



#### Nanoscale chemical imaging of biomaterials with mass spectrometry: A Tutorial

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# Imaging SIMS - a brief retrospective

- Molecular desorption, static SIMS and quadrupole mass analyzers – Benninghoven 1968-1982
- Fast atom bombardment Barber 1976
- TOF-SIMS Standing and Benninghoven 1981
- Liquid metal ion source for imaging Briggs 1988
- Cluster ion sources Appelhans, Delmore, Schweikert 1989
- Availability of imaging cluster sources SIMS XVIII, Nara 2001.

## Bioimaging (the killer app?) and the need for cluster sources

Possible to acquire images at the (sub) cellular level

- > Not much stuff in each pixel (10<sup>6</sup> molecules/ $\mu$ m<sup>2</sup>)
- Restricted mass range with SIMS often limits assay to fragment ions



#### Polyatomic Ion Sources have transformed SIMS in less than 6 years

- Low penetration depths and high sputter yields result in less accumulated beam damage
- E<sub>c</sub> = E<sub>o</sub>(M<sub>c</sub>/M<sub>t</sub>) → energy of atoms< energy polyatomic ion (low penetration depth)</li>
- Dissociation of SF<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> → high local E density (sputter yield improved)



Gillen, G. Rapid Commun. MS. 12 (1998) 1303-1312

# Cluster projectiles in play

- Au<sub>x</sub><sup>+</sup>; x=1,3 and sometimes larger numbers m/z 197, 591
- Bi<sub>x</sub><sup>y+</sup>; x=1,3,5 and y=1,2; m/z 209, 627
- Au<sub>400</sub><sup>4+</sup>; m/z 19,700
- SF<sub>5</sub><sup>+;</sup> m/z 126
- $C_{60}^{+}, C_{60}^{++}, C_{60}^{+++}$ ; m/z 720
- Argon clusters, where x=500->
- Electrosprayed particles of micron size ; m/z ???

What kind of impact can imaging SIMS make on Biology and the understanding of biological surfaces?

#### Phospholipids are a good models since they are present at high concentrations in the cell membrane



## Examining Lipid Heterogeneity Using *Tetrahymena*

- Mating involves formation of hundreds of fusion pores in a ~8 µm membrane junction region.
- Entire junction region may have a different lipid composition from the cell body.





Cells kindly provided by Dr. Craig Van Bell (Edinboro University)

#### Structures of Lipids and Corresponding Fragment Ions





2-aminoethylphosphonolipid (2-AEP)



m/z 184



m/z 126



- PC is cylindrical and forms planar surfaces
- AEP is conical and forces curved structures



#### SIMS Images Demonstrate Lipid Heterogeneity Across Mating Junction (~100 µm field of view)





Ostrowski, Van Bell, Winograd and Ewing, Science, 305, 71 (2004)

#### Line Scan Across Junction Demonstrates PC Heterogeneity



Ostrowski, Van Bell, Winograd and Ewing, Science, 305, 71 (2004)

Phosphonolipid, m/z 126

Does the membrane lipid composition drive its structure or does the structure determine the membrane lipid composition?

# PC depletion is time dependent and not a precondition for fusion

1 hour following initiation

2 hours following initiation

3 hours following initiation



#### Distance (µm)

Kurczy, Piehowski and Ewing, submitted

Scale bar = 25 µm

#### Pore formation in mated *Tetrahymena* drives lipid domain formation



- Cells must be paired before they display domains.
- Domains do not form until the cells have become strongly paired and have begun to form pores.
- PC/SM concentration decreases to make the spontaneous curvature of the contacting layers negative, but this is not a precondition for fusion.



#### More domains from co-existing liquid lipid phases in Langmuir-Blodgett model systems

- Investigating lipid interactions
- Identifying contents of liquid phases
- Understanding lipid "raft" formation





Stottrup, Stevens, Keller, Biophys. J. 88 (2005) 269

Sostarecz, McQuaw, Zheng, Ewing and Winograd, JACS, 2004, 2007 And Langmuir, 2005.



















Need more counts!!!! The higher yields, reduced damage accumulation and submicron imaging capabilities associated with cluster projectiles promise to greatly expand the mass range and applicability of these type of studies.







#### Buckyballs ( $C_{60}$ ) have been just the ticket to allow molecule-specific imaging in the 600-1000 m/z range for lipid profiling.

The primary ion is focused to a submicron spot to define the x,y coordinate of the impact point







Each Carbon atom carries 1/60<sup>th</sup> of the total incident kinetic energy

Weibel, Wong, Lockyer, Blenkinsopp, Hill and Vickerman, Anal. Chem., 2005.

## Lateral Resolution

#### 40 keV C<sub>60</sub><sup>+</sup> Secondary Electron Images from a TEM Grid Finder



#### 40 keV C<sub>60</sub><sup>+</sup> Lateral resolution – Line Scan Indicated by Green Arrow



Image, courtesy of lonoptika

#### 15 keV $C_{60} \rightarrow Ag(111)$



Postawa and Garrison



Meteor Impact might be a close macroscopic analog.





- BJG MD simulation theory and examples
- Arnaud Delcorte Optimal cluster size

Other key groups:

- Postawa, Krakow
- Urbassek, Kaiserslautern
- Nordlund, Helsinki
- Webb, Surrey
- Matsuo, Yamada and Aoki, Kyoto

#### More disruption with Ga - look deep!



Larger volume is altered by Ga

Postawa, Smiley, Winograd, Garrison et al., Anal. Chem., 75 4402 (2003).



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- 1. Enormous desorption yields, particularly of soft organic materials, i.e. biomaterials.
- 2. Molecular depth profiling is feasible by erosion with  $C_{60} \rightarrow 3$ -dimensional imaging.
- 3. During erosion, topography formation and interface mixing is minimal – think about characterization of complex multilayer structures.

# **Yield of neutral molecules**

	Au <sup>+</sup>	Au <sub>2</sub> +	Au3 <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>60</sub> +
Removed # of H <sub>2</sub> O Equivalents	100	575	1190	2510

Yields determined by QCM from 500 nm film of amorphous ice<br/>deposited onto Silver.25 keV gold, and 20 keV

Szakal, Kozole, Russo, Garrison and Winograd, Phys. Rev. Lett., 2006.

## Yield of ionized molecules







Molecular ion intensity is sufficient for imaging 50 micron resin particles used in solid phase Combinatorial chemistry experiments.

Xu, Szakal, Martin, Peterson, Wucher and Winograd, JACS, 126, 3902 (2004).

#### Dynamically created pre-formed ions (DCPI): Proton buildup from previous hits.



X. Conlan, N. Lockyer and J. Vickerman, RCMS, 2006

# 2. Molecular depth profiling feasible in some cases

# Treholose/Peptide model system



Cheng and Winograd, Anal. Chem., 2005.



Cheng and Winograd, Anal. Chem., 2005.



Cheng, Wucher and Winograd, J. Phys, Chem. B., 2006.

This protocol opens new possible sample preparation techniques since ice overlayers can be removed by ion beam etching



40 keV C<sub>60</sub><sup>+</sup> bombardment of water-ice (m/z 18) covering a patterned film of cholesterol (m/z 369, M-OH<sup>+</sup>) on silicon (m/z 28).

Piehowski, Ewing and Winograd

3. Depth resolution is a critical issue: Topography and interface mixing

## Depth profiling of molecular multilayer structures



Molecular Area

Leiling Zheng, JASMS and Anal Chem, 2008.

#### Depth profiling of multilayer structures



## In 3-dimensions





Organic  $\delta$ -layers serve as a wonderful model system for evaluating the parameters that affect depth resolution

> Monolayers of Irgonox 1010 imbedded into Irgonox 3150 at depths of 46, 92 182 and 270 nm. Samples now utilized as a VAMAS standard for interlaboratory comparisons.

Shard, A. G.; Green, F. M.; Brewer, P. J.; Seah, M. P.; Gilmore, I. S. J. Phys. Chem. B 2008, 112, 2596-2605.



Arachidic Acid (AA)

#### Lipid bilayer at 40° incidence, 298K and 77K



#### Depth Resolution (FWHM nm )

First Delta La	yer (121.0 nm)	Second Delta Layer (244.2 nm)			
RT	LN <sub>2</sub>	RT	LN <sub>2</sub>		
39.3±1.3 nm	25.0±1.1 nm	40.9±1.9 nm	24.8±1.2 nm		

## Lipid bilayer at 71° incidence, 77K



#### Depth Resolution (FWHM nm)

First Delta La	yer (121.0 nm)	Second Delta Layer (244.2 nm)				
71°	40°	71°	40°			
20.5±1.0	25.0±1.1	21.7±1.0	24.8±1.2			

# **Depth Response Function**

**Dowsett's semi-empirical function** 



- $\lambda_g$  Leading edge growth length information depth of secondary ions
- λ<sub>d</sub> Trailing edge decay length related to ion beam
   mixing
- σ Standard deviation of a central Gaussian connecting the two exponential functions – convolution of all factors effecting depth resolution.

Dowsett, M. G.; Rowlands, G.; Allen, P. N.; Barlow, R. D. Surf. Interface Anal. 1994, 21 (5), 310-315.



#### **Room Temperature**

Low Temperature

	First Delta Layer (121.0 nm)					Second Delta Layer (244.2 nm)							
	$\lambda_{g}$		λ	$\lambda_{d}$		σ		$\lambda_{g}$		$\lambda_{d}$		σ	
	RT	LN2	RT	LN2	RT	LN2	RT	LN2	RT	LN2	RT	LN2	
ave	3.9±2.0	5.7±0.1	14.5±2.1	10.0±1.2	13.0±0.4	7.4±0.2	6.3±4.5	5.6±0.9	15.4±2.5	10.3±1.3	13.5±1.5	7.1±0.4	

## Surface Roughness





# For L-B $\delta$ -layer systems

- Low temperature and glancing angles improves the depth resolution.
- AFM measurements and the asymmetric shape of response signal indicate mixing is the main factor determining the depth resolution.
- $\lambda_{g}$  is temperature independent.
- Mechanism behind the temperature effect and topography formation needs to be understood in detail. WEDGES!



PENNSTATE

Wedge sculpting with  $C_{60}$  allows yield and topography vs fluence to be determined at each point.

A wedge angle of 0.05 allows enormous lateral magnification

Dan Mao and Andreas Wucher

![](_page_45_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Depth to SIMS Imaging Transform

3 nm

Simple trigonometry transforms a 3 nm delta layer into a 9 µm stripe in the xy plane

![](_page_46_Picture_0.jpeg)

Si

#### SIMS During Wedge

![](_page_46_Figure_2.jpeg)

Red : m/z 42 from Irganox 3114

![](_page_46_Picture_4.jpeg)

Green : m/z 60 from Si Substrate

Dark Green: Irganox 1010 / Orange: Irganox 3114 Light Green: Si / Red: Imaging Surface

#### AFM Line Scan – Topography evolution

PENNSTATE

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### One AFM/SIMS scan provides yield, roughness and erosion rate as a function of depth

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

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1 Long

# The next critical issues for 3-D imaging

- Erosion rate needs to be known at each fluence. Propose wedges, or possibly in situ ellipsometry of some sort.
- For heterogeneous samples, i.e. biological cells, differential erosion rates will complicated the simple notion that images can be stacked.
- Let's try an example →

#### Patterned Peptide Film for 3-D Imaging

#### Features written on trehalose (GGYR) thin film with Ga<sup>+</sup> ion bombardment

![](_page_50_Figure_2.jpeg)

A. Wucher, J. Cheng and N. Winograd, Anal. Chem., 2008

### After film erosion to Si substrate

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Overlay mass spectrometry image with AFM image

![](_page_52_Figure_1.jpeg)

A1,B1: AFM before erosion A2,B2: AFM after rosion

A3,B3: Σ Ga images C1 = B1+B3 C2 = B2+B3

 $C3 = \Sigma$  total of all ms images

Wucher, J. Cheng and N. Winograd, Anal. Chem., 2008

### Depth resolution can approach 3 nm

![](_page_53_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Examples of 3-D imaging are beginning to appear

![](_page_54_Figure_1.jpeg)

Fletcher JS, Lockyer NP, Vaidyanathan S, Vickerman JC. 2007. TOF-SIMS 3D biomolecular imaging of Xenopus laevis oocytes using buckminsterfullerene ( $C_{60}$ ) primary ions. Analytical Chemistry 79: 2199-206

![](_page_54_Picture_3.jpeg)

Nygren H, Hagenhoff B, Malmberg P, Nilsson M, Richter K. 2007. Bioimaging TOF-SIMS: High resolution 3D Imaging of single cells. Microscopy Research and Technique 70: 969-74

# And so ....

- Phenomena associated with cluster mass spectrometry are changing the name of the game, both with respect to instrumentation and applications
- 3-D imaging is the next big thing...
- Best conditions for good molecular depth profile, and depth resolution are being elucidated.
- Fundamentals of temperature dependence and topography formation still a mystery.
- Instrumentation poised for a change

![](_page_55_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_8.jpeg)