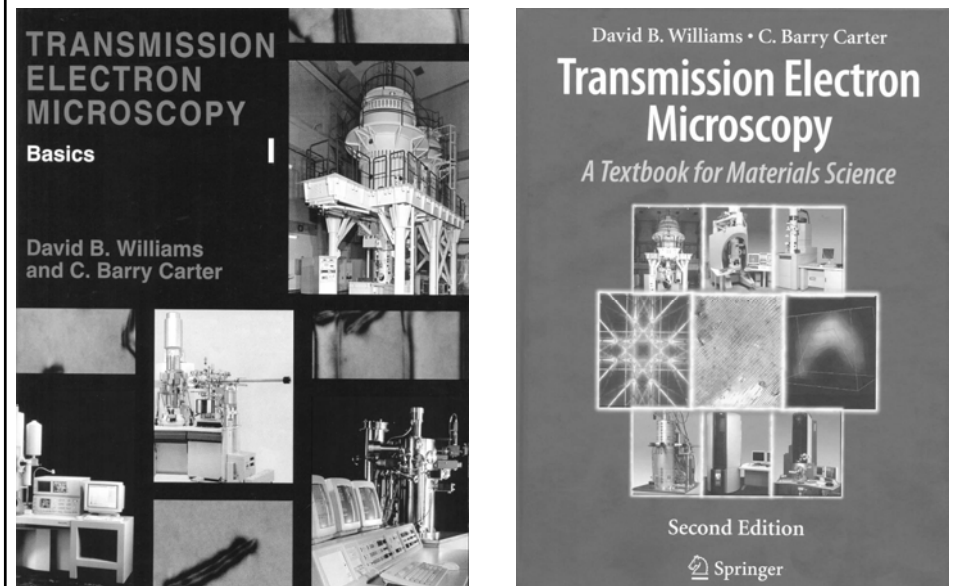


Transmission Electron Microscopy II - High Resolution

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Literature



Phase-Contrast Images

High resolution transmission electron microscopy (HRTEM) is one of the most powerful tools used for the characterization of nanomaterials. The most important contrast mechanism for high resolution electron microscopy is phase-contrast

If the specimen is suitably thin for HRTEM, i.e. less than about 50 nm, the interaction of the electron beam with the inner potential of the specimen predominantly causes phase shifts of parts of the electron wave front

A phase contrast image requires the selection of more than one beam (direct + diffracted)

Two beams can interfere to give an image with a periodicity related to $|\Delta\mathbf{g}|^{-1}$. Since one beam is the direct beam, $|\Delta\mathbf{g}|^{-1}$ is just d the interplanar spacing corresponding to \mathbf{g}

If the beam is aligned parallel to a low-index zone axis, fringes running in different direction are observed. These fringes correspond to an array of spots in the diffraction pattern

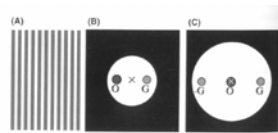


FIGURE 23.1. (A) Schematic tilted-beam 111 lattice fringes in Si formed using the O and G beams symmetrically displaced relative to the optic axis; \mathbf{g} is normal to the fringes. (B) Kinetic diffraction geometry to produce tilted-beam fringes. (C) Quasi-static three-beam geometry.

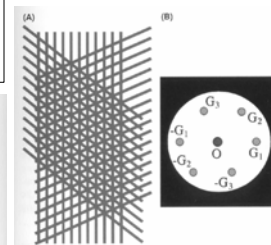


FIGURE 23.2. (A) Schematic many-beam image showing crossing lattice fringes and (B) the diffraction pattern.

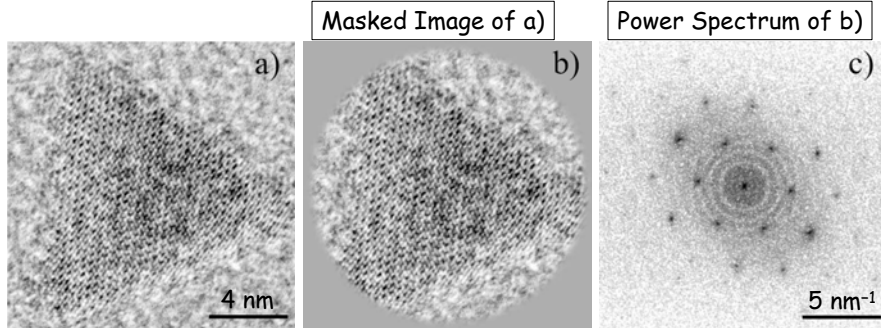
The trouble is that the fringes look so like atomic planes that we can be easily misled into thinking that they are atomic planes.

Lattice fringes are not direct images of the structure, but just give you information on lattice spacing and orientation

The image interpretation in HRTEM is not straight forward. This is because in addition to the interaction of the electron beam with the specimen, also the effect of the imaging process by imperfect electron lenses has to be considered. The way how the microscope transfers waves with different relative phase shifts down through the column is defined by the so called contrast transfer function.

It depends on the performance of the objective lens (spherical aberration), the acceleration voltage and the focus conditions. Further, chromatic aberrations, focal and energy spread of the beam and instabilities in the high tension and objective lens current play a role in the contrast formation. Assistance in the interpretation of HRTEM images is provided by image processing and image simulation.

Extracting lattice distances



Power Spectrum can be obtained by calculating the discrete Fourier transform of the HRTEM image and corresponds to a "computer-generated DP"

$$d_{hkl} = \frac{N_{pix-image} * P_{size}}{N_{pix}}$$

$N_{pix-image}$: N° of pixels along the quadratic frame (128, 256, 512 ...) of the image

P_{size} : Pixel size in the HR image

N_{pix} : N° of pixel between the origin and the reflection hkl studied

Phase Determination

The PS always show pairs of reflections hkl and $h\bar{k}l$ which are lying diametrical opposite around the origin. The plane distances and angles extracted from the PS have to be compared to plane spacings and angles of known structures.

This approach leads to a clear identification of a particle if it is crystallized in a known structure and does not present complicated defects.

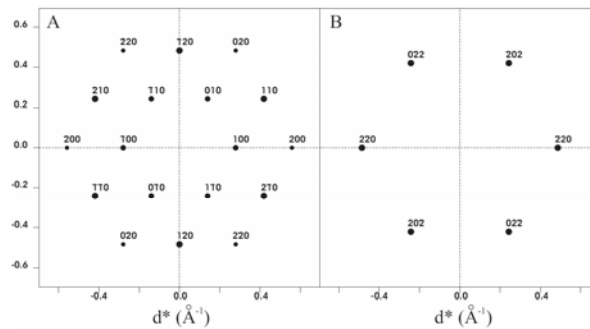
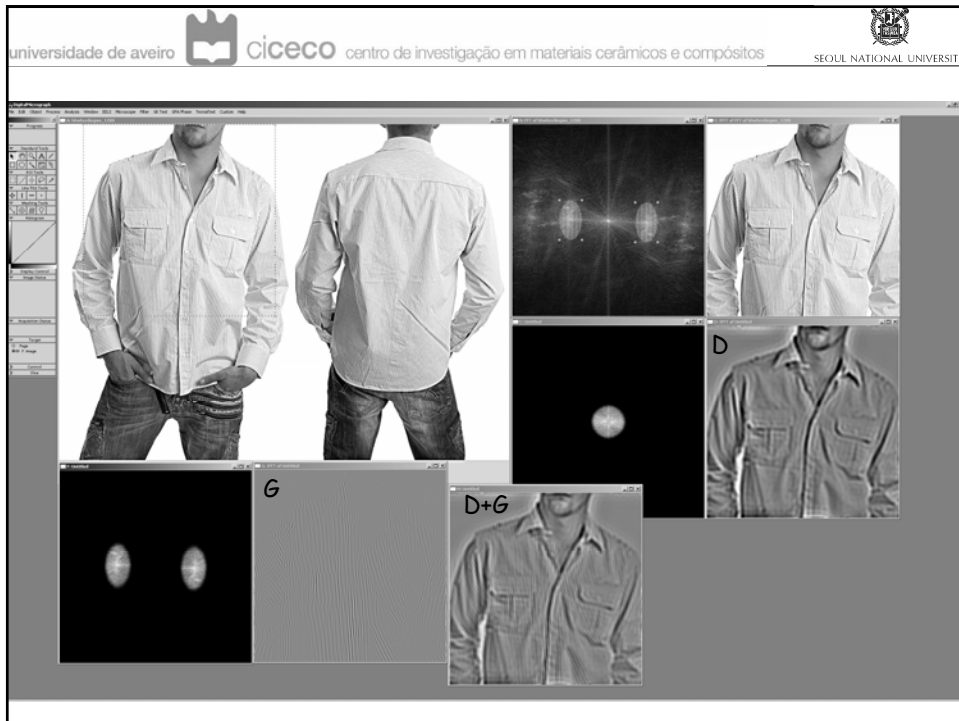
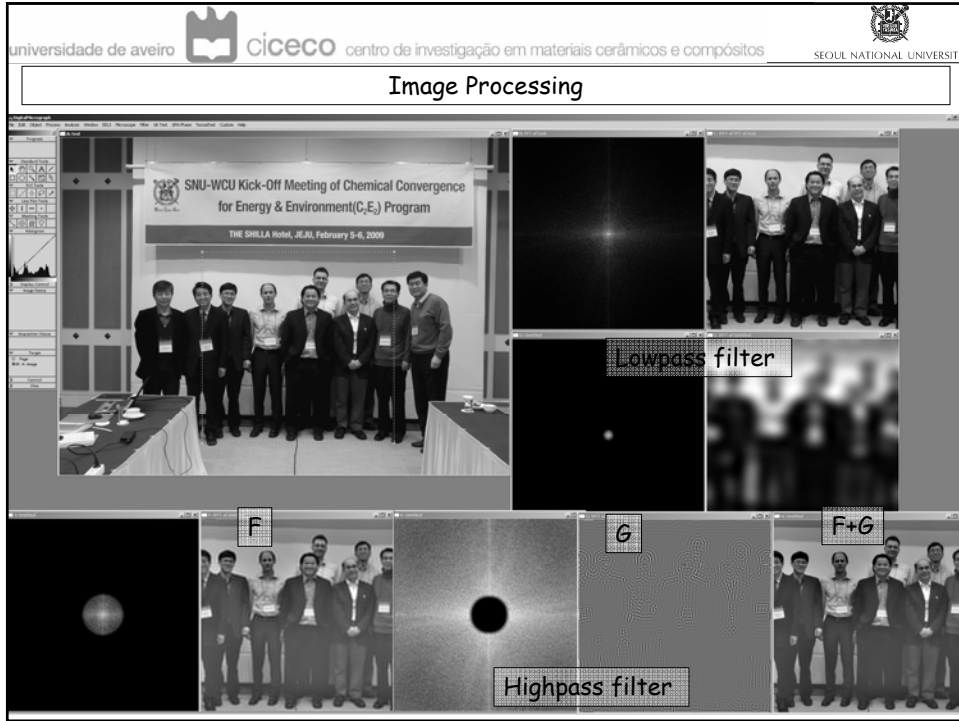
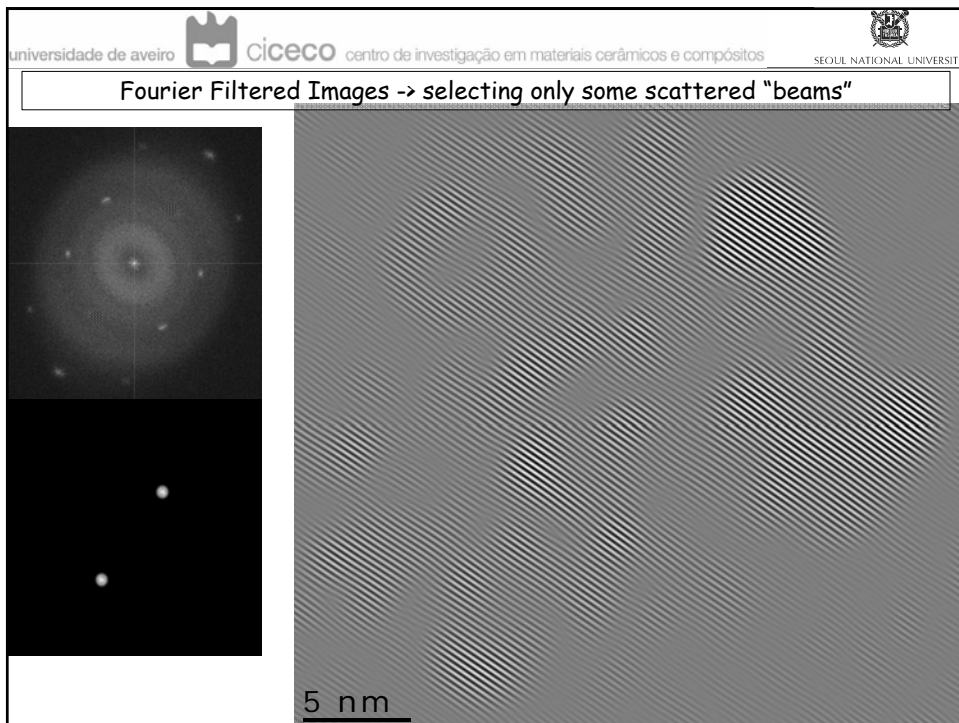
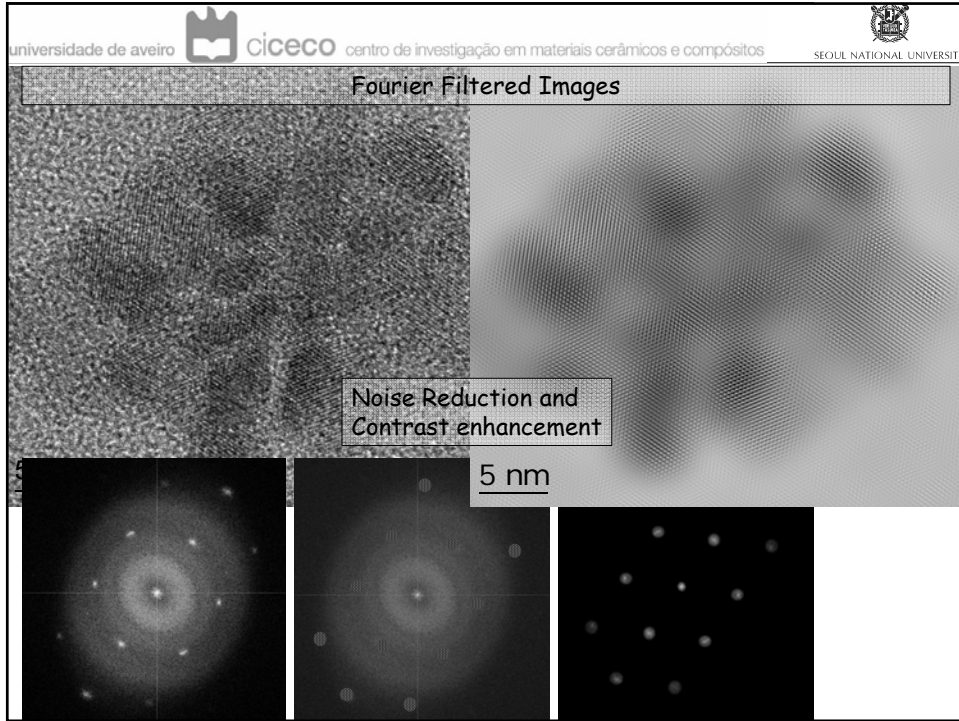
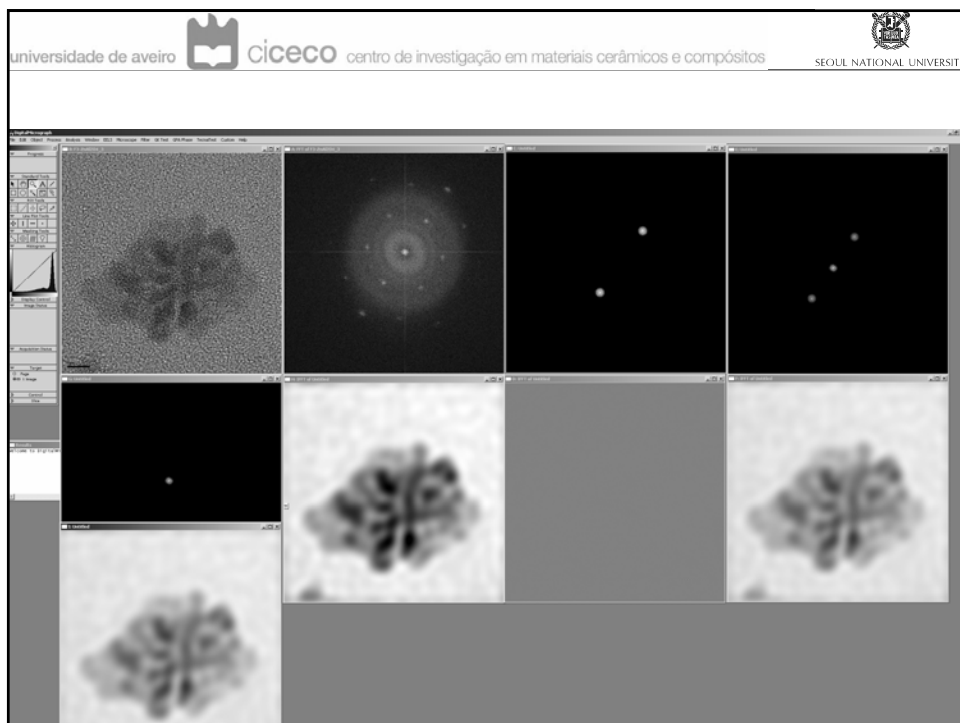
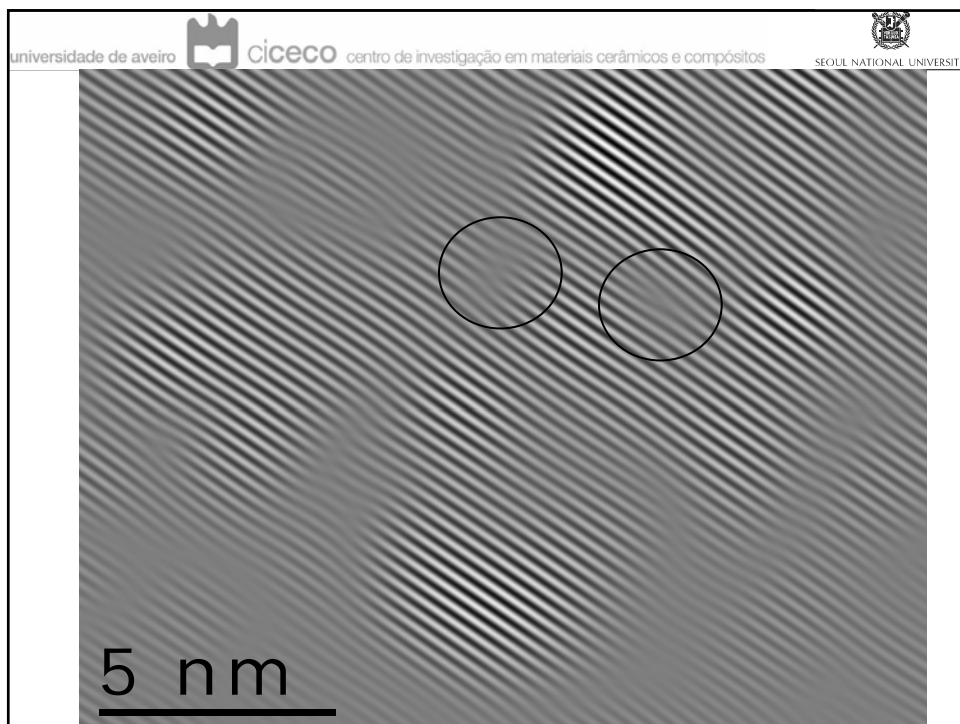
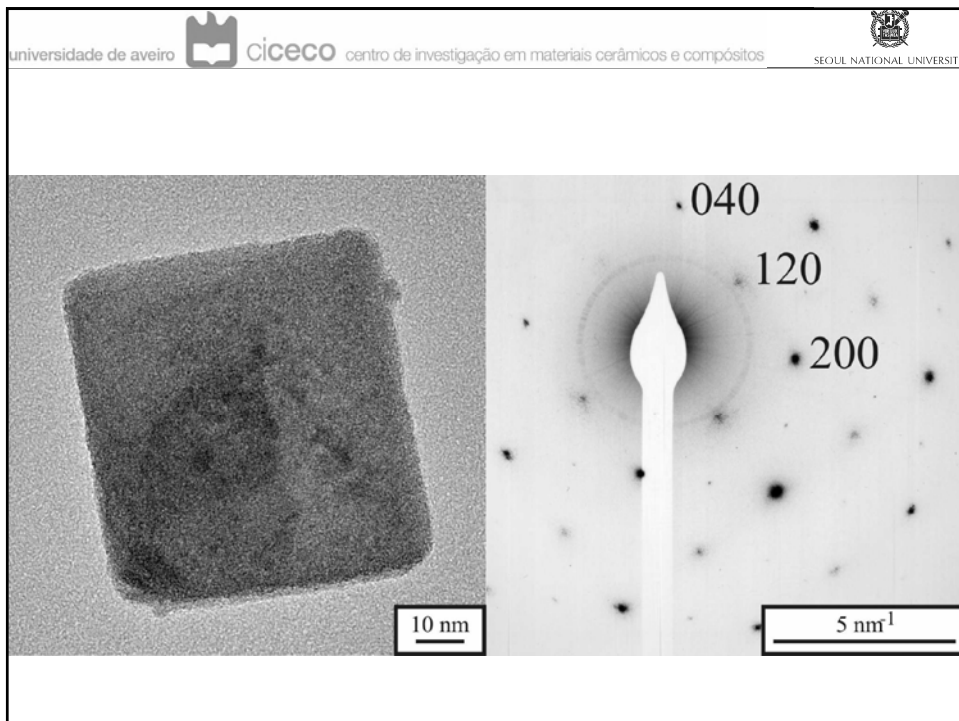
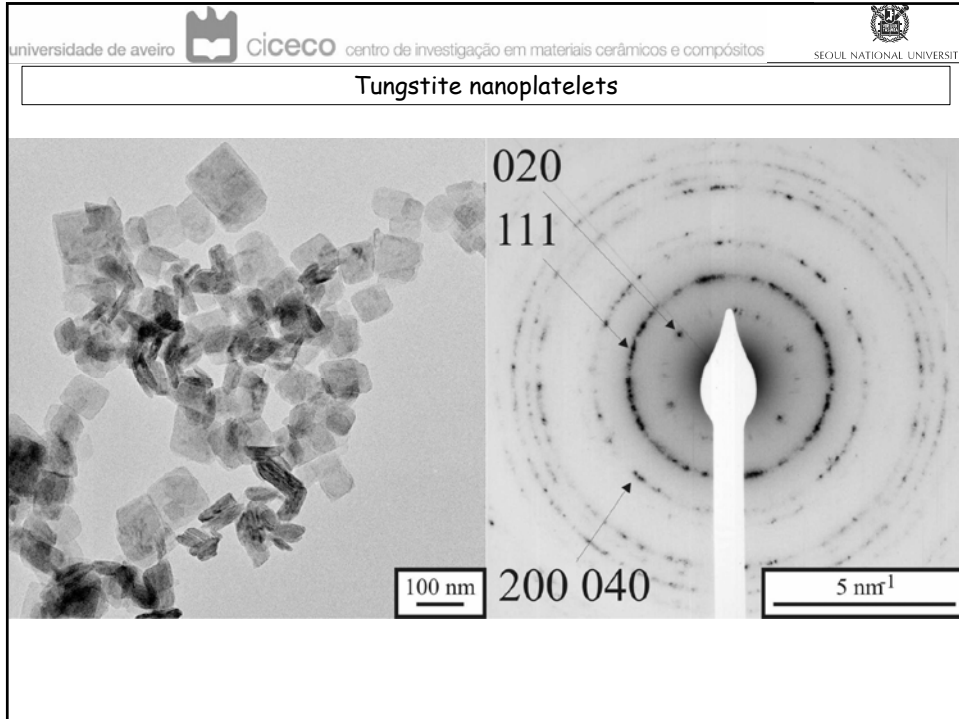


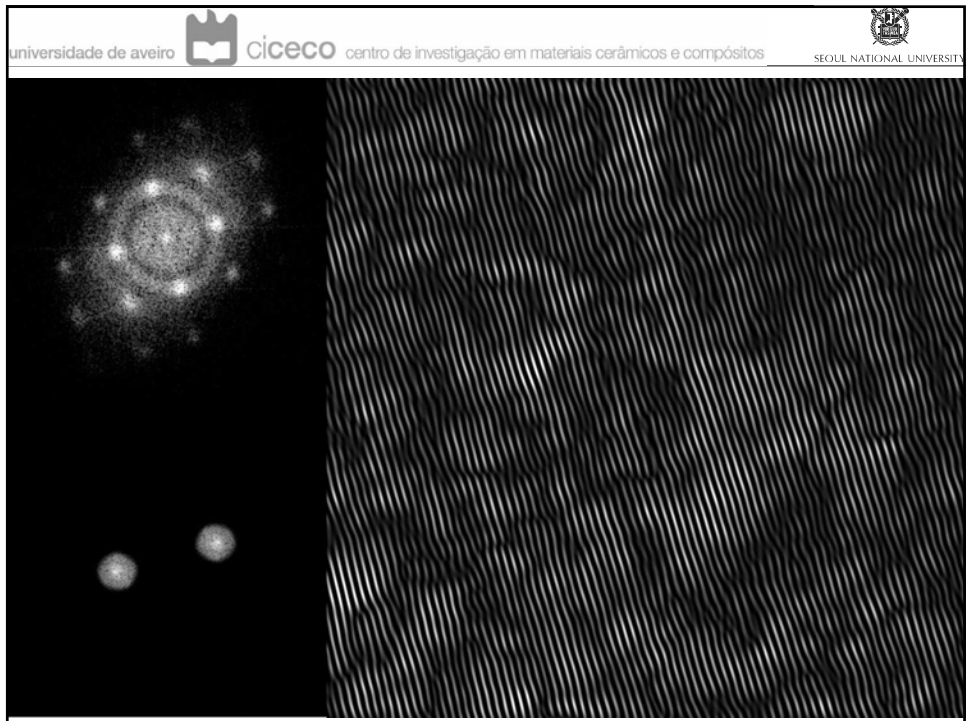
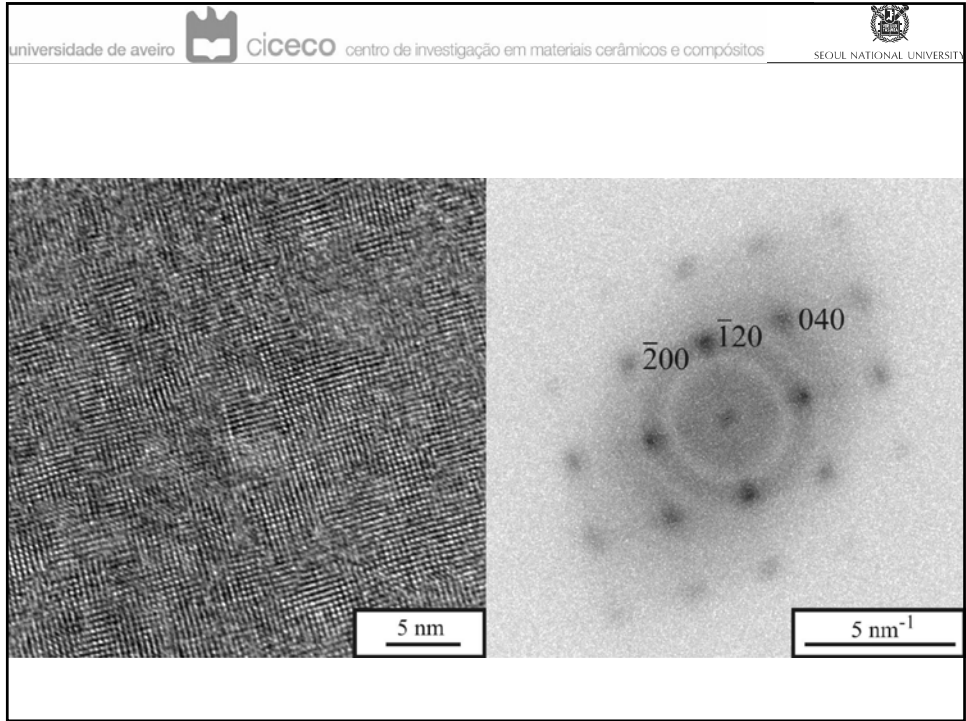
Figure 9: single crystal diffraction calculated for the CdS wurtzite structure aligned along the [001] axis (A) and the CdS zinc blende structure aligned along the [111] axis (B)

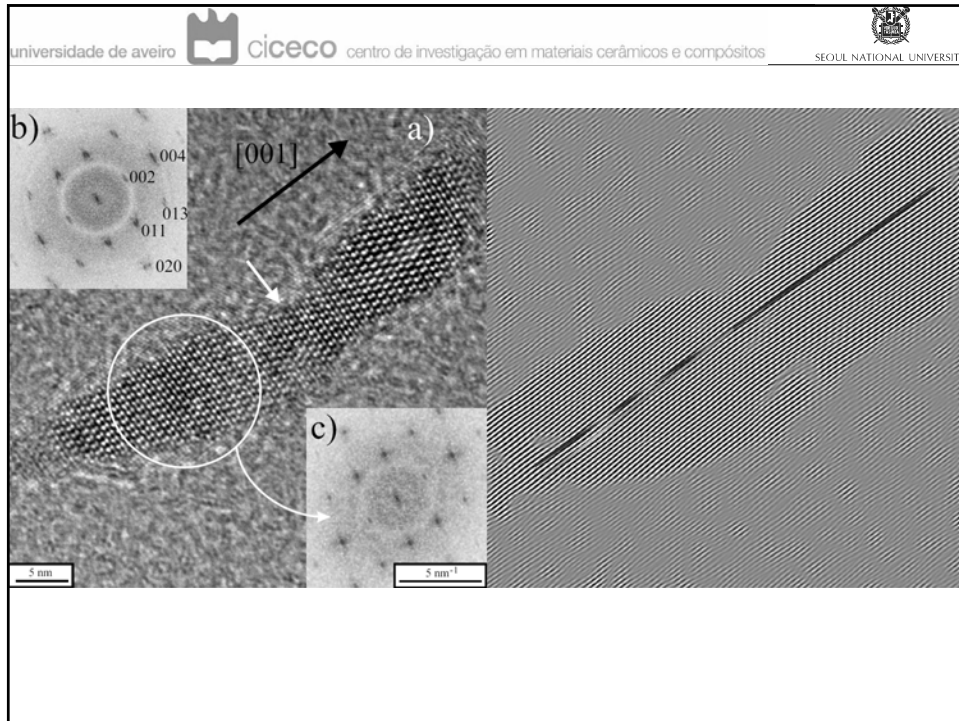










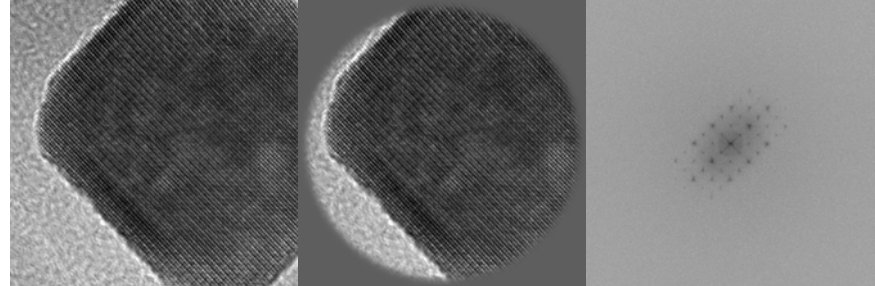




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Exercise (In_2O_3 nanocubes)



Frame size 1024x1024 pixels² - Pixel size=0.0226 nm
 → image size 23.14 x 23.14 nm²



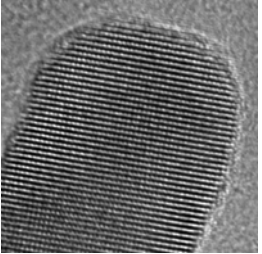
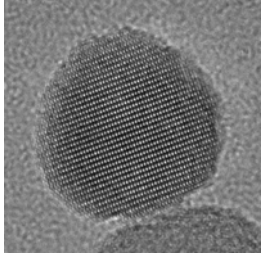
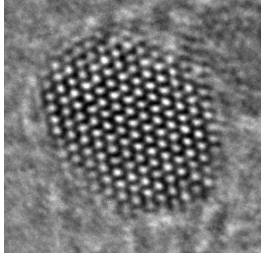
1 - Try to measure the d_{hkl} using scionimage software from the power spectrum with the macro distributed.



2 - Compare the d_{hkl} measured from the power spectrum to the ones of the In_2O_3 cubic structure (JCPDS card N° 6-416)

http://www.scioncorp.com/pages/download_now.asp

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Additional exercises

		
Ta_2O_5 768x768 pixels ²	Fe_3O_4 1024x1024 pixels ²	HfO_2 288x288 pixels ²
Pixel size=0.0226 nm	Pixel size=0.0226 nm	Pixel size=0.0226 nm
Adv. Mater. 2004, 16, 2196	Chem. Mater. 2005, 17, 3044	Adv. Mater. 2004, 16, 2196

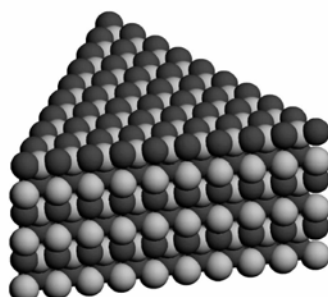
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HRTEM Simulations

Computer simulation of the HRTEM images on the basis of the structure of model particles with the multislice technique:

1. The construction of one or more atomic models of the nanocrystals
2. The calculation of the HRTEM image of these models
3. The calculation of the PS of the calculated HRTEM image
4. The comparison of the HRTEM images and the PS calculated with the data obtained from the experimental HRTEM

Example: CdS wurtzite





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Electrons are assumed to scatter only in a forward direction with small diffraction angles. With this approximation the crystal can be divided in sub-slices with a thickness z perpendicular to the incident beam.

1. The crystal is divided in slices perpendicular to the electron beam
2. The electrostatic potential $V(x, y)$ with in-plane coordinates x, y of the sliced crystal or supercell is projected for each slice of the included atoms onto its exit surface
3. On the basis of $V_p(x, y)$ the amplitude of the electron wave function is calculated
4. Calculate the propagation of the electron wave through all the slices

J.W. Cowley, A.F. Moodie, *Acta Cryst.* 10, 609, 1957

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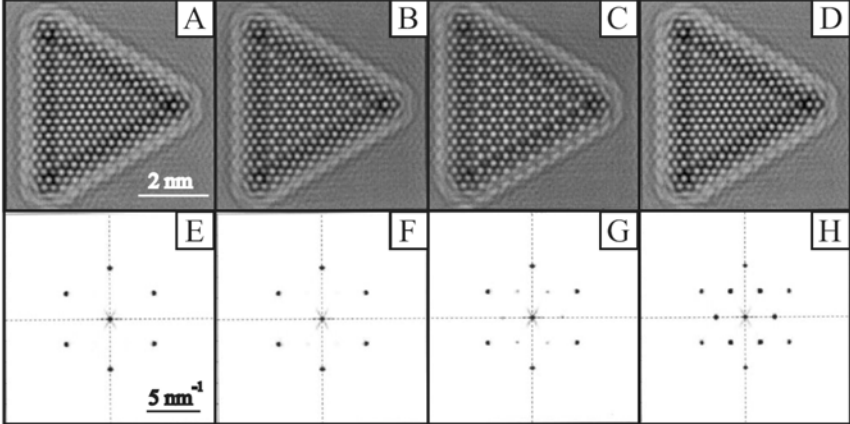
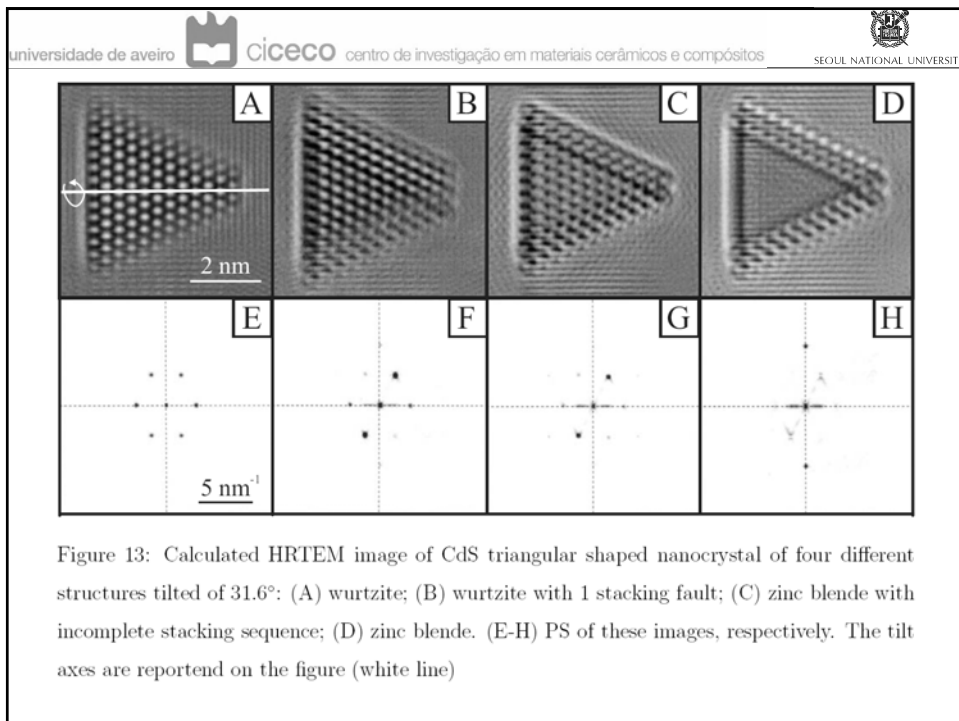
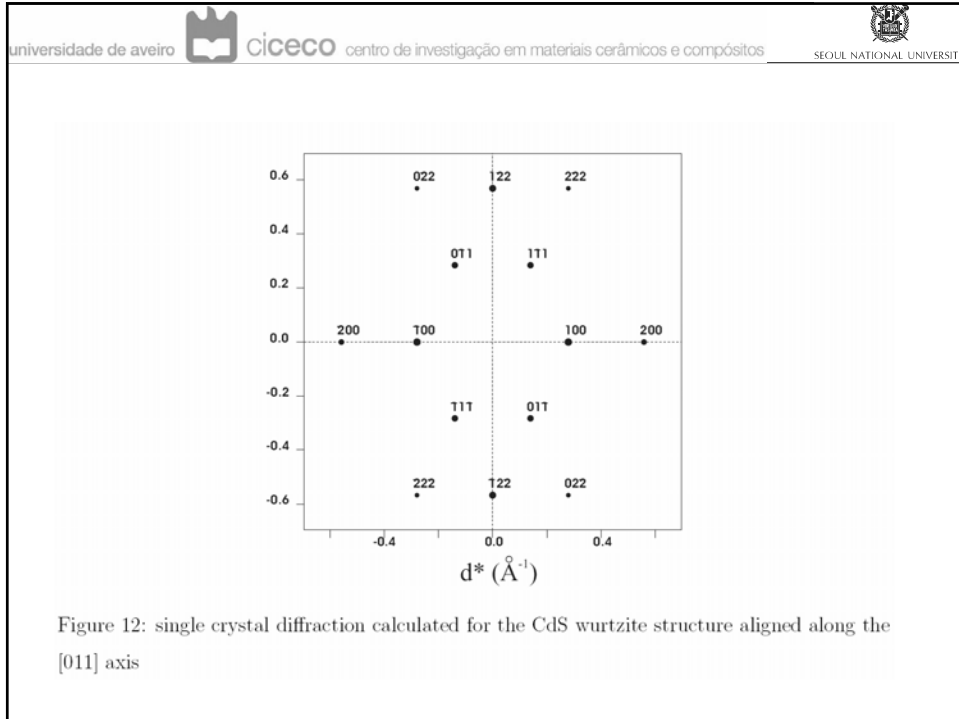
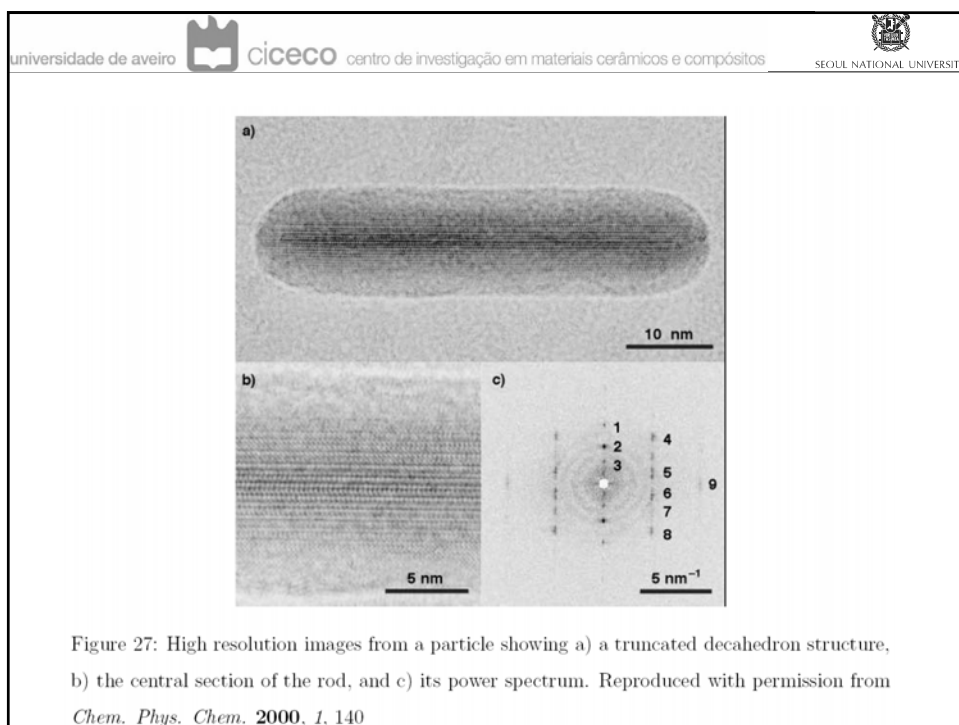
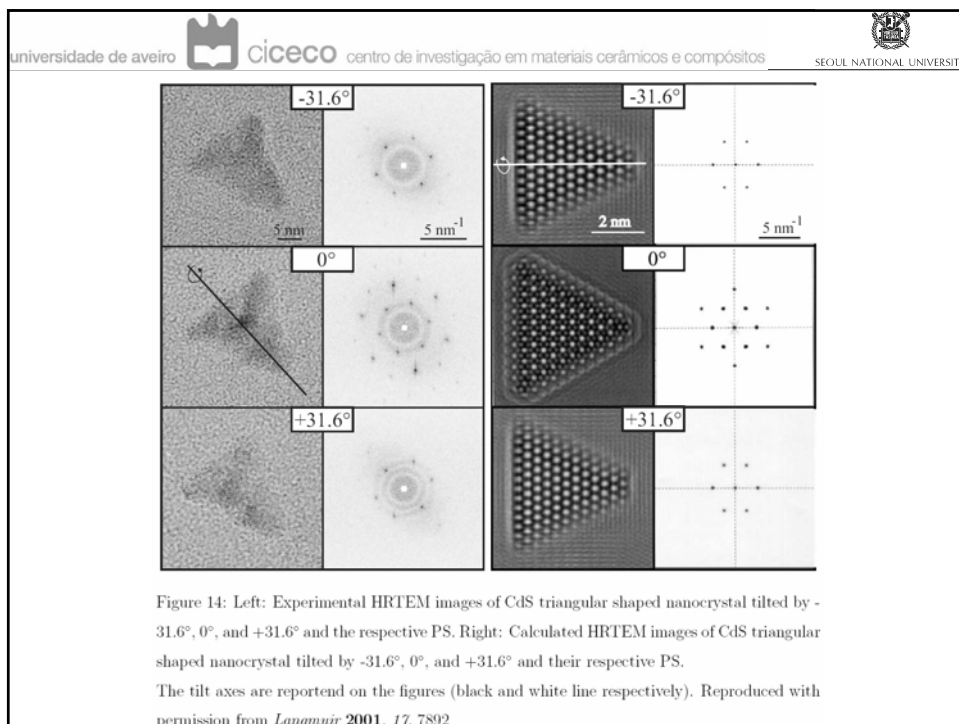


Figure 11: Calculated HRTEM image of CdS triangular shaped nanocrystal of four different structures: (A) zinc blende; (B) zinc blende with incomplete stacking sequence; (C) wurtzite with 1 stacking fault; (D) wurtzite. (E-H) PS of these images, respectively. Adapted with permission from *Langmuir* 2001, 17, 7892





Structural investigations of copper nanorods by high-resolution TEM

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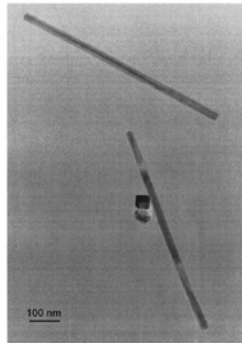


FIG. 1. Overview electron micrograph Cu rods with an electron optical magnification of 57,000 \times .

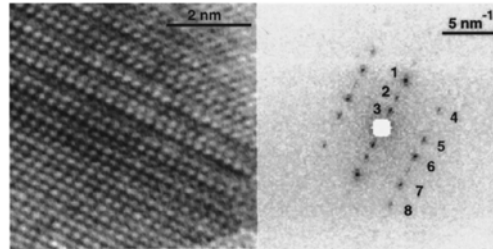


FIG. 2. Detail of a copper rod. The right image represents the PS. The reflection spots are labeled from 1 to 8 with lattice parameters: $d_1=0.211$ nm, $d_2=0.332$ nm, $d_3=0.566$ nm, $d_4=d_7=0.184$ nm, $d_5=d_6=0.252$ nm, and $d_8=0.148$ nm. The angle between planes represented by reflections 5 and 6 is 27 $^\circ$.

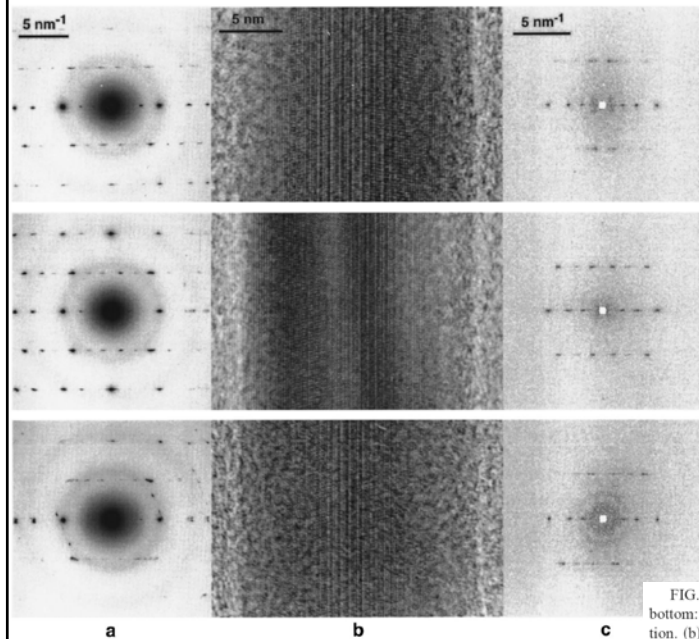
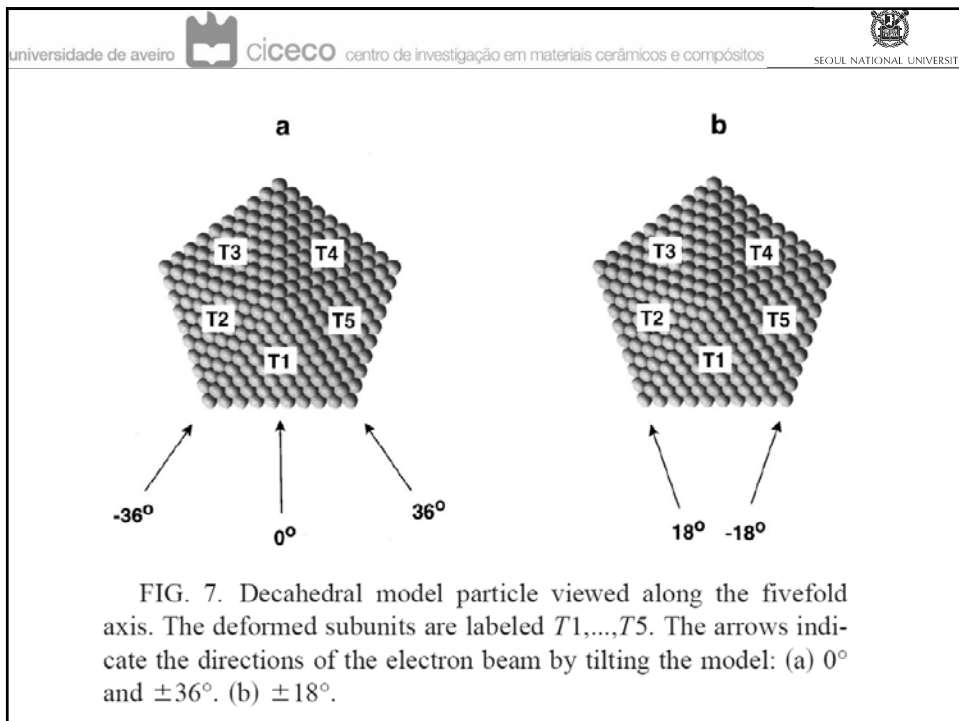
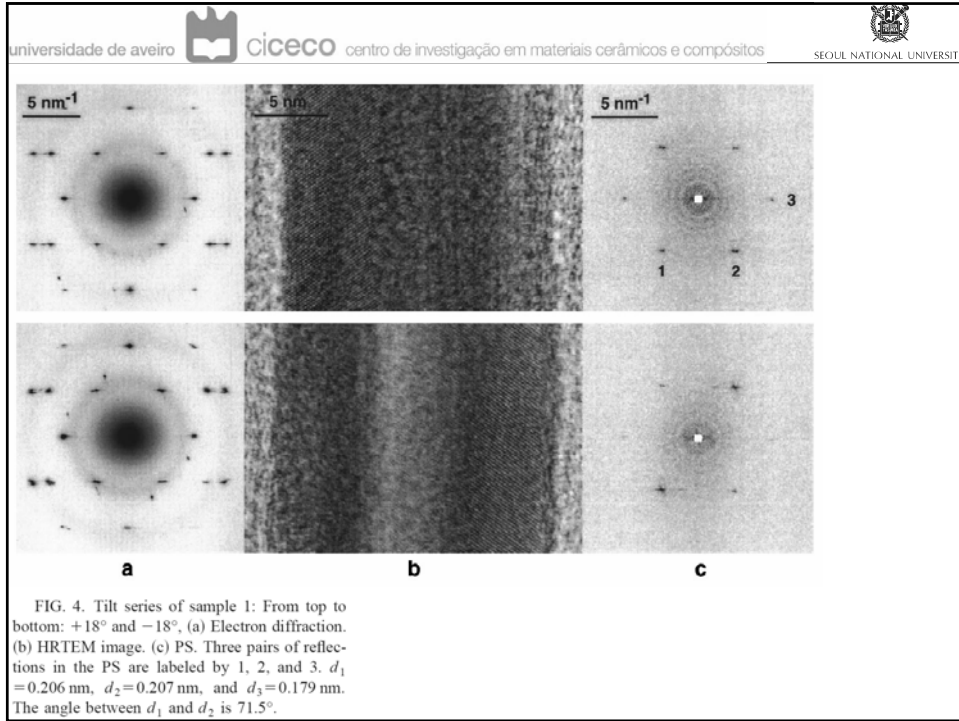


FIG. 3. Tilt series of sample 1: From top to bottom: +36 $^\circ$, 0 $^\circ$, and -36 $^\circ$. (a) Electron diffraction. (b) HRTEM image. (c) PS.



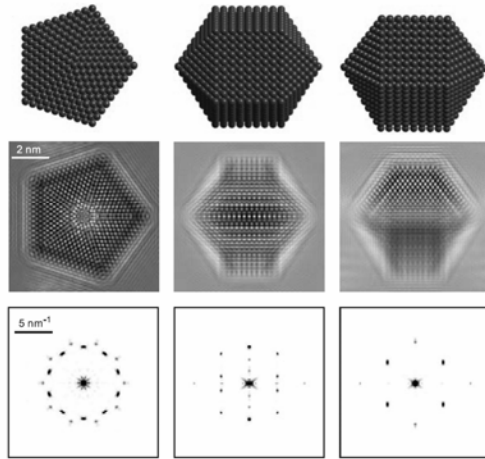


Figure 28: Models, calculated images and PS for truncated decahedral particles for three different orientations. From left to right: fivefold axis, in $[001]$ direction and in a $[1-10]$ directions [parallel to a (001) plane], i.e., 0° and 18° , perpendicular to the fivefold axis for the latter two. Reproduced with permission from *Phys. Rev. B* **2000**, *61*, 4968