



# AXP

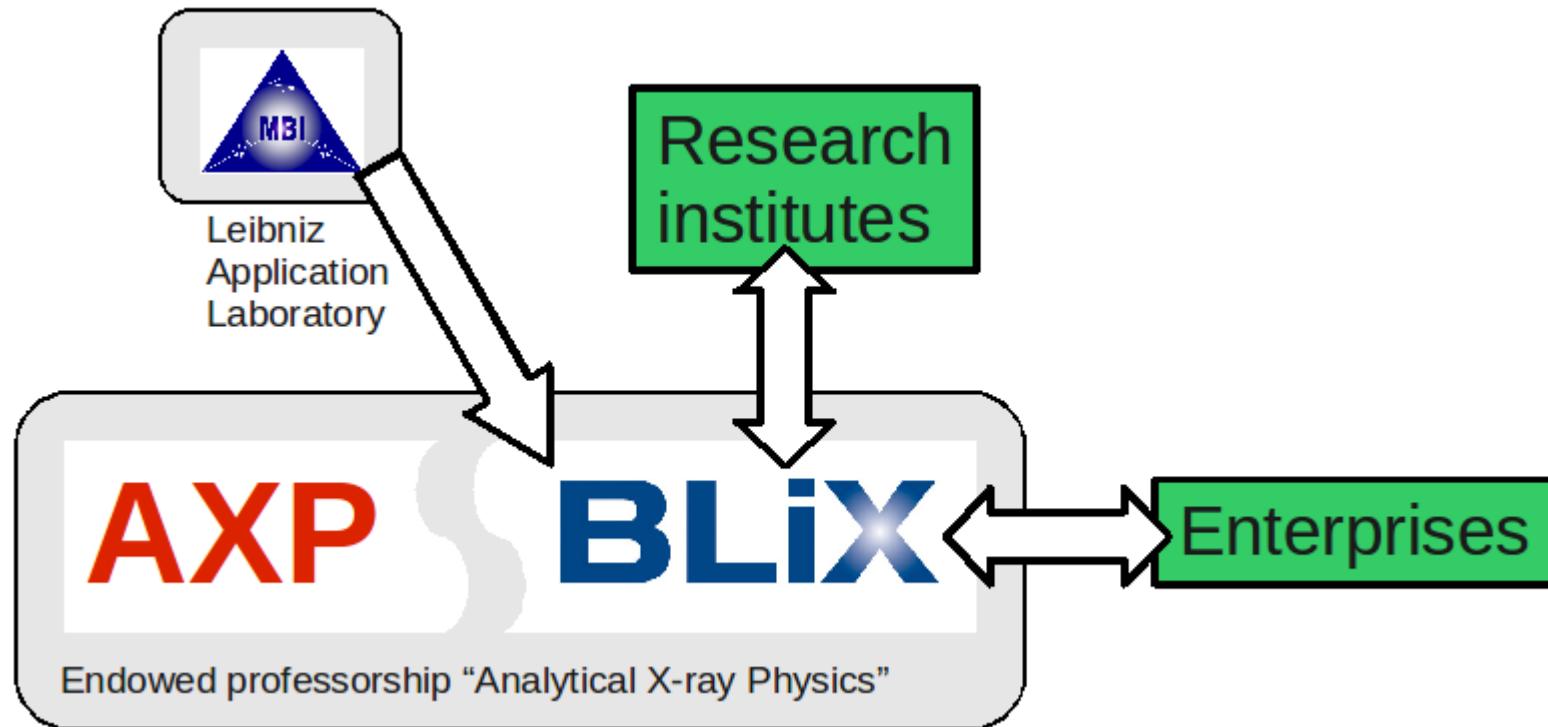
Research group  
Analytical X-ray Physics

# BLiX

Berlin Laboratory for  
innovative X-ray Technologies

X-ray  
Fluorescence  
Spectrometry

Wolfgang Malzer



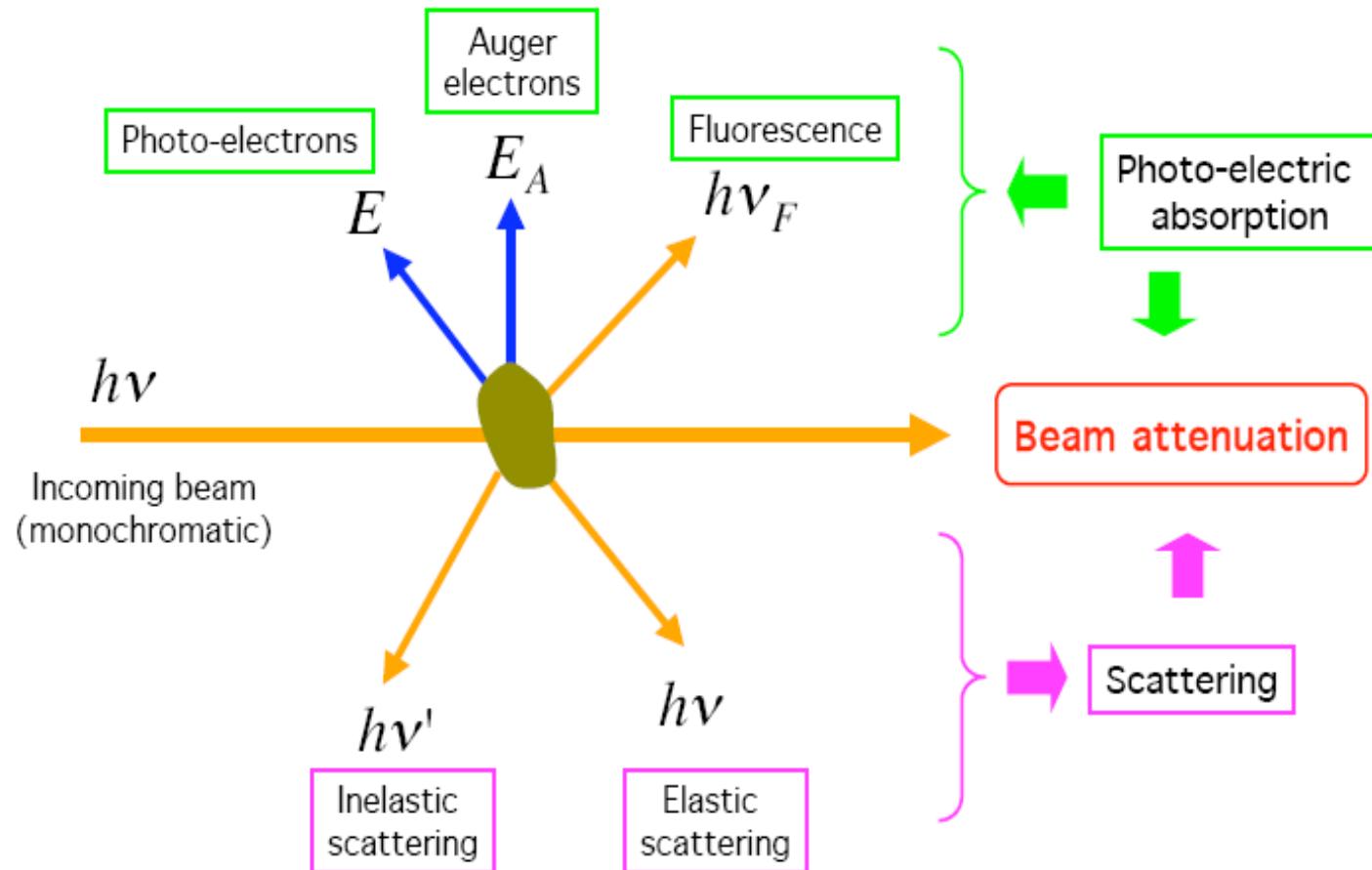
## Team



## Our Current Activities

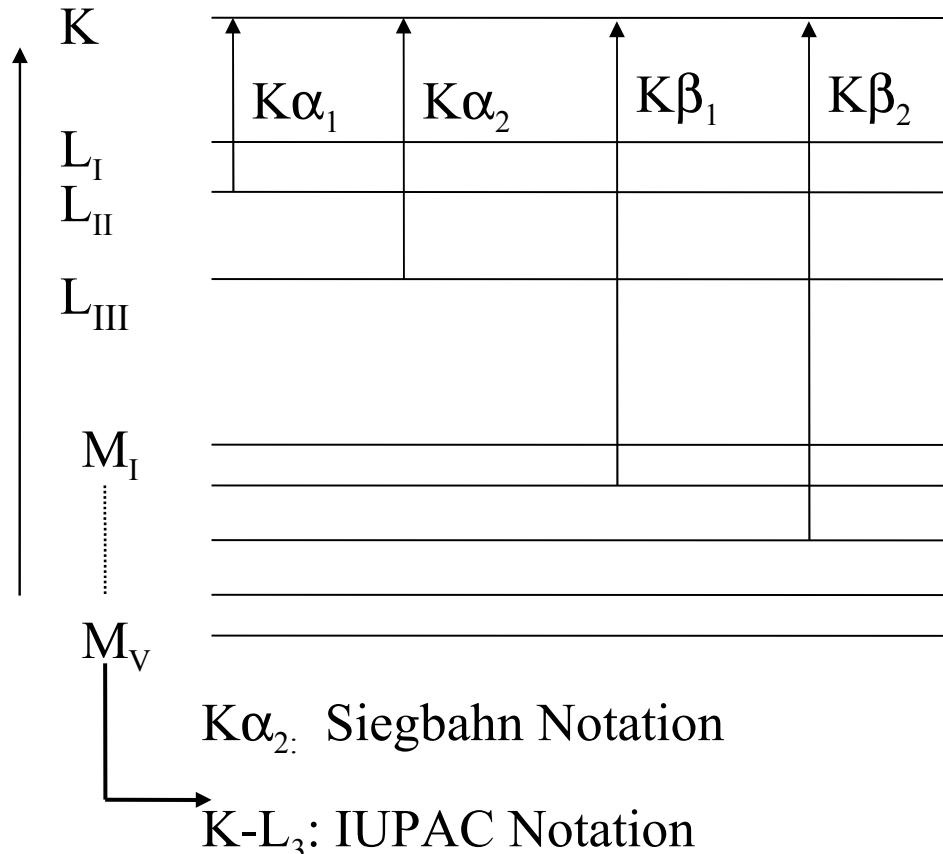
- 3D Micro-XRF
  - 3D Micro-XANES
  - High resolution X-ray emission spectroscopy
  - Characterisation of X-ray optics and sources
  - Analytic for photovoltaics
  - Laser-Plasma-Sources for the soft X-ray regime
  - X-ray microscopy with laser-plasma-source
  - Professional courses
- 
- fields of application: cultural heritage, solar cells, geology, bio-medical

## X-rays as a probe



## Selection rules and emission line energy

shells



quantum numbers

n	l	j
1	0	1/2
2	0	1/2
2	1	1/2
2	1	3/2
3	0	1/2
3	1	1/2
3	1	3/2

selection rules

$$\Delta l = \pm 1$$

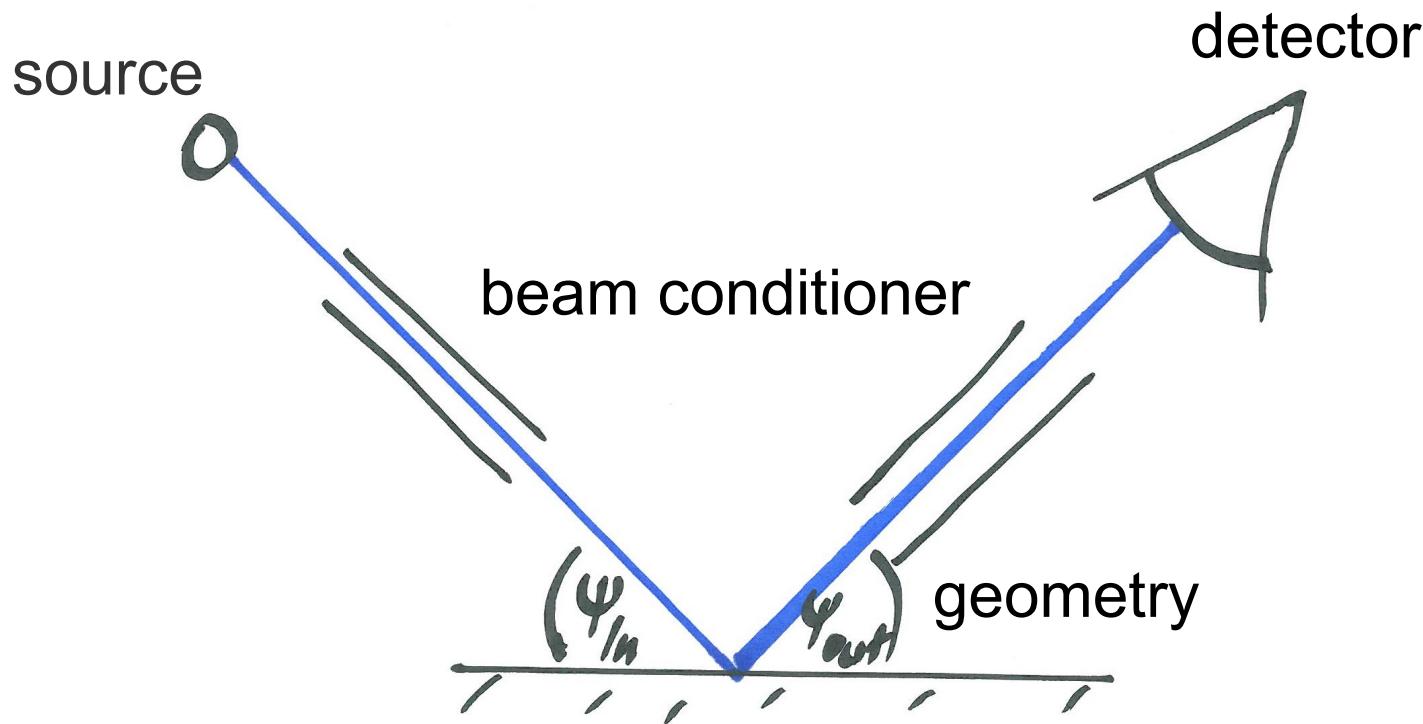
$$\Delta j = 0, \pm 1$$

satellites

## Outline

- Survey on XRF Instrumentation and Methods
- Quantitative X-ray Fluorescence Analysis
- An Application of Micro-XRF

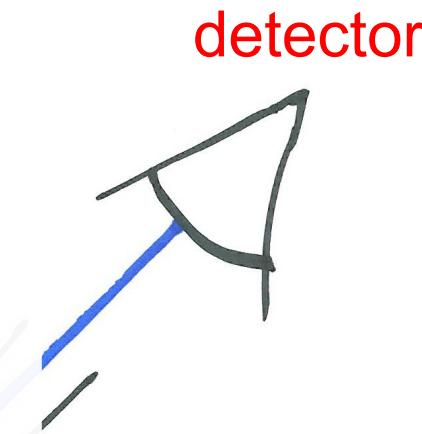
## Scheme of a XRF-spectrometer



## X-ray detectors

### Wavelength Dispersive Spectrometer

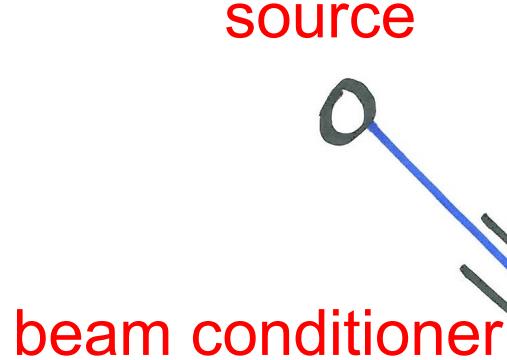
- Crystal or multilayer
- proportional counter, scintillation counter
- Quantitative analysis
- Light element analysis



### Energy Dispersive Spectrometer

- Solid state detector (Si, Ge)
- Small, lightweight detectors (SDD, PIN)
- Qualitative and quantitative analysis
- Range: (B) – Na - U

## X-ray sources



## Syncrotron radiation

- High brilliance
- Mikro/Nano-XRF ( $< 1\mu\text{m}$ )

## X-ray tubes

- Micro focus X-ray tubes
- Brilliance optimised
- Miniature X-ray tubes
- Portable instrumentation (Handheld)

## Other

- Radioactive sources

## Spectrometer geometry

Standard:  $\Psi \geq 45^\circ$

**Gracing Incidence XRF**

- Surface sensitive

**Gracing Exit XRF**

- Surface sensitive

**Total reflection XRF**

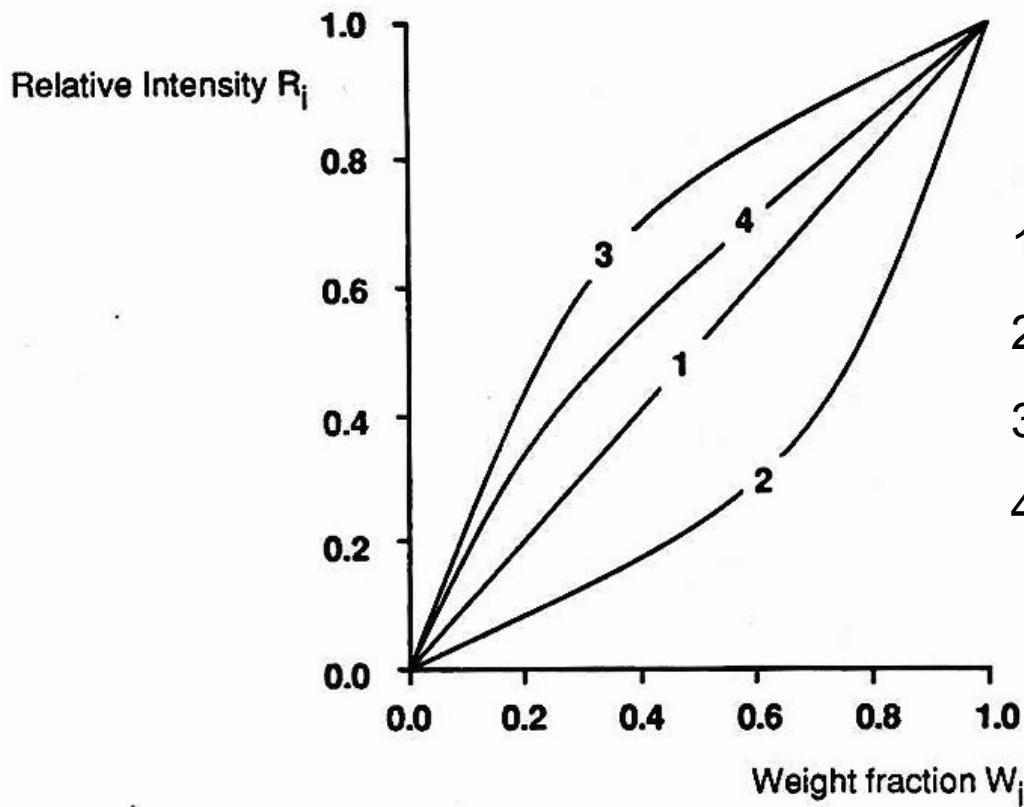


## Outline

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- Survey on XRF Instrumentation and Methods
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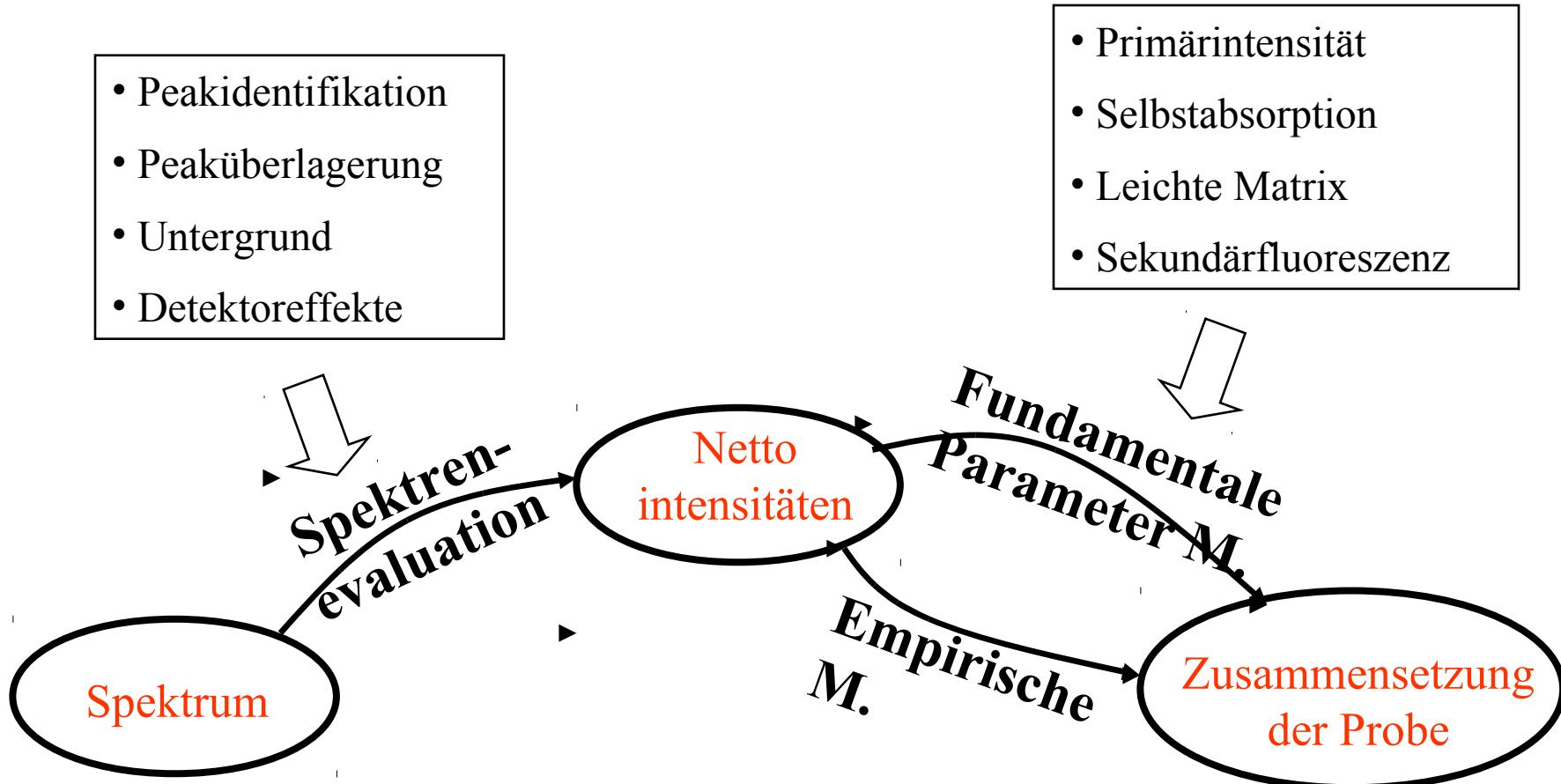
## Why is quantification an issue?



### Intensity plots for a 2-element sample

1. No matrix effects
2. Absorption by matrix dominates
3. Absorption by analyte dominates
4. Analyte line is enhanced by matrix

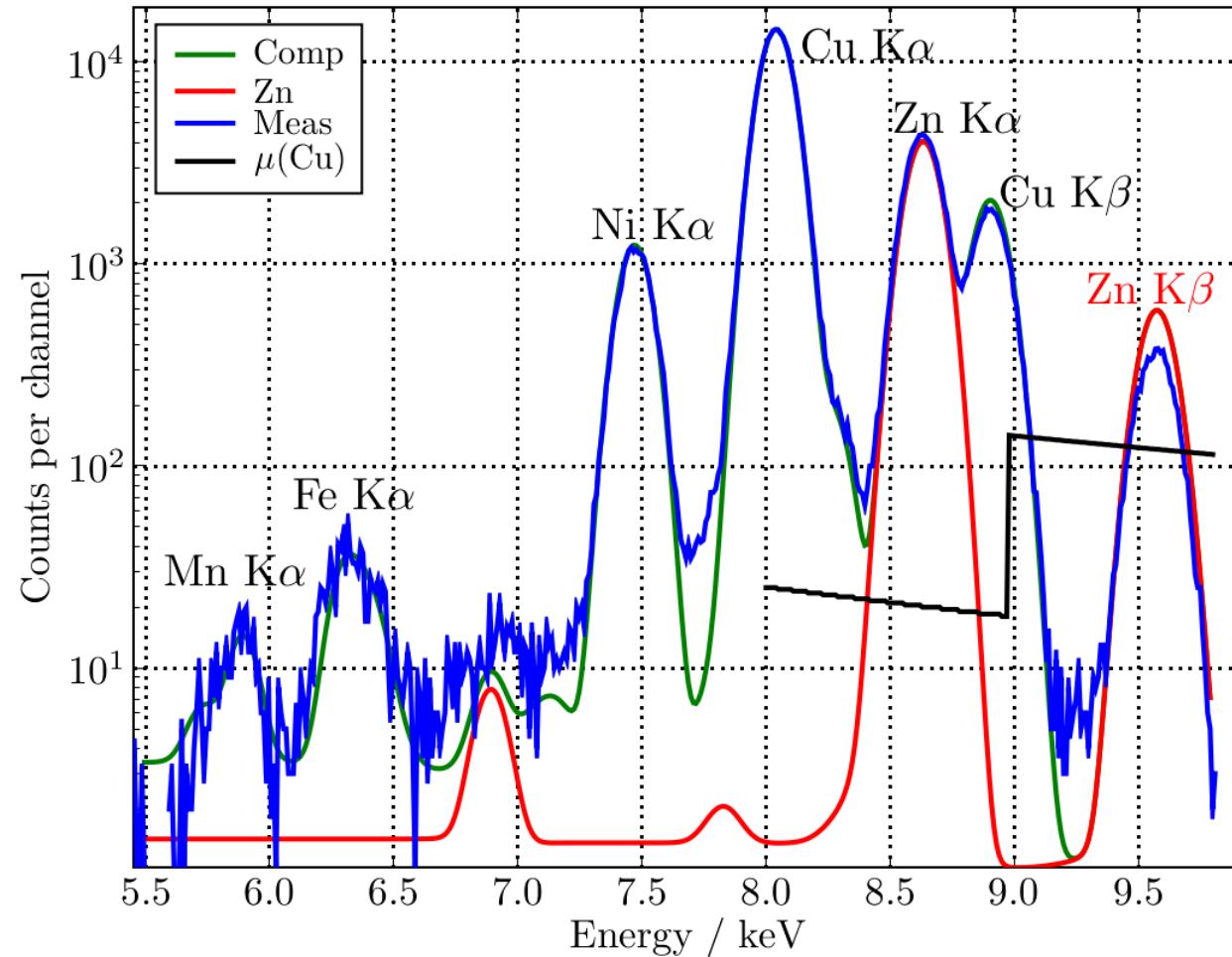
## Routes and Steps of Quantification



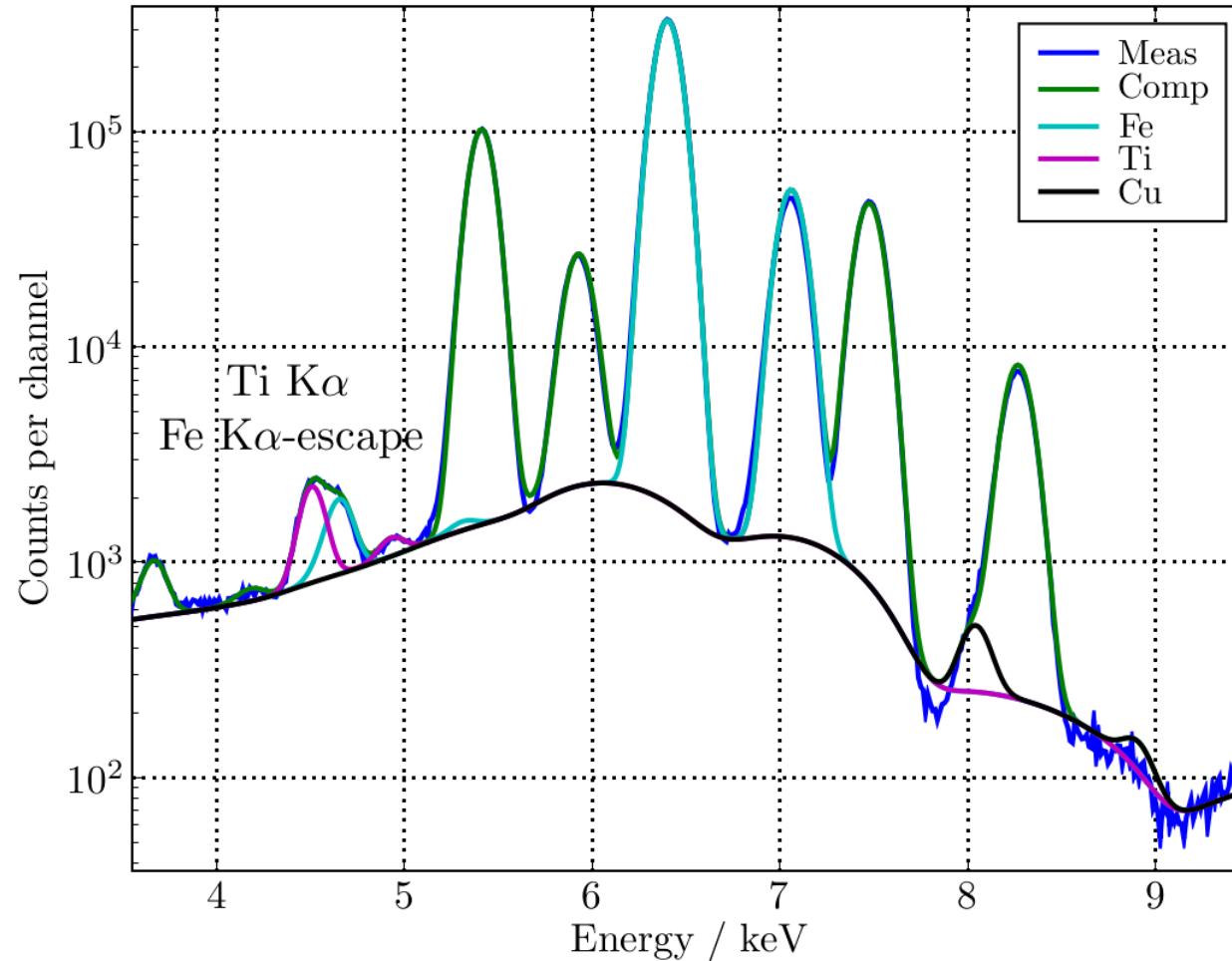
## Spectra of solid state det. And of wavelength systems detail

# Solid State Detectors spectrum fitting

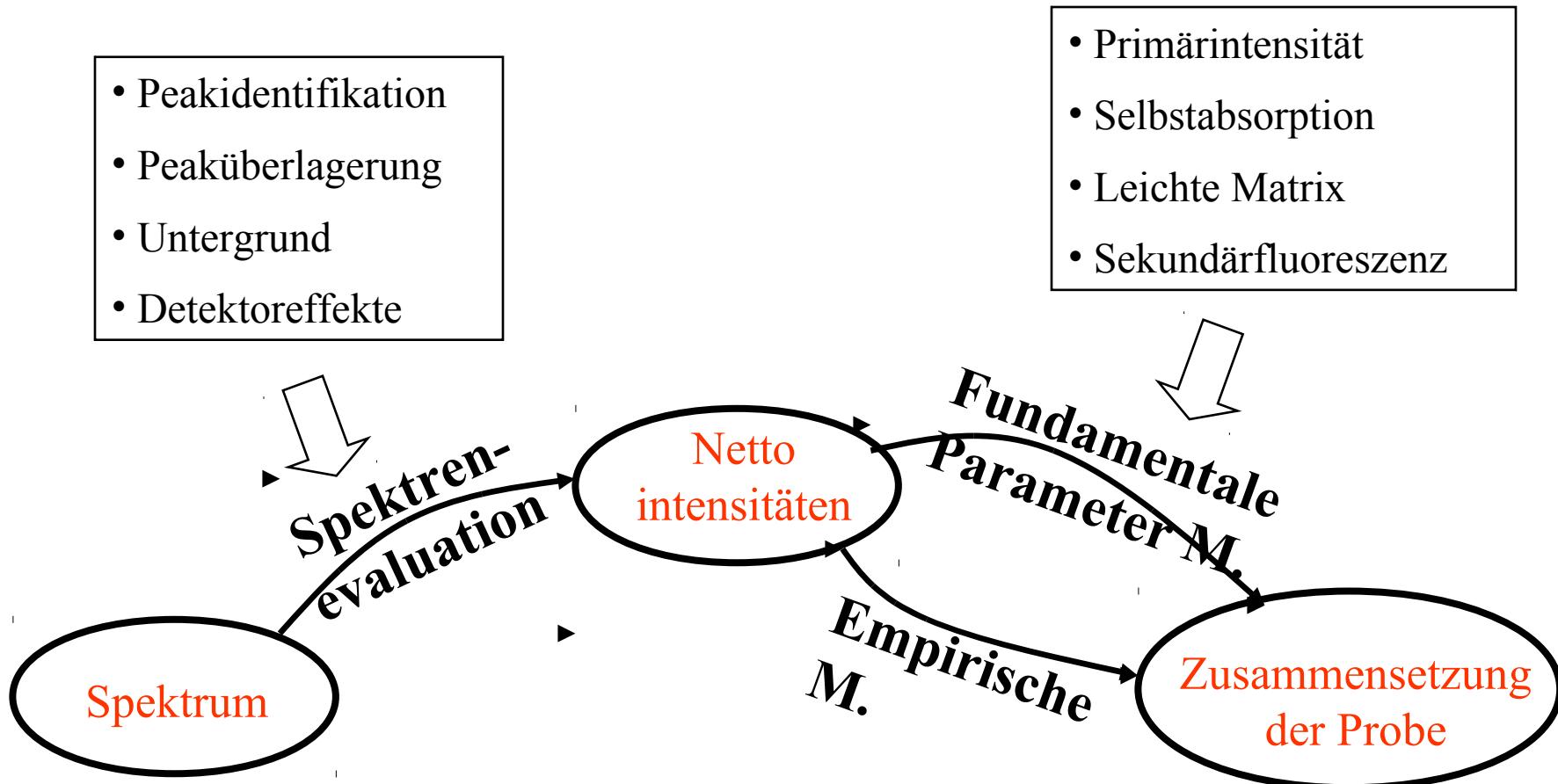
**AXP BLIX** 

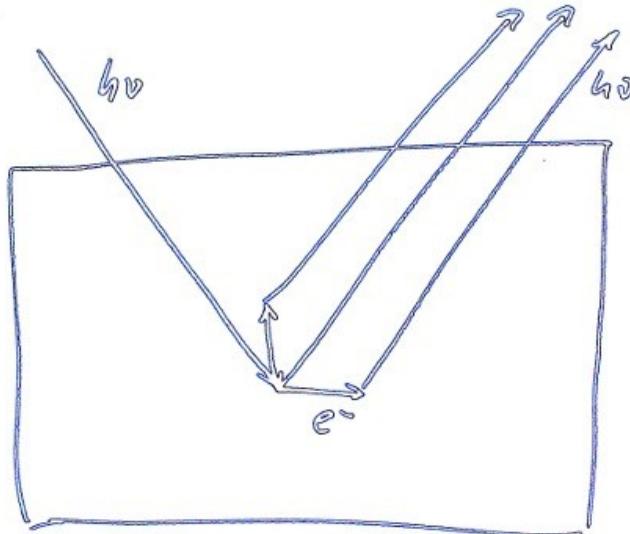


# Enhanced uncertainty due to overlap with escape peak



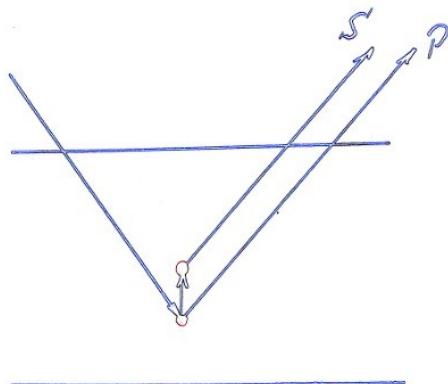
## Routes and Steps of Quantification





Complex radiation transport

is simplified to

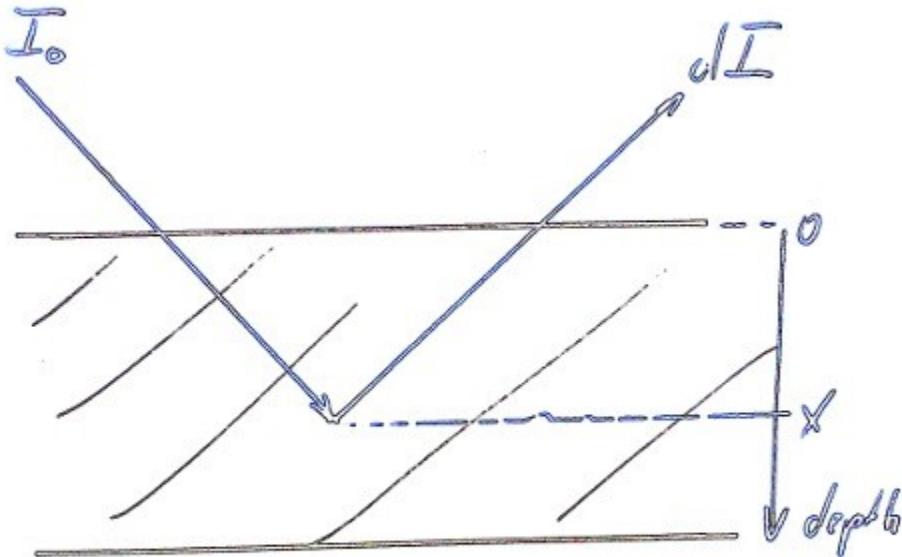


primary fluorescence intensity

+

secondary fluorescence intensity

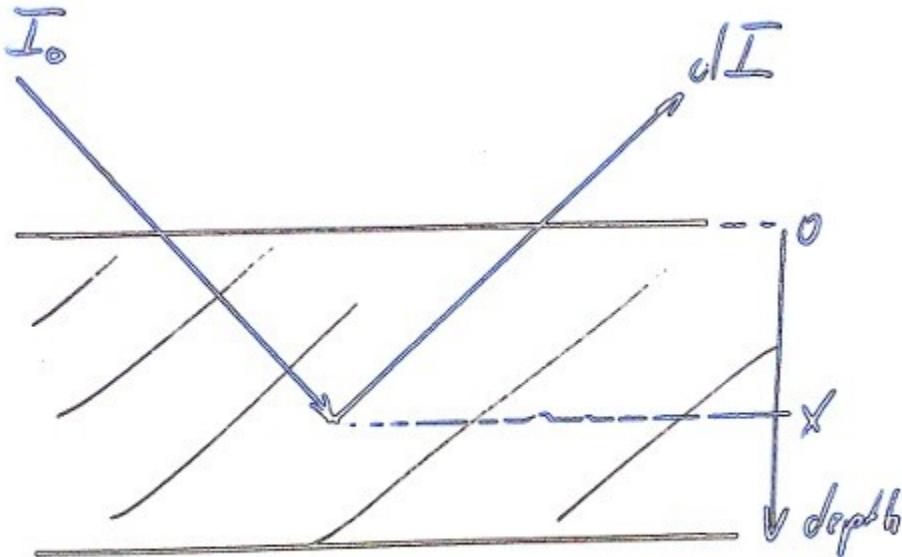
## Sherman's approach for intensity calculation



- Model for X-ray fluorescence production
- Integration over sample thickness

$$dN_i = w_i \epsilon_i \frac{\Omega}{4 \cdot \pi} \frac{\tau_i}{\sin \Psi_0} j_i \omega_i p_i N_{I_0} \exp \left( -\frac{\mu_s(E_0) \rho x}{\sin \psi_0} - \frac{\mu_s(E_i) \rho x}{\sin \psi_{\text{det}}} \right) \rho dx$$

## Sherman's approach for intensity calculation



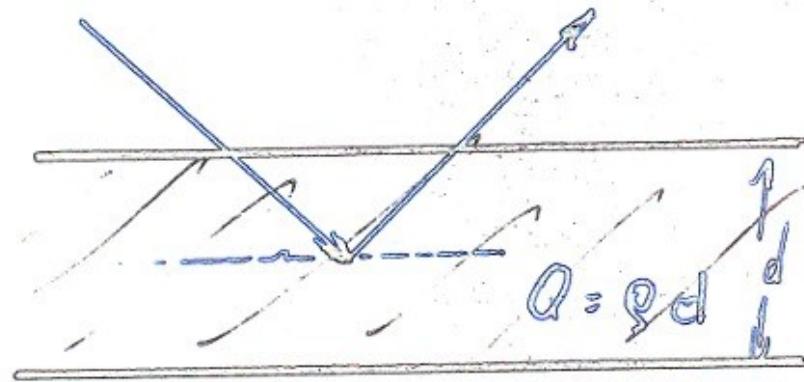
- Integration over excitation spectrum  $N_{I_0}$
- Sample is flat and homogeneous

$$N_i = w_i K_i \frac{\tau_i}{\mu_i^*} N_{I_0} \quad \text{with} \quad \mu_i^* = \sum_j w_j \left( \frac{\mu_{0j}}{\sin \psi_0} + \frac{\mu_{ij}}{\sin \psi_{\text{det}}} \right)$$

$$w_i = \frac{N_i}{\frac{K_i \tau_i N_{I_0}}{\mu_i^*} (1 + S_i)} \quad \text{but} \quad \mu_i^* = f(\mathbf{w})$$

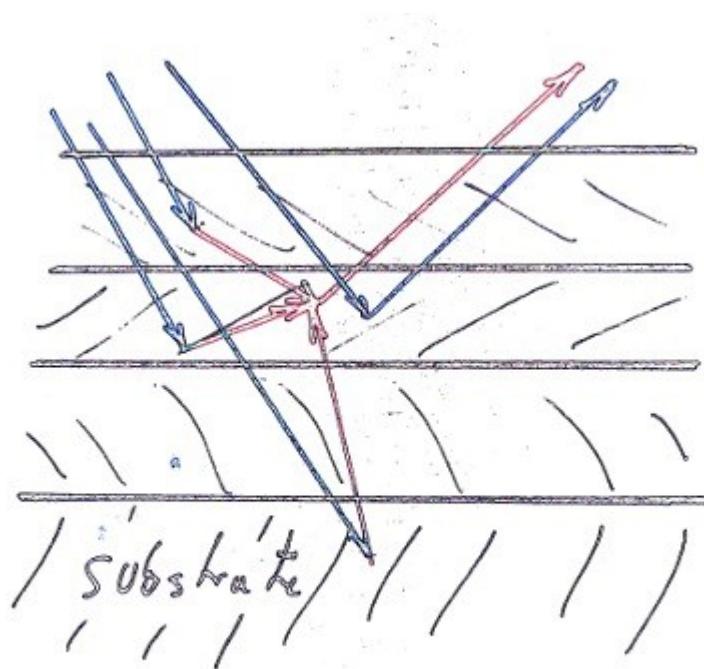
- Initial guess for  $\mathbf{w}$
- Iterative solution

- Sketch primary intensity



$$N_i = w_i K_i \tau_i \frac{1 - \exp(-\mu_i^* Q)}{\mu_i^*} N_{I_0}$$

## Stratified materials



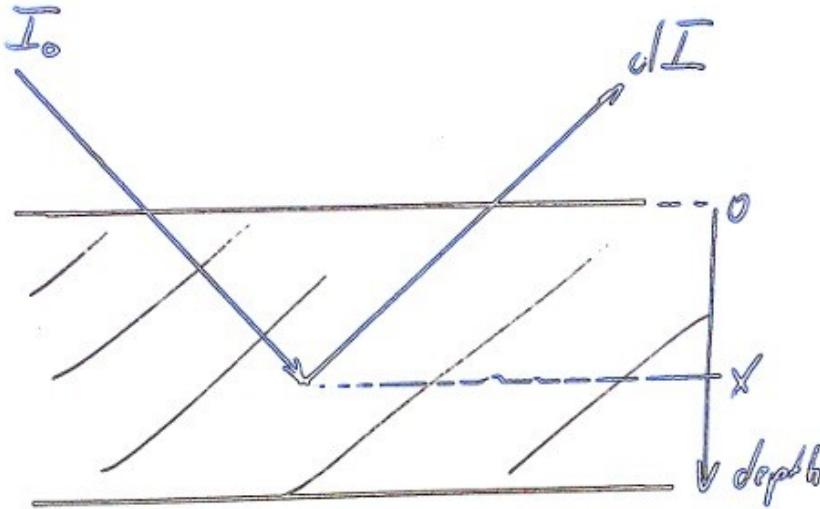
Primary fluorescence intensity  
+ intra-layer enhancement  
+ inter-layer enhancement

## Use of Sherman's equation

What is the information depth of my sample?

Is the homogeneity of my sample sufficient?

## Information depth



Definition of information depth:

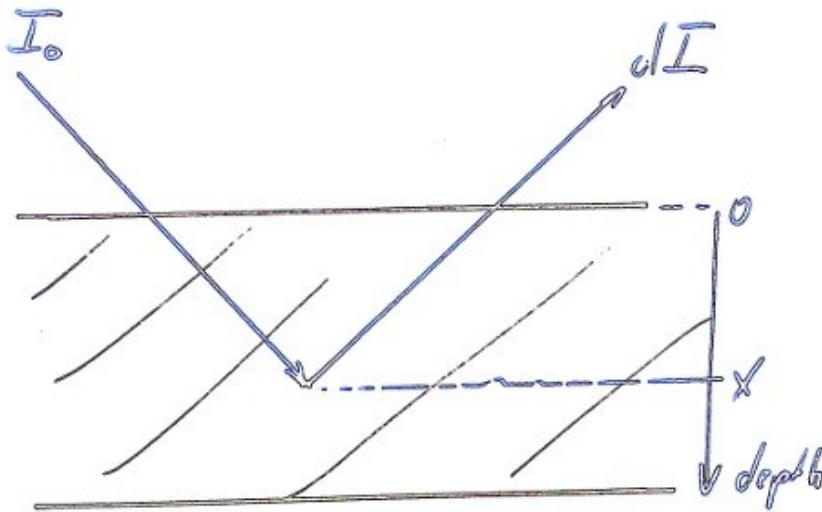
Half of the total intensity comes from above

Simplifications:

- \* Only consider attenuation of fluorescence line
- \*  $1/2 \approx 1/e$

Mean free path length  $1/\mu_p$   
is an estimate for the information depth

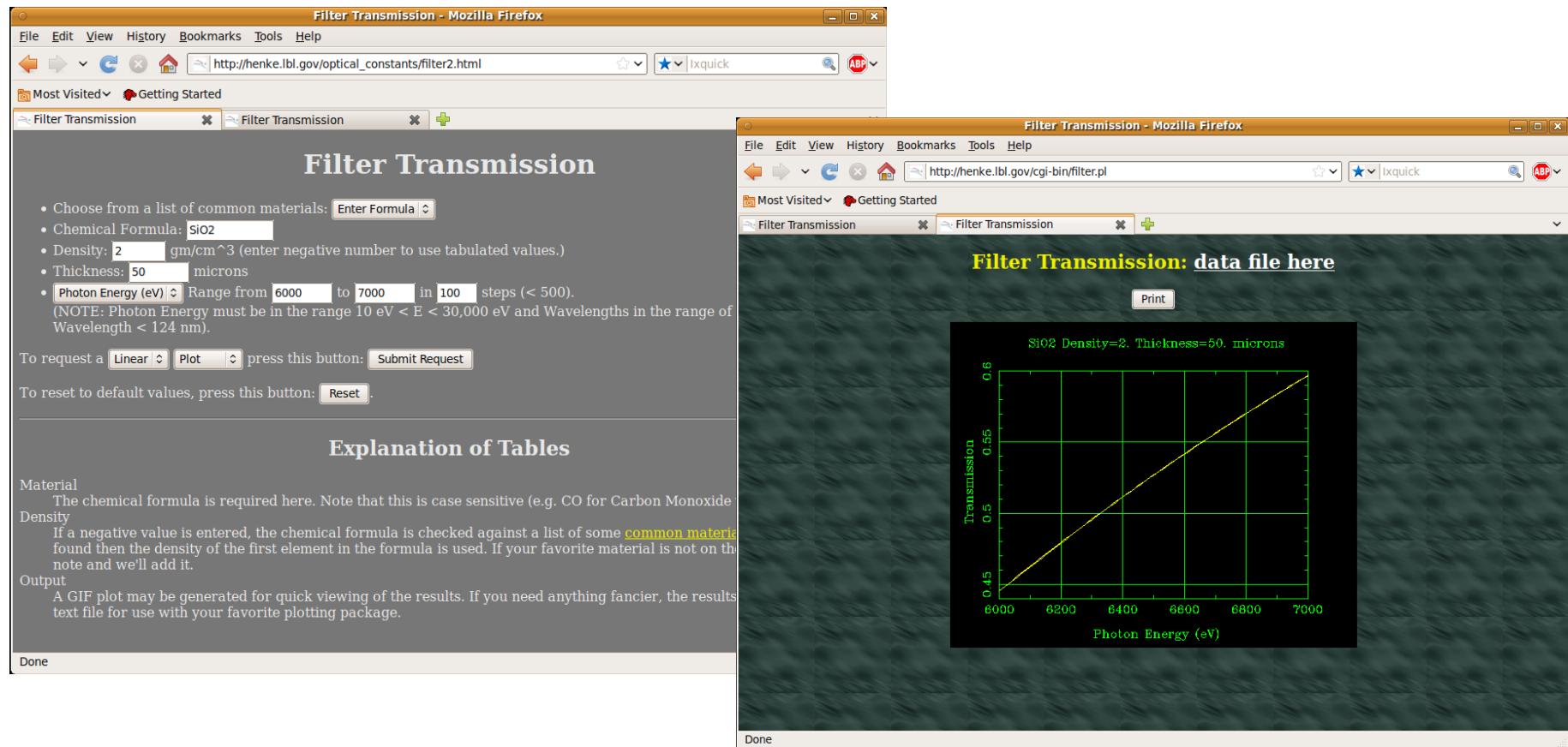
## Information depth



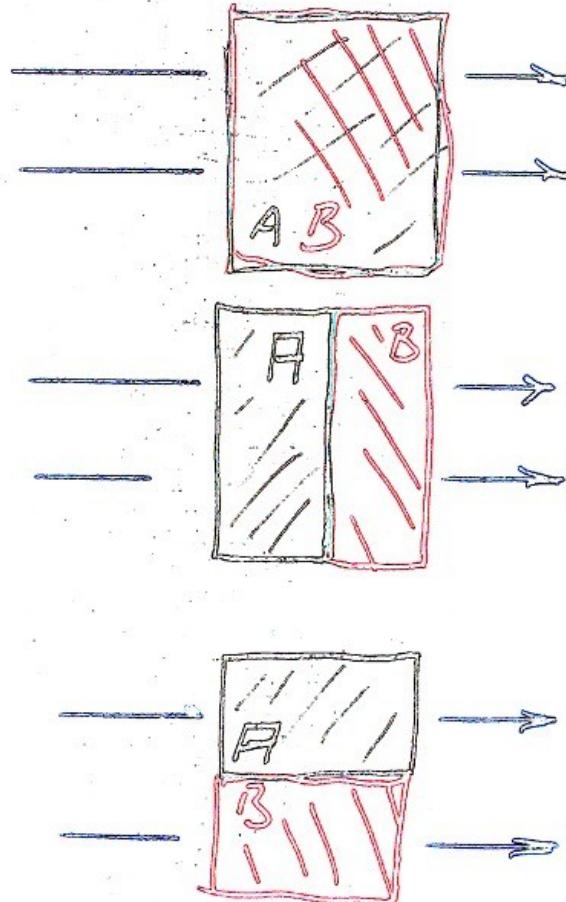
Mean free path in $\mu\text{m}$	Fe	Sn
$\text{SiO}_2$ (2 g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	70	3,500
O (1 g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	440	19,000

# Calculation of transmission

[http://henke.lbl.gov/optical\\_constants/filter2.html](http://henke.lbl.gov/optical_constants/filter2.html)



## Sample inhomogeneity



$$\exp(-(w_A\mu_A + w_B\mu_B)Q)$$

=

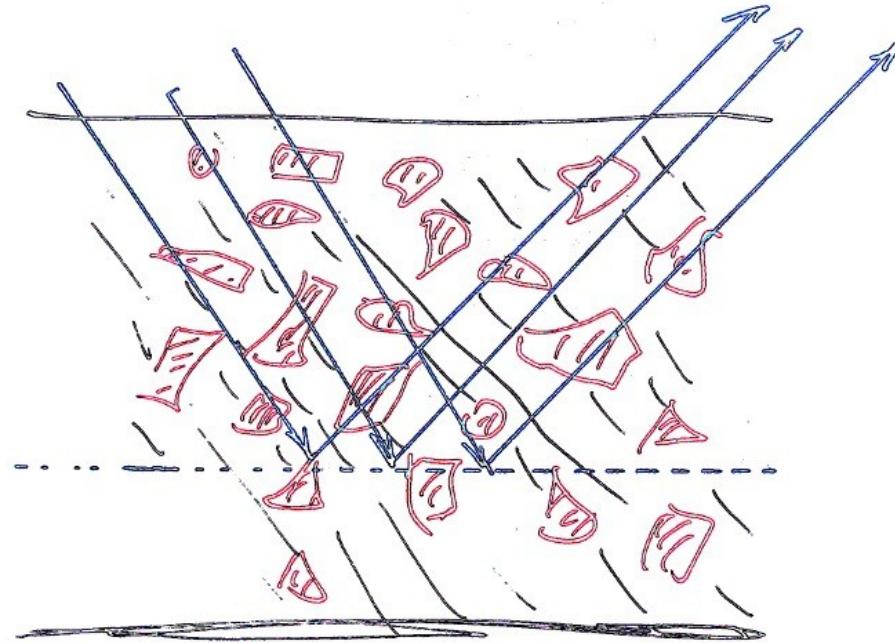
$$\exp(-w_A\mu_A Q) \exp(-w_B\mu_B Q)$$

≠

$$\exp(-w_A\mu_A Q) + \exp(-w_B\mu_B Q)$$

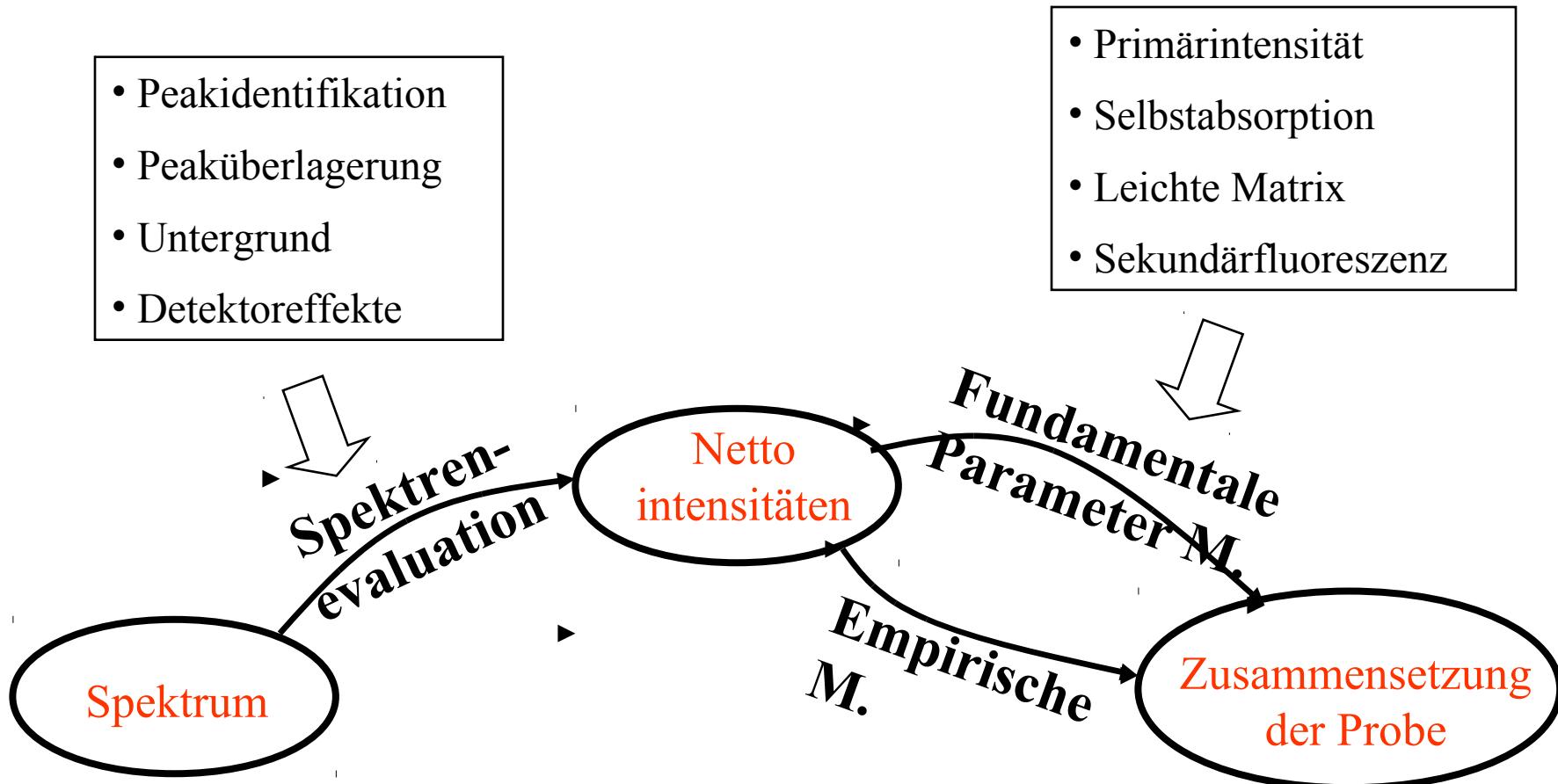
$$Q = \rho d$$

## Sample inhomogeneity



particle size « particle mean free path length  
information depth » sample mean free path length

## Routes and Steps of Quantification



- Standard addition, internal standard, etc.
- Fingerprint
- Influence coefficients method

## Influence coefficients

$$w_i = w_{0i} + m_i N_i \left( 1 + \sum_j \alpha_{ij} w_j \right)$$

$$w_i = w_{0i} + m_i N_i \left( 1 + \sum_j m_{ij} I_j \right)$$

- Best precision achievable (< 1%)
- Two reference materials per coefficient
- Applied in analysis of steel, gold, concrete production

**Fin**

**Part 1**