - Degrad

primary cluster spatial distribution
in gas mixtures for X-rays



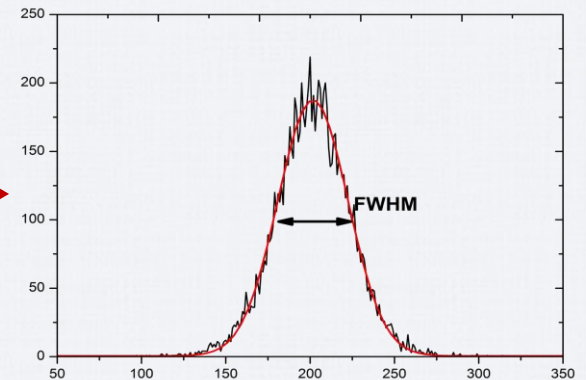
Average

Position



1D

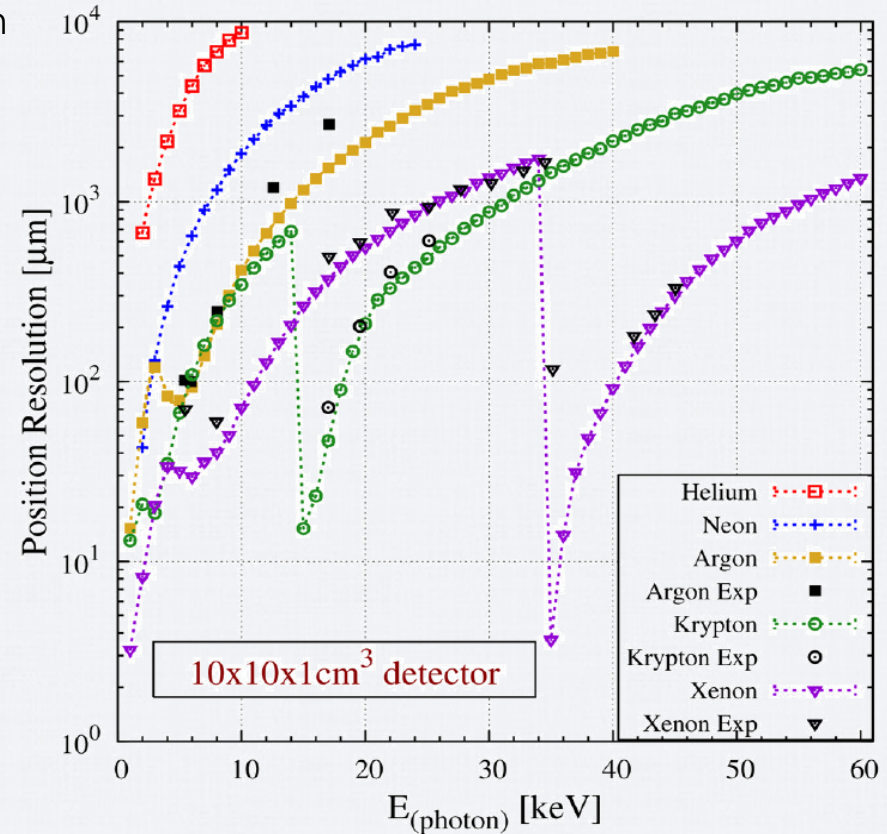
Projection



Gaussian distribution FWHM
uncertainty in the position of interaction.

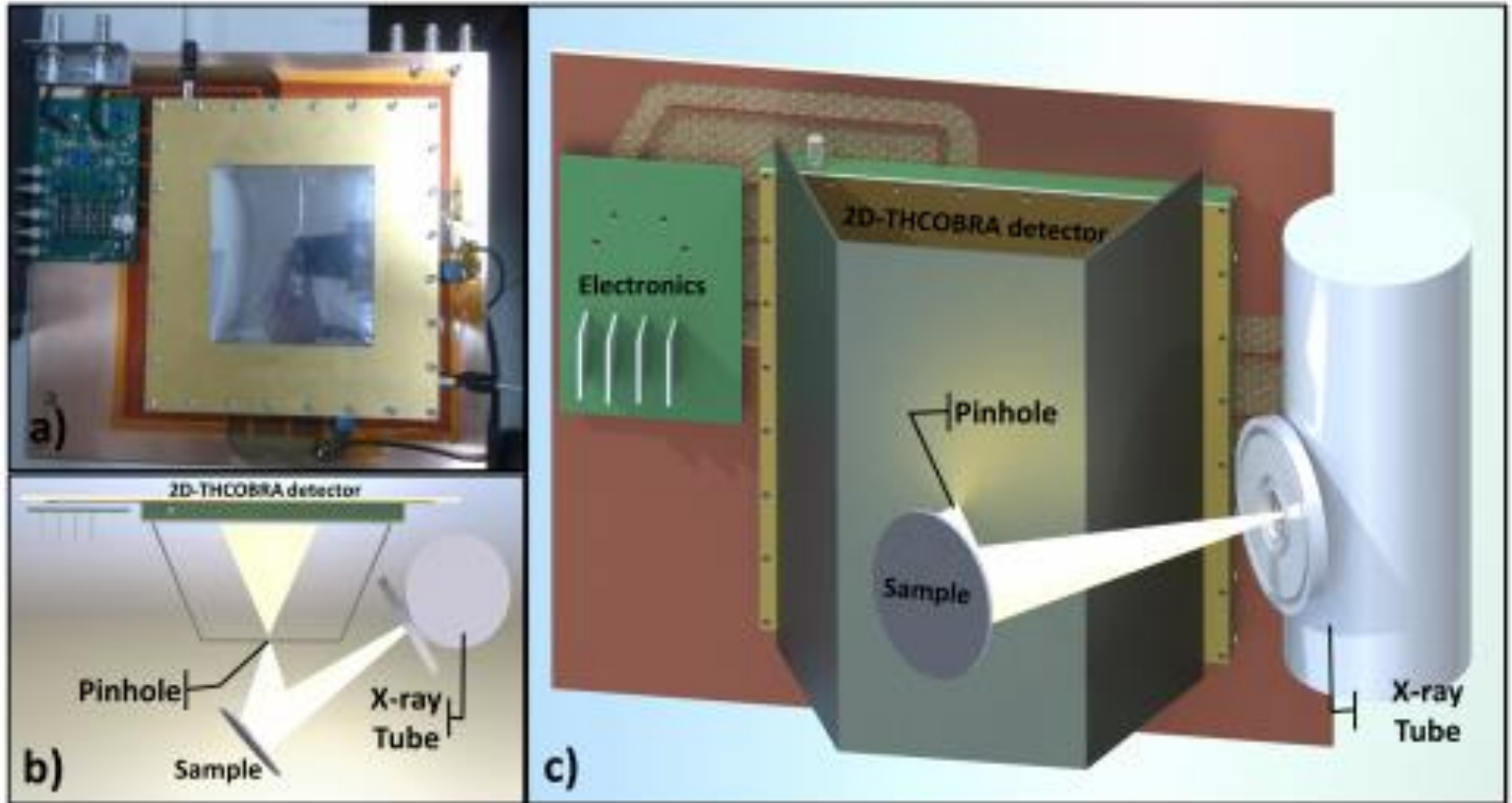
MPGDs and 2D-imaging

Imaging Capability and Spatial Resolution
for X-rays in He, Ne, Ar, Kr and Xe; 1atm
Detector: $1 \times 10 \times 10 \text{ cm}^3$



EDXRF Imaging System

X-RAY FLUORESCENCE IMAGING - THCOBRA



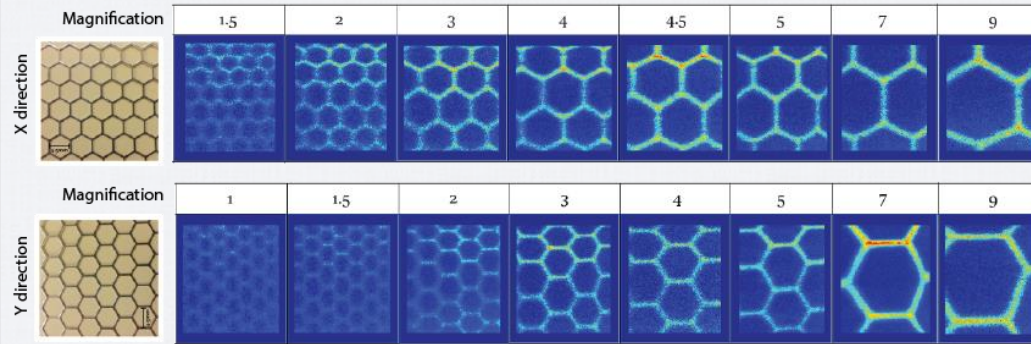
EDXRF Imaging System

Pinhole influence on the system spatial resolution:

$$\lambda_s = \sqrt{\lambda_g^2 + \lambda_i^2} = \sqrt{d_p^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{M}\right)^2 + \frac{FWHM_i^2}{M^2}}$$

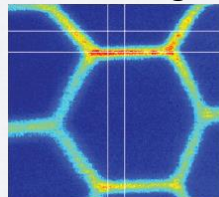
λ_g - Pinhole Contribution
 λ_i - Detector Contribution

R. Accorsi, S. D. Metzler
 IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON MEDICAL IMAGING, VOL. 23, NO. 6, JUNE 2004

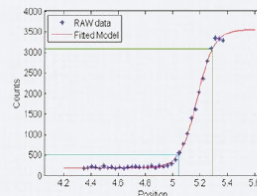


Method

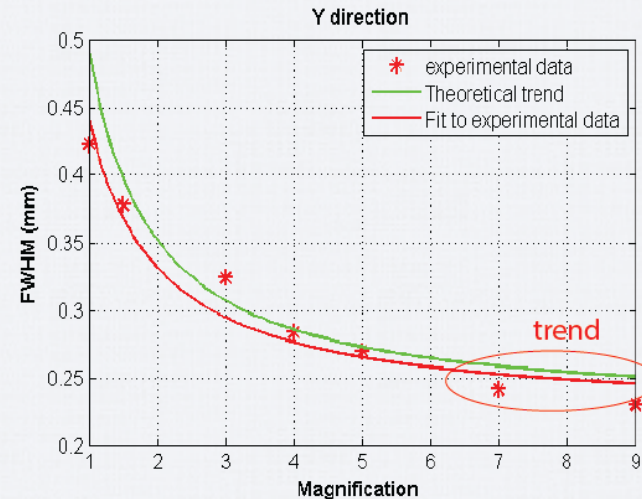
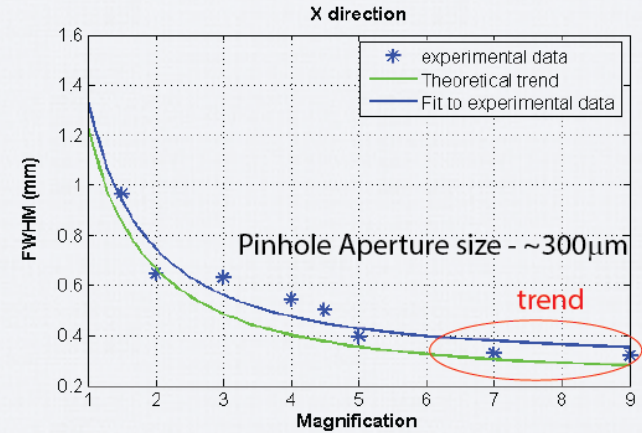
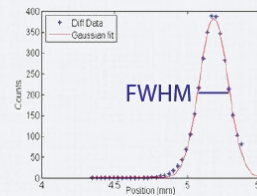
Selected Region



ESF

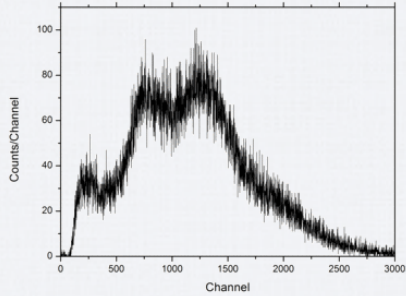


LSF

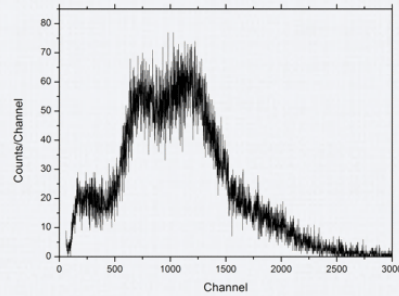


EDXRF Imaging System

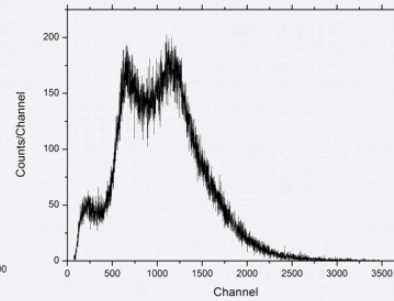
500 μm



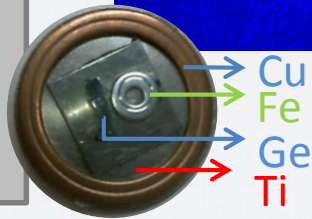
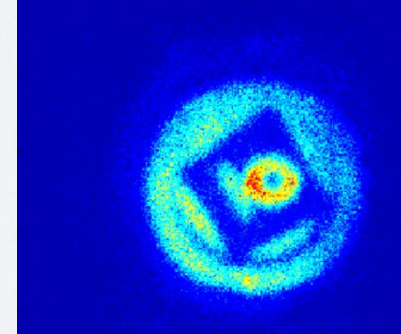
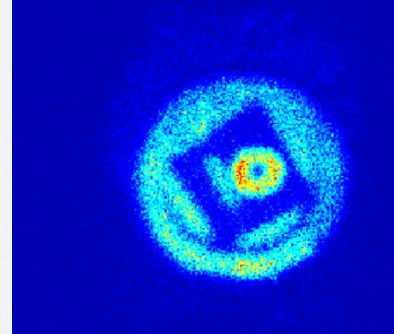
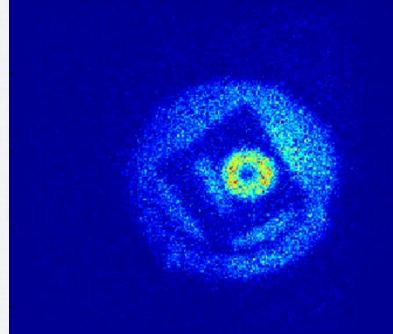
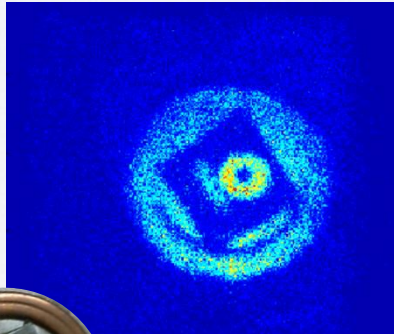
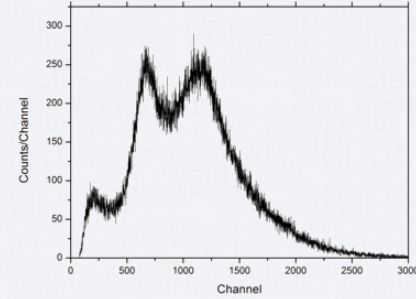
1 mm



1.6 mm



2 mm



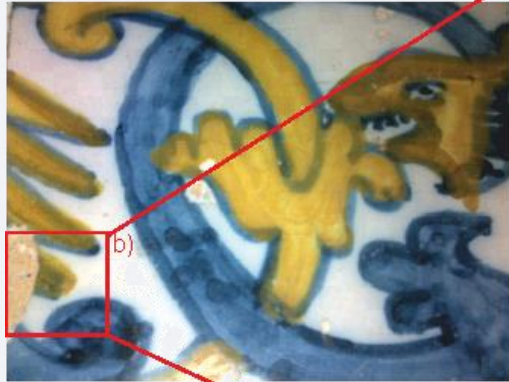
Higher pinhole efficiency – More photons detected per second

Image Quality – Spatial Resolution increases

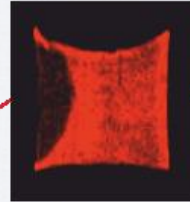
face2face with cultural heritage - MHSP detector

Cultural heritage Application Glazed tile from the XVII century, Odivelas Convent, Portugal

Non-glazed region

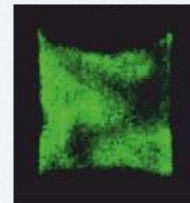


Pb distribution
Glaze

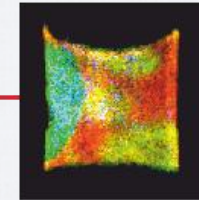
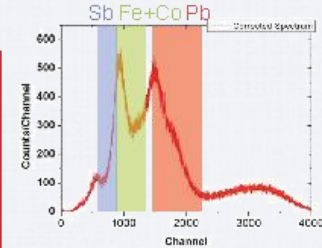
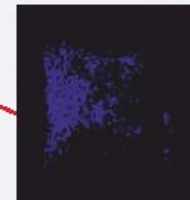


Fe+ Co distribution
Blue pigment

+
Fe distribution
Yellow pigment



Sb distribution
Yellow pigment



Elemental Map
Distribution

X-ray tube

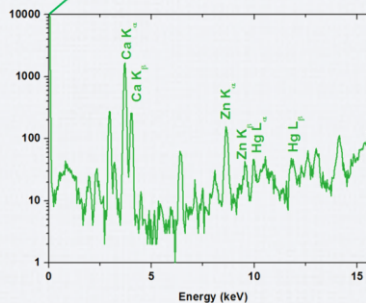
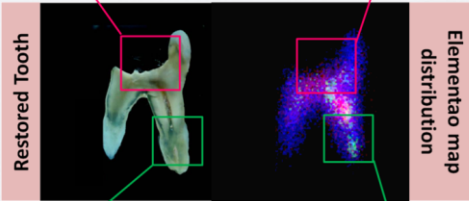
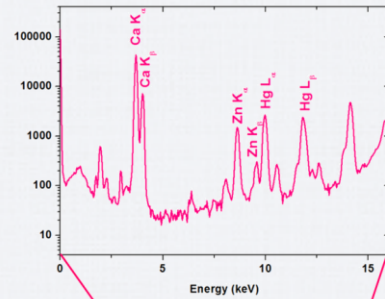
Voltage | 28 kV

Anode Current | 1 mA

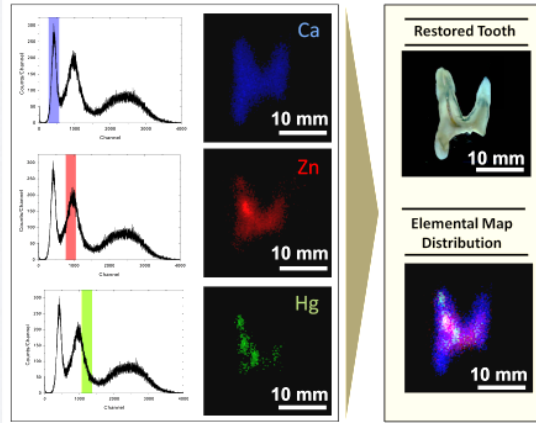
Pinhole Magnification

M= x 1.2

Biomedical Application



Distribution of Hg due to the metallic amalgam treatment



Magnification M= $\times 1$

X-ray tube Voltage | 27.5 kV
Anode Current | 1 mA

Restored Tooth



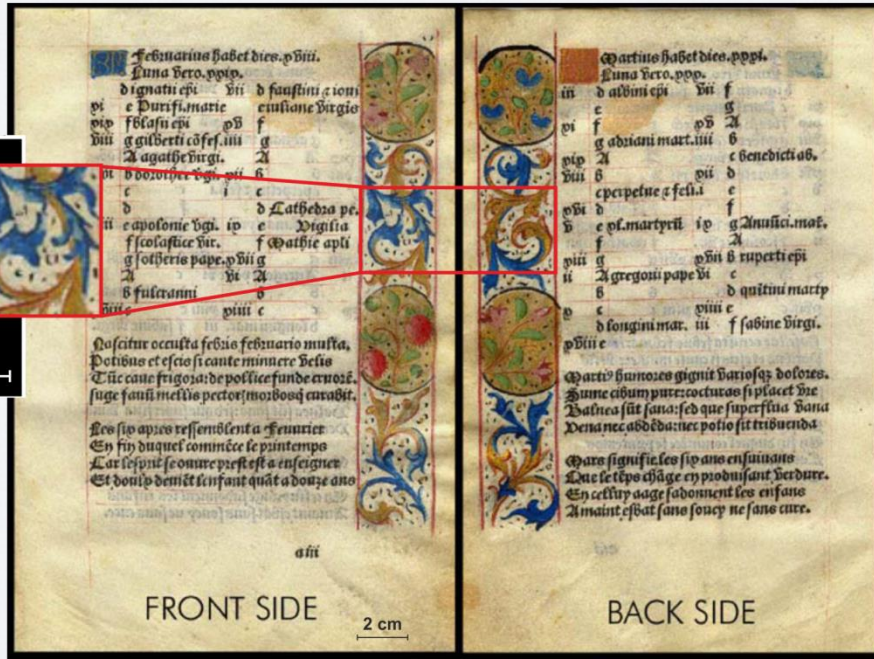
Hg in the region surrounding the amalgam, due to contamination



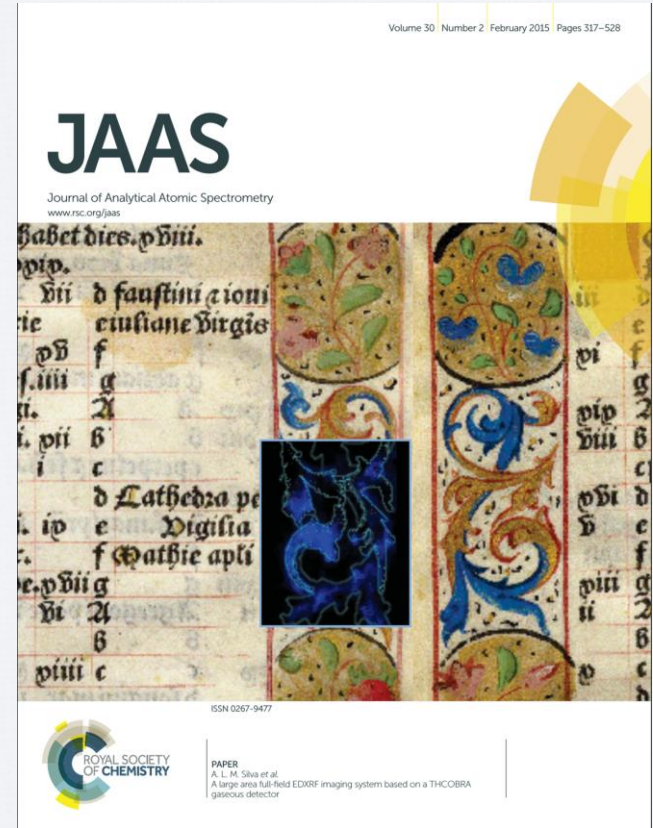
Hg in the root region of the tooth, due to occasional hydroxyapatite network lattice defects

Sample: Illuminated manuscript from the 15th-16th century

b)



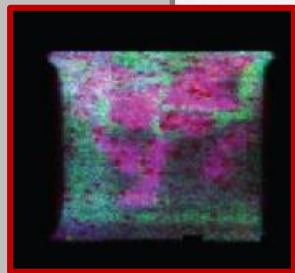
FRONT COVER - 2015



face2face with cultural heritage /art- THCOBRA detector



Contemporary Indian Miniature



Elemental
Distribution

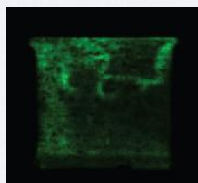
Tube-50 kV; 1 mA
(whole area)
M - x2.7
Acq.time - 1.5 h

Ba

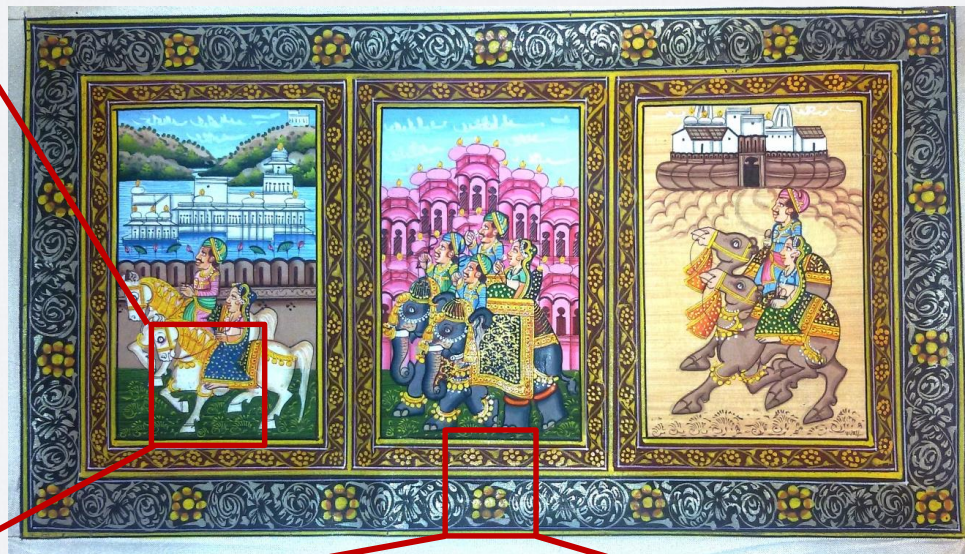
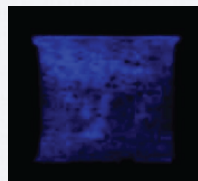


=

Pb



Zn

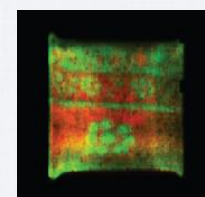


Fe + Zn



Pb

=

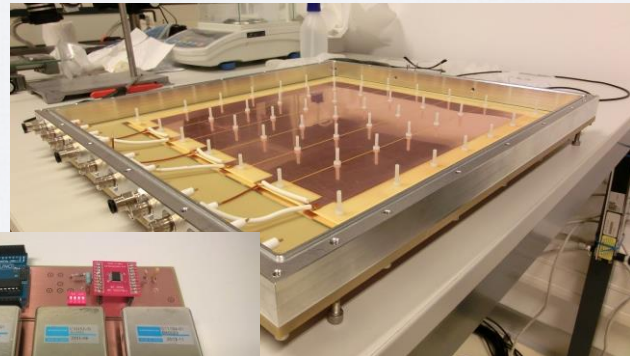
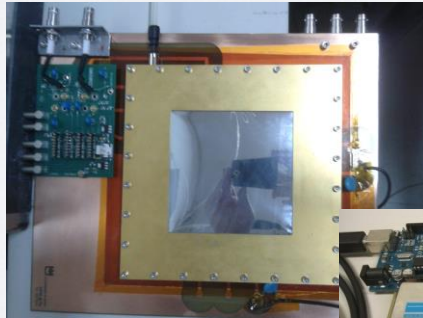


Elemental Distribution

Tube – 50 kV; 1 mA (whole area)
M - x2.7
Acquisition time – 3.5 h

Next step

- Explore possible applications in Industry – eg. welding point quality evaluation to be applied in the automobile industry.
- Xe/Kr gas mixtures –improve detection efficiency, gain and spatial resolution;
- Multi-pinhole alternatives – increase sensitivity to decrease acquisition time;
- Development of a 30x30 cm² THCOBRA detector for EDXRF applications
- Portability



• **active area - 30x30 cm²**

Thank you very much !!

