Determining Atomic Coordinates in 3D by Atomic Electron Tomography

Peter Ercius¹, Yongsoo Yang², Chien-Chun Chen^{2,3}, Colin Ophus¹, Mary C. Scott^{1,4}, Rui Xu², Alan Pryor Jr², Li Wu², Fan Sun⁵, Wolfgang Theis⁶, Jihan Zhou², Markus Eisenbach⁷, Paul R. C. Kent^{8,9}, Renat F. Sabirianov¹⁰, Hao Zeng⁵, Jianwei Miao²

Corresponding Author: percius@lbl.gov

^{1.} Molecular Foundry, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA, USA.

^{2.} Dept. Physics and Astronomy and California NanoSystems Institute, U. California, Los Angeles, CA, USA.

^{3.} Dept. Physics, National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

^{4.} Dept. Materials Science and Engineering, U. California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, USA.

^{5.} Dept. Physics, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY, USA.

^{6.} Nanoscale Physics Research Laboratory, School of Physics and Astronomy, U. Birmingham, Birmingham, UK.

^{7.} National Center for Computational Sciences, Oak Ridge N.L., Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA.

^{8.} Computer Science and Mathematics Division, Oak Ridge N.L., Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA.

⁹. Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences, Oak Ridge N.L., Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA.

¹⁰. Dept. Physics, U. Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska, USA.

Scanning transmission electron microscopy is an important technique in materials science to examine the atomic structure of materials with sub-Å resolution and single-atom sensitivity [1]. Combining this imaging tool with powerful iterative 3D reconstruction algorithms for electron tomography is opening a new field called atomic electron tomography (AET) with the ability to determine the coordinates of atoms in a structure without the assumption of crystallinity [2]. This talk will cover recent develops in AET, which will be critical to our understanding of the atomic structure of complex materials systems. The details of the AET acquisition and reconstruction method, atom tracing procedure and atomic scale quantitative analysis will be presented using a recent 3D atomic resolution reconstruction of a FePt nanoparticle [3].

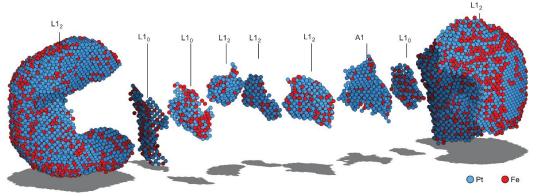


Figure 1. The nanoparticle consists of multiple FePt grains (type $L1_0$ and $L1_2$) and a Pt-rich A1 grain.

<u>References</u>

[1] S.J. Pennycook and P.D. Nellist. Scanning Transmission Electron Microscopy: Imaging and Analysis, Springer, NY, 2011.

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[3] Y. Yang, *et al.*, Deciphering chemical order/disorder and material properties at the single-atom level, Nature 542 (2017), 75–79.