

***Basics and potential of cathodoluminescence
in metamorphic petrology***

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Content

1. Basics of luminescence

- physical basics
- instrumentation
- general applications

2. Application of CL in metamorphic petrology

- identification of minerals, mineral distribution
- primary growth structures
- secondary features
(deformation - recrystallization - fluid flow - alteration - mineral neoformation)
- examples of technical processes

3. Conclusions

Basics of luminescence

Literature

Cathodoluminescence of geological materials

D.J. Marshall

Unwin-Hyman
Boston

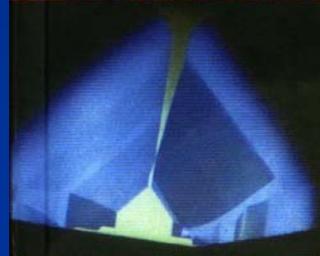
1988

Unwin-Hyman Ltd.

Literature

M. Pagel
V. Barbin
P. Blanc
D. Ohnenstetter
(Eds.)

Cathodoluminescence in Geosciences



Springer-Verlag
Berlin, Heidelberg, New York
2000

ISBN 3-540-65987-0

 Springer

**Cathodoluminescence microscopy
and spectroscopy
in applied mineralogy**

Jens Götze

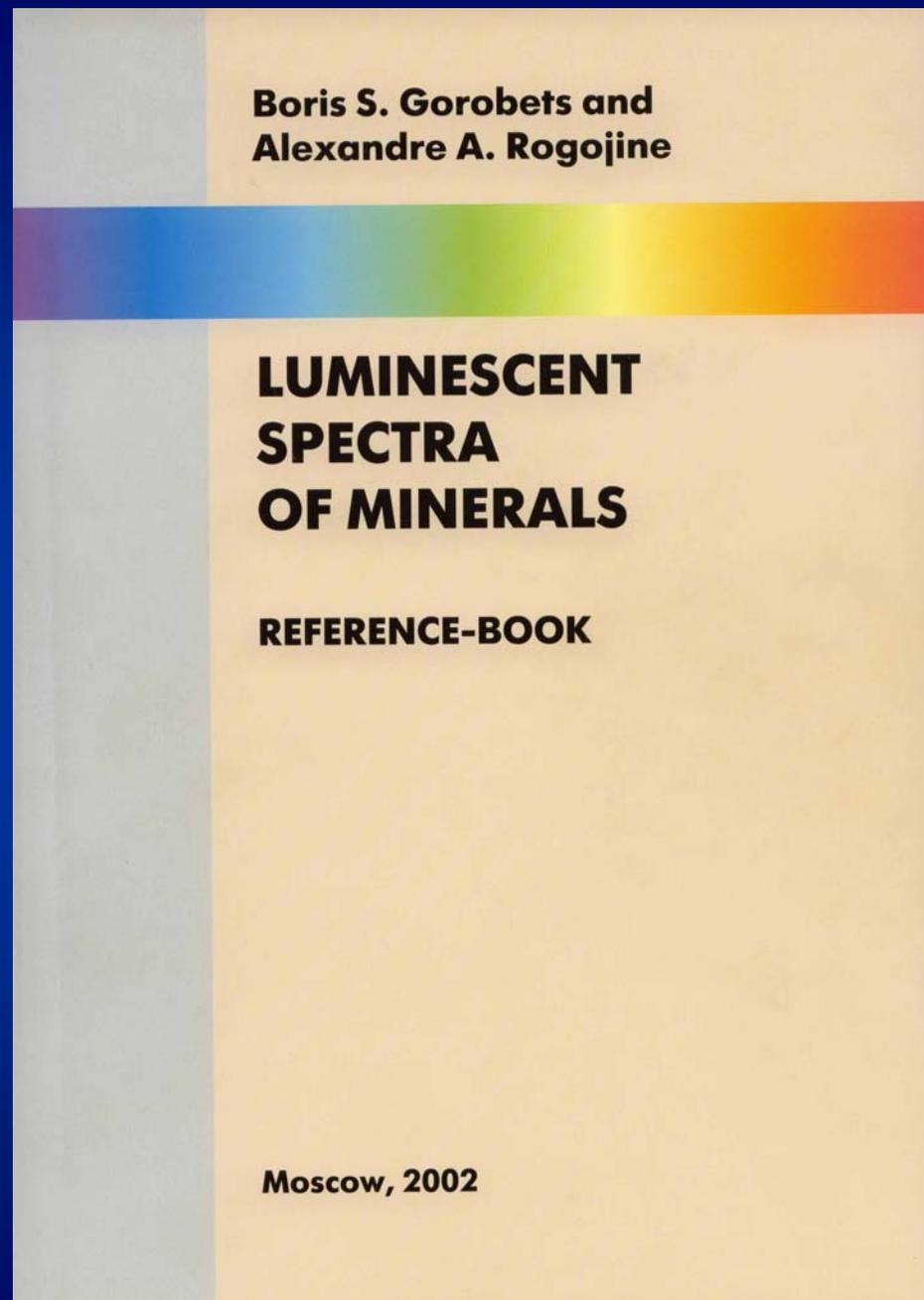
TU Bergakademie Freiberg
Akademische Buchhandlung
Merbachstraße, PF 203
D-09599 Freiberg

ISBN 3-86012-116-2

Literature

All-Russia Institute of Mineral Resources
(VIMS)
Moscow
2002

ISBN 5-901837-05-3



**Boris S. Gorobets and
Alexandre A. Rogojine**

**LUMINESCENT
SPECTRA
OF MINERALS**

REFERENCE-BOOK

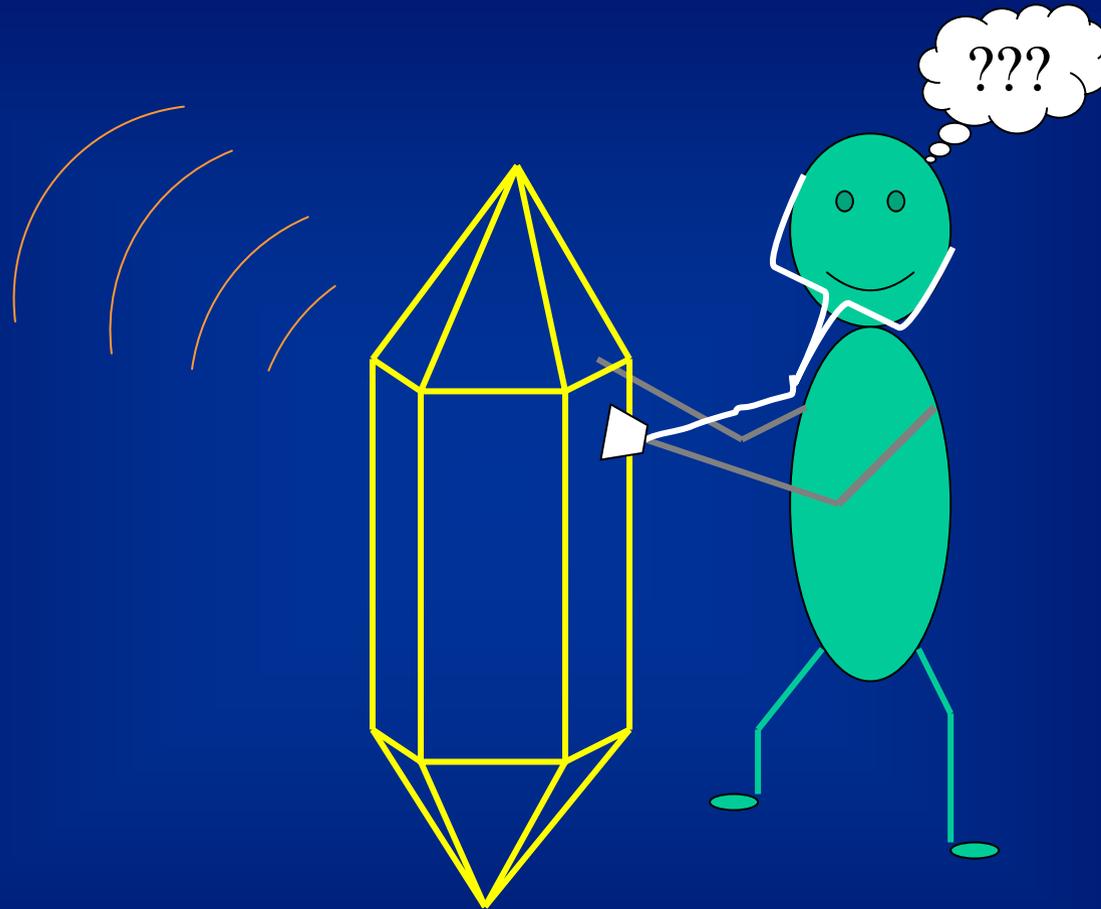
Moscow, 2002

History of cathodoluminescence

History of Cathodoluminescence

- 1879** ***CROOKS***
Luminescence studies on crystals after bombardment with a cathode ray
- 1965** ***SIPPEL, LONG & AGRELL***
First application for thin section petrography
- 1965** ***SMITH & STENSTROM***
Cathodoluminescence studies with the microprobe
- 1971** ***KRINSLEY & HYDE***
Cathodoluminescence studies with the SEM
- 1978** ***ZINKERNAGEL***
First CL microscope in Germany

Basics of luminescence



Luminescence

= transformation of diverse kinds of energy
into visible light

Luminescence of inorganic and organic substances results from an emission transition of anions, molecules or a crystal from an excited electronic state to a ground state with lesser energy.

(Marfunin1979)

Fluorescence = luminescence emission with a lifetime $\leq 10^{-8}$ s

Phosphorescence = luminescence emission with a lifetime $> 10^{-8}$ s

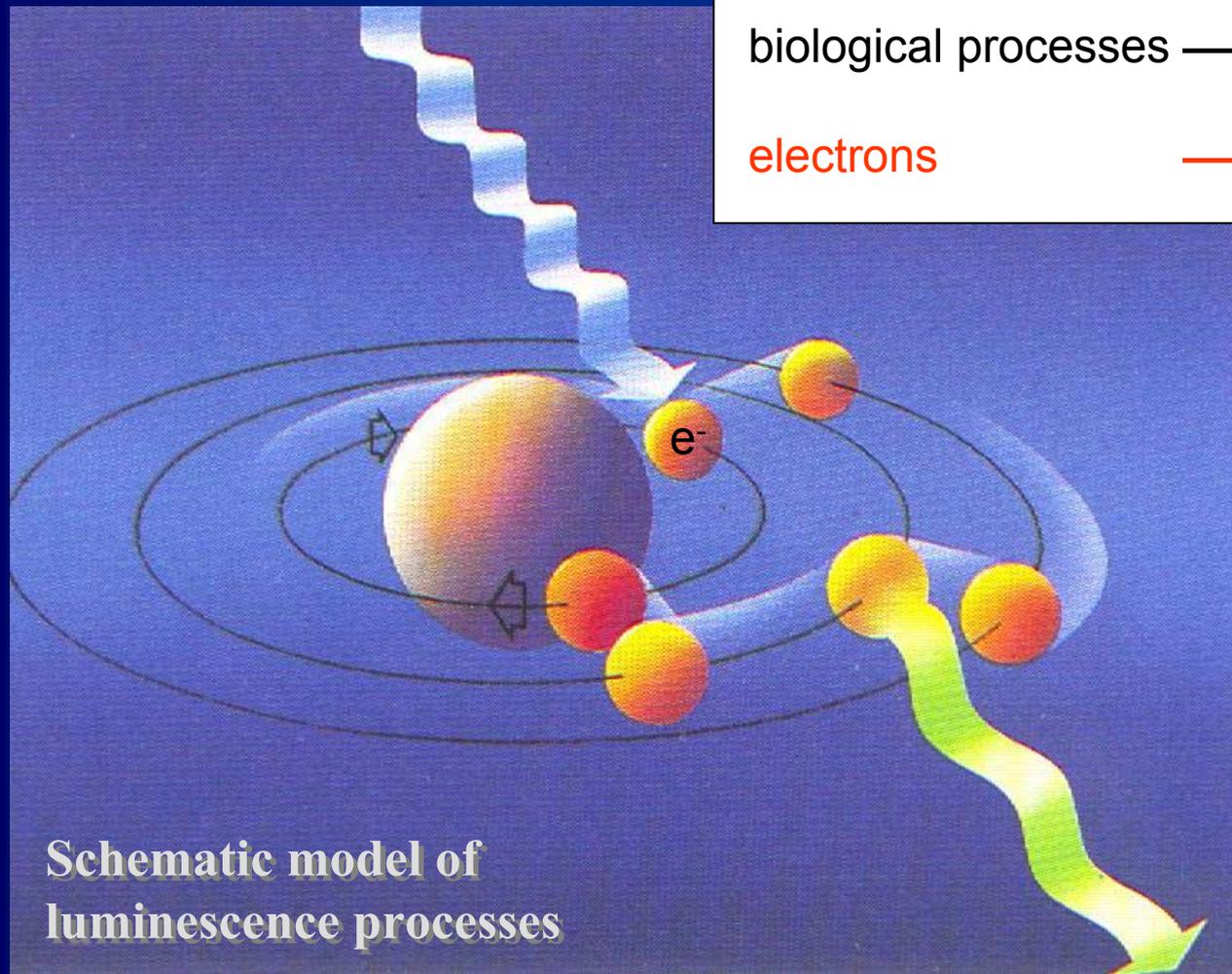
Main processes of luminescence

- (1) absorption of excitation energy and stimulation of the system into an excited state**
- (2) transformation and transfer of the excitation energy**
- (3) emission of light and relaxation of the system into an unexcited condition**

Basics of luminescence

**Excitation
by energy**

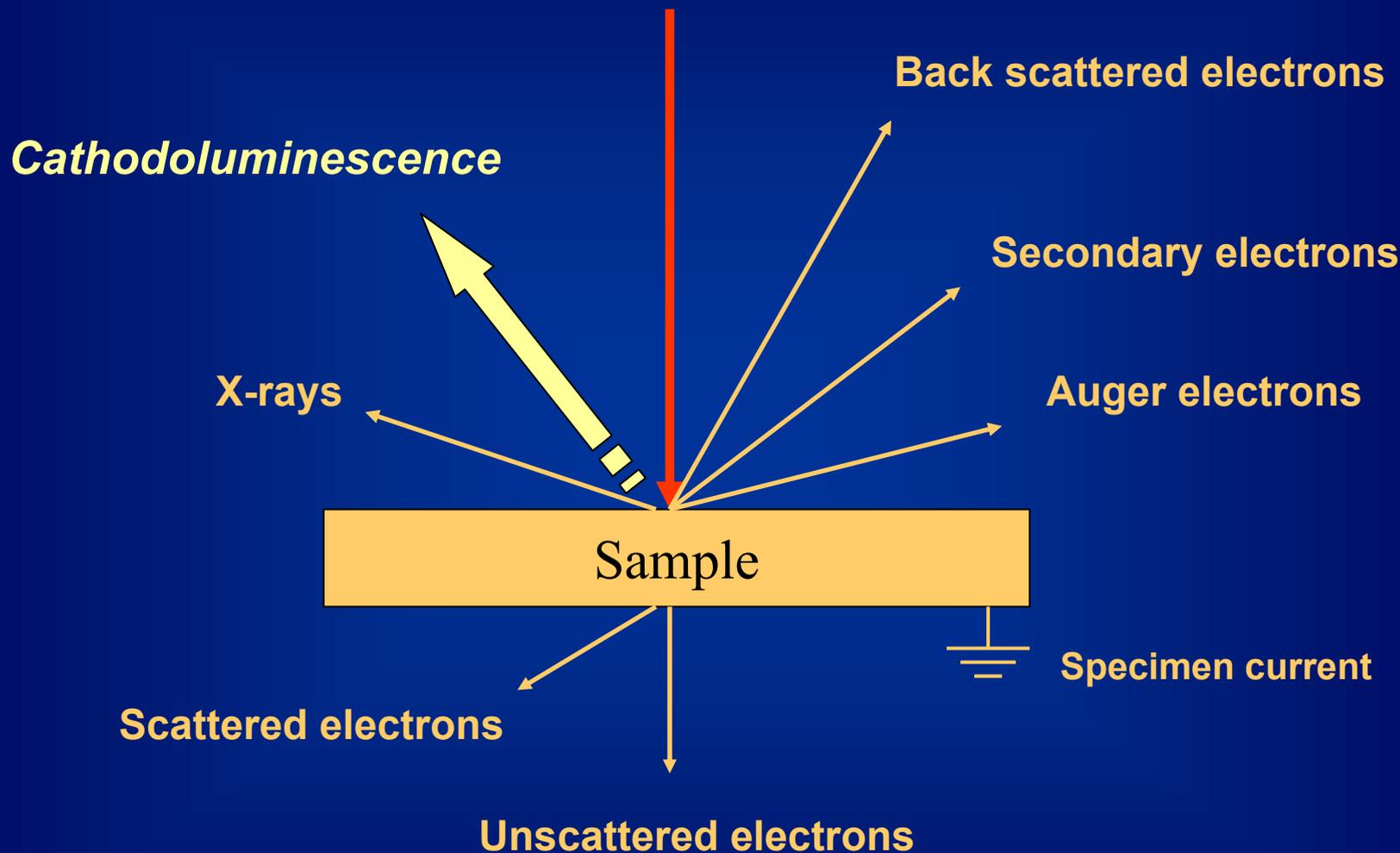
UV	→	photoluminescence
thermal excitation	→	thermoluminescence
biological processes	→	bioluminescence
electrons	→	cathodoluminescence



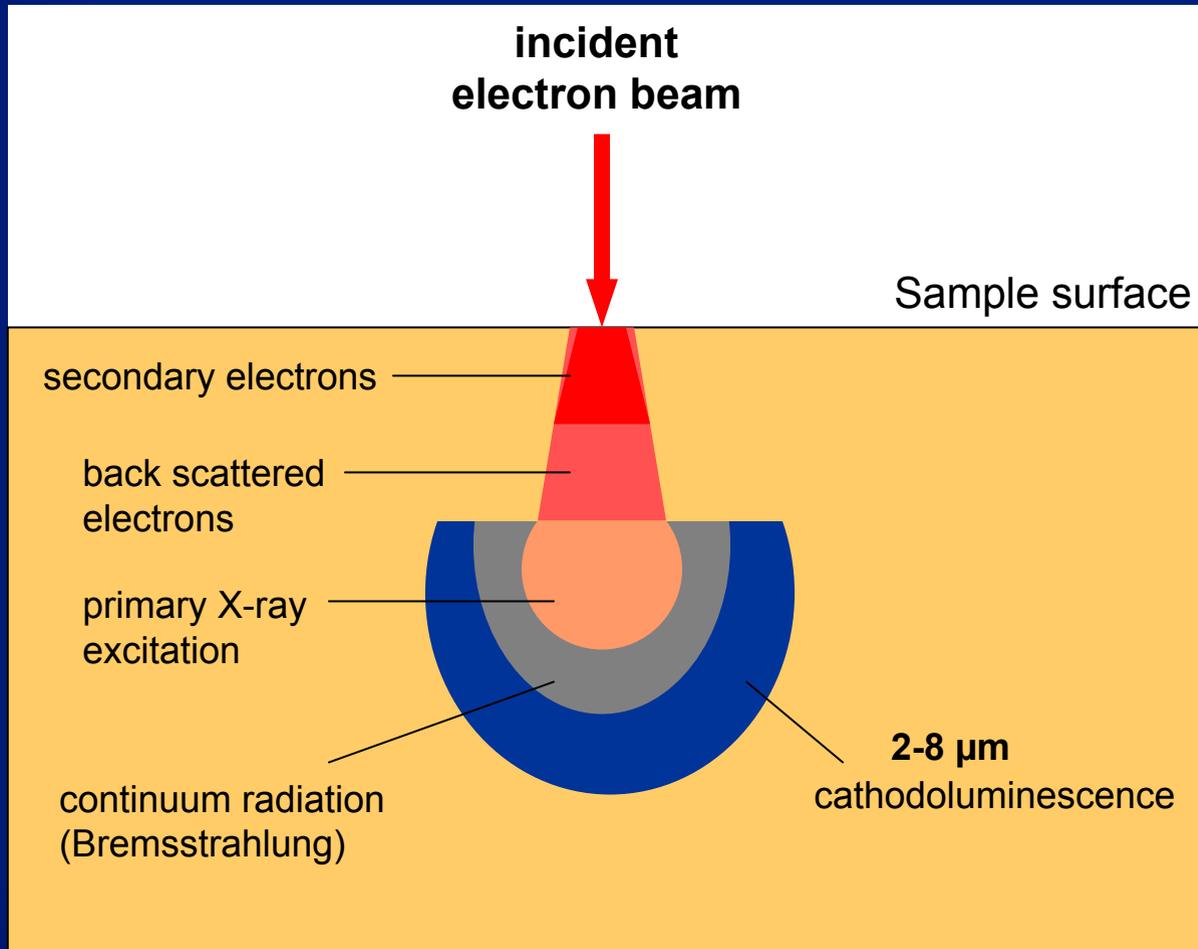
**Schematic model of
luminescence processes**

**Emission
of light**

Primary electron beam

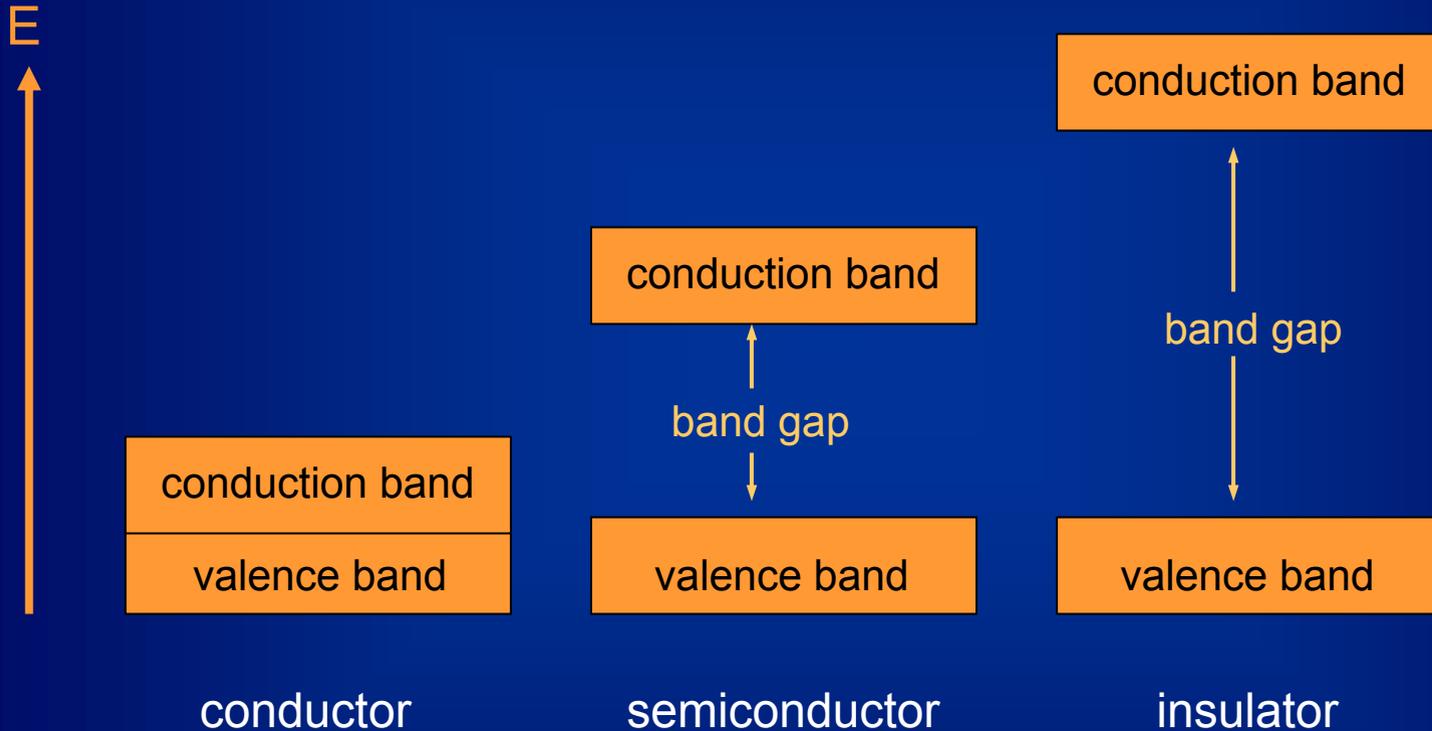


Electron beam interaction with a solid



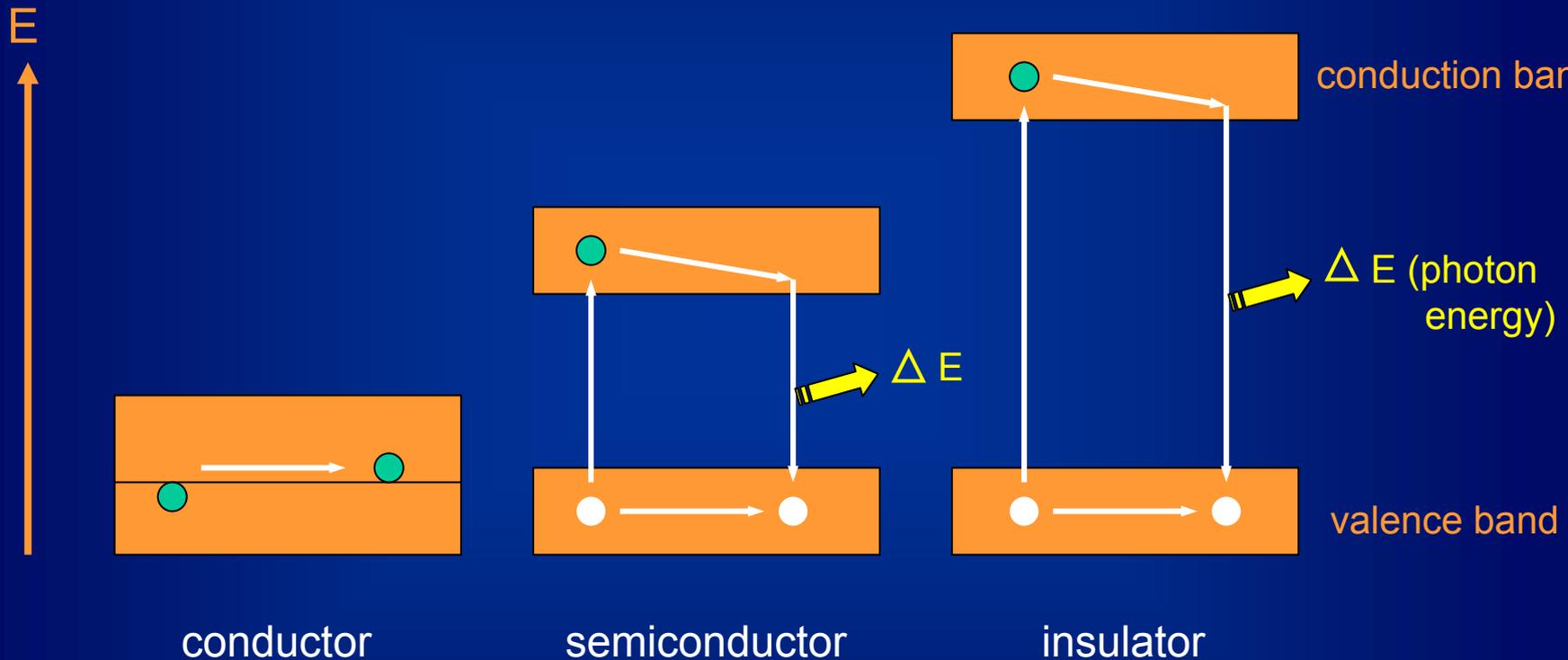
The band model

Basics of luminescence



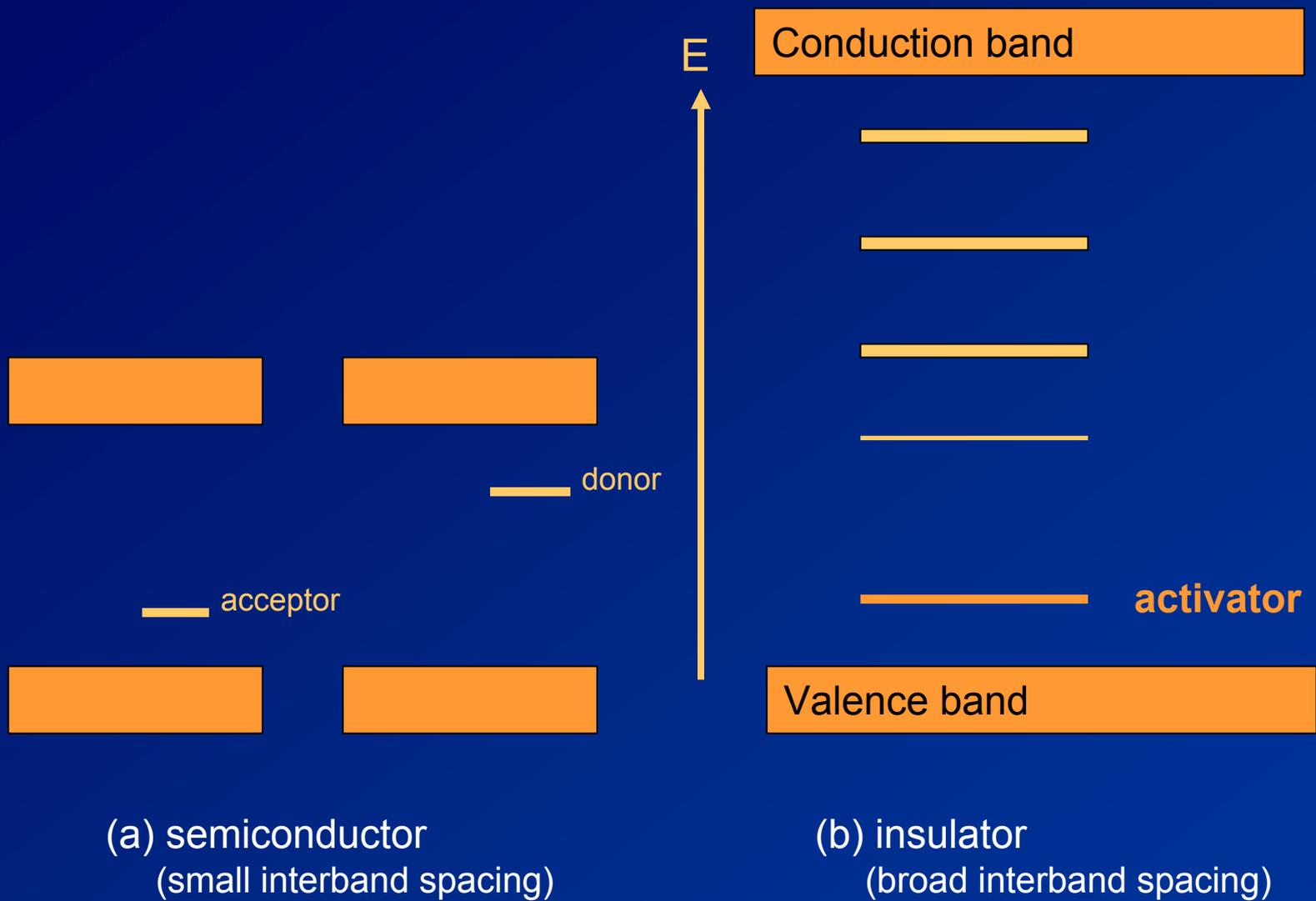
Energy levels in a band scheme for different crystal types

Basics of luminescence



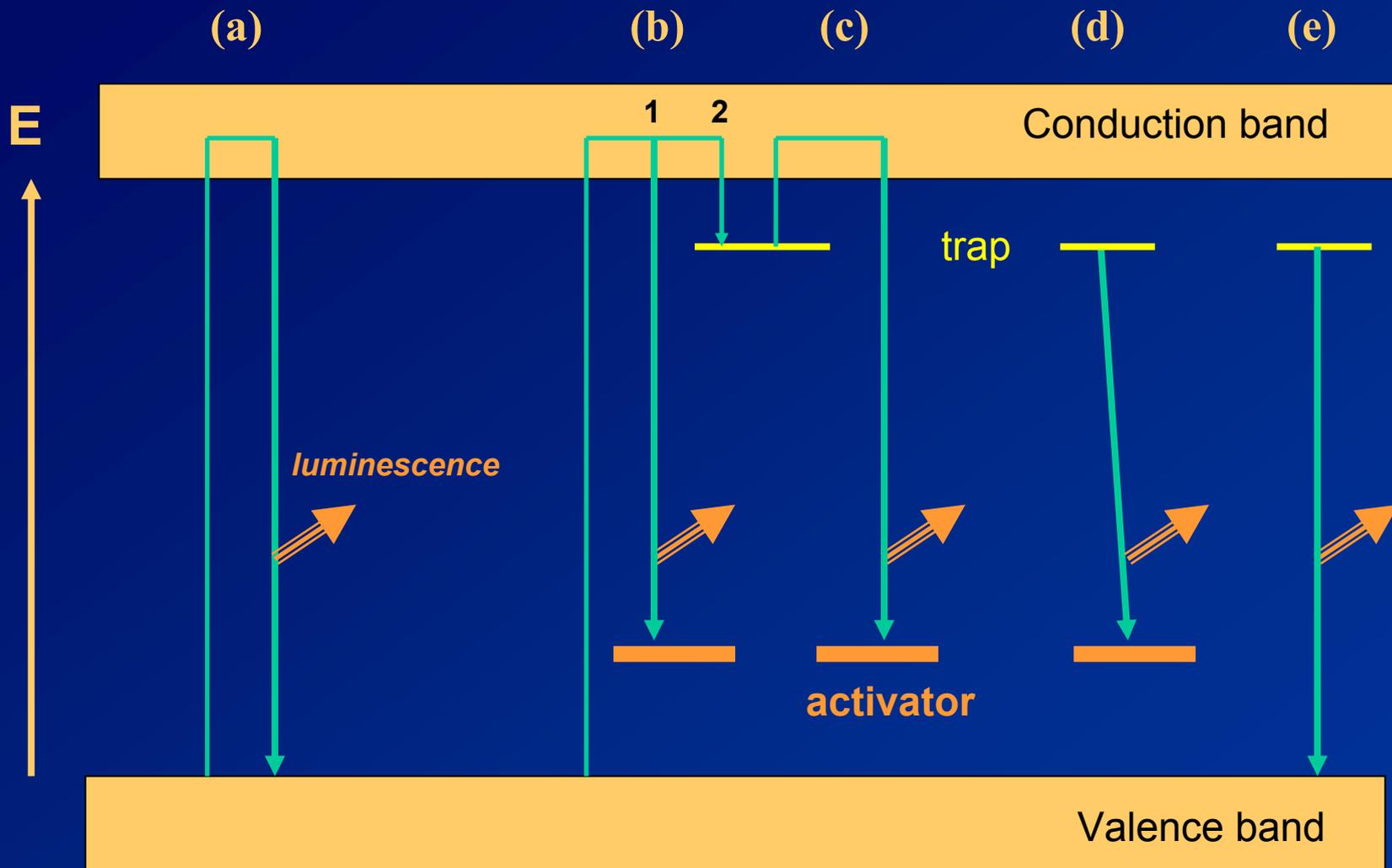
Electron transitions in a band scheme for different crystal types

Basics of luminescence



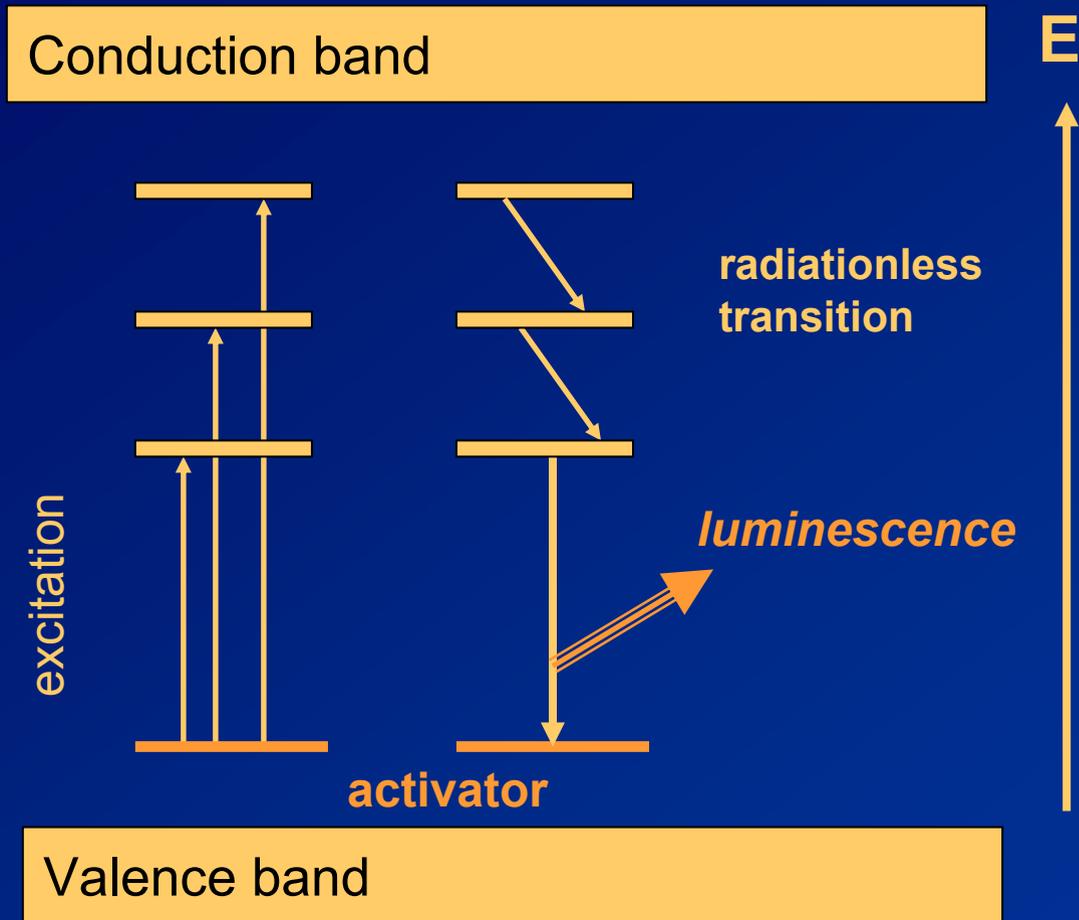
Positions of ion activator energy levels in a band scheme for different crystal types

Basics of luminescence



Electron transitions and luminescence processes in a solid

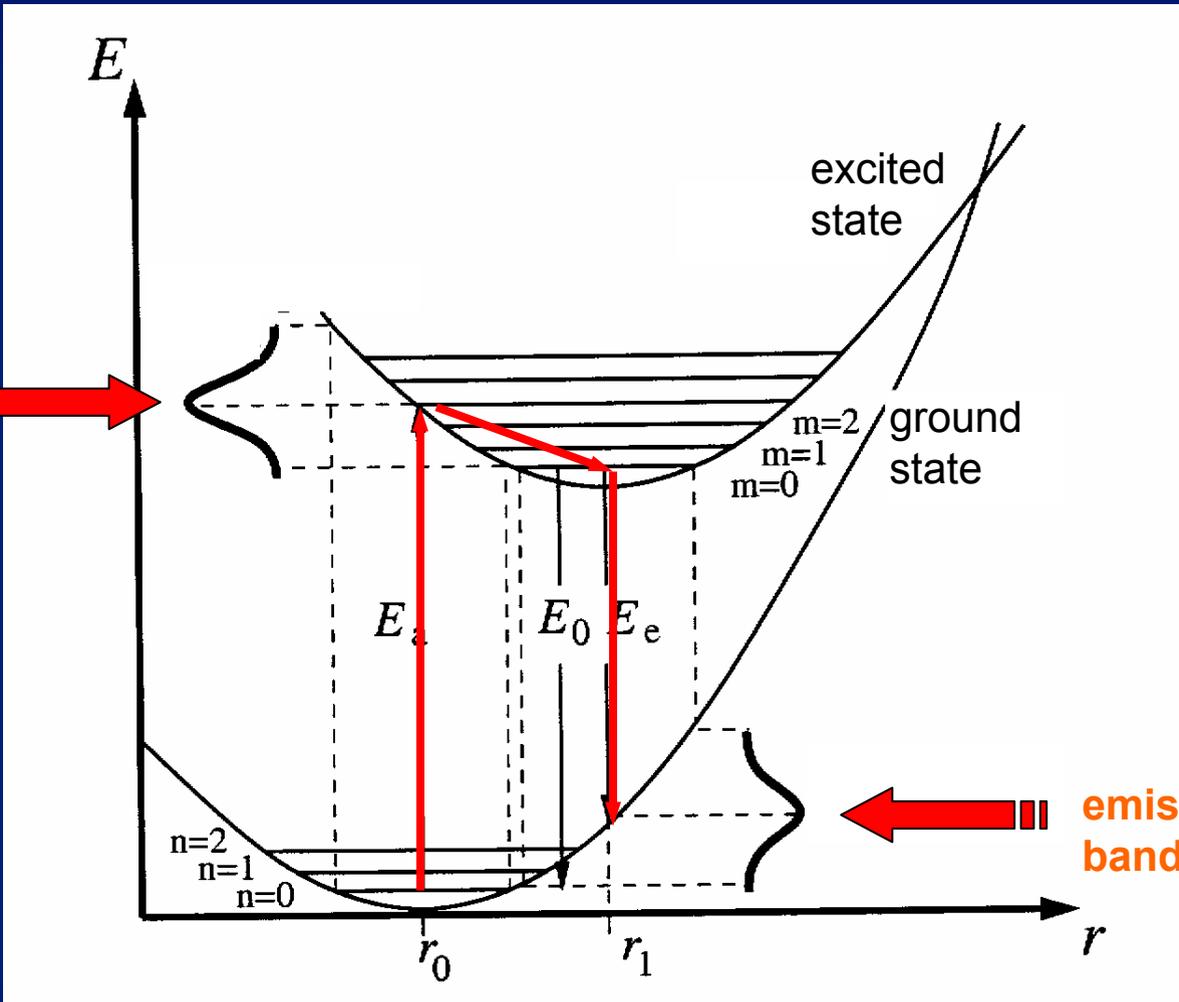
Basics of luminescence



Electron transitions and luminescence in a solid with ion activation

The configurational coordinate model

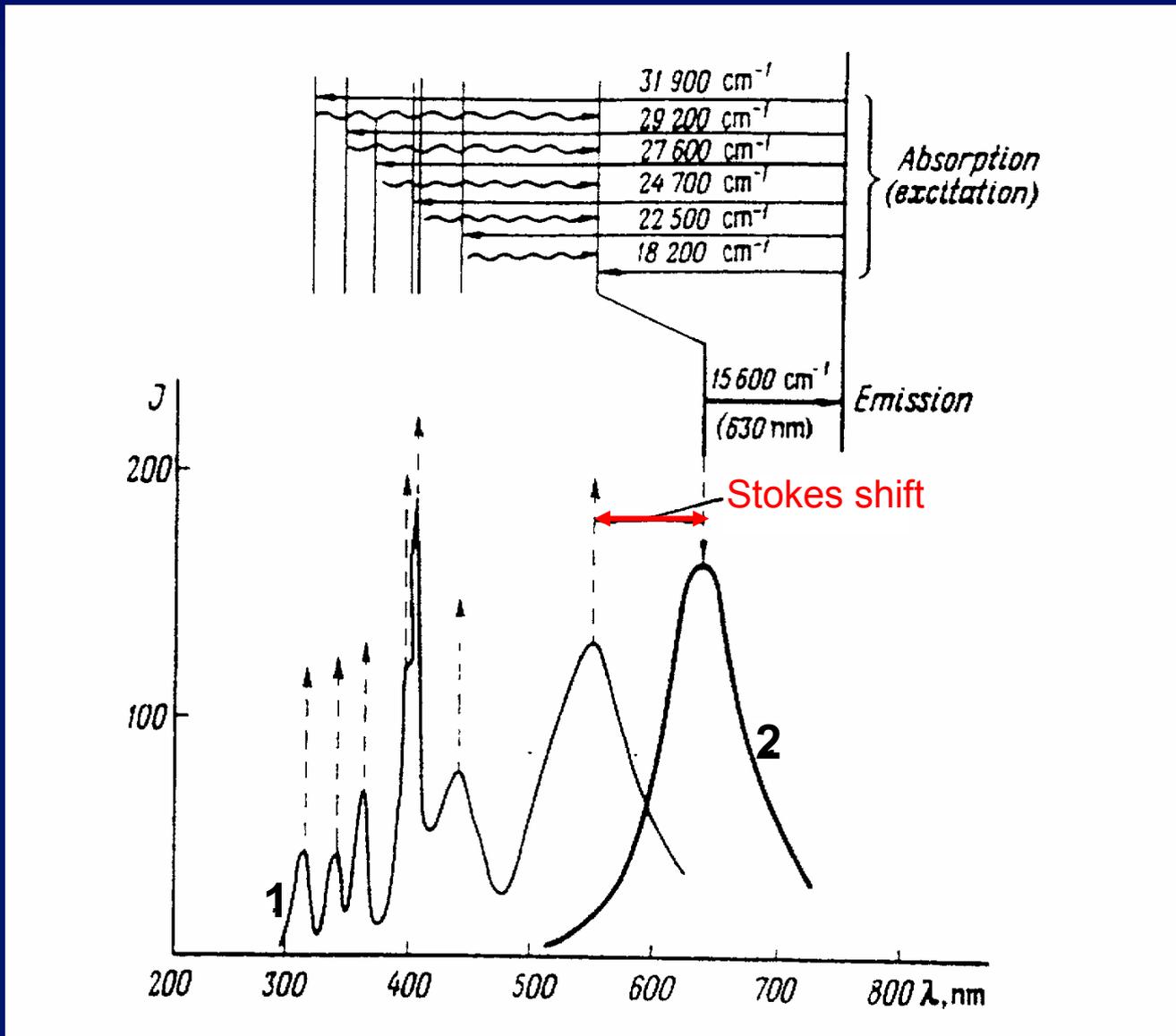
absorption band



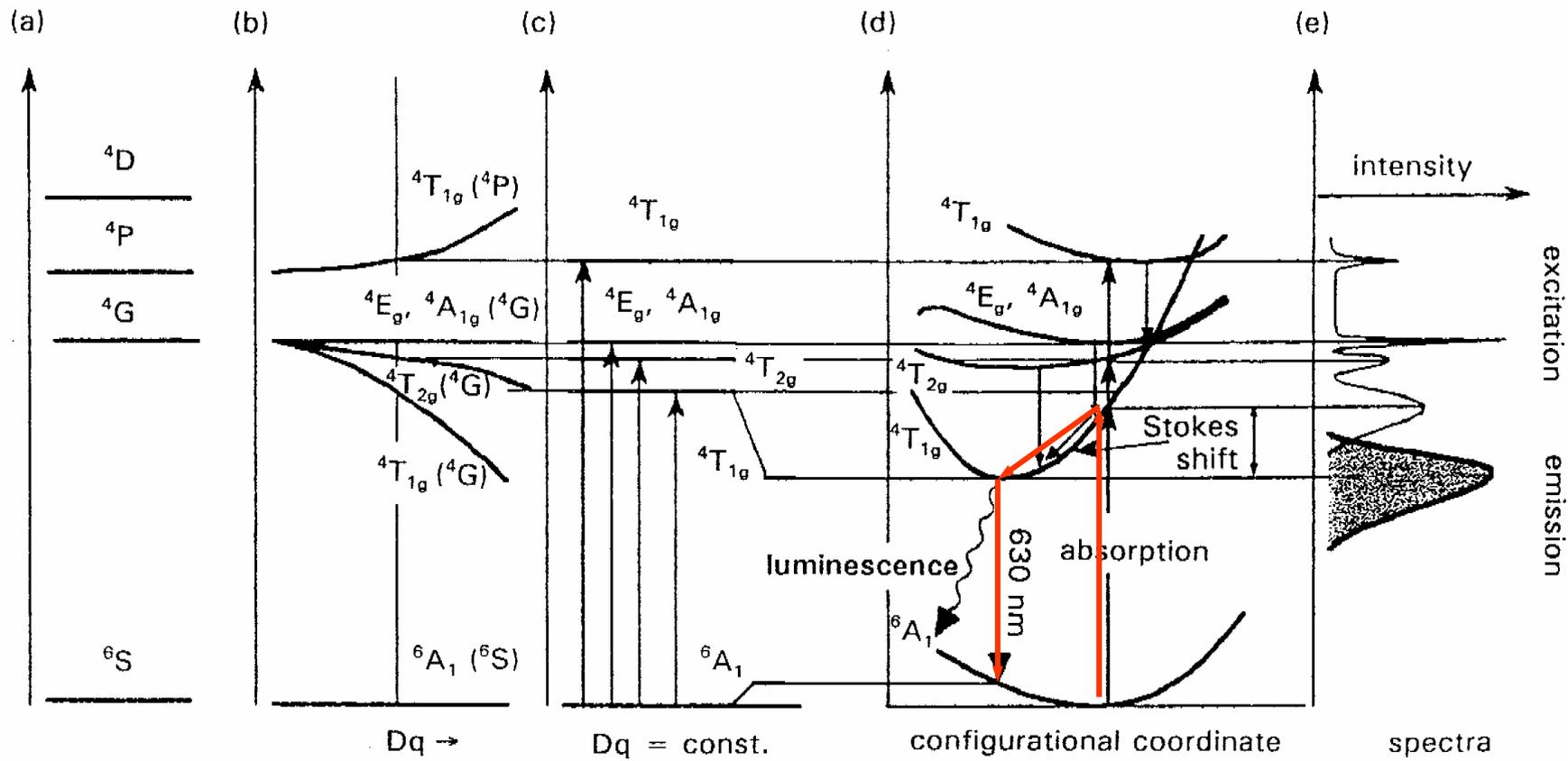
emission band

Configurational coordinate diagram for transitions according to the *Franck-Condon* principle with related absorption and emission bands, respectively.

(modified after Yacobi & Holt 1990)



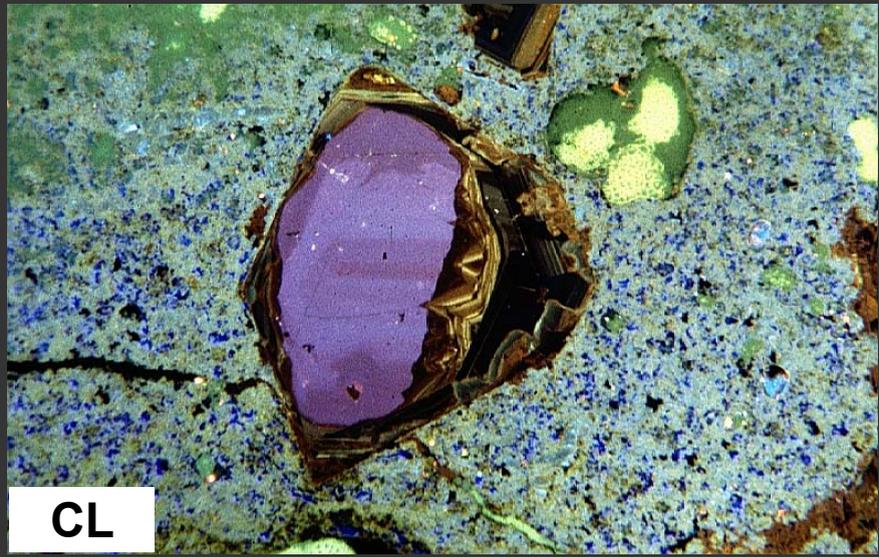
Excitation (1) and emission (2) spectra of Mn²⁺ in calcite (after Medlin 1964)



The sensitivity of the electronic states of the Mn^{2+} ion in octahedral coordination to changes in the intensity of the crystal field splitting Dq and representation in a configurational diagram (modified after Marfunin 1979 and Medlin 1968)

**How can we use
the luminescence signal ??**

Visualization of the real structure of solids by CL



Luminescence centres

intrinsic

lattice defects
(broken bonds, vacancies)

extrinsic

trace elements
(Mn^{2+} , $\text{REE}^{2+/3+}$, etc.)

Types of luminescence centres

- ▶ transition metal ions (e.g., Mn^{2+} , Cr^{3+} , Fe^{3+})
- ▶ rare earth elements ($\text{REE}^{2+/3+}$)
- ▶ actinides (especially uranyl UO_2^{2+})
- ▶ heavy metals (e.g., Pb^{2+} , Tl^+)
- ▶ electron-hole centres (e.g., S_2^- , O_2^- , F-centres)
- ▶ crystallophosphores of the ZnS type (semiconductor)
- ▶ more extended defects (dislocations, clusters, etc.)

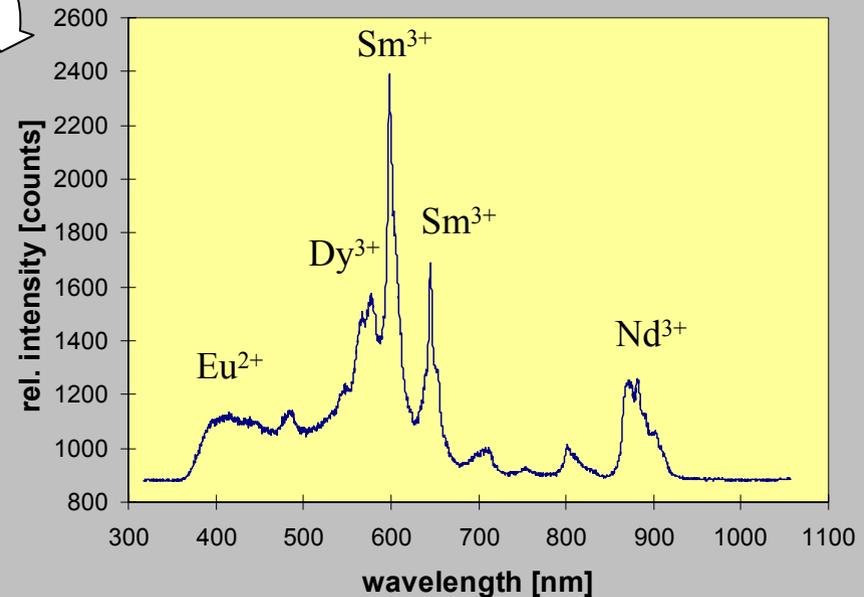
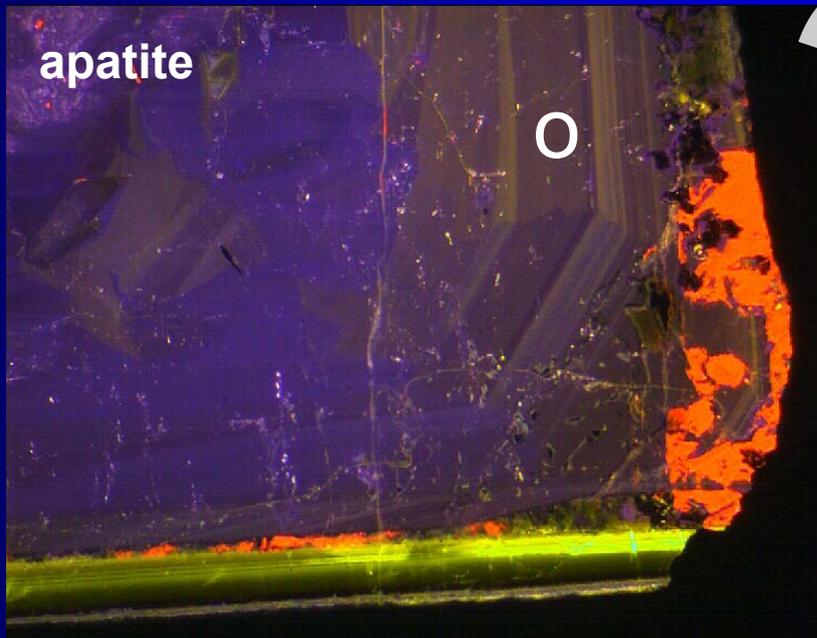
Detection of the cathodoluminescence emission

(1) CL microscopy

- ➔ contrasting of different phases
- ➔ visualization of defects, zoning and internal structures of solids

(2) CL spectroscopy

- ➔ determination of the real structure
- ➔ detection of trace elements, their valence and structural position



CL emission spectra

The crystal field theory

(Burns, 1993)

→ local environment of the activator ion

- The activator-ligand distances in the different excited states and the slope of the energy levels depend on the intensity of the crystal field
(expressed as crystal field splitting $\Delta = 10Dq$)
- The stronger the interaction of the activator ion with the lattice, the greater are the Stokes shift and the width of the emission line.

The crystal field theory

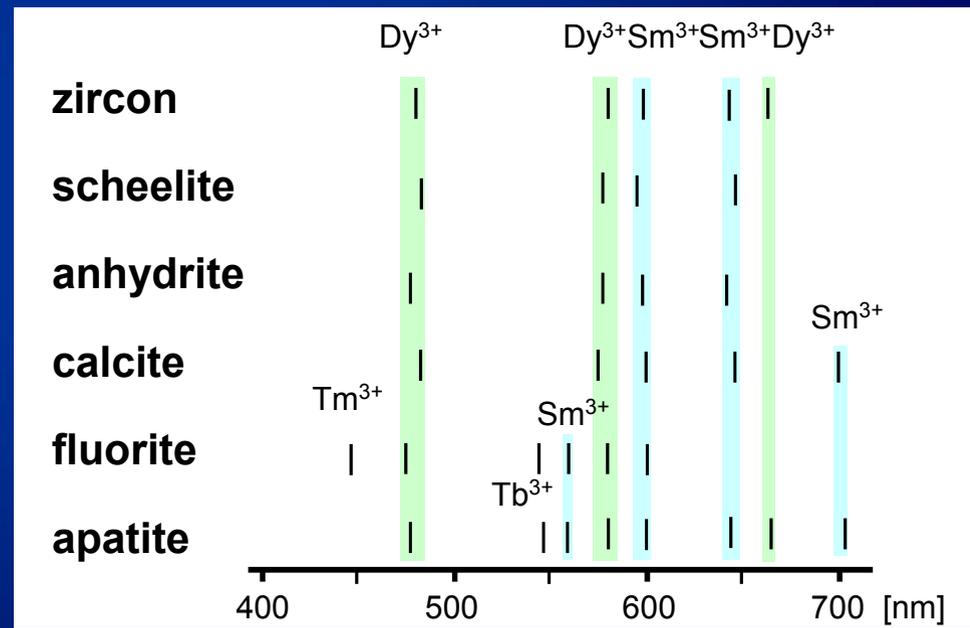
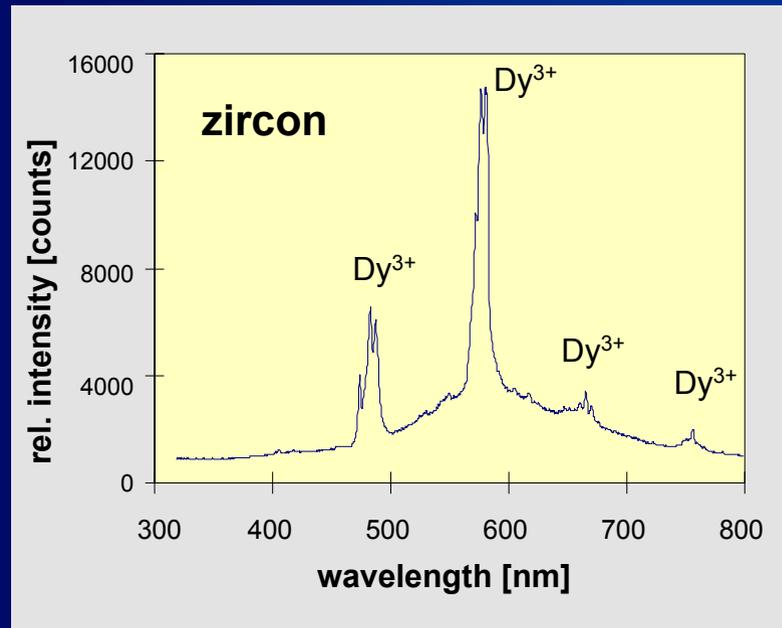
→ local environment of the activator ion

Factors influencing values of Δ or $10Dq$ are:

- type of the activator ion (size, charge)
- type of the ligands
- the interaction distance
- local symmetry of the ligand environment
- etc.

Influence of the crystal field on CL emission spectra

(1) influence of the crystal field = weak

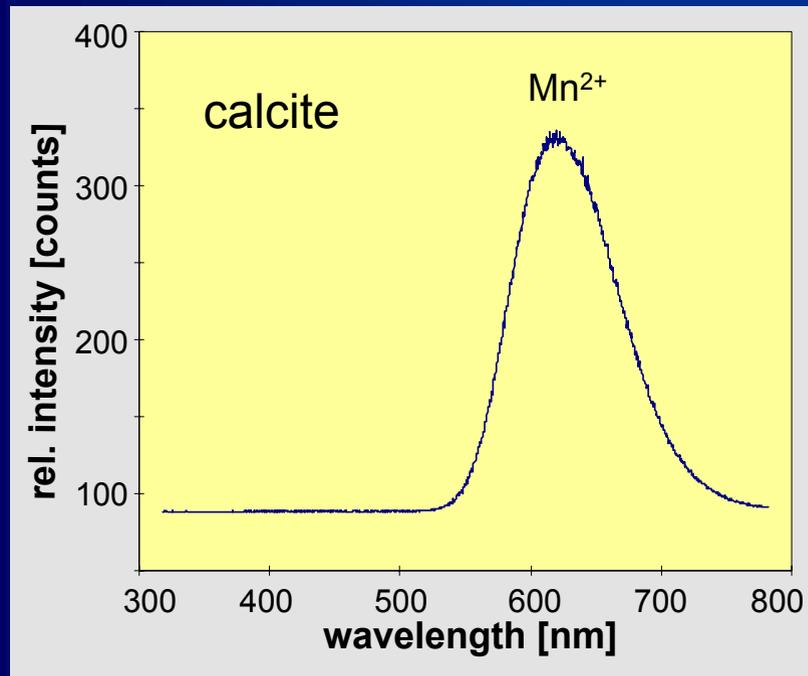


➡ CL spectra of narrow emission lines (e.g. REE³⁺)

➡ CL emission spectra are specific of the activator ion

Influence of the crystal field on CL emission spectra

(2) influence of the crystal field = strong



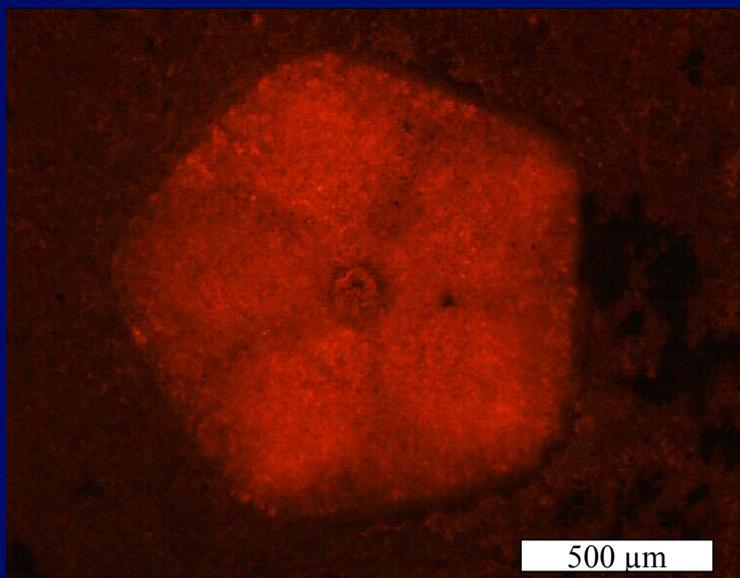
Mn²⁺ activated CL of CaCO₃:

aragonite	green	(~560 nm)
calcite	yellow-orange	(~610 nm)
magnesite	red	(~655 nm)

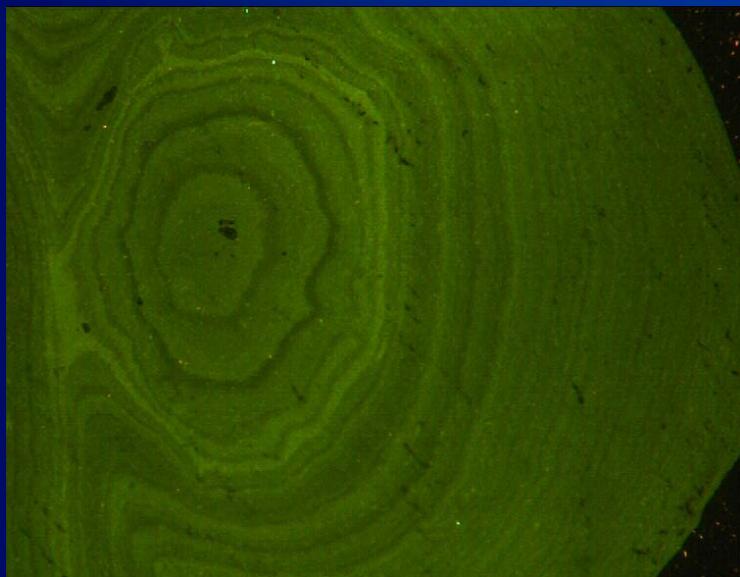
⇒ CL spectra of broad emission bands (e.g. Mn²⁺, Fe³⁺)

⇒ CL emission spectra are specific of the host crystal

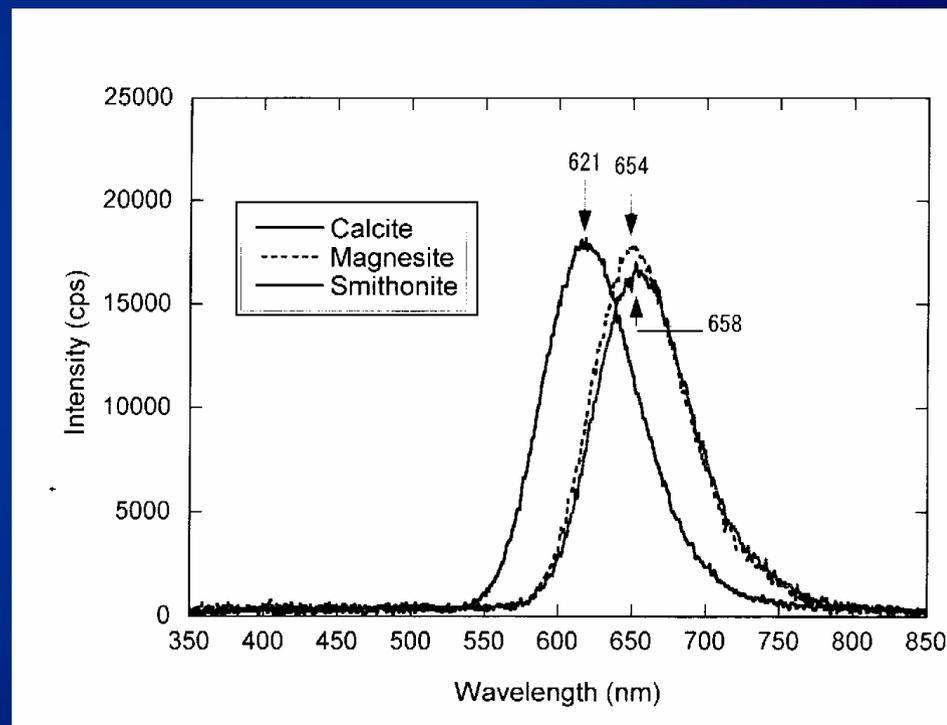
Basics of luminescence



sea lily stalk (calcite CaCO_3)

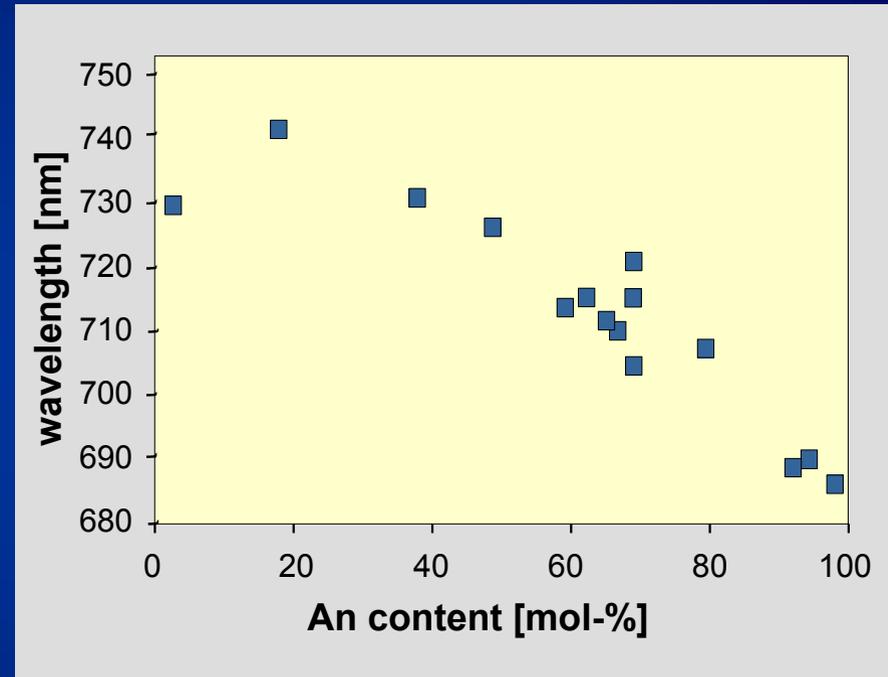
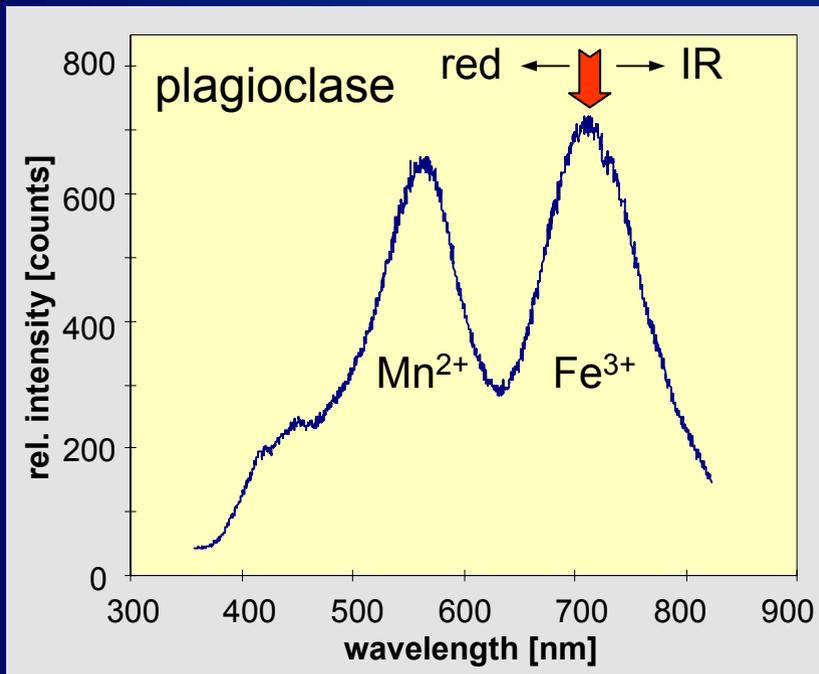


perl (aragonite CaCO_3)



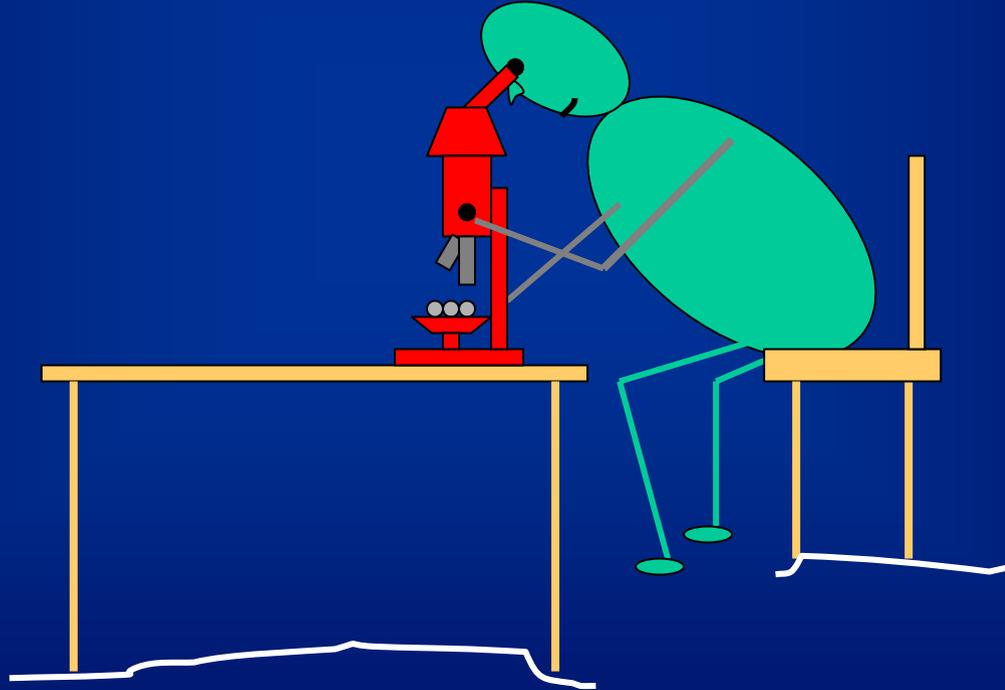
Visual and spectral detection of Mn^{2+} activated CL in natural carbonates

Influence of the crystal field on the broad CL emission bands in solid solutions



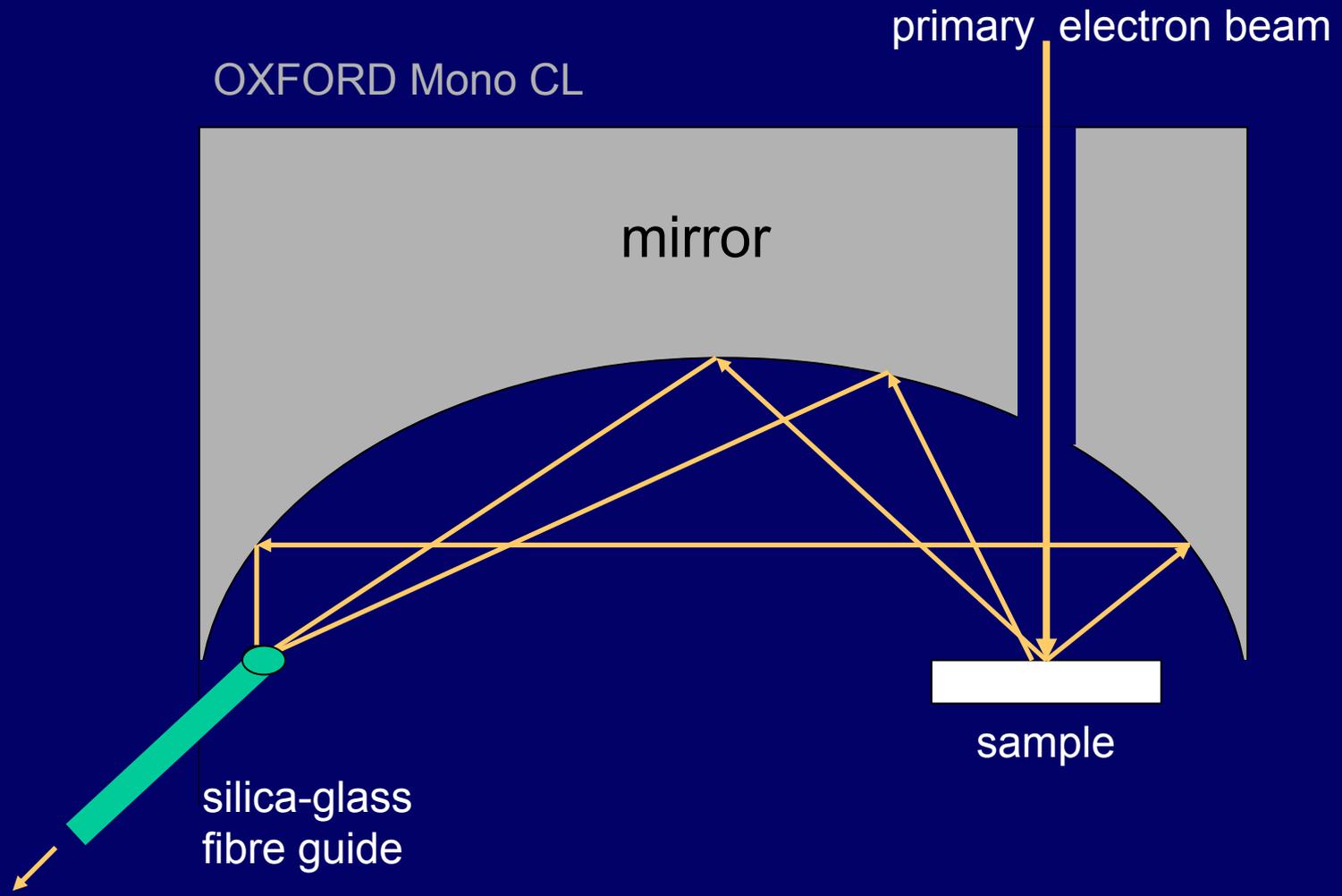
Position of the Fe³⁺ activated CL emission band in plagioclases in relation to the anorthite content

Instrumentation



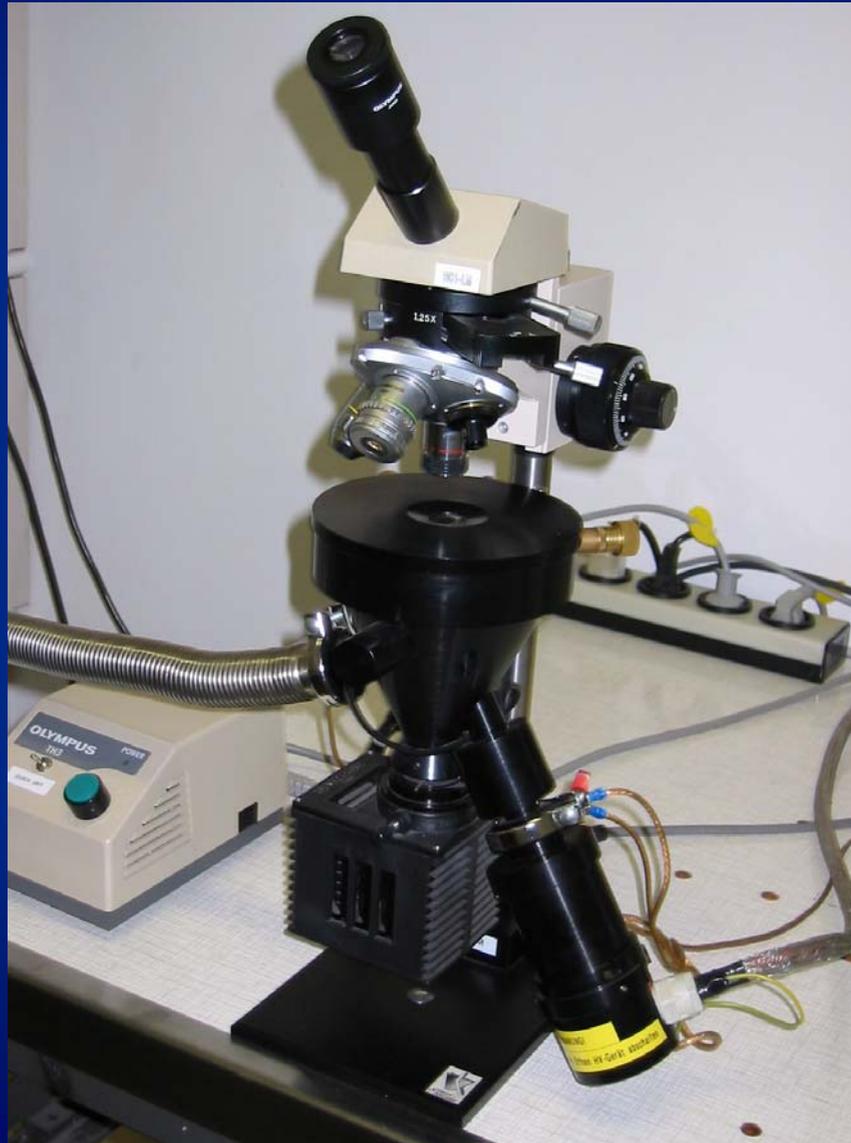
Scanning Electron Microscope JEOL 6400 with OXFORD Mono-CL detector



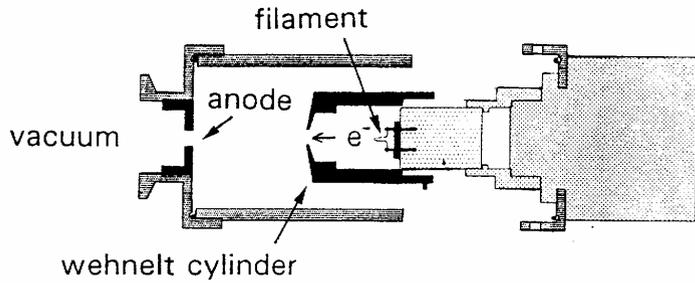


Cathodoluminescence detector on a scanning electron microscope

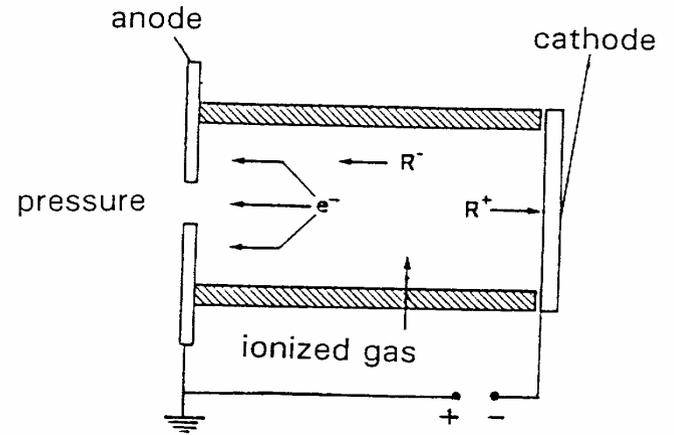
Hot-cathode luminescence microscope HC1-LM (designed by Rolf Neuser, Bochum)



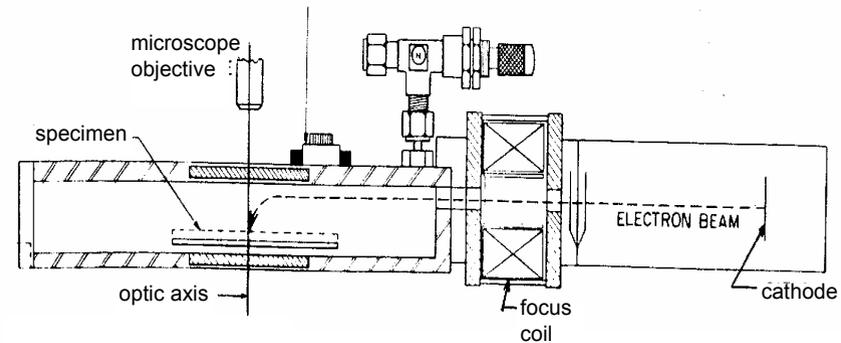
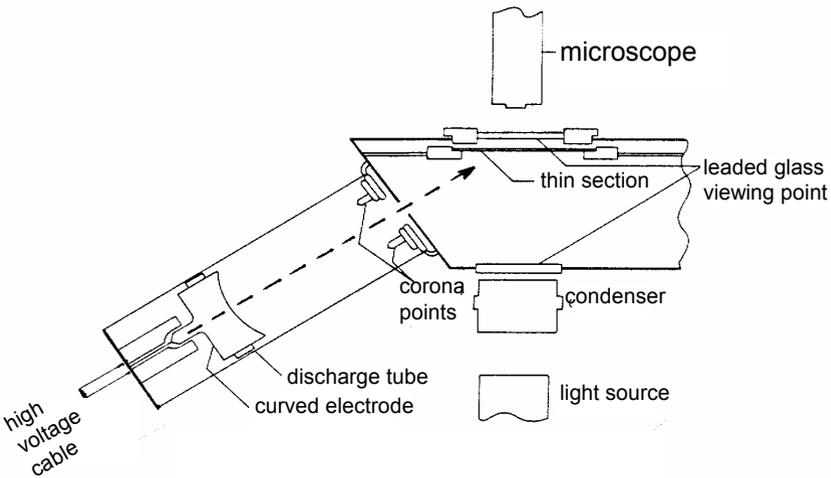
Instrumentation



hot-cathode microscope



cold-cathode microscope



Cathodoluminescence techniques

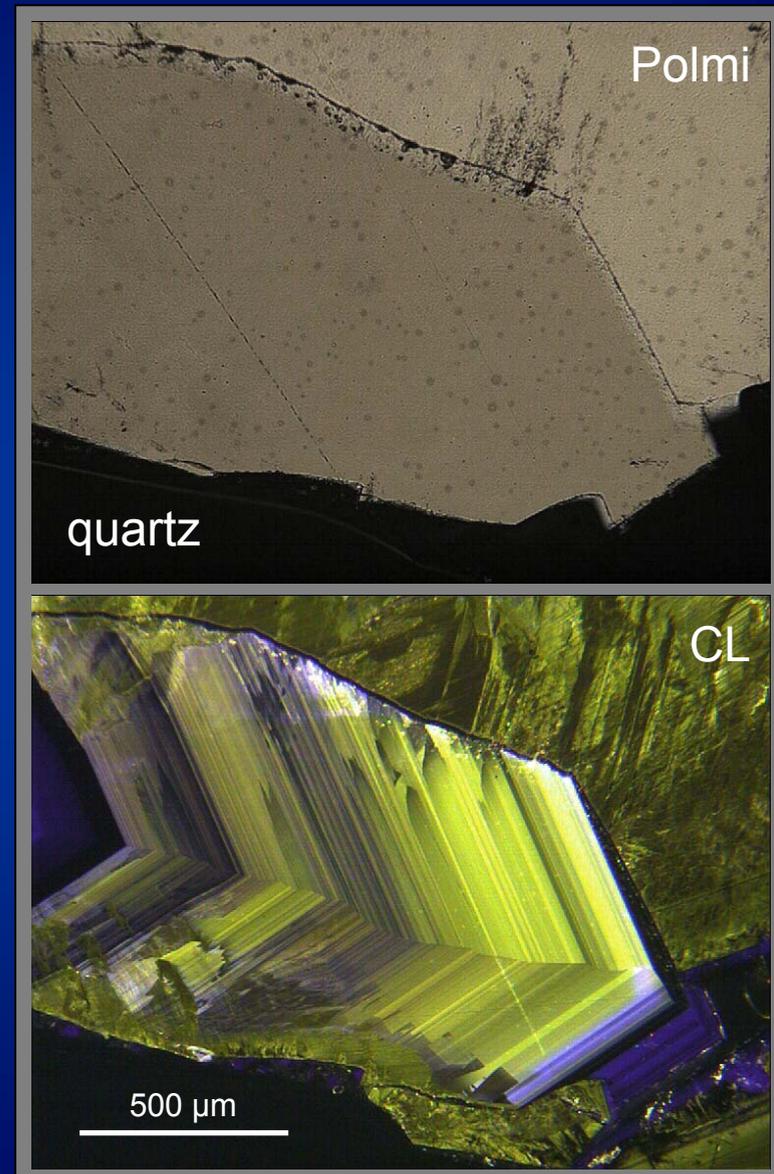
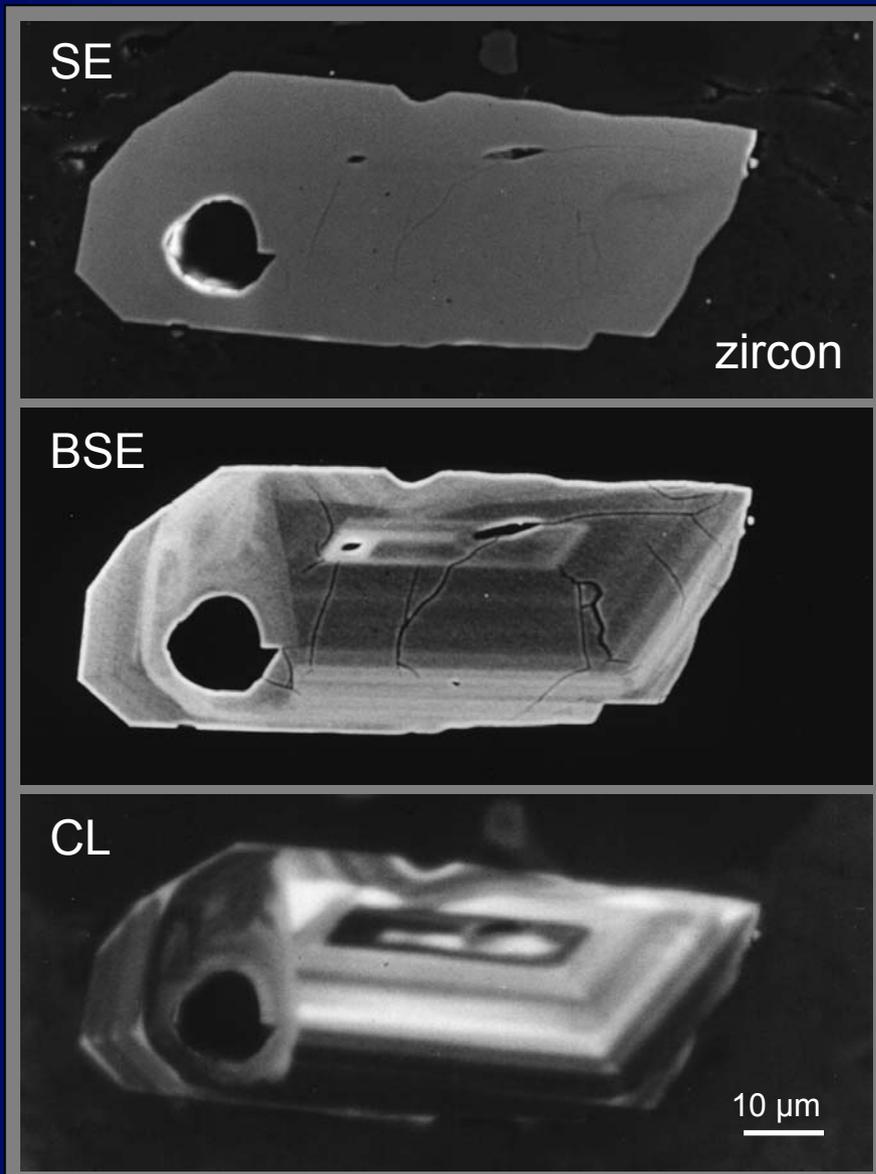
SEM-CL

- polished sample surface
- • focused electron beam, scanning mode
- heated filament
20 kV, 0.5-15 nA
- • mirror optics: 200-800 nm (UV - IR)
- • analytical spot ca. 1 μm
- • panchromatic CL images (grey levels)
- • resolution $\ll 1 \mu\text{m}$
- • SE, BSE, EDX/WDX, cooling stage

CL microscopy

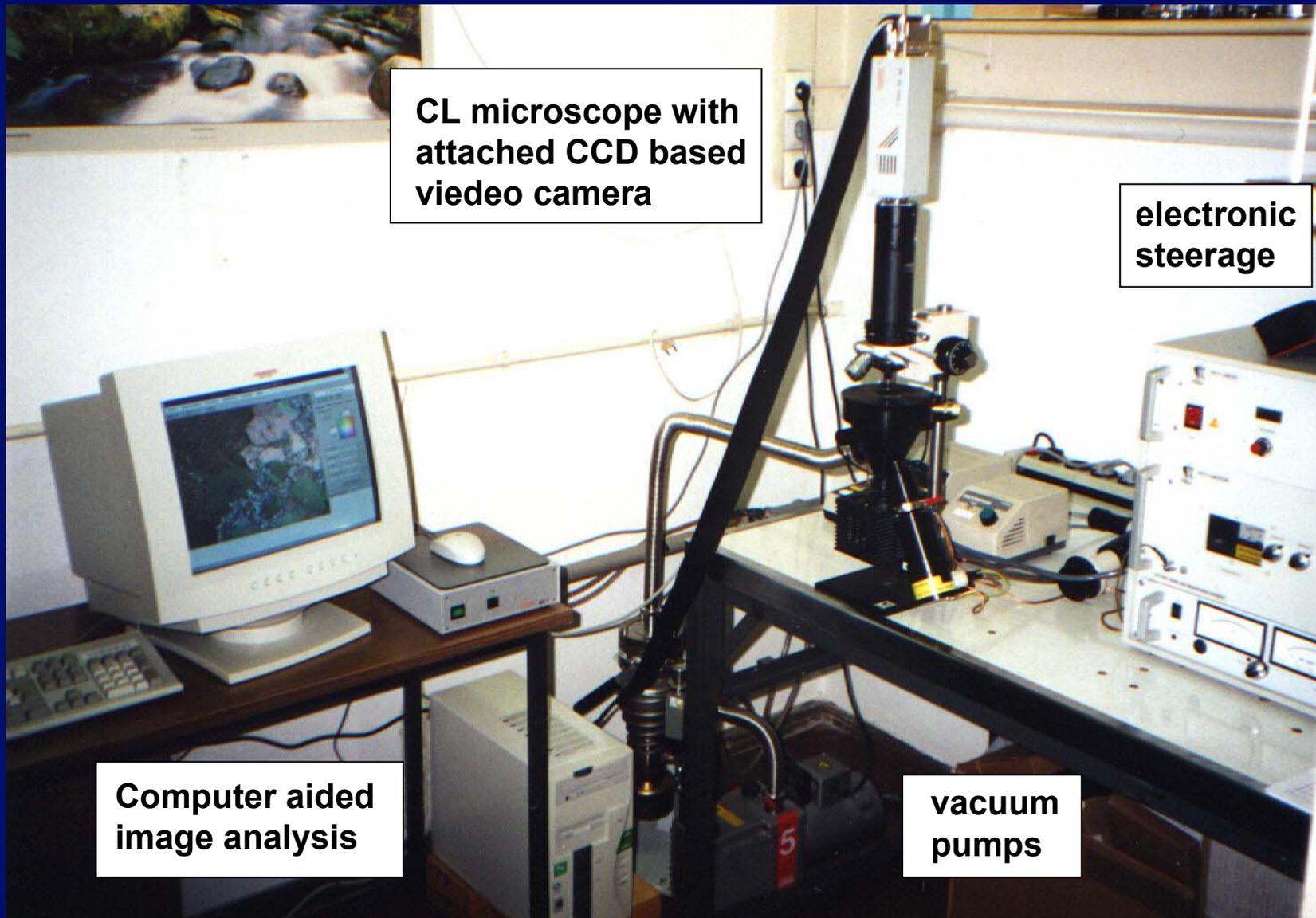
- polished thin (thick) section
- defocused electron beam, stationary mode
- heated filament („hot cathode“)
14 kV, 0.1-0.5 mA
ionized gas („cold cathode“)
- glass optics: 380-1200 nm (Vis - IR)
- analytical spot ca. 30 μm
- true luminescence colours
- resolution 1-2 μm
- polarizing microscopy, (EDX)

Cathodoluminescence imaging



SEM cathodoluminescence

Cathodoluminescence microscopy



**CL microscope with
attached CCD based
video camera**

**electronic
storage**

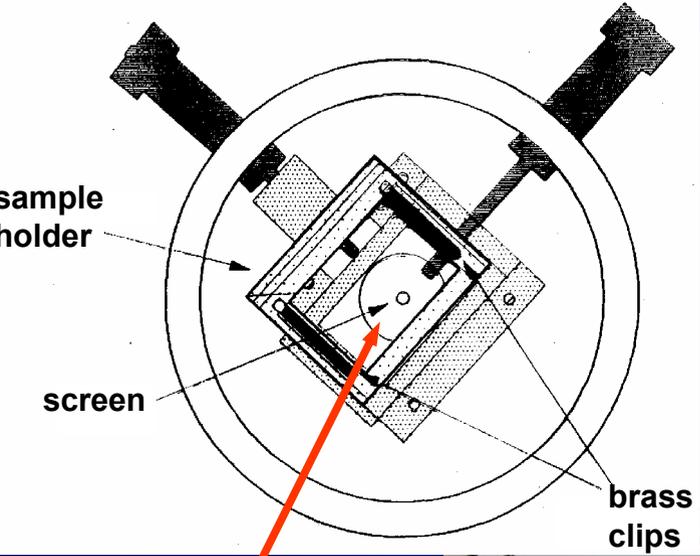
**Computer aided
image analysis**

**vacuum
pumps**

Cathodoluminescence microscope HC1-LM

Hot-cathode luminescence microscope HC1-LM

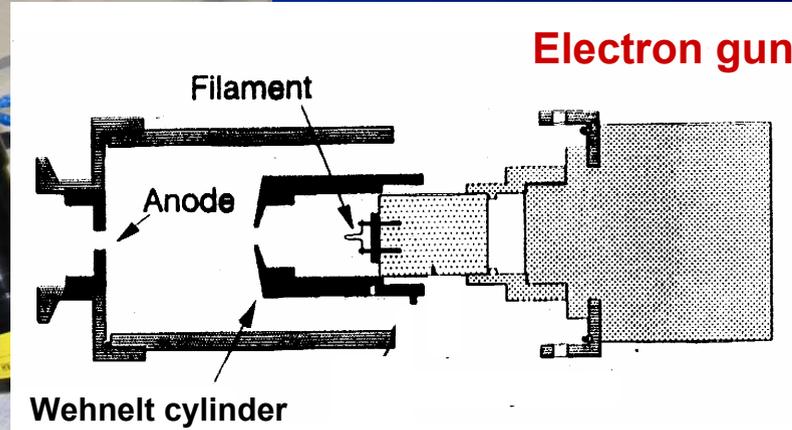
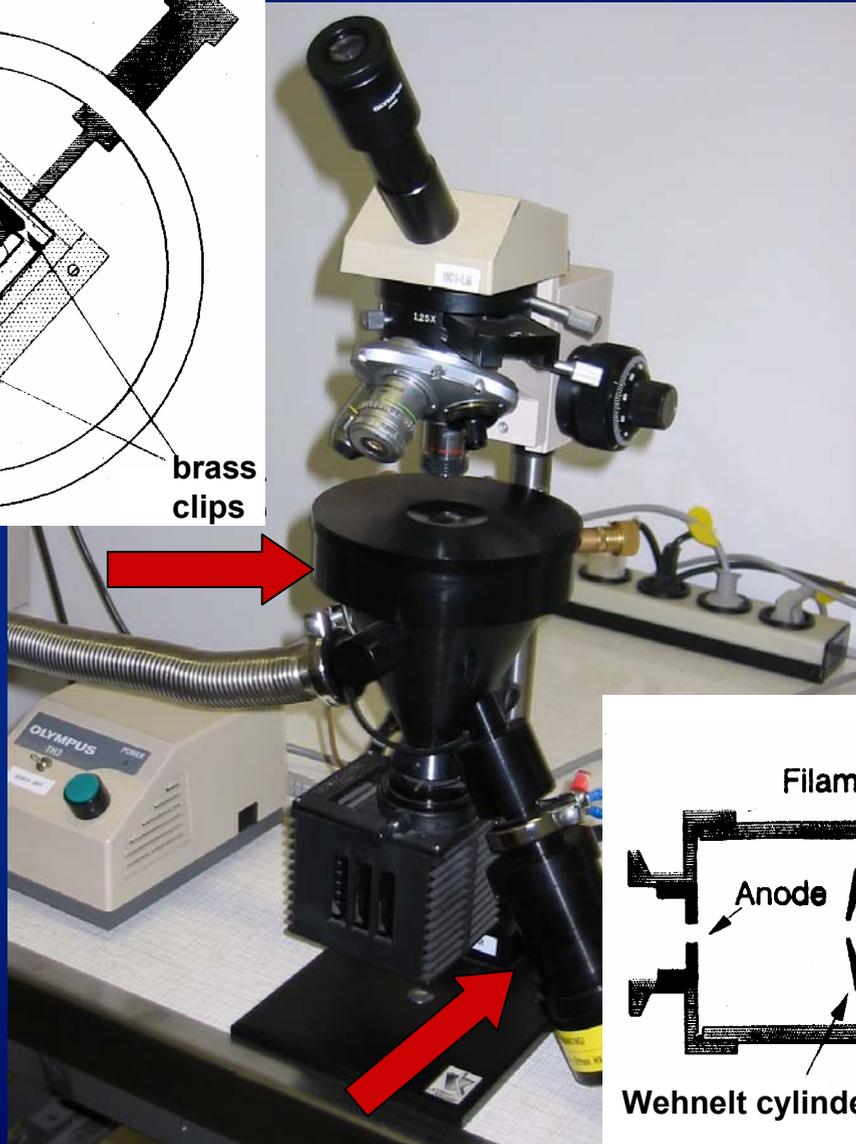
Sample chamber



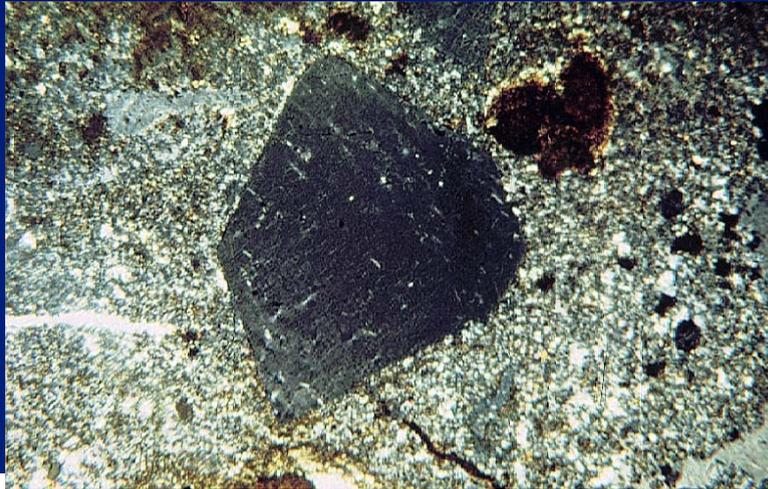
sample is fixed upside down in the sample holder



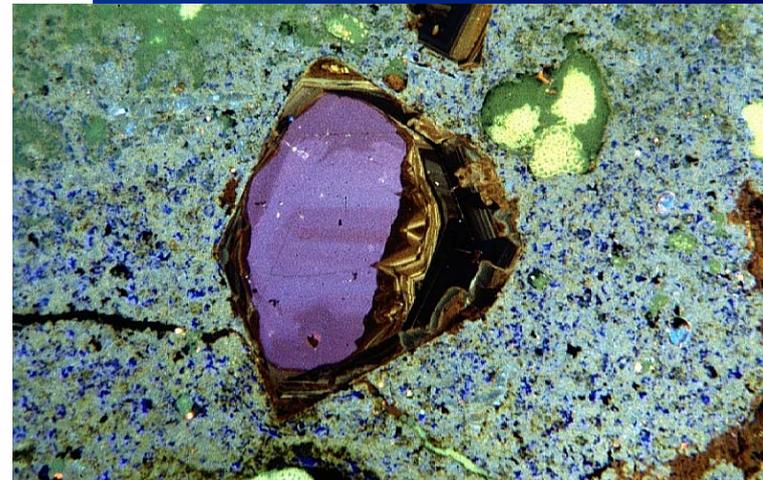
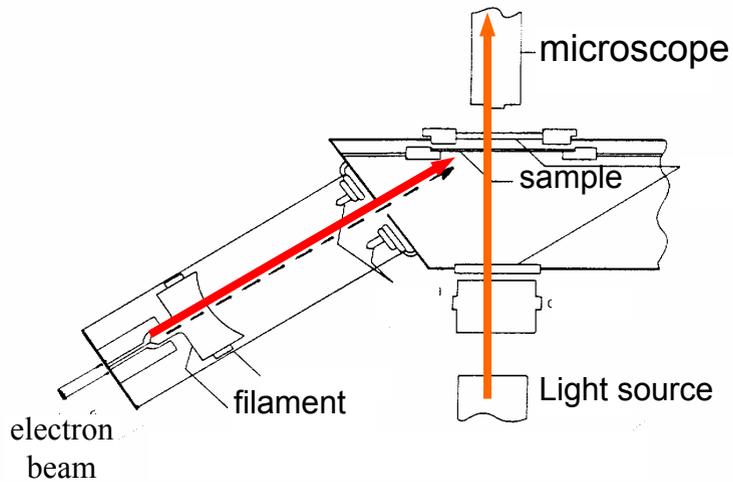
→ transparency !



Cathodoluminescence microscopy

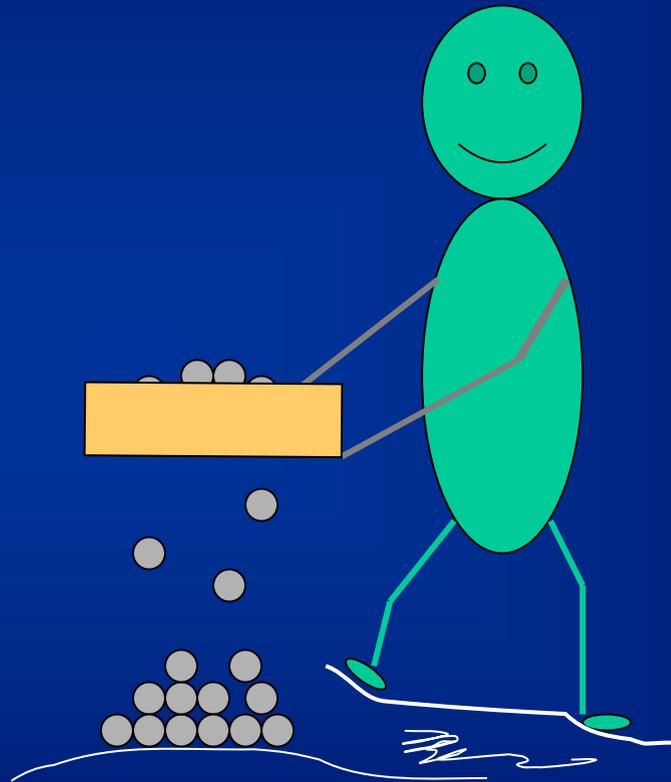
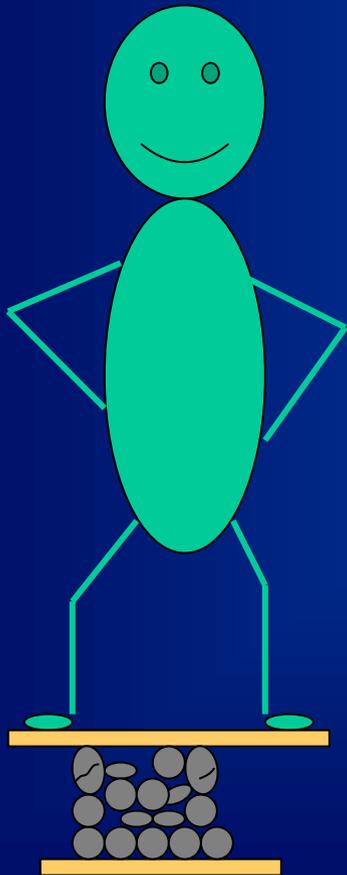


Polarising
microscopy



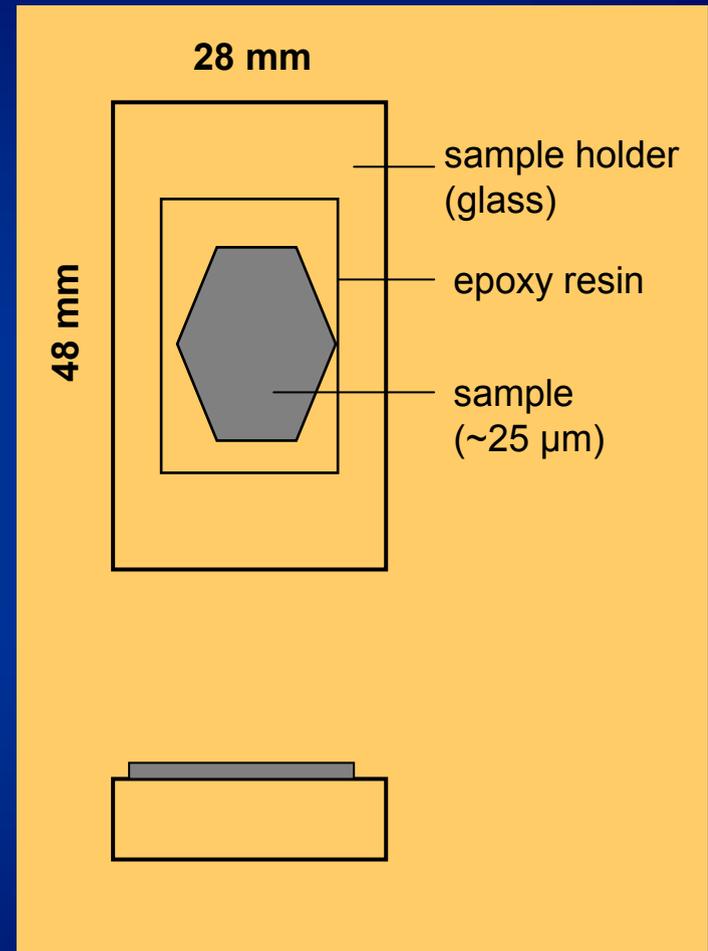
Cathodoluminescence
microscopy

Sample preparation



Sample preparation

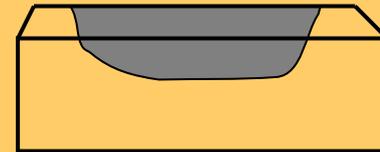
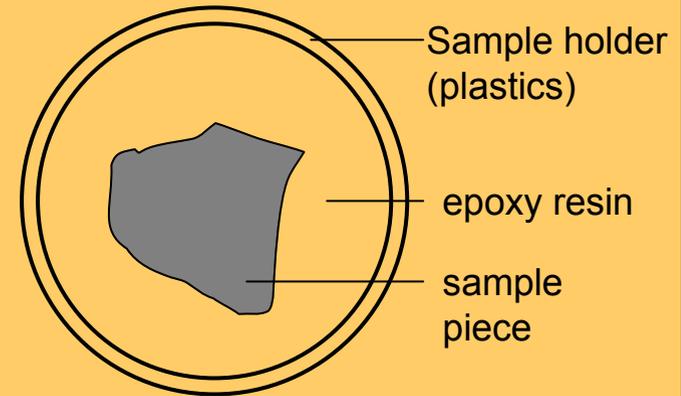
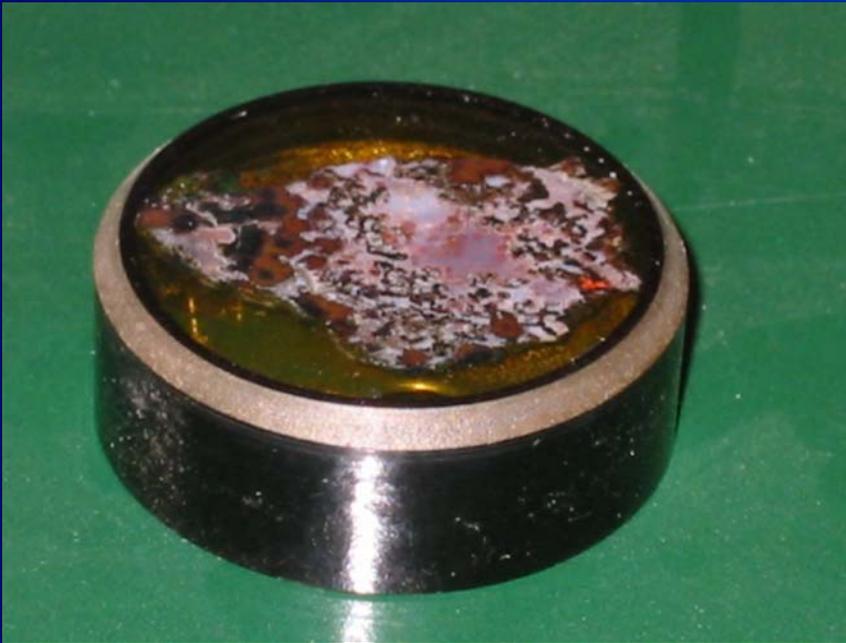
1. Polished thin section



➔ application for all CL equipments

Sample preparation

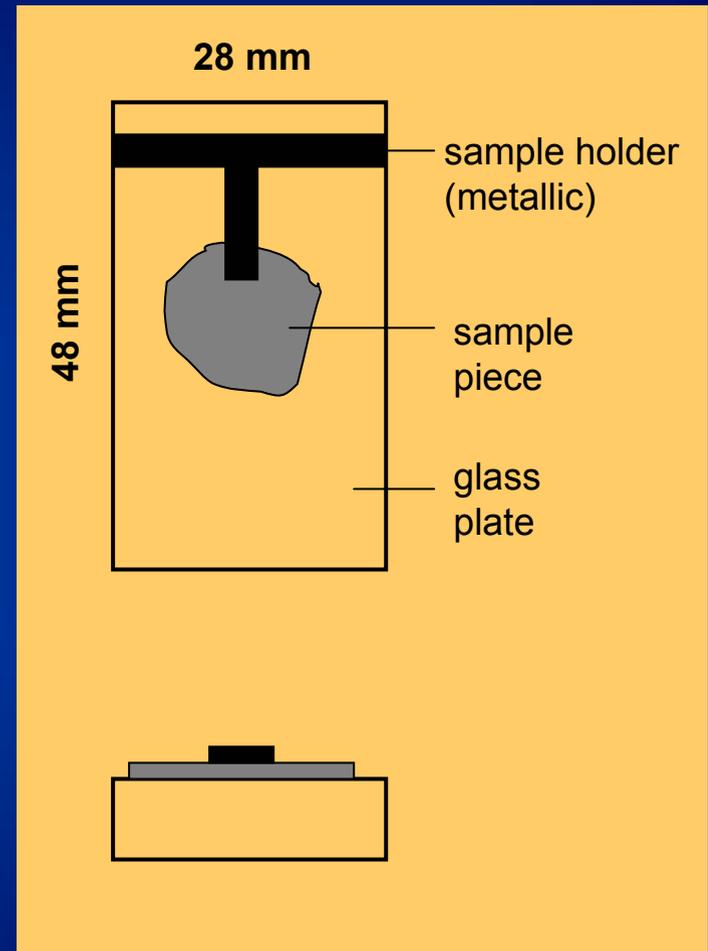
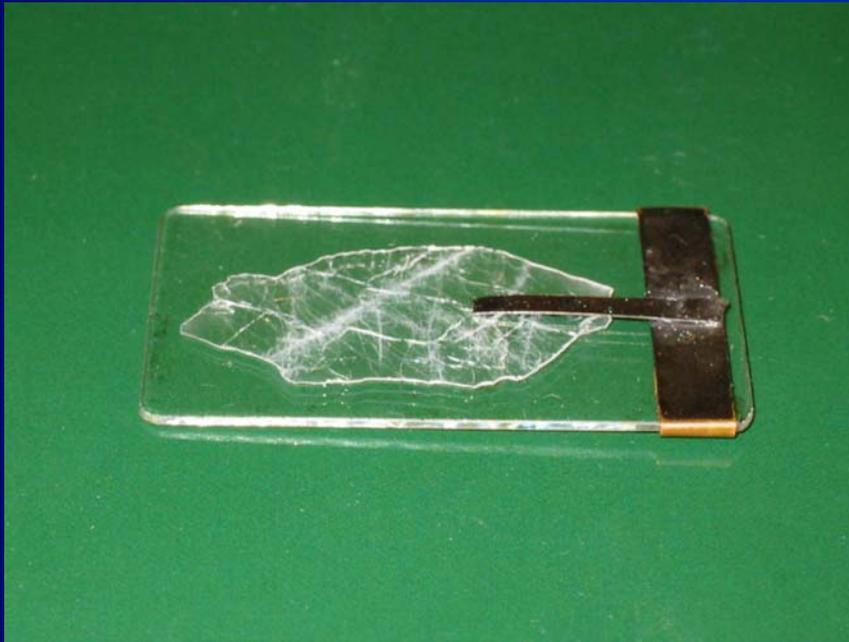
2. Polished section



→ application for SEM-CL („cold-cathode“ microscopes)

Sample preparation

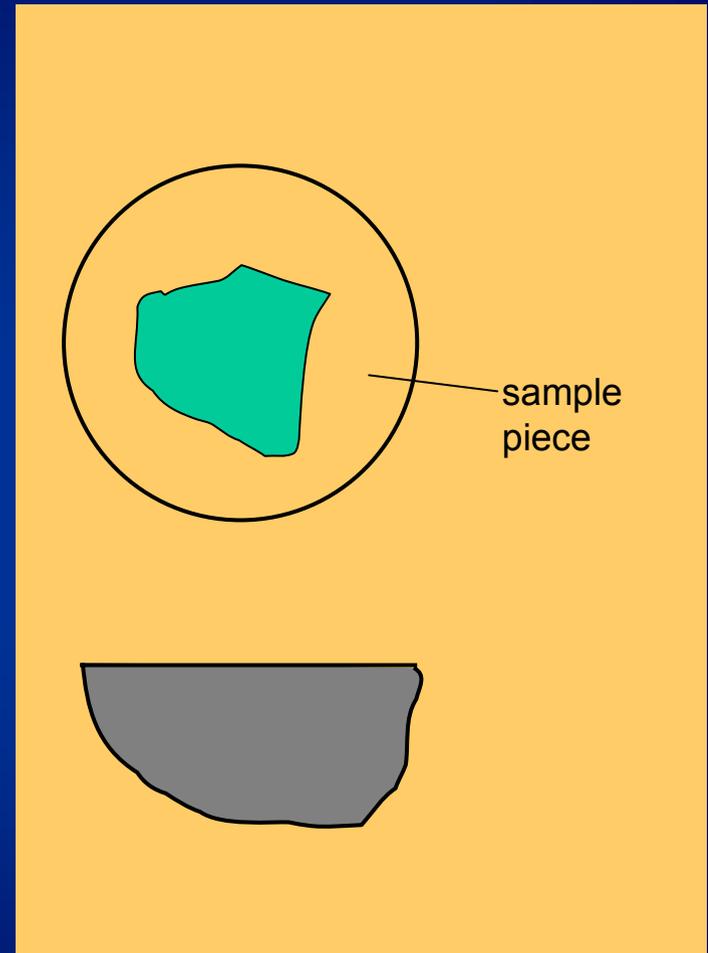
4. Sample holder for fluid inclusion preparates



→ application for all CL equipments

Sample preparation

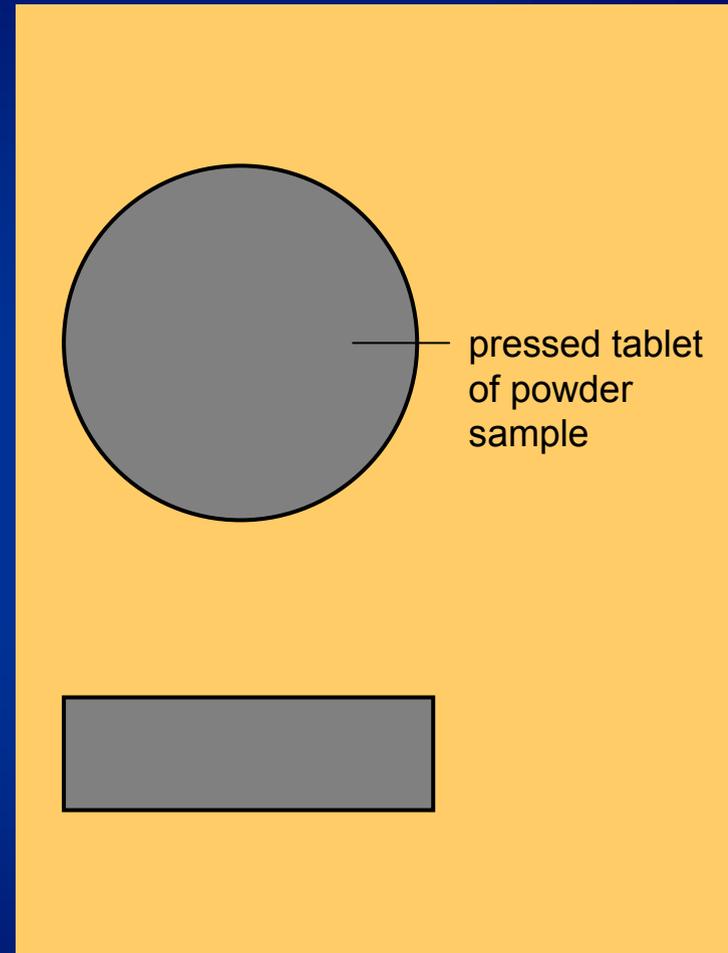
3. Polished sample piece



→ application for SEM-CL („cold-cathode“ microscopes)

Sample preparation

5. Pressed tablet (powder samples)



→ application for SEM-CL („cold-cathode“ microscopes)

Sample preparation

Coating with conducting material

- to prevent the built up of electrical charge during electron irradiation
- coating material: **C**, **Au**, Al, Ag, Cu

 for SEM-CL and „hot-cathode“ CL microscopes

Documentation

Documentation

Conventional photos/slides

➔ Nikon photo camera
Kodak Ektachrome 400 HC

Digital micrographs

➔ Digital video camera
KAPPA 961-1138 CF 20 DXC

Advantages of CCD:

- high spatial resolution
- high sensitivity
 - analysis of minerals with very low CL intensities
 - low accumulation time
- direct combination with image analysis

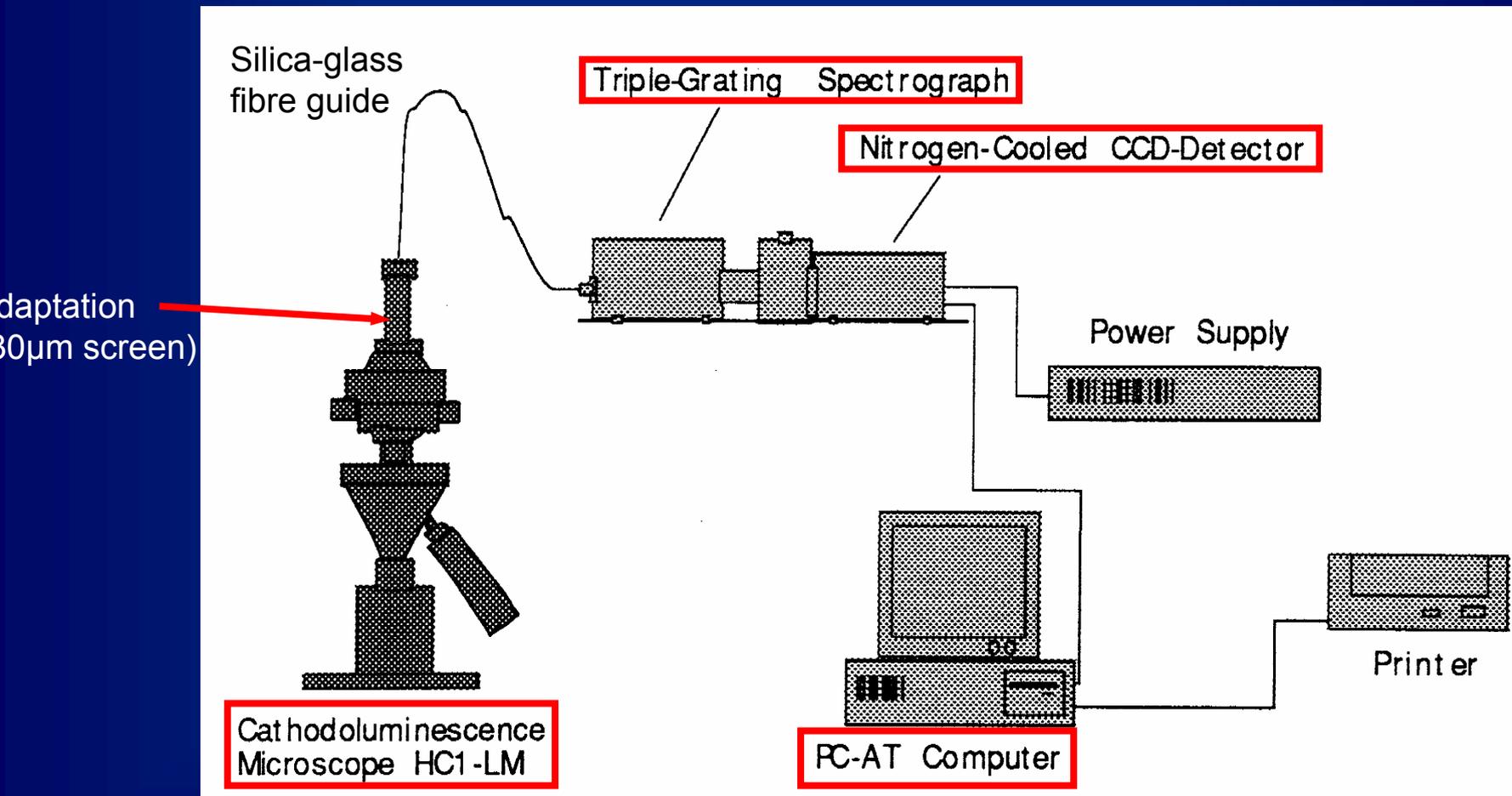


Spectral CL measurements

High-resolution CL spectroscopy

150, 600, 1200 lines/mm

0.4 nm resolution



14 kV, 0.2 mA

< 5s accumulation time

data processing

High-resolution CL spectroscopy

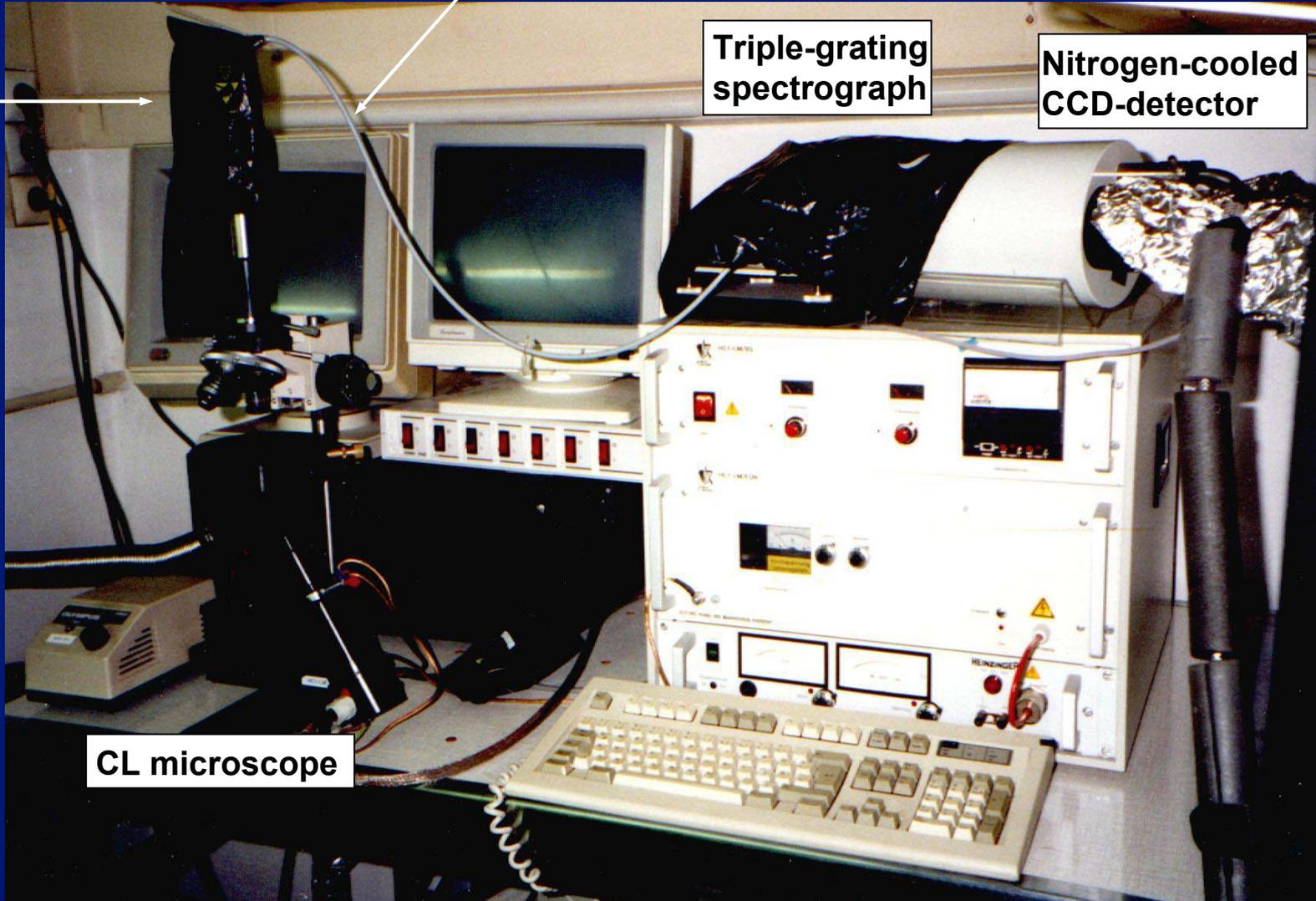
Adaptation

Silica-glass fibre guide

Triple-grating spectrograph

Nitrogen-cooled CCD-detector

CL microscope

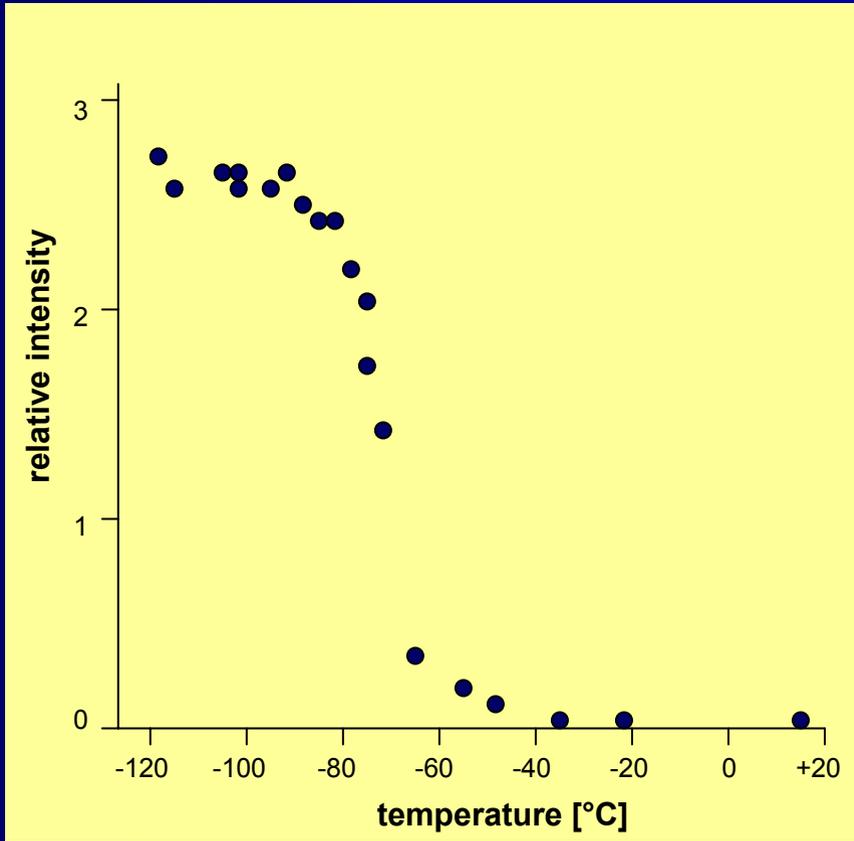


Factors influencing CL properties/intensity

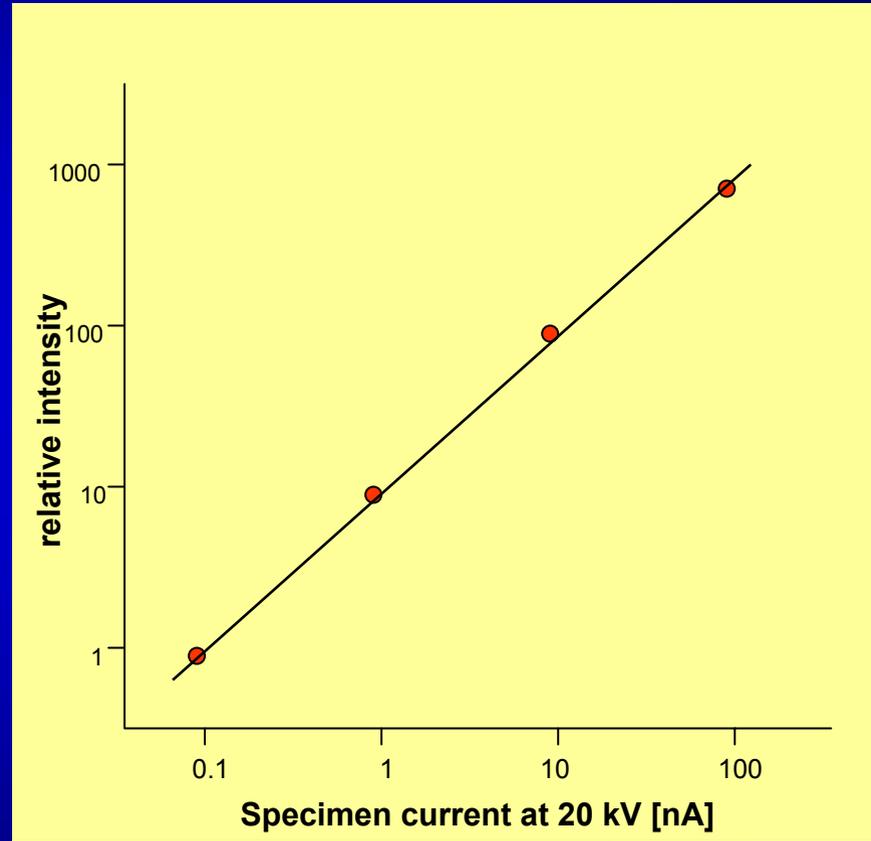
Factors influencing the CL intensity

- sample preparation
(sample surface, thickness, etc.)
- sample coating
(quality, thickness, material, etc.)
- temperature
- analytical conditions
(acceleration voltage, beam current, vacuum, etc.)
- time
(especially transient CL)

Analytical parameters influencing cathodoluminescence



Variation of CL intensity with sample temperature for quartz
(modified after Hanusiak & White 1975)



Variation of the intensity of quartz CL with beam current
(modified after Hanusiak 1975)

Sensitizing and quenching

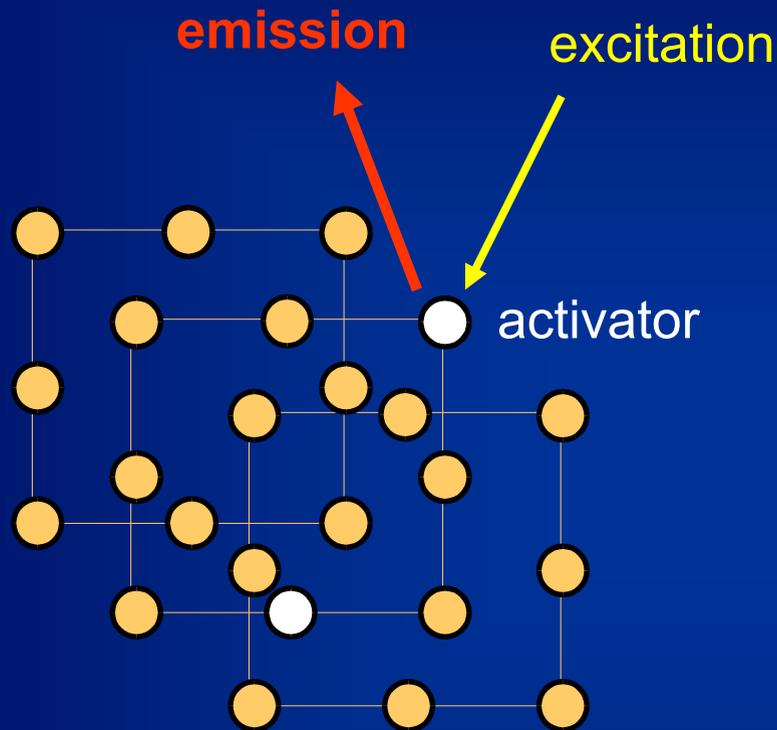
Interaction between two or more ions with transfer of excitation energy from one ion to another resulting in changes of their luminescence.

Sensitizing of luminescence:

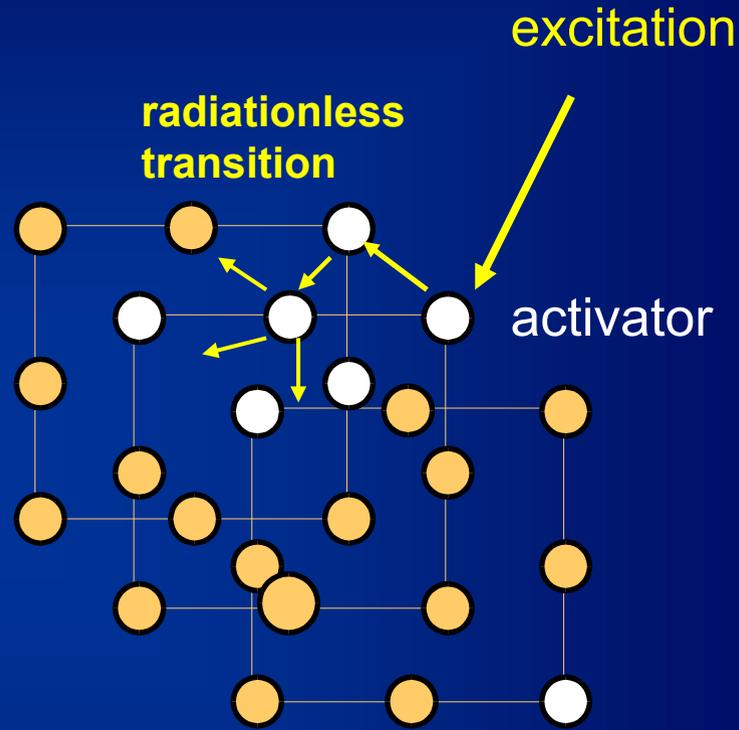
- (1) emission-reabsorption
(„cascade“ luminescence)
- (2) resonance radiationless
- (3) nonresonance radiationless

Quenching of luminescence:

- (1) ions with intensive absorption bands in the UV (e.g. Tl^+ , Cu^+ , Pb^{2+}) for sensitization of Mn^{2+}
- (2) ions of transition metals (e.g. Fe^{2+} , Co^{2+}) for sensitization of REE^{3+}
- (3) quenching due to lattice defects
- (3) $REE^{2+/3+}$ for sensitization of REE^{3+}
- (4) thermal quenching

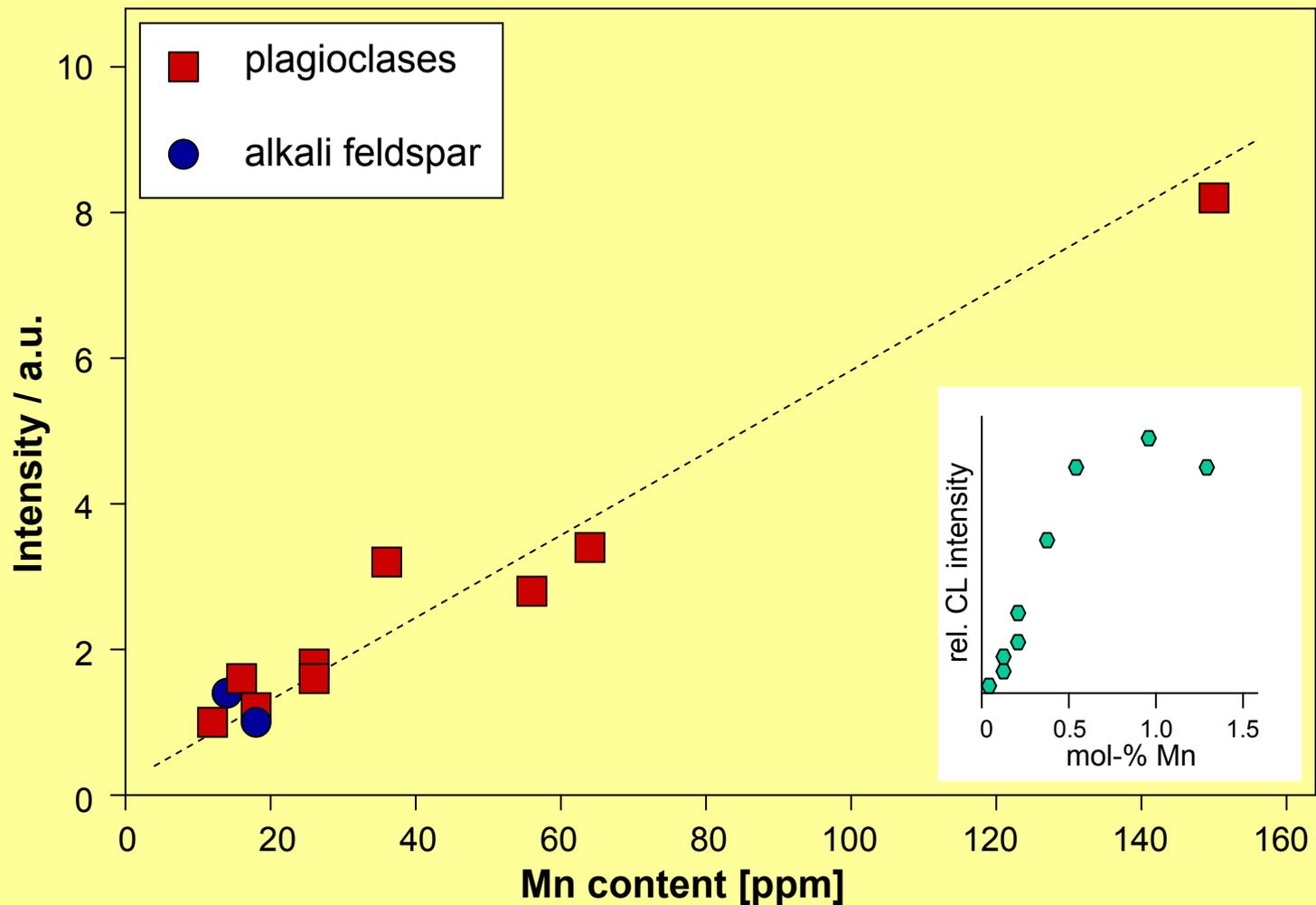


luminescence emission

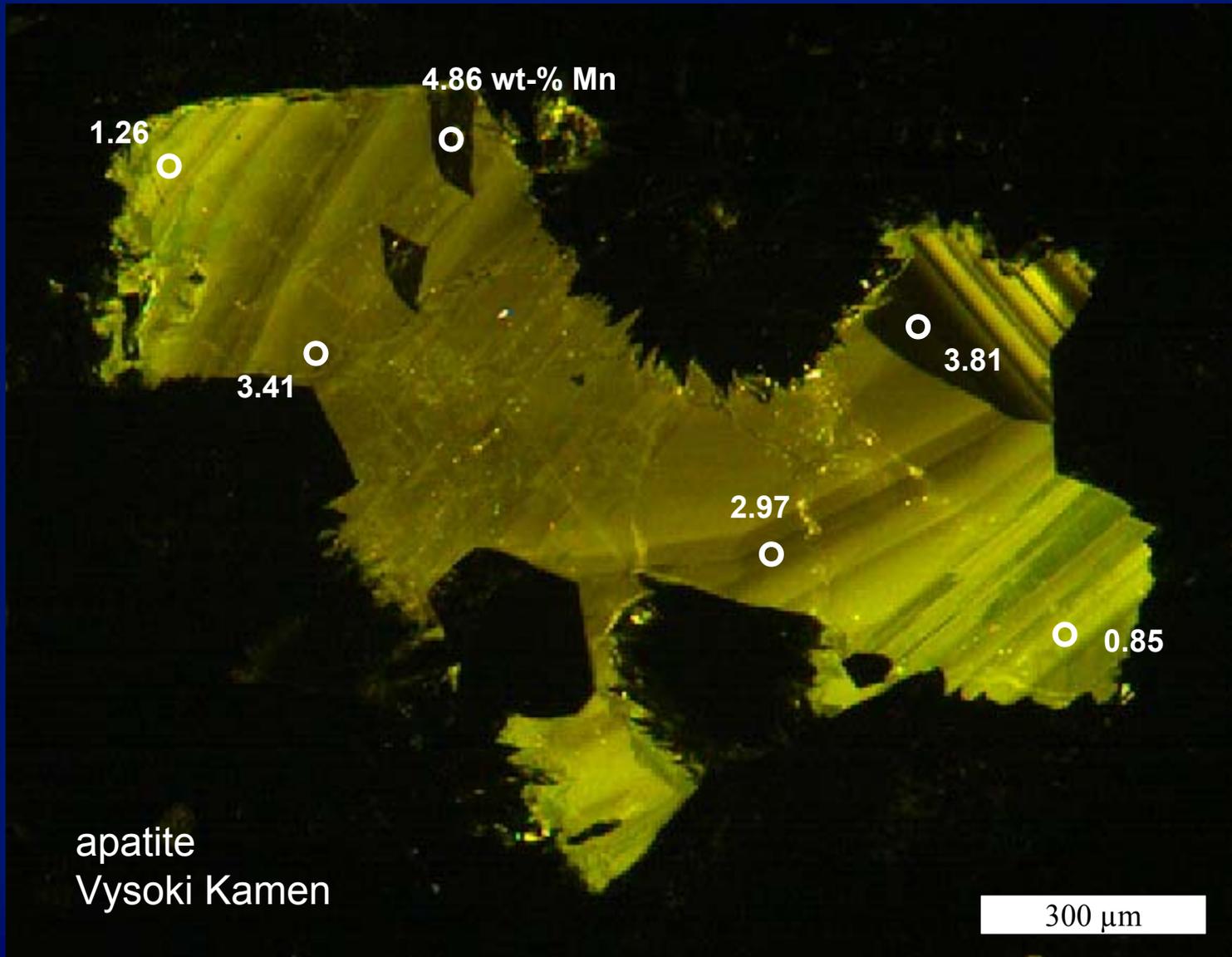


concentration quenching

Intensity of the Mn²⁺ activated CL (ca. 560 nm) in dependence on the Mn content in feldspar



Concentration quenching („self quenching“) of Mn²⁺ activated CL in apatite



Mineral groups and minerals showing CL

- ▶ in general all insulators and semiconductors

elements

diamond

sulfides

sphalerite

oxides

corundum, cassiterite, periclase

halides

fluorite, halite

sulfates

anhydrite, alunite

phosphates

apatite

carbonates

calcite, aragonite, dolomite, magnesite

silicates

feldspar, quartz, zircon, kaolinite

- ▶ technical products (synthetic minerals, ceramics, glasses !)
- ▶ no luminescence of conductors, iron minerals and Fe-rich phases

General applications of CL in geosciences

- ⇒ identification of minerals, mineral distribution and quantification
- ⇒ typomorphic properties
(CL colour, CL behaviour, spectral characteristics)
- ⇒ crystal chemistry
(trace elements, internal structures, zoning)
- ⇒ reconstruction of geological processes
- ⇒ characterisation of technical products
(also non-crystalline phases !)