

CHM 165,265 / BIMM 162 / BGGN 262

Spring 2013

# Lecture Slides

Jan 24, 2013

CHM 165,265 / BIMM 162 / BGGN 262

Spring 2013

## Announcements for Jan 24, 2013

Reading assignment for Tuesday: **Lecture notes pp.124-195**

**Note:** much of this material will NOT be covered in lecture

'Virtual' homework: **Answers to first 4 sets posted outside  
NSB 4-105**

Recitation session: **Tomorrow 5:00-6:00 pm in York 4080A**

TEM facility tour: **NEXT WEEK Jan 28,29 (check web site)**

CHM 165,265 / BIMM 162 / BGGN 262

Winter 2013

## 3D Electron Microscopy of Macromolecules

### TEM Facility Tour

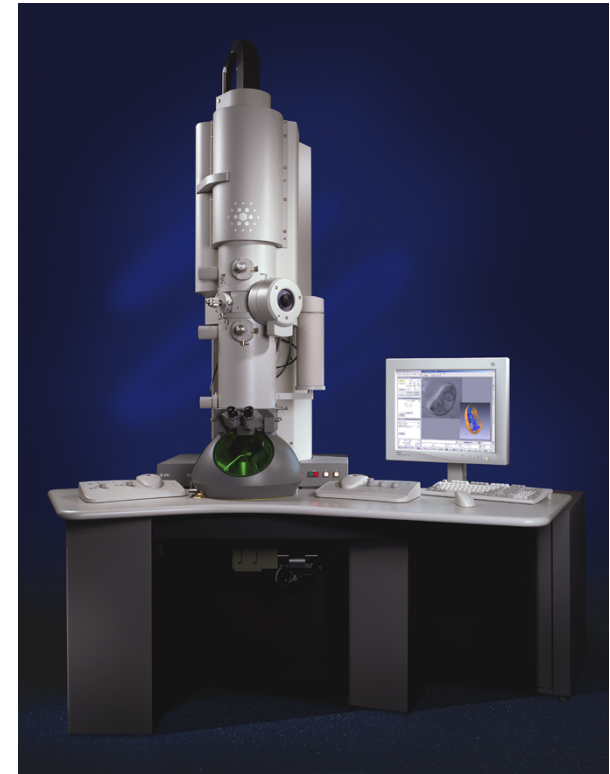
Where: 1510 Bonner Hall basement

When: Mon Jan 28 and Tue Jan 29th

Check class web site for details on dates,  
times, and directions to facility

Attendance is optional but 5 pts extra  
credit towards final grade will be  
awarded

To reserve and guarantee a time slot, email [nholson@ucsd.edu](mailto:nholson@ucsd.edu)  
**First come, first served.**



FEI Technai Spera  
(200keV; LaB<sub>6</sub>; LN<sub>2</sub>)

# I.C CONTRAST AND IMAGE FORMATION

## KEY CONCEPTS FROM LECTURE #5

- TEM images do **NOT** give a **completely faithful** rendering of the density distribution (*i.e.* structure) of specimens
- Relationship between image and specimen is described by the **contrast transfer function (CTF)**, which is characteristic of or influenced by:
  - 1) **Specific TEM used (Obj lens  $C_s$ )**; 2) **Conditions of imaging (defocus used)**; 3) **Specimen**
- **Microscope CTF** arises from the **objective lens focal setting** AND from the **spherical aberration** in the **objective lens**

$$CTF(\nu) = - \left\{ \left(1 - F_{amp}^2\right)^{1/2} \cdot \sin(\chi(\nu)) + F_{amp} \cdot \cos(\chi(\nu)) \right\}$$

$$\text{where } \chi(\nu) = \pi \lambda \nu^2 \left( \Delta f - 0.5 C_s \lambda^2 \nu^2 \right)$$





# I.C CONTRAST AND IMAGE FORMATION

## KEY CONCEPTS FROM LECTURE #5

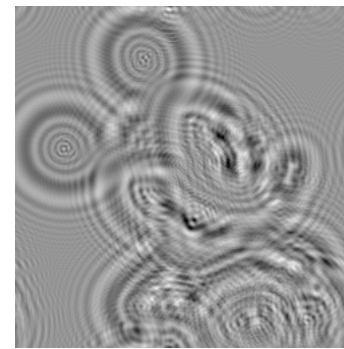
- **Microscope CTF** arises from the **objective lens focal setting** **AND** from the **spherical aberration** in the lens

$$CTF(\nu) = - \left\{ (1 - F_{amp}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \sin(\chi(\nu)) + F_{amp} \cdot \cos(\chi(\nu)) \right\}$$

where  $\chi(\nu) = \pi \lambda \nu^2 (\Delta f - 0.5 C_s \lambda^2 \nu^2)$



Object



Image

# I.D ALIGNMENT/ADJUSTMENT OF THE TEM

## MORE CONCEPTS FROM LECTURE #5

- TEM **alignment** affects resolving power and convenience of operation
- Goal of alignment: make optical elements of TEM **coaxial**
- Principle for aligning **any electromagnetic** lens based on image rotations caused by fluctuating the current (or voltage) in lenses
- **Small changes** in **objective lens** current used to focus electron images

# I.D ALIGNMENT/ADJUSTMENT OF THE TEM

## MORE CONCEPTS FROM LECTURE #5

### Top Five Disturbances to Microscope Performance



- **Contamination** leads to astigmatism, drift, and decreased contrast (Use anticontaminator)
- **Image drift** and **mechanical instabilities** caused by instabilities in specimen holder, stage assembly, and specimen. (Measure drift rate)
- **Electrical** and **magnetic instabilities** (Use high voltage to distinguish)
- **Image astigmatism** ("Experts" able to correct this)
- **Focal drift** (Micro-discharges in gun?)



# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## MORE CONCEPTS FROM LECTURE #5

What happens as  $V$  is **increased**?












-  Specimen penetration **increases**
-  Amplitude contrast **decreases**
-  Resolution limit (diffraction) **improves**
-  Inelastic scattering **decreases**
-  Chromatic aberration **decreases**
-  Radiation damage **decreases**
-  Photographic emulsion efficiency **decreases**
-  CCD image quality **decreases**
-  Electron gun **more sensitive** to vacuum quality
-  Electron gun brightness **increases**
-  Screen phosphor efficiency **increases**

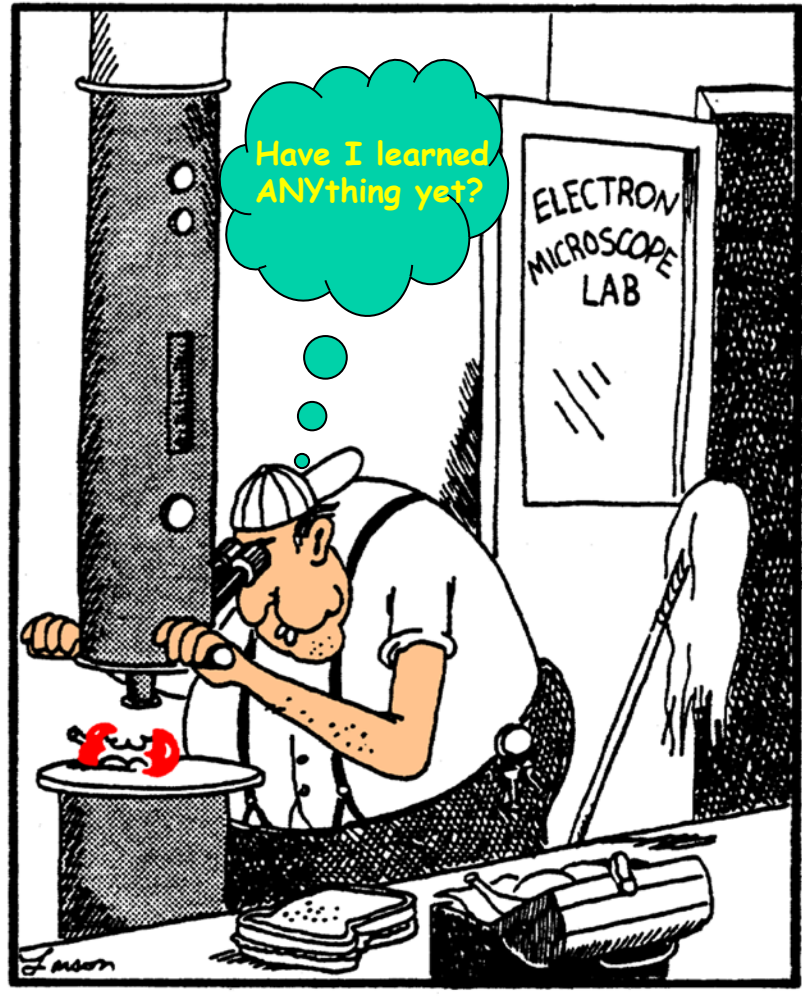


# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM


## MORE CONCEPTS FROM LECTURE #5

What happens as  $V$  is **decreased**?

-  Specimen penetration **decreases**
-  Amplitude contrast **increases**
-  Resolution limit (diffraction) **gets worse**
-  Inelastic scattering **increases**
-  Chromatic aberration **increases**
-  Radiation damage **increases**
-  Photographic emulsion efficiency **increases**
-  CCD image quality **increases**
-  Electron gun **less sensitive** to vacuum quality
-  Electron gun brightness **decreases**
-  Screen phosphor efficiency **decreases**



## TOPICS

- 😊 - Principles of TEM
  - Electrons, lenses and optics
- 😊 - Design of TEM
  - Components top to bottom
- 😊 - Contrast and image formation
  - Electron scattering from object
- 😊 - Optimizing TEM performance
  - Alignment assures 'best' images
-  - Operation of TEM
  - "What do all these buttons do?"
- Other modes of TEM
  - Many ways to 'observe' specimens
- Specimen preparation for TEM
  - Getting specimen ready
- Radiation damage
  - Less is better
- 3D reconstruction
  - Specimen 3D structure from 2D images

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
- ★ Choice of apertures
- Specimen stage/holder
- Choice of magnification
- Focusing
- Magnification calibration
- Resolution tests
- Image intensifiers/TV displays
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)

## *p-Flasher* Question

The contrast transfer function of the TEM is affected by which of the following?

- A. The defocus setting of the objective lens
- B. Spherical aberration in the objective lens
- C. The voltage and therefore wavelength of the imaging electrons
- D. The coherence of the electron beam
- E. All of the above



# § I: The Microscope

I.E Operation of the TEM

I.E.2 Choice of Apertures

- Condenser
- Objective

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.2 Choice of Apertures

### I.E.2.a Condenser Aperture

**Bottom Line: Smaller is better.....up to a point.**

**Small** apertures are best for **high resolution** imaging  
Produces a **more coherent** beam and **better phase contrast**

**BUT:** As **condenser** aperture size is **reduced**, fewer electrons are available to illuminate the specimen

Harder to focus and correct astigmatism accurately

Need for longer exposure times

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.2 Choice of Apertures

### I.E.2.b Objective Aperture

**Bottom Line: Smaller is also better.....up to a point.**

**Small** apertures **improve scattering/amplitude contrast**

The smaller the better, right?

**Small** apertures **reduce spherical and chromatic aberrations**

The smaller the better, right?

**BUT:** As **objective** aperture size is **reduced**,

Diffraction limited resolution gets worse (Airy disk gets larger)

Small apertures are harder to align and keep aligned, and are more sensitive to effects of contamination



# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
- ☆ Choice of apertures

**Bottom Line: Smaller is better.....up to a point.**

**Condenser:** small apertures best for **high resolution**

**Objective:** small apertures **improve scattering contrast** and **reduce spherical and chromatic aberrations**

**However:**

**Condenser:** small apertures reduce illumination and hence make it harder to focus and correct astigmatism

**Objective:** small apertures lead to poorer diffraction limited resolution and are harder to align and keep aligned, and are more sensitive to the effects of contamination

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



★ Choice of accelerating voltage

★ Choice of apertures

☆ Specimen stage/holder

Choice of magnification

Focusing

Magnification calibration

Resolution tests

Image intensifiers/TV displays

Microscope maintenance

Photography (analog and digital)

Hands off the merchandise!!!

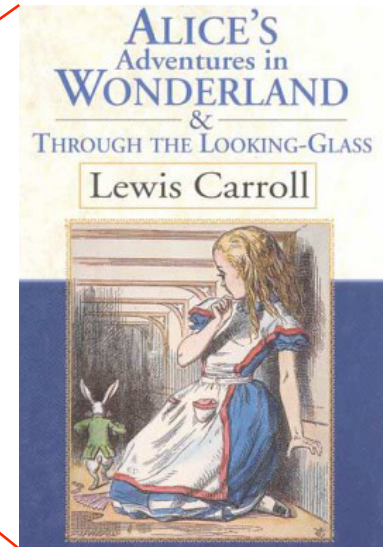
Specimen grid: flat and secure

(pp.91-92, lecture notes)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
  - ★ Choice of apertures
  - ★ Specimen stage/holder
  - ☆ Choice of magnification
- Focusing
- Magnification calibration
- Resolution tests
- Image intensifiers/TV displays
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)



Is it appropriate?

- Field of view
- Radiation damage
- High resolution

# **I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM**

## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

*“Should I go higher or lower?”*

Choice depends on the nature of the experiment

Many criteria for choosing a suitable magnification

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

“Should I go higher or lower?”

Choose “**low**” ( $< 10,000X$ ) to maximize field of view  
(*i.e.* get the BIG picture)

Choose “**high**” ( $> 30,000X$ ) to maximize resolution  
captured in the image (*i.e.* to see fine details)



# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.a Low Magnification (<10,000X)

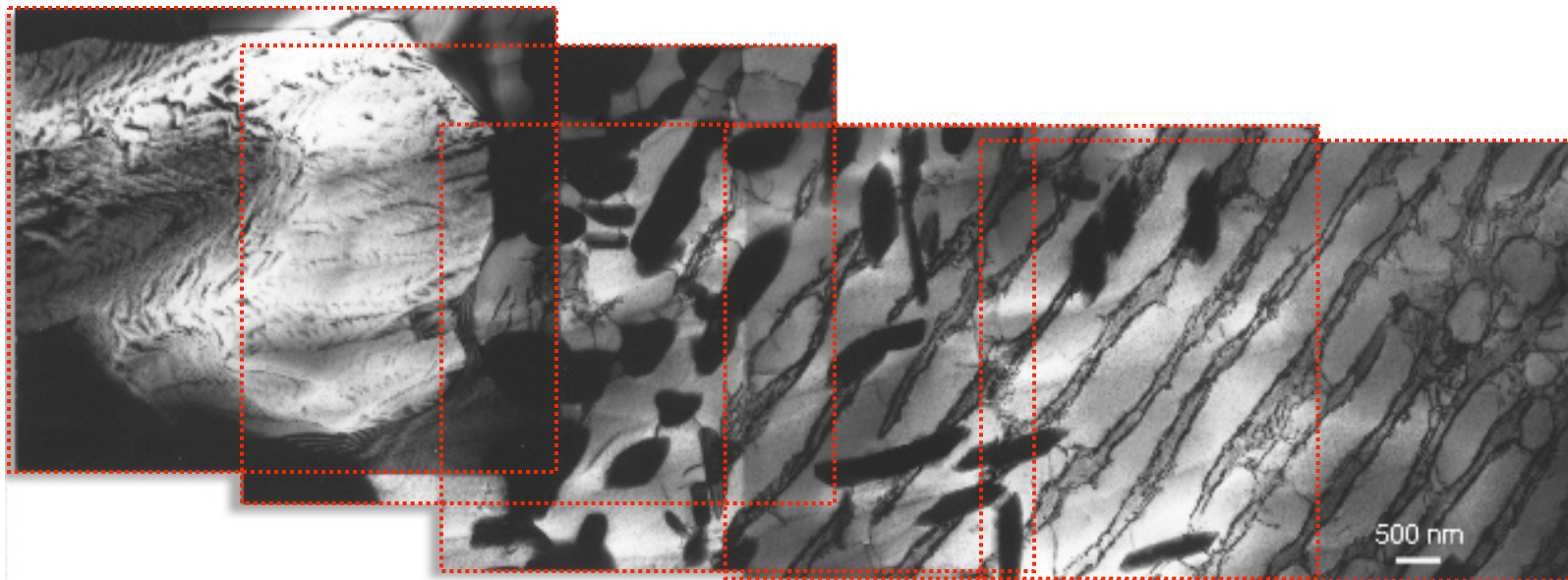
- Necessary to capture a **large field of view** from a specimen in a **single** micrograph
- **Montage**: splicing together prints from several low magnification micrographs
- If **very low** magnifications are used, **pincushion** and **barrel** distortions could be significant and the prints won't match correctly

## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.a Low Magnification (<10,000X)

Use when need to capture a **large field of view** from a specimen in a **single** micrograph

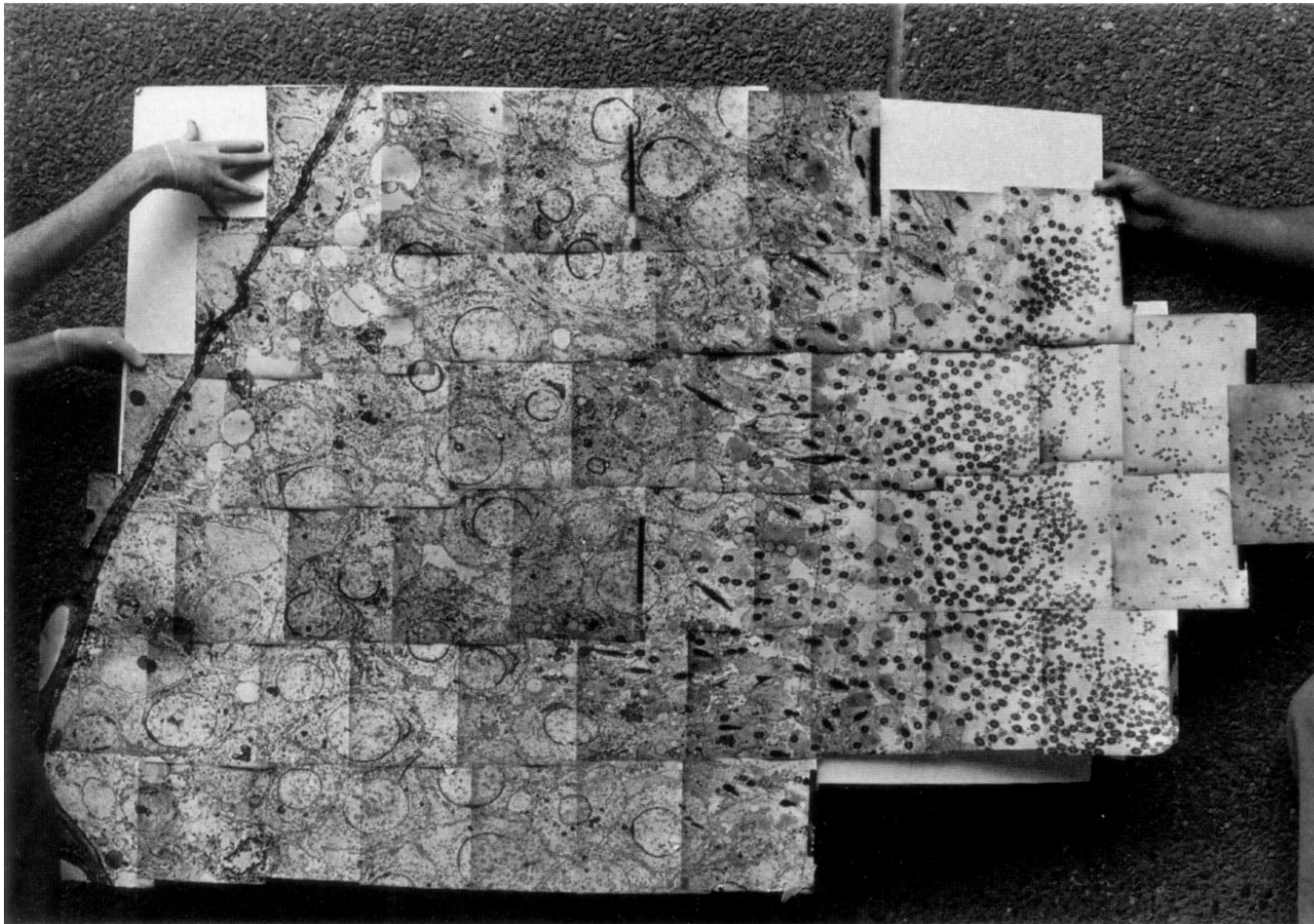
Use if need to prepare a **montage**, where prints from several low magnification micrographs are spliced together



## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.a Low Magnification (<10,000X)

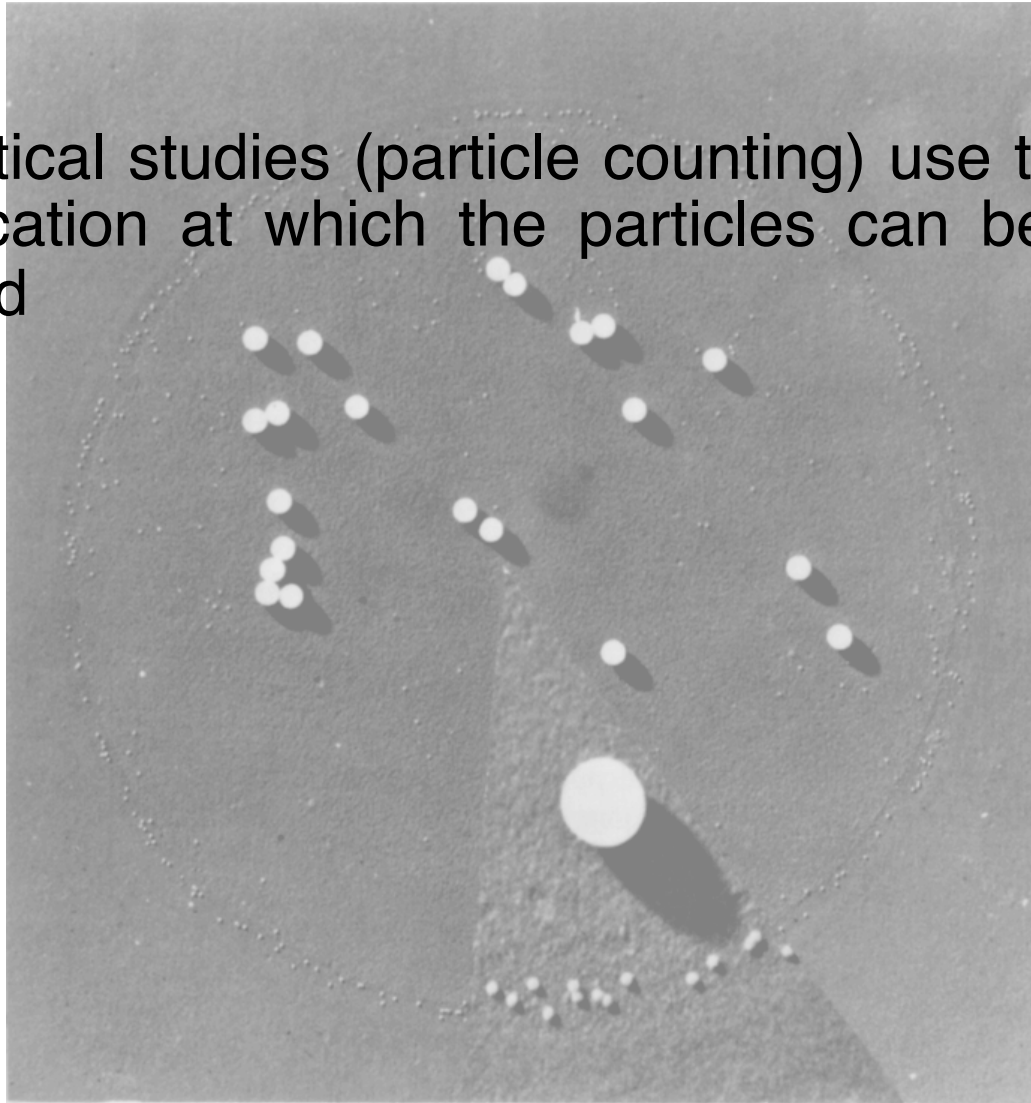
Montage of several overlapping micrographs to show extended view of tissue at high magnification



## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.b Statistical Studies

For statistical studies (particle counting) use the **lowest** magnification at which the particles can be correctly identified



Slide not shown in class lecture

From Hall, Fig. 10.65, p.359



## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.c Radiation Damage

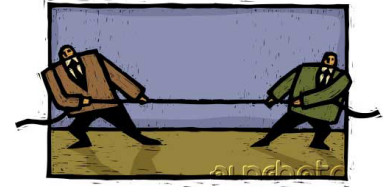
Use **lowest** possible magnification **and** illumination level when searching the grid for a suitable region of a **radiation sensitive** specimen

Use **lowest** possible magnification **and** illumination level when recording an image of the desired area **but high enough** to capture desired level of **detail**



## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



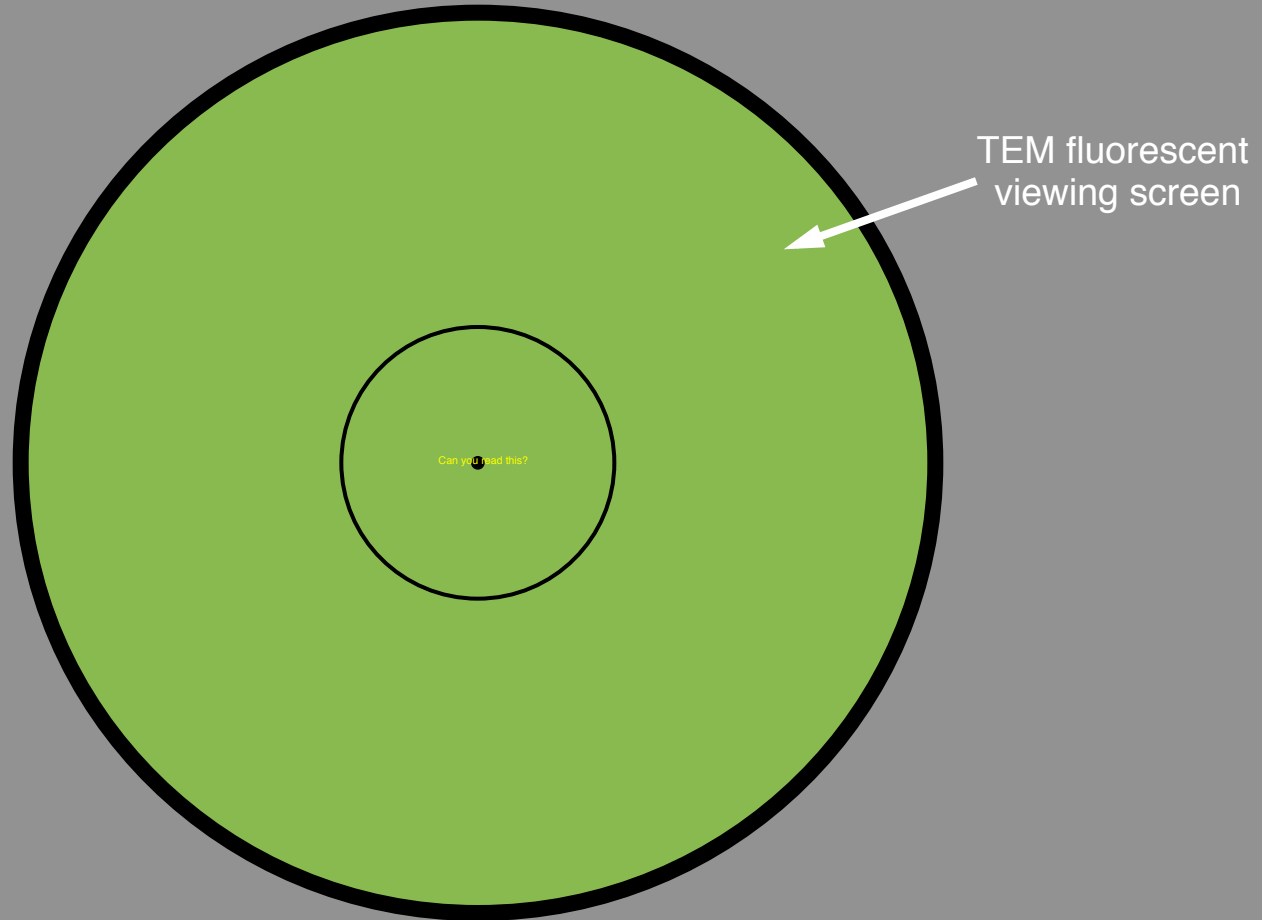
“High” magnification required to achieve **highest resolution** images (*i.e.* capture the finest specimen details)

### **Excessive (“empty”) magnification:**

Leads to unnecessary **radiation damage** because higher doses are needed to expose a photographic emulsion or CCD/DDD camera

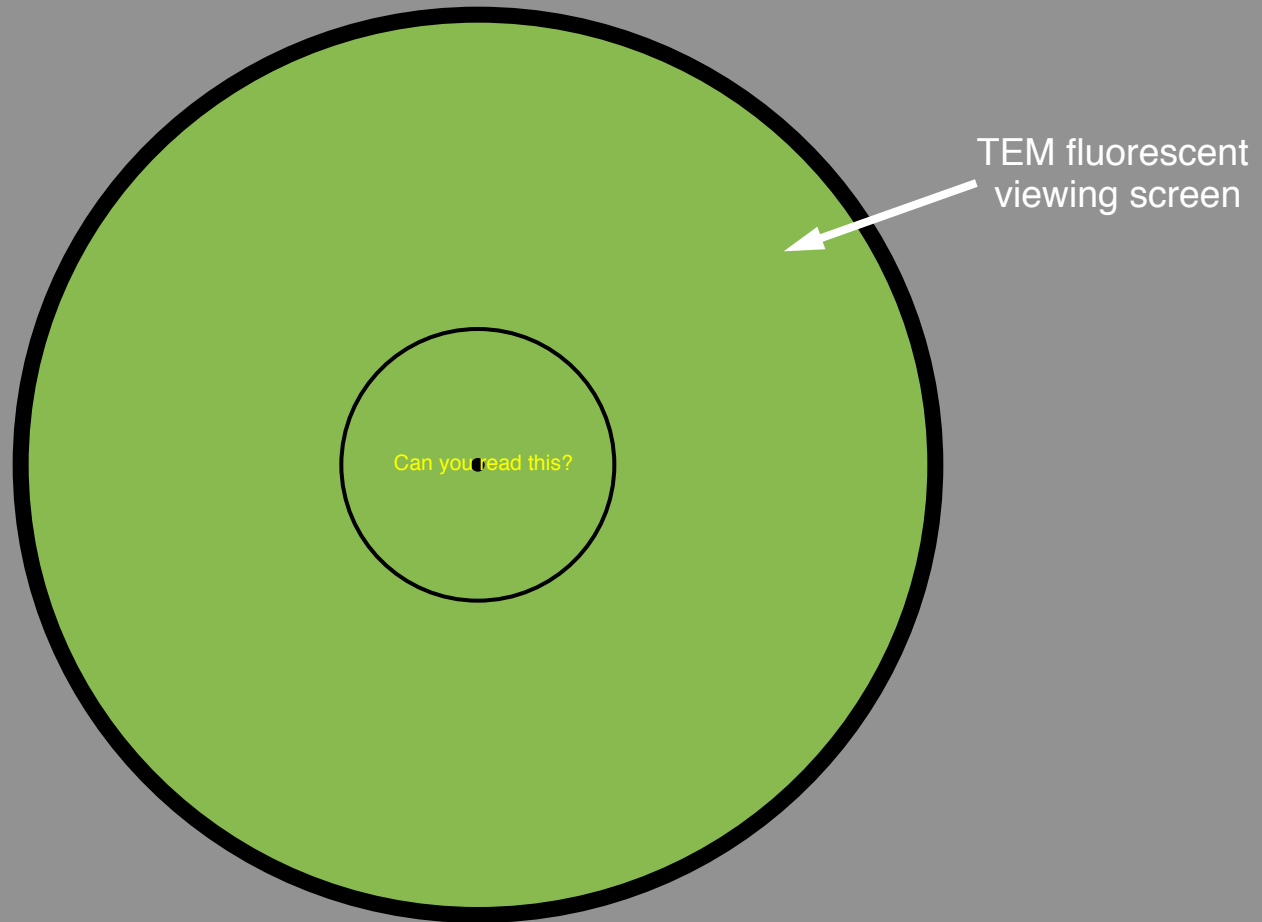
## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

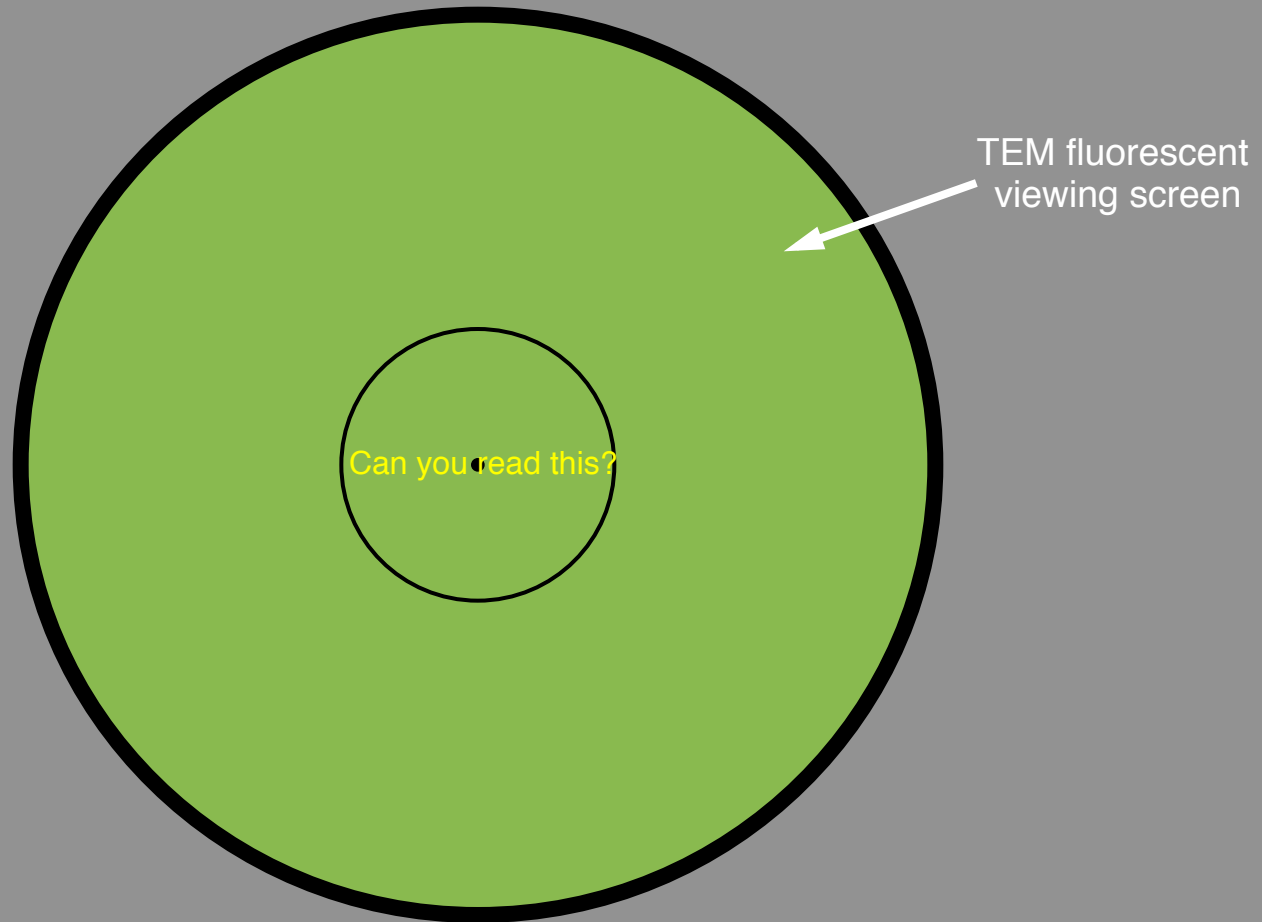
### I.E.4.d High Magnification





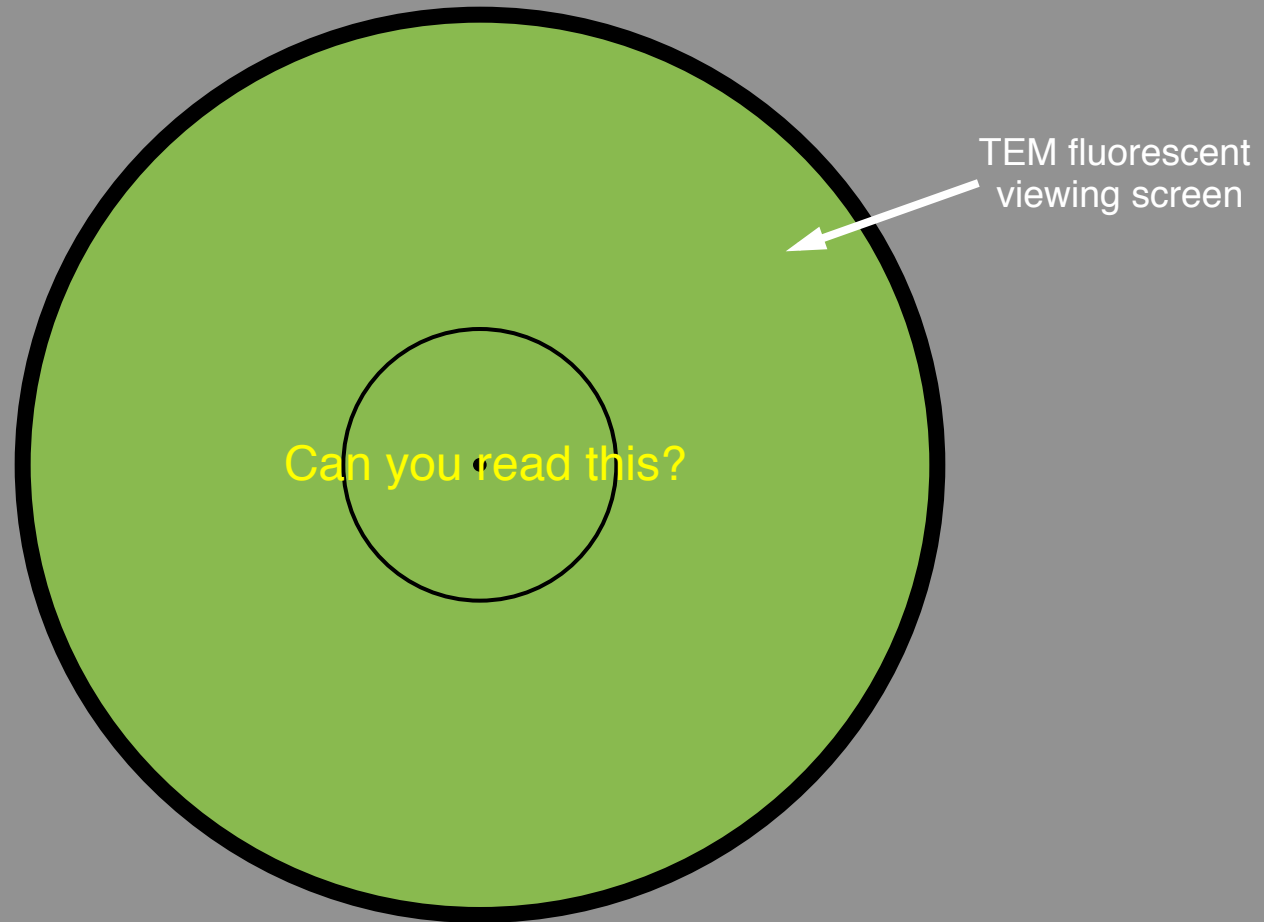
## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



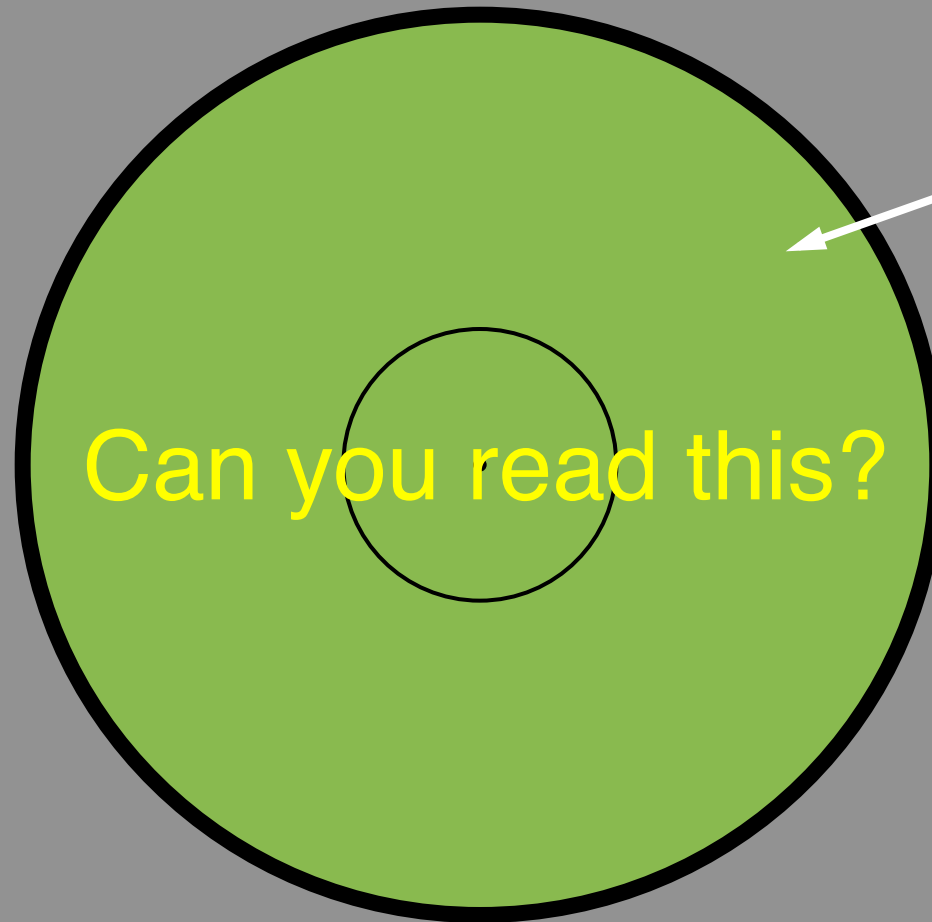
## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



TEM fluorescent  
viewing screen

## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification

TEM fluorescent  
viewing screen

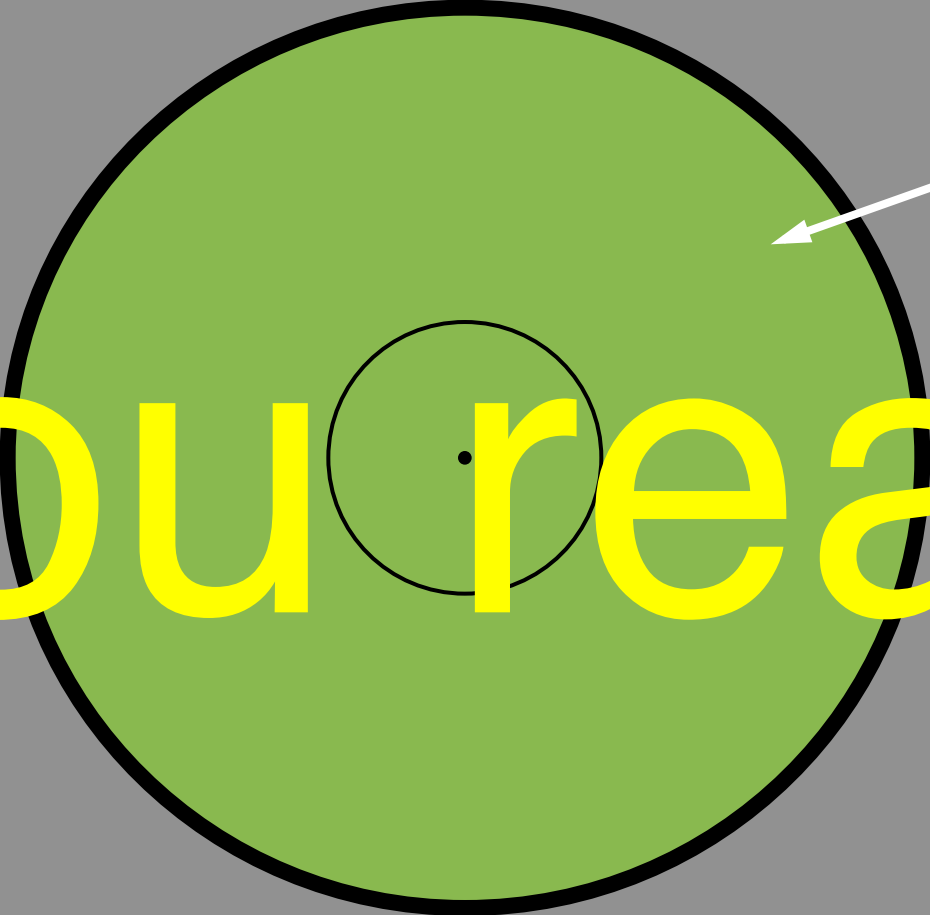


Can you read this?

## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification

TEM fluorescent  
viewing screen

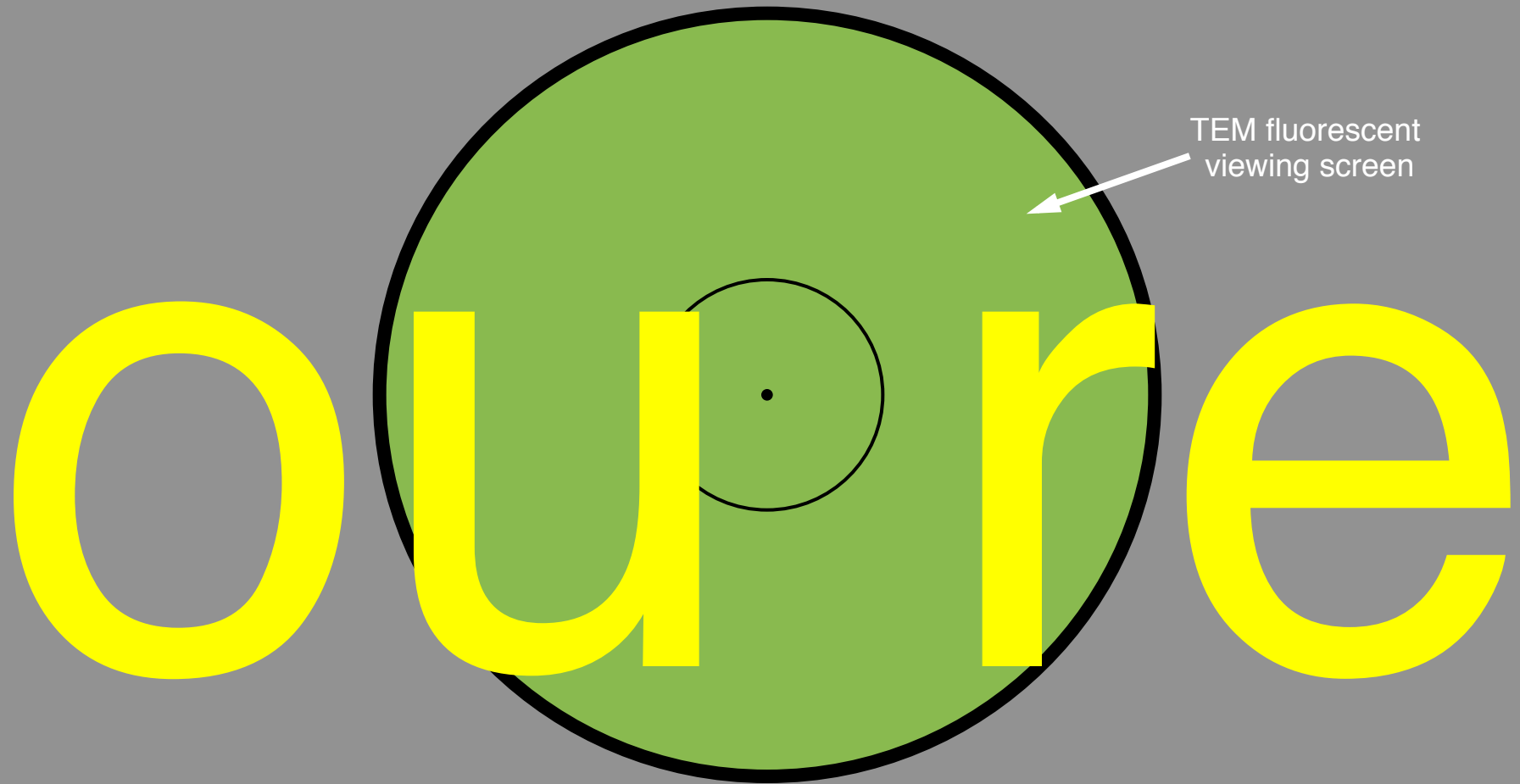


you read

The diagram shows a large green circle representing a TEM fluorescent viewing screen. Inside this circle, there is a smaller black circle with a central black dot, representing the electron beam spot. The text 'you read' is written in large yellow letters across the center of the screen, with the dot of the 'o' positioned at the center of the beam spot.

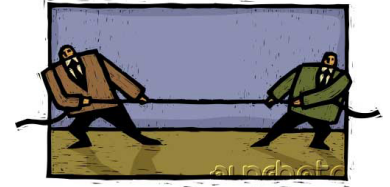
## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



**Resolution of photographic medium** (or pixel size of CCD or DDD camera) ultimately determines the **maximum** magnification needed to record details at a ***predetermined or estimated*** resolution

Photographic emulsions can resolve image details **AT LEAST** as small as **20  $\mu\text{m}$**

**Theoretical** (*i.e.* potential) resolution of object details captured in a photographic image depends on image magnification according to:

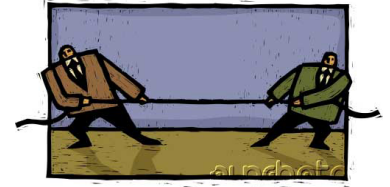
$$\text{Potential resolution} = \frac{20 \mu\text{m ( 'pixel' size)}}{\text{magnification}}$$

(captured on film)

**NOTE:** This is a **conservative** estimate since good photographic films can resolve details as small as 5-10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



**Potential resolution of object detail on film =  $20 \mu\text{m}/\text{magnification}$**

Magnification	<u>Potential Resolution</u> at Object
2,000	10.0 nm
20,000	1.0 nm
50,000	0.4 nm
100,000	0.2 nm

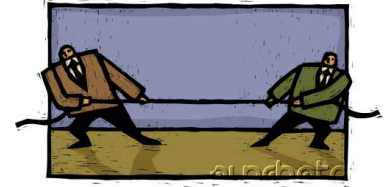
### **Take home message:**

Given the limited resolution that can be obtained in images of biological specimens, most “typical” microscopy is performed at magnifications **much higher than necessary** (and restricts specimen **field of view**)



## I.E.4 Choice of Magnification

### I.E.4.d High Magnification



### **Rule of Thumb:**

Select **lowest** magnification consistent with required resolution and the recording medium used

**NOTE:** Each time magnification is doubled, a 4-fold increase in beam intensity is required at the specimen to maintain the same intensity level in the image

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
  - ★ Choice of apertures
  - ★ Specimen stage/holder
  - ★ Choice of magnification
- Focusing
- Magnification calibration
- Resolution tests
- Image intensifiers/TV displays
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
- ★ Choice of apertures
- ★ Specimen stage/holder
- ★ Choice of magnification
- ★ Focusing

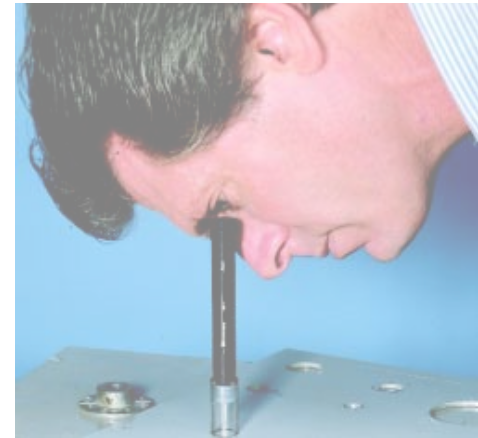
Magnification calibration

Resolution tests

Image intensifiers/TV displays

Microscope maintenance

Photography (analog and digital)



## *p-Flasher* Question

At which one of the following objective lens focal settings does interference contrast complement aperture contrast?

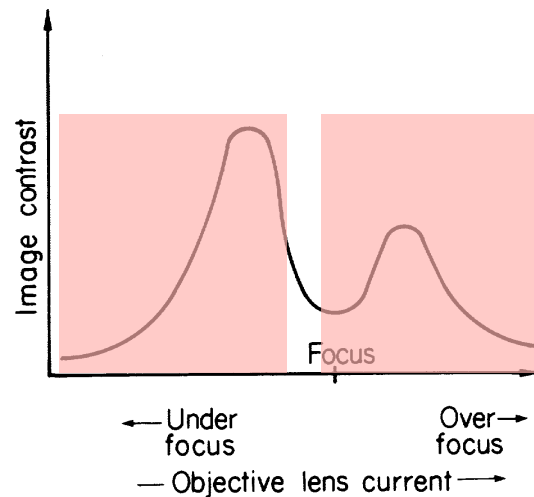
- A. Slight under focus
- B. Slight over focus
- C. Near focus
- D. True focus
- E. Exact focus

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



## I.E.5 Focusing

- Desired focus setting is set by making **small changes** in **objective lens current**
- **True / near / exact / dead focus**: condition where, ideally, **no** Fresnel fringes will form at an image point
- **Slight** degree of **underfocusing** gives optimum results



From Meek, 2nd ed., Fig. 5.3, p.100

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



## I.E.5 Focusing

- Desired focus setting is set by making **small changes** in **objective lens current**
- **True / near / exact / dead focus:** condition where, ideally, **no** Fresnel fringes will form at an image point
- **Slight** degree of **underfocusing** gives optimum results

Here, **aperture contrast** will be **enhanced** with **interference contrast** (*i.e.* they work TOGETHER)



## I.E.5 Focusing

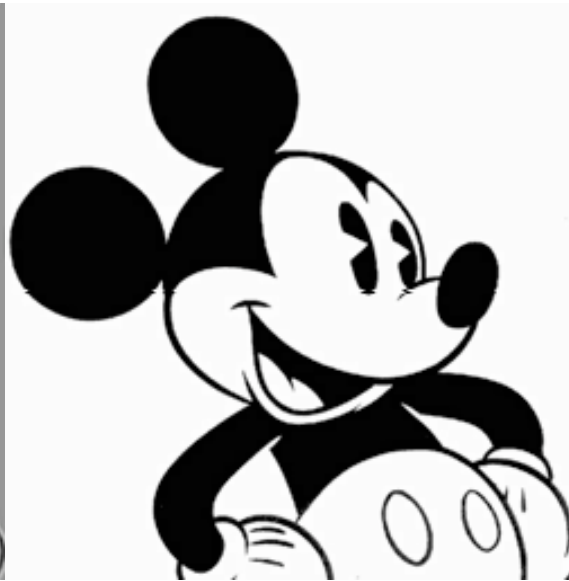


**Slight** degree of **underfocusing** gives optimum results

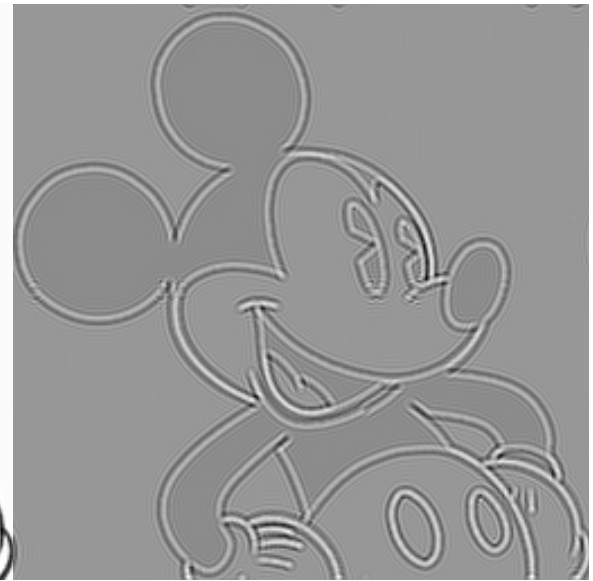
Here, **aperture contrast** will be **enhanced** with **interference contrast**  
(*i.e.* they work TOGETHER)



Slight underfocus  
(5% Amplitude, 95% Phase)



In focus  
(100% Amplitude)



Slight overfocus  
(5% Amplitude, 95% Phase)

## I.E.5 Focusing

### I.E.5.a Focusing at Low Magnification (< 15,000X)



## Primary Methods

**1. Wobbler**

**2. Minimum Contrast**

(see p.93 of lecture notes)

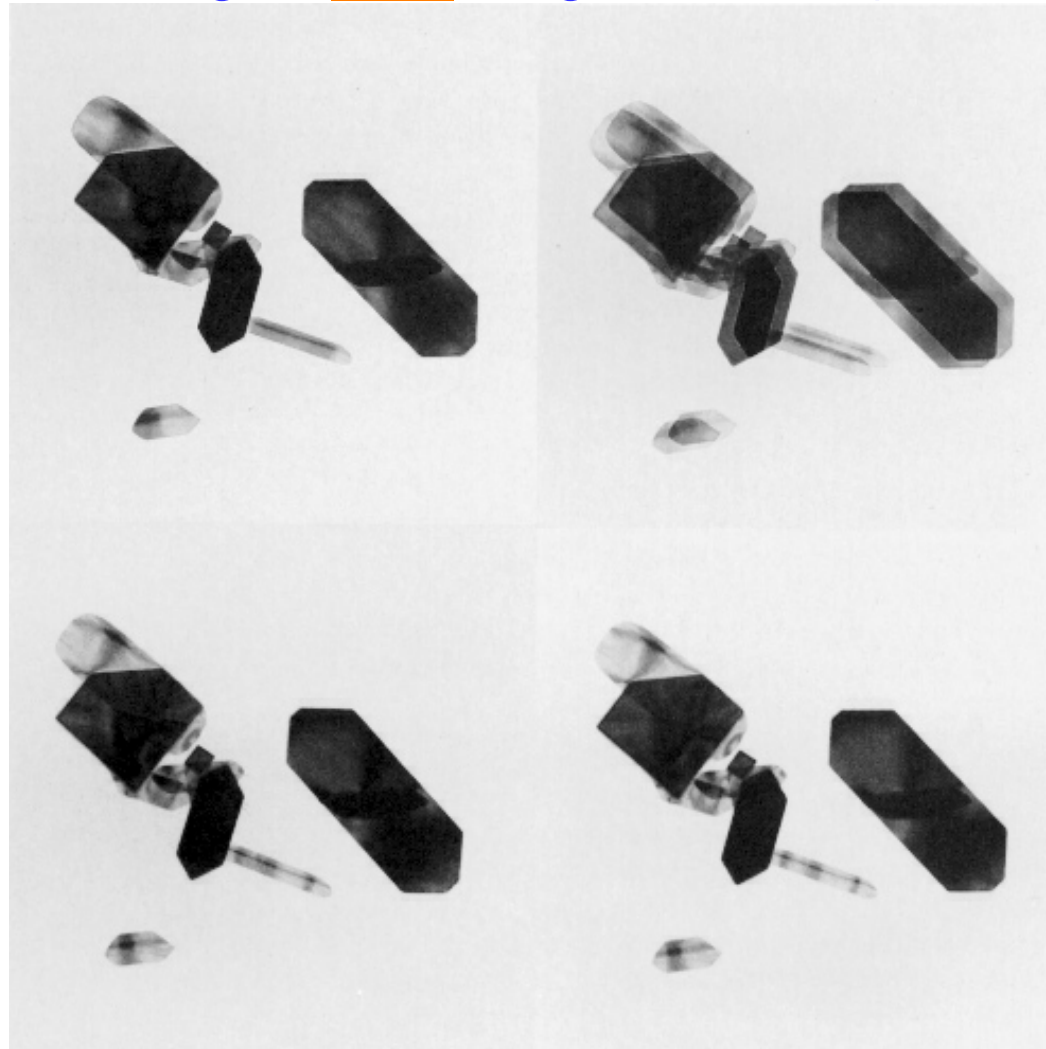


## I.E.5 Focusing

### I.E.5.a Focusing at Low Magnification (< 15,000X)



#### Focusing with a Wobbler Aid



Out of focus

In focus

Wobbler off

Wobbler on

## I.E.5 Focusing

### I.E.5.a Focusing at Low Magnification ( $< 15,000X$ )



## *2. Minimum Contrast Method*

(see p.93 of lecture notes)

- A. Withdraw **objective aperture**
- B. Focus objective lens to **minimize image phase contrast** (i.e. try to make image “disappear”)
- C. Reinsert objective aperture and record image

**Not** the most effective or recommended way to focus!

- 1) Objective aperture may become misaligned
- 2) Too crude for careful imaging esp. at high resolution



## I.E.5 Focusing

### I.E.5.a Focusing at Low Magnification (< 15,000X)

#### Primary Methods

1. **Wobbler**
2. **Minimum Contrast**

### I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing (usually > 30,000X)

#### Primary Method

***Forget the specimen; use the support film!***

## I.E.5 Focusing

### I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing ( $> 30,000X$ )



*Forget the specimen; use the support film!*

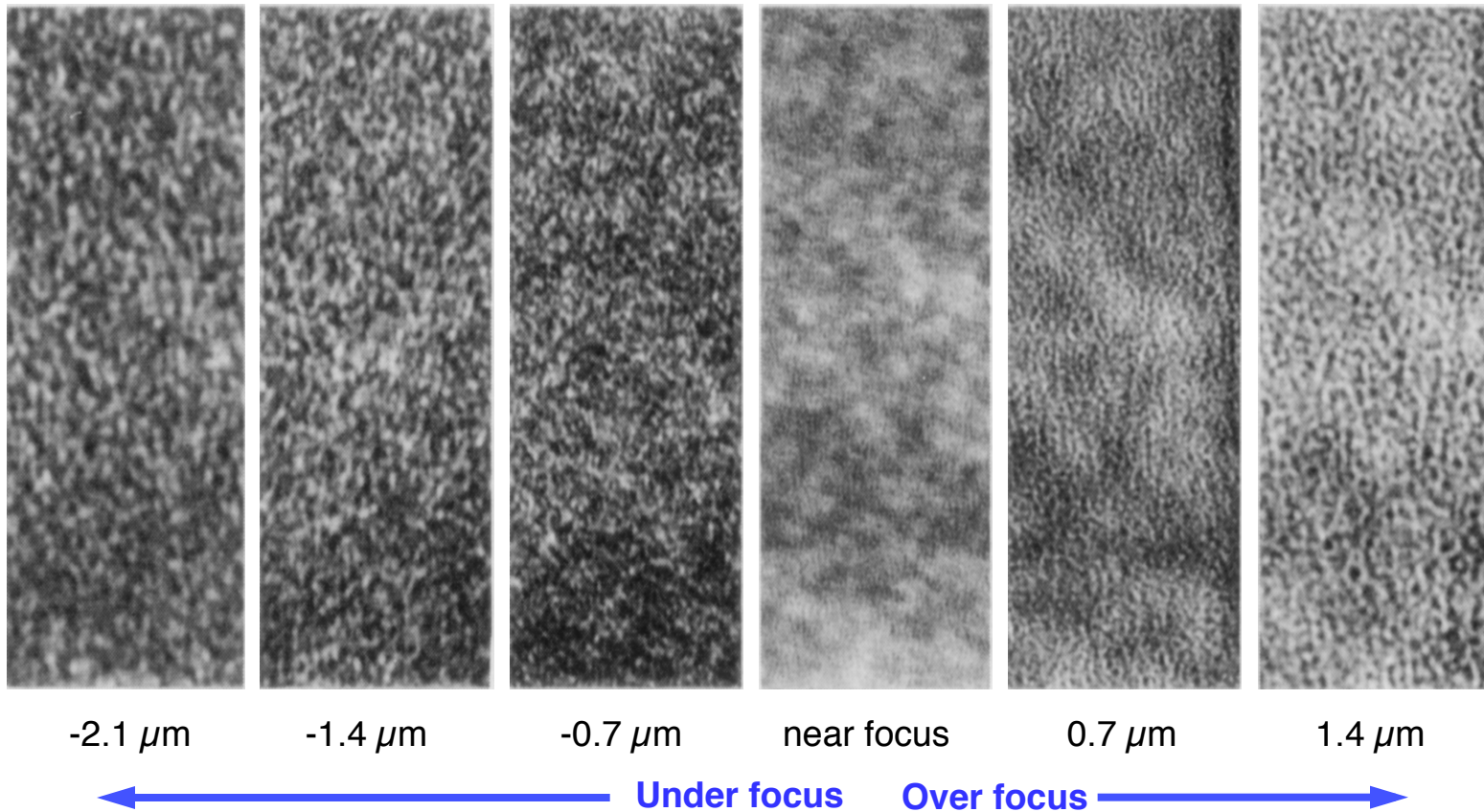
- Focus image based on the **appearance** of the **support film** (“sub-structure” seen is mainly just phase contrast Fresnel fringes)
- Best **NOT** to judge proper focus based merely on the appearance of a specimen, especially a new or unfamiliar one

Support film is a predictable (well-defined, well-behaved) "specimen" with a characteristic appearance at near focus settings

## I.E.5 Focusing

### I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing

#### Through Focus Series: Thin Carbon Film Lightly Shadowed with Platinum



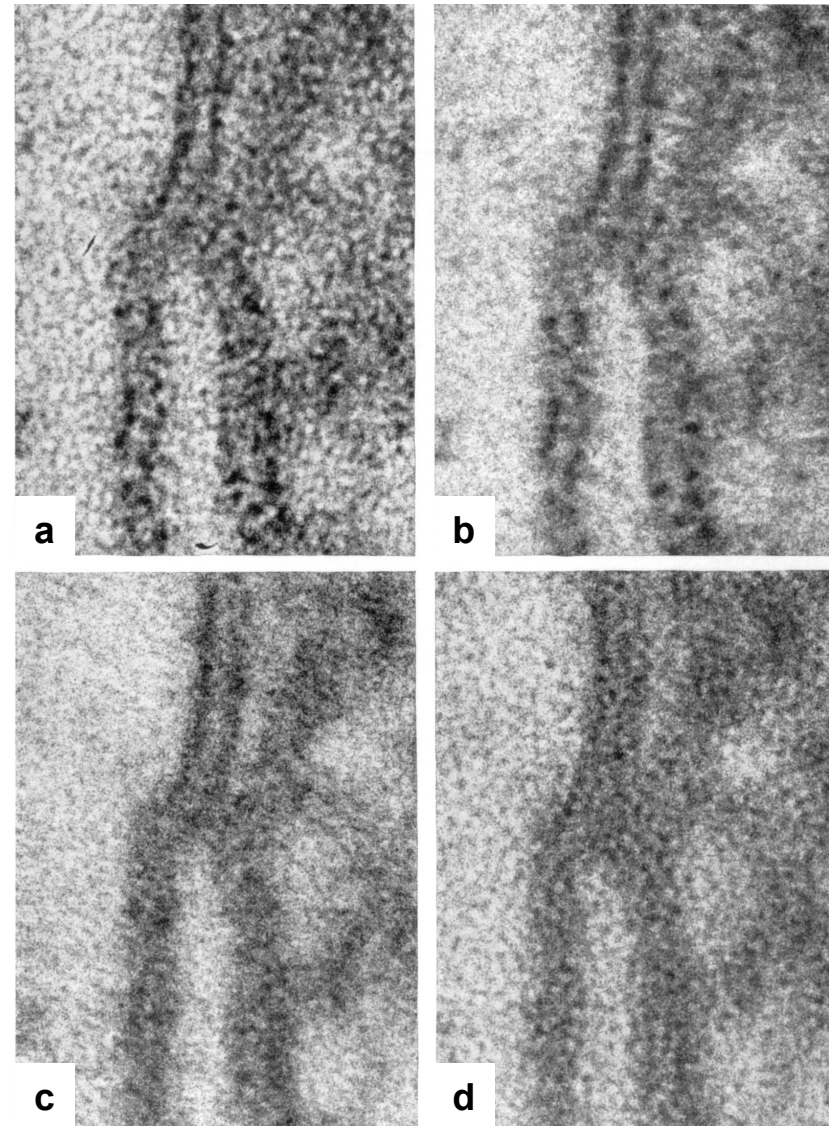


## I.E.5 Focusing

### I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing

**Phase contrast effects on image of stained mitochondrial outer membrane in thin section**

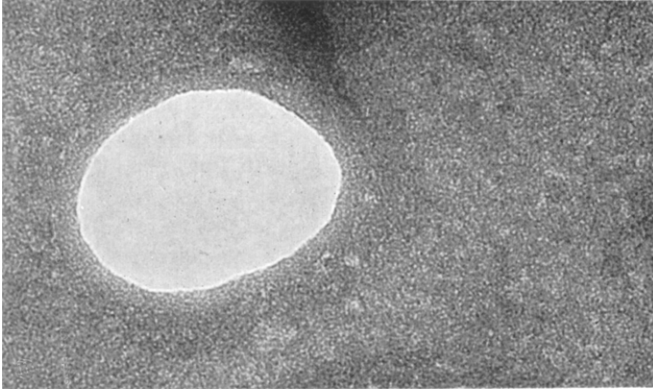
- a) Under focus
- b) Close to focus
- c) Slightly over focused
- d) Over focused



## I.E.5 Focusing

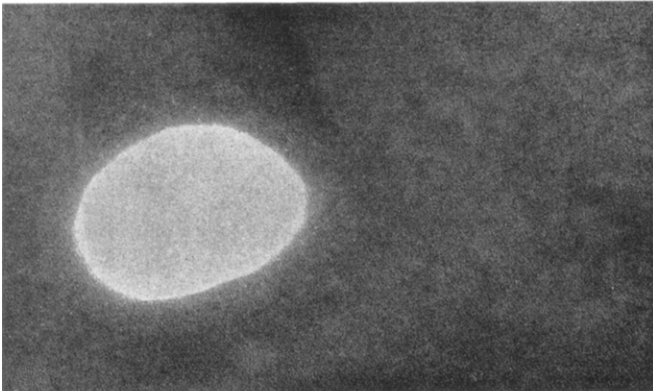
### I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing

#### Hole in a thin carbon film

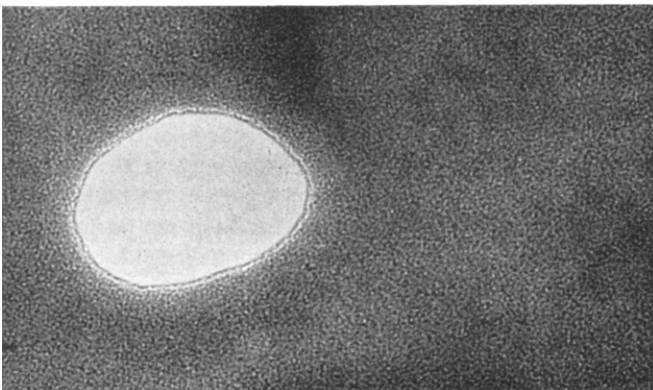


Under focus

Bright line inside hole (objective lens too weak)



Near focus

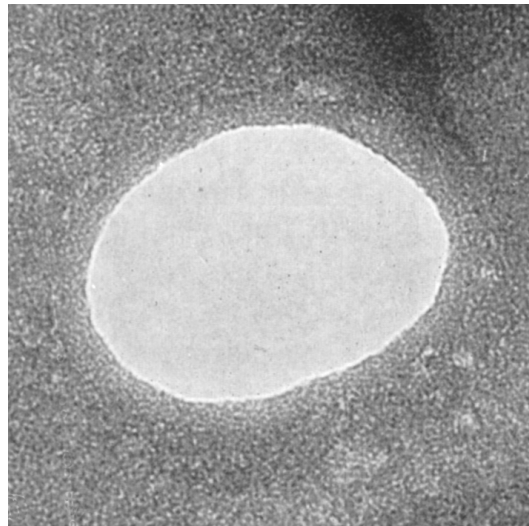


Over focus

Bright line inside carbon film (objective lens too strong)

I.E.5 Focusing  
I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing

**Hole in a Thin Carbon Film**

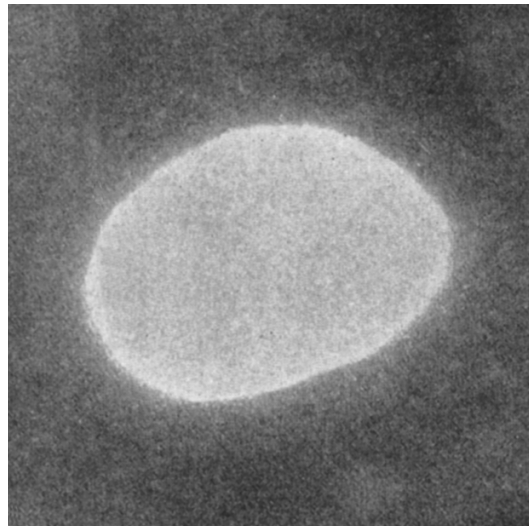


Under focus



I.E.5 Focusing  
I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing

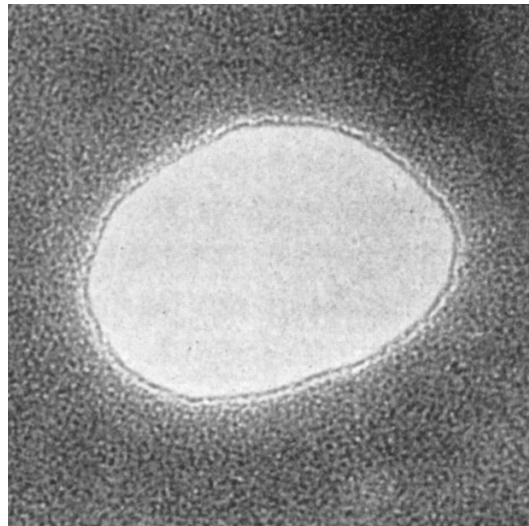
**Hole in a Thin Carbon Film**



Near focus

I.E.5 Focusing  
I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing

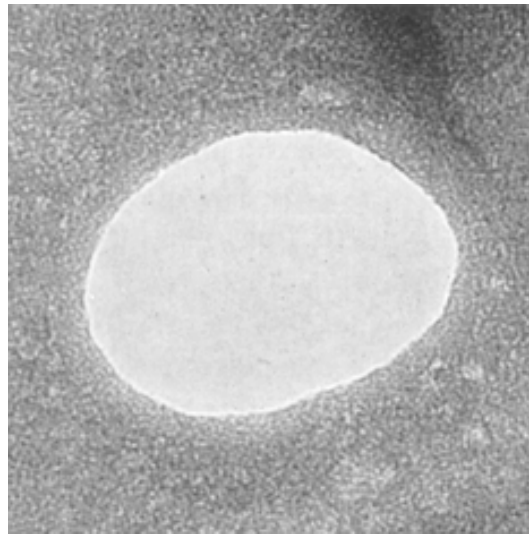
**Hole in a Thin Carbon Film**



Over focus

I.E.5 Focusing  
I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing

**Hole in a Thin Carbon Film**



Focus series  
Animation

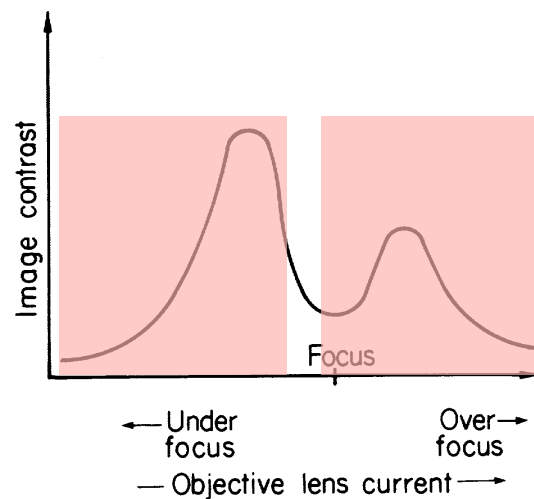
## I.E.5 Focusing

### I.E.5.b High Magnification Focusing ( $> 30,000X$ )



## Rules of Thumb to Live (and Die) By:

1. The higher the magnification, the **more accurately** the **image must be focused**
2. **High contrast** does **NOT** mean you have achieved optimum focus



From Meek, 2nd ed., Fig. 5.3, p.100

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
- ★ Choice of apertures
- ★ Specimen stage/holder
- ★ Choice of magnification
- ★ Focusing

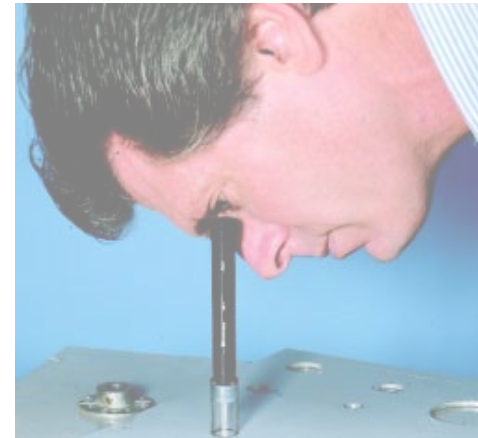
Magnification calibration

Resolution tests

Image intensifiers/TV displays

Microscope maintenance

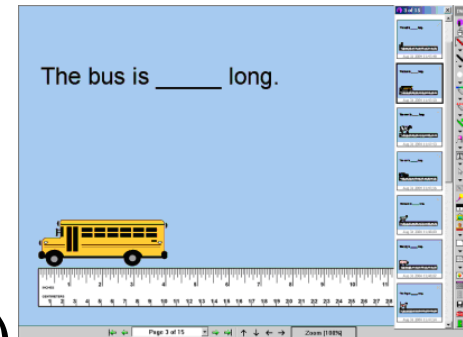
Photography (analog and digital)

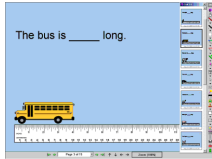


# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
  - ★ Choice of apertures
  - ★ Specimen stage/holder
  - ★ Choice of magnification
  - ★ Focusing
  - ★ Magnification calibration
- Resolution tests
- Image intensifiers/TV displays
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)





# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



## I.E.6 Magnification Calibration

### Why be concerned?

~ **2-5%** uncertainty in **nominal** magnification settings in modern TEMs

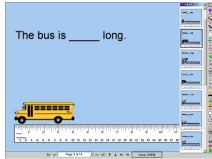
Must have an **independent** calibration of image magnification to measure specimen dimensions accurately

### Why are nominal settings uncertain?

TEM lenses suffer from **hysteresis** and must be **normalized** to improve reproducibility (*p. 32 of lecture notes*), but there is no guarantee that actual image magnifications will precisely match the nominal settings.

### What must be done?

Record images of **calibration standards** (specimens with known dimensions or spacings)



# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.6 Magnification Calibration

### Why be concerned?

~ **2-5%** uncertainty in **nominal** magnification settings in modern TEMs

Must have an **independent** calibration of image magnification to measure specimen dimensions accurately

### Why are nominal settings uncertain?

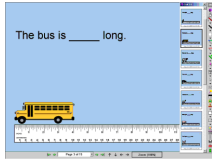
TEM lenses suffer from **hysteresis** and must be **normalized** to improve reproducibility (p. 32 of lecture notes), but there is no guarantee that actual image magnifications will precisely match the nominal settings.

### What must be done?

Record images of **calibration standards** (specimens with known dimensions or spacings)

**Each** specimen holder used must be calibrated separately





# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

I.E.6 Magnification Calibration

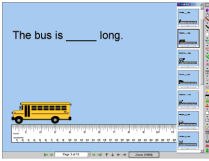
## Primary Calibration Standards

Polystyrene Latex Spheres

Diffraction Grating Replicas

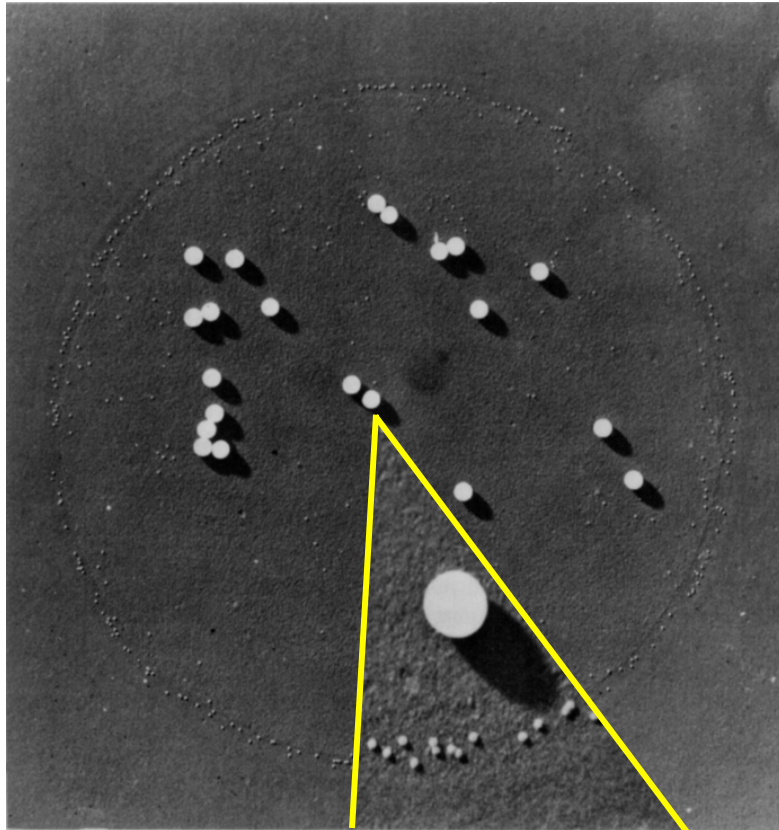
Crystalline Specimens





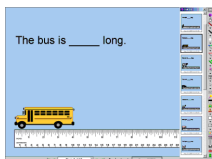
## I.E.6 Magnification Calibration

### I.E.6.a Polystyrene Latex Spheres



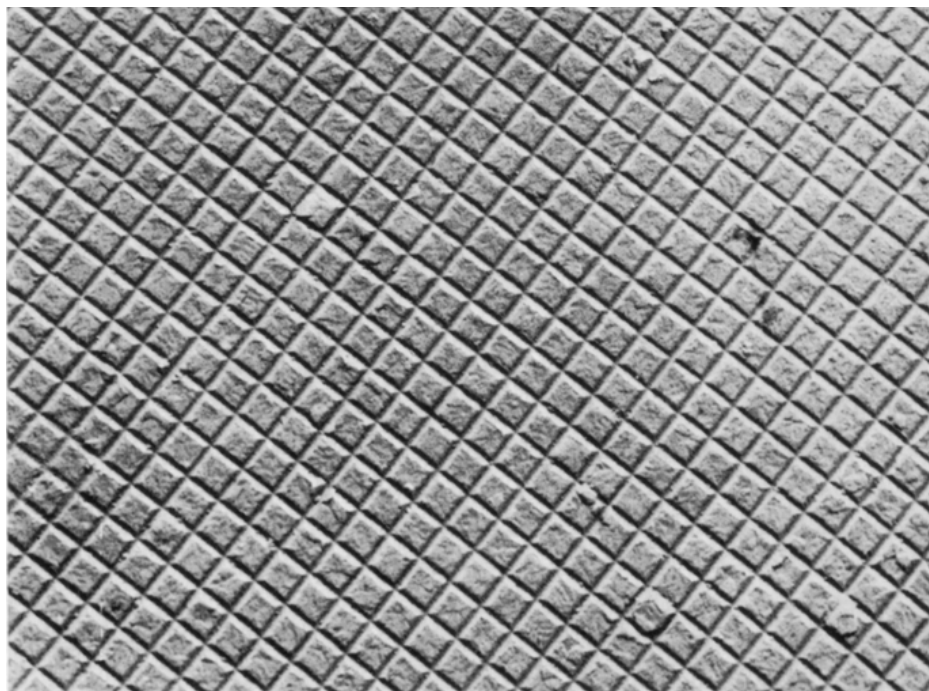
- **Relatively uniform** (come in various sizes  $\geq 100$  nm diameter)
- Serve as **internal** calibration standards (**mix with** specimen sample and image together)
- **Accuracy** only **~5-10%**
- **Tedious:** need to measure large numbers of spheres

From Hall, Fig. 10.65, p.359



## I.E.6 Magnification Calibration

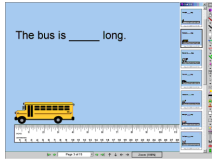
### I.E.6.b Diffraction Grating Replicas



**Replica of Cross-ruled  
Diffraction Grating  
(2160 lines/mm)**

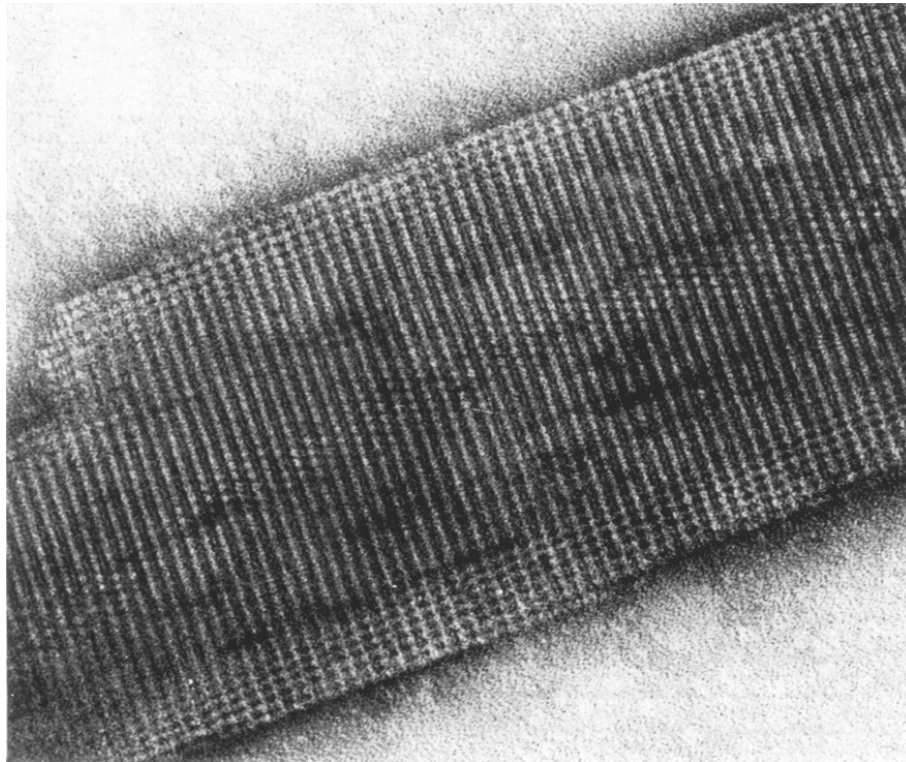
From Agar, Fig. 5.9, p. 162

Convenient calibration of low magnification TEM settings  
(~5,000-20,000X)



## I.E.6 Magnification Calibration

### I.E.6.c Crystalline Specimens



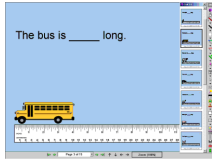
**Thin crystal of beef liver  
catalase, negatively-  
stained with ammonium  
molybdate**

Periodicities: 8.75 x 3.43 nm

From Agar, Fig. 5.10, p. 163

Convenient calibration of medium magnification TEM  
settings (~20,000-100,000X)



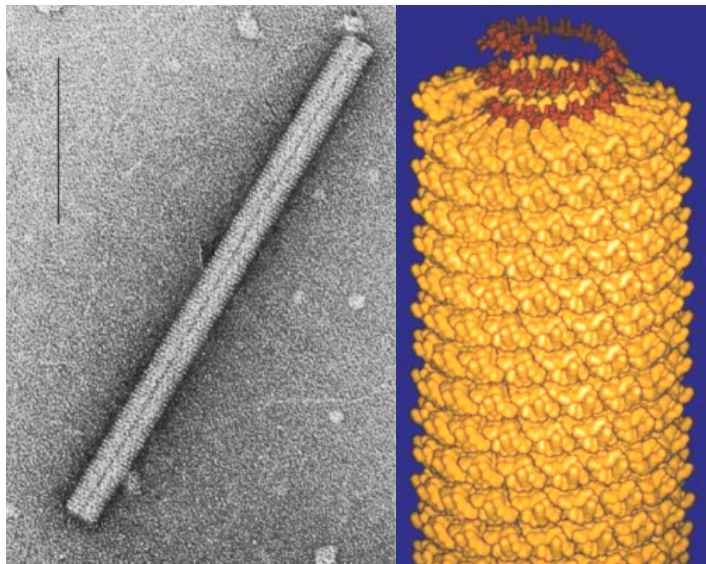


## I.E.6 Magnification Calibration

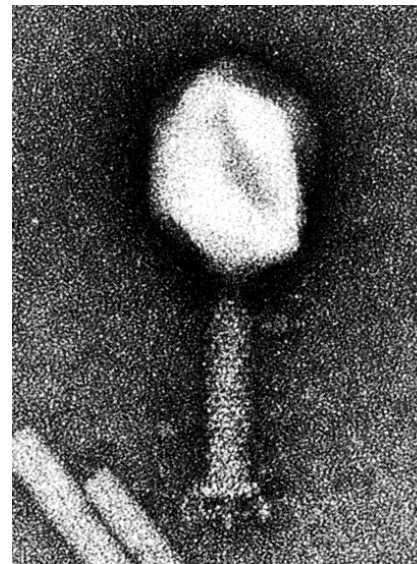
### I.E.6.c Crystalline Specimens



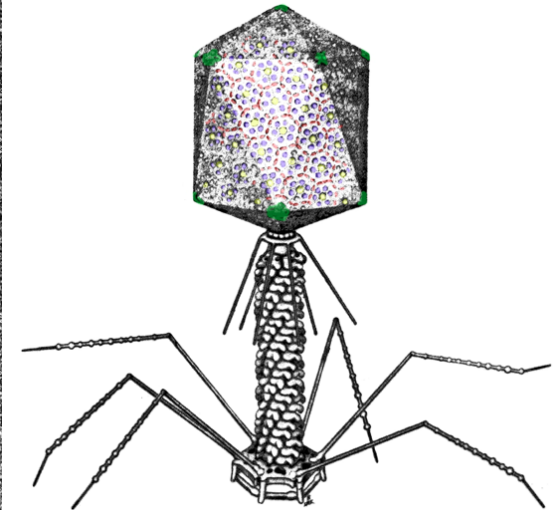
Several good **internal** calibration standards for biological specimens

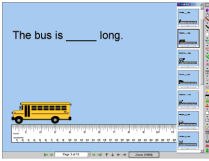


Tobacco mosaic virus  
(2.3 nm axial spacing)



T4 bacteriophage tails  
(3.9 nm axial spacing)



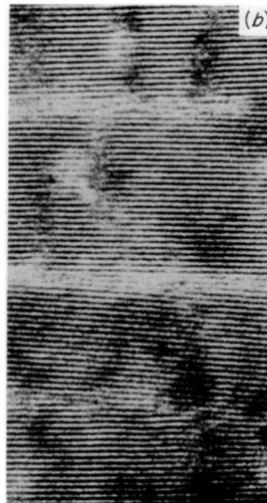
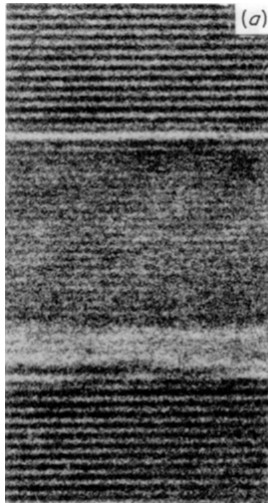


## I.E.6 Magnification Calibration

### I.E.6.c Crystalline Specimens

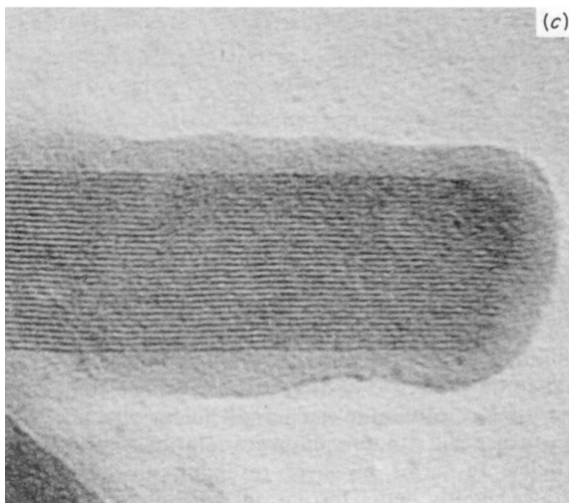


## Calibration standards for high magnifications (>100,000X)



(a) Cu-phthalocyanine (**0.98** and **1.26 nm** lattice spacings)

(b) K-chloroplatinate (**0.699 nm** spacing; but very susceptible to beam damage)



(c) Pt-phthalocyanine (**1.25 nm** spacing)

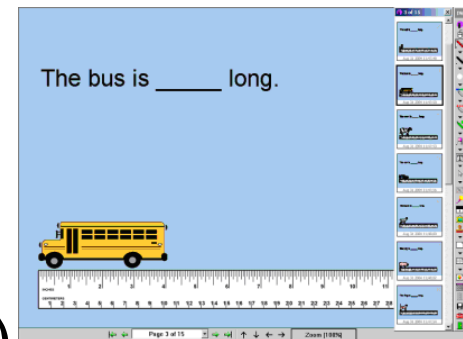
From Meek 1st ed., Fig. 12.6, p. 334

Slide not shown in class lecture

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
  - ★ Choice of apertures
  - ★ Specimen stage/holder
  - ★ Choice of magnification
  - ★ Focusing
  - ★ Magnification calibration
- Resolution tests
- Image intensifiers/TV displays
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)



# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
- ★ Choice of apertures
- ★ Specimen stage/holder
- ★ Choice of magnification
- ★ Focusing
- ★ Magnification calibration
- ★ Resolution tests
- Image intensifiers/TV displays
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)



# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.7 Resolution Tests

**Recall: Resolving power** of the TEM

Defined as the best possible performance as limited by the small aperture of objective lens

**How does one check microscope performance?**

- Record micrographs of suitable **test** specimens
- Measure **actual resolution** achieved **in the recorded image**

# **I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM**

## **I.E.7 Resolution Tests**

### **Primary Resolution Tests**

**Point Separation** (p.100 in lecture notes)

**Lattice Resolution**

## I.E.7 Resolution Tests

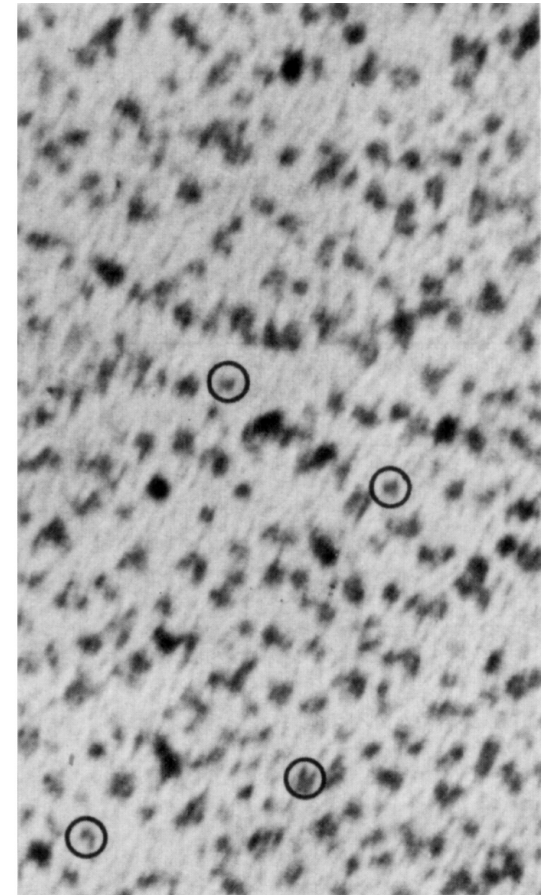
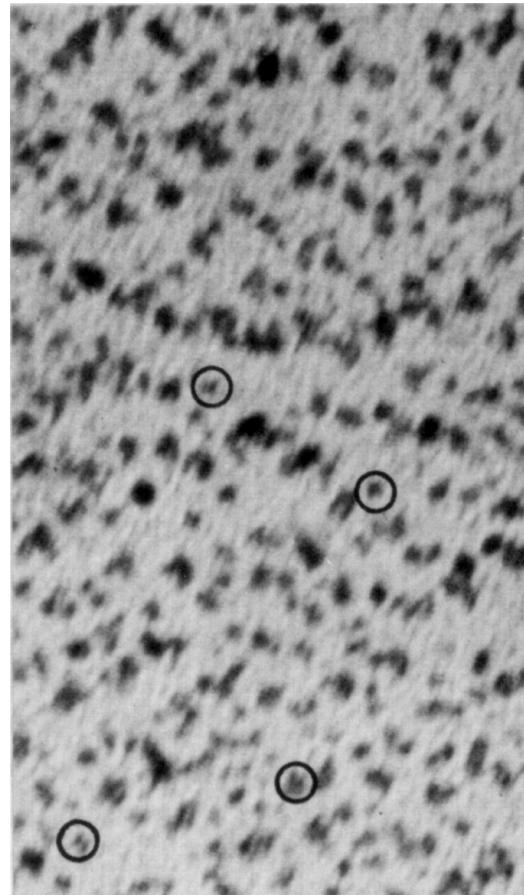
### I.E.7.a Point Separation Test

### Point Separation Resolution Measurement

#### Platinum-iridium on carbon substrate

Separation of  $< 1.0 \text{ nm}$  for  
pairs of particles, imaged at  
 $\sim 2$  million times, indicates  
resolving power of better  
than  $5 \text{ \AA}$

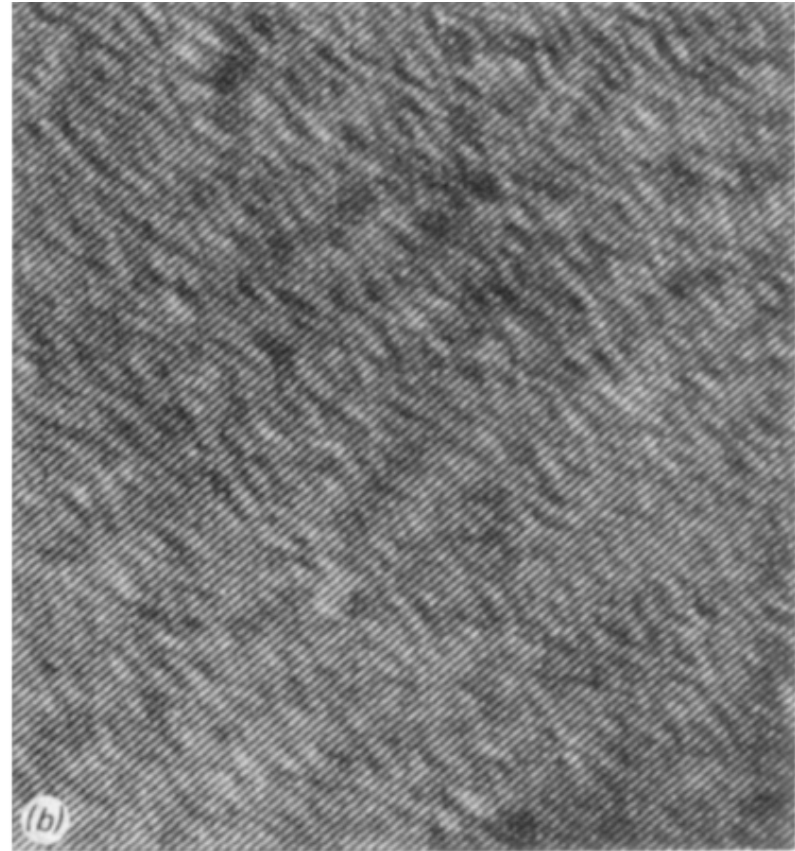
Two micrographs needed to  
ensure that random phase  
granularity is not measured  
by mistake for actual  
particles



I.E.7 Resolution Tests  
I.E.7.b Lattice Resolution Test  
**Crystal Lattice Spacings**



Graphitized carbon  
(lattice spacing = 3.4 Å)



Gold foil  
(lattice spacing = 2.04 Å)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
- ★ Choice of apertures
- ★ Specimen stage/holder
- ★ Choice of magnification
- ★ Focusing
- ★ Magnification calibration
- ★ Resolution tests
- Image intensifiers/TV displays
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
  - ★ Choice of apertures
  - ★ Specimen stage/holder
  - ★ Choice of magnification
  - ★ Focusing
  - ★ Magnification calibration
  - ★ Resolution tests
  - ☆ Image intensifiers/TV displays — (pp.102-103, lecture notes)
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.8 Image Intensifier / TV Displays

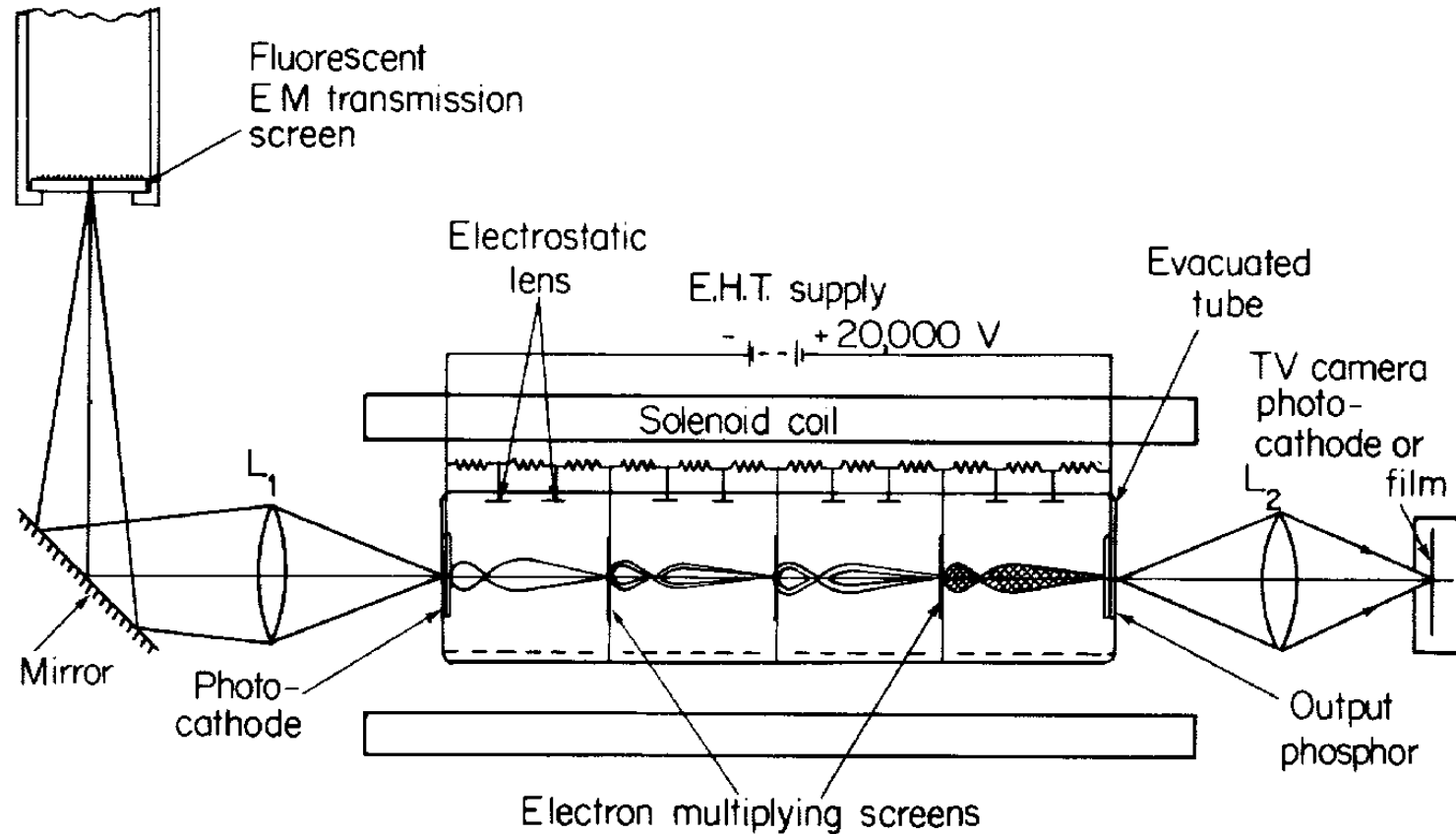


Diagram of TEM image intensifier developed by GEC-AEI Ltd..

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
  - ★ Choice of apertures
  - ★ Specimen stage/holder
  - ★ Choice of magnification
  - ★ Focusing
  - ★ Magnification calibration
  - ★ Resolution tests
  - ☆ Image intensifiers/TV displays — (pp.102-103, lecture notes)
- Microscope maintenance
- Photography (analog and digital)



# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
  - ★ Choice of apertures
  - ★ Specimen stage/holder
  - ★ Choice of magnification
  - ★ Focusing
  - ★ Magnification calibration
  - ★ Resolution tests
  - ★ Image intensifiers/TV displays
  - ☆ Microscope maintenance (p. 103 lecture notes)
- Photography (analog and digital)

**BOTTOM LINE:** Pay big bucks for a service contract

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM



- ★ Choice of accelerating voltage
- ★ Choice of apertures
- ★ Specimen stage/holder
- ★ Choice of magnification
- ★ Focusing
- ★ Magnification calibration
- ★ Resolution tests
- ★ Image intensifiers/TV displays
- ★ Microscope maintenance
- ★ Photography (analog and digital)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

Photographic process

Optical density

Density related to exposure

Density/exposure curves

Contrast

Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion

Electron range in emulsion

Number of grains per electron

Graininess

Resolution (image spread - electron diffusion)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

- ★ **Photographic process**
  - Optical density**
    - Density related to exposure
    - Density/exposure curves
    - Contrast
    - Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion
    - Electron range in emulsion
    - Number of grains per electron**
    - Graininess
    - Resolution** (image spread - electron diffusion)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

## What's the Bottom Line?

**Complete, faithful, and permanent record** of details contained in the electron image

**With film images in the TEM, the goal is to:**

**Maximize Density**

**Enhance Contrast**

**Reduce Noise**

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

## KEY CONCEPT

Photographic emulsions respond differently to **electrons** and **photons**

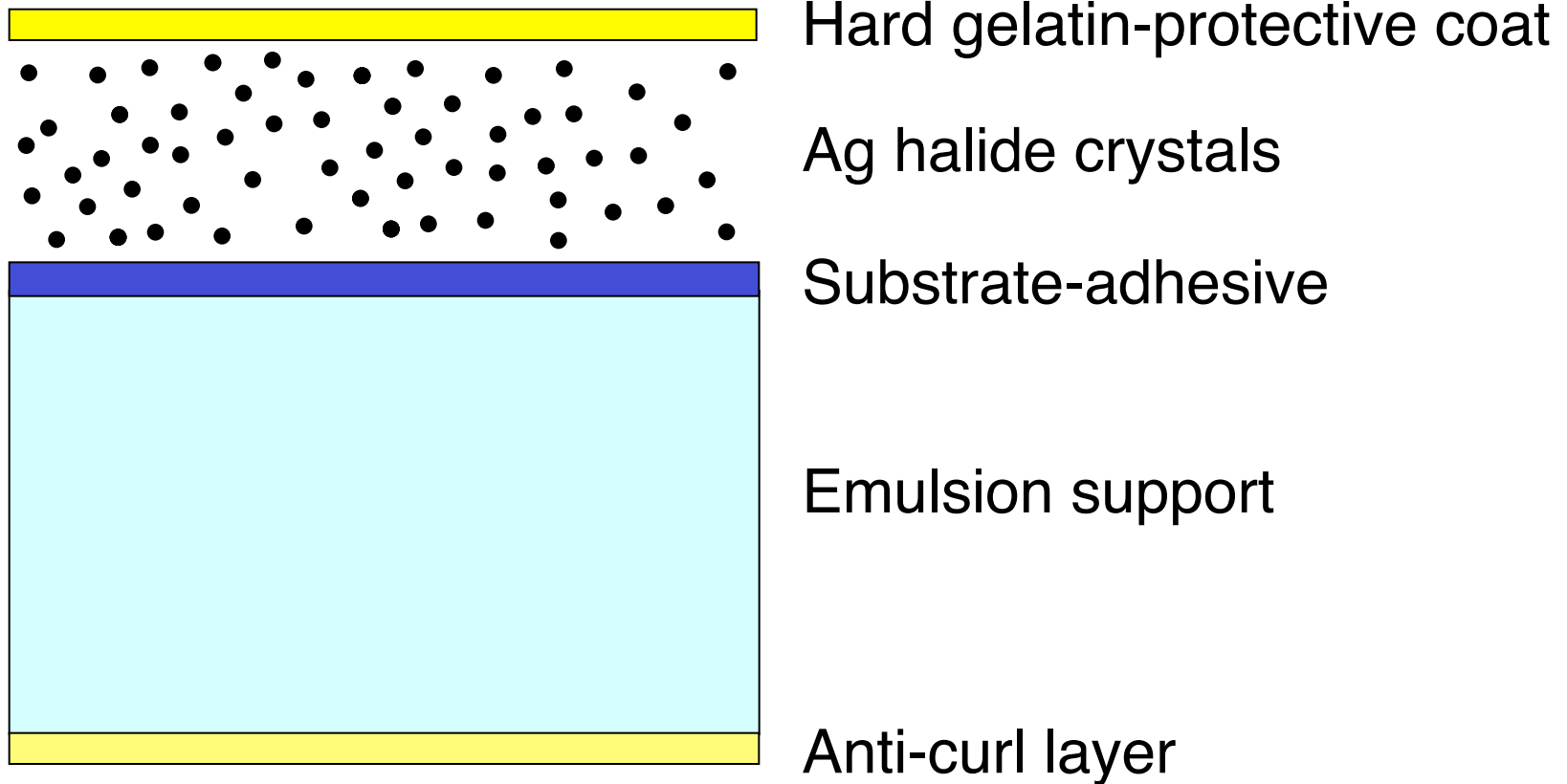
**Electrons:** **single-hit** process

**Photons:** **multiple-hit** process

# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.a The Photographic Process

### Structure of the Photographic Film

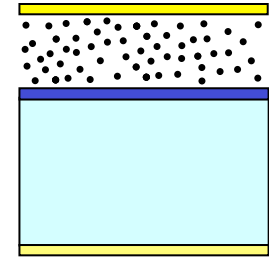


## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

### I.E.10.a The Photographic Process

**What happens when electrons or photons hit an emulsion?**

Ag atom **specks** form in the Ag-halide crystal



**Photons:** Required energy is  **$\sim 30\text{eV}$**

**10 photons** needed (each photon has  $\sim 2.5\text{eV}$ )

**Electrons:** Required energy is  **$\sim 500\text{eV}$**

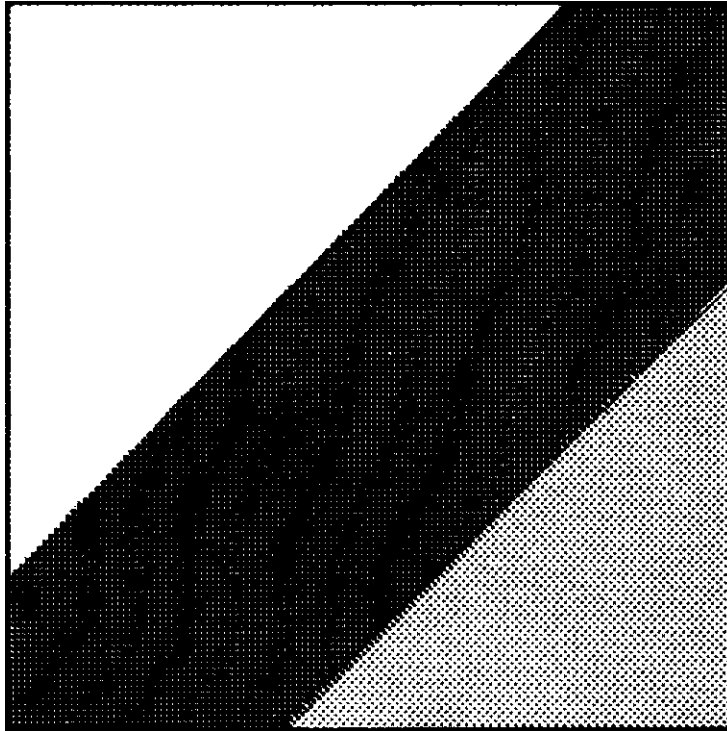
**1  $e^-$**  in a  $100\text{keV}$  beam **more than sufficient !!!**

Exposure of film to  $e^-$  is a **single-hit** process

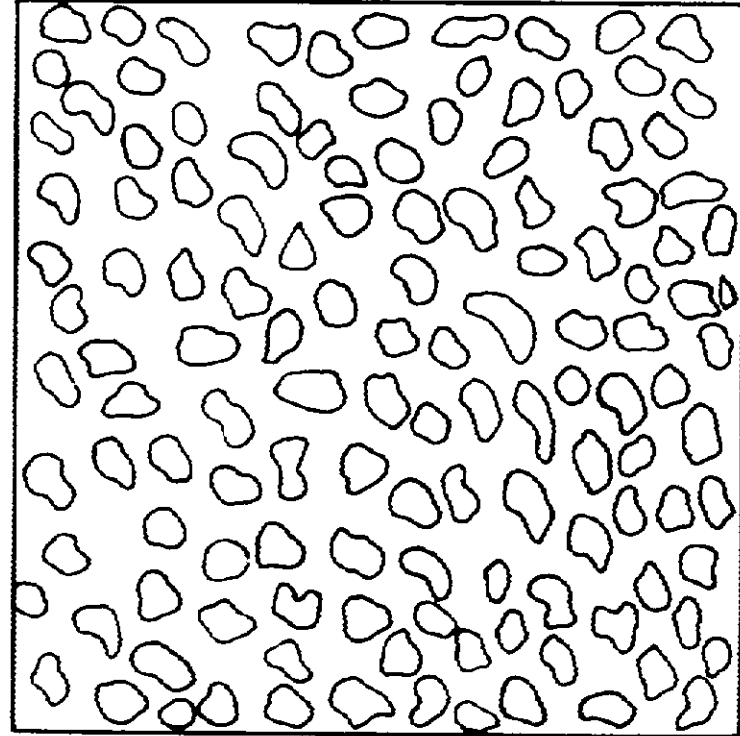


# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.a The Photographic Process



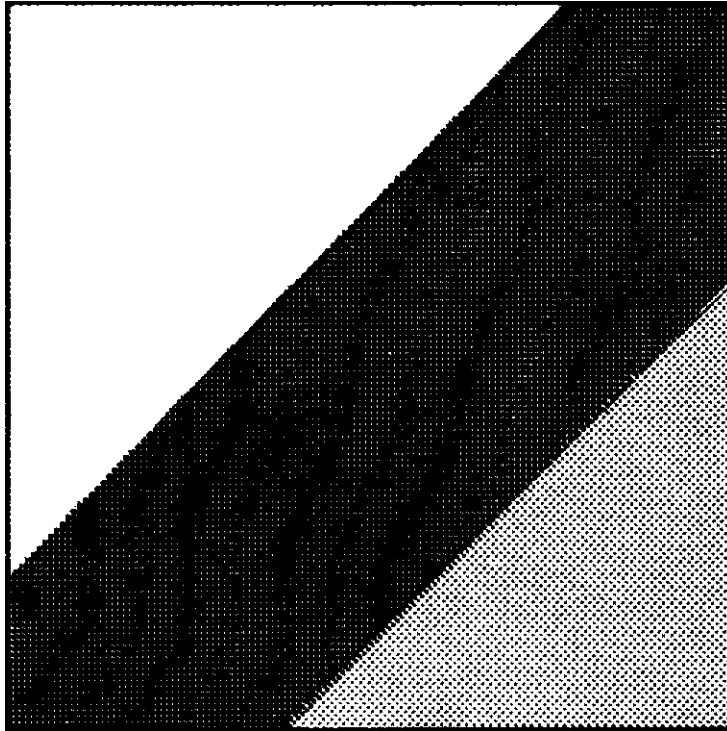
Electron image  
(Very high mag and small field of view)



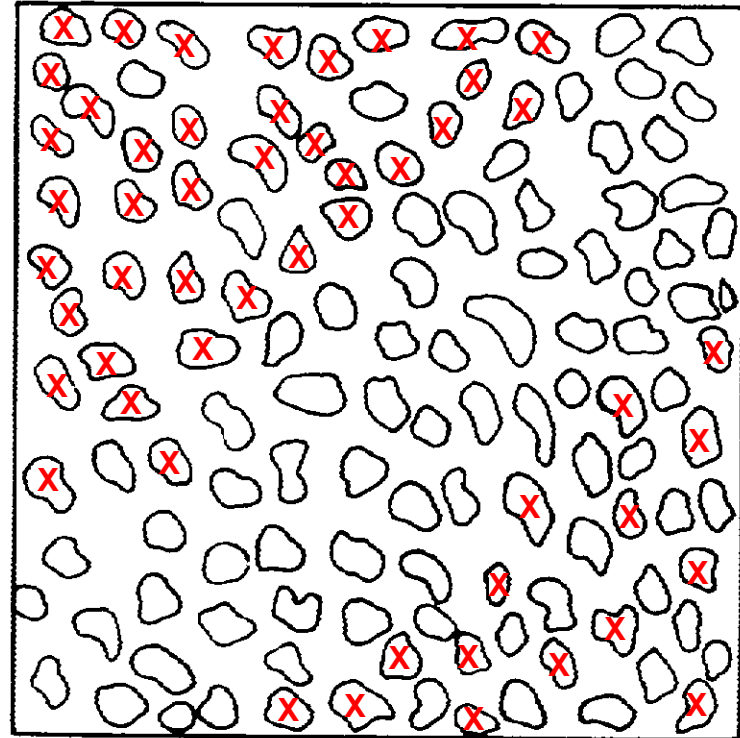
Unexposed emulsion  
(Area same as image on left)

# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.a The Photographic Process



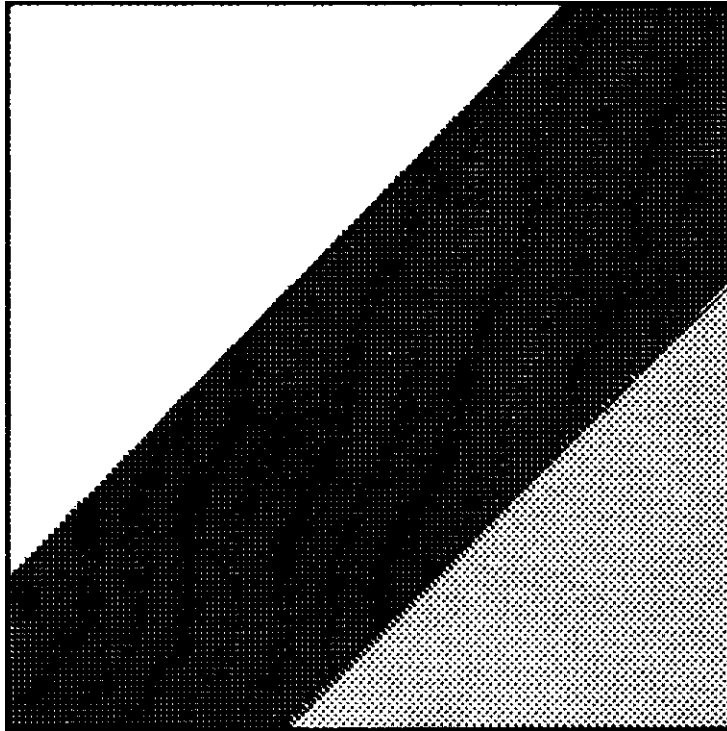
Electron image  
(Very high mag and small field of view)



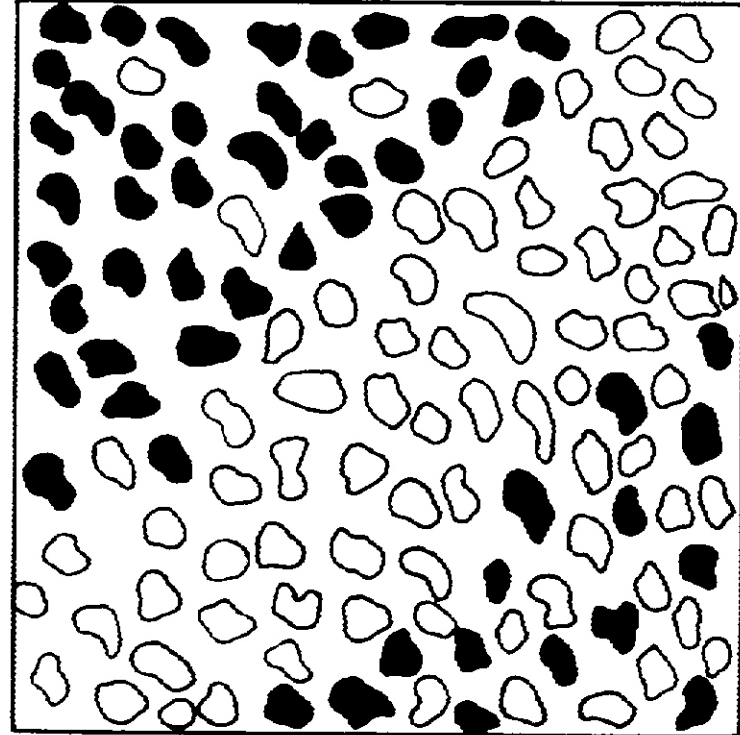
Exposed but  
unprocessed emulsion

# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.a The Photographic Process



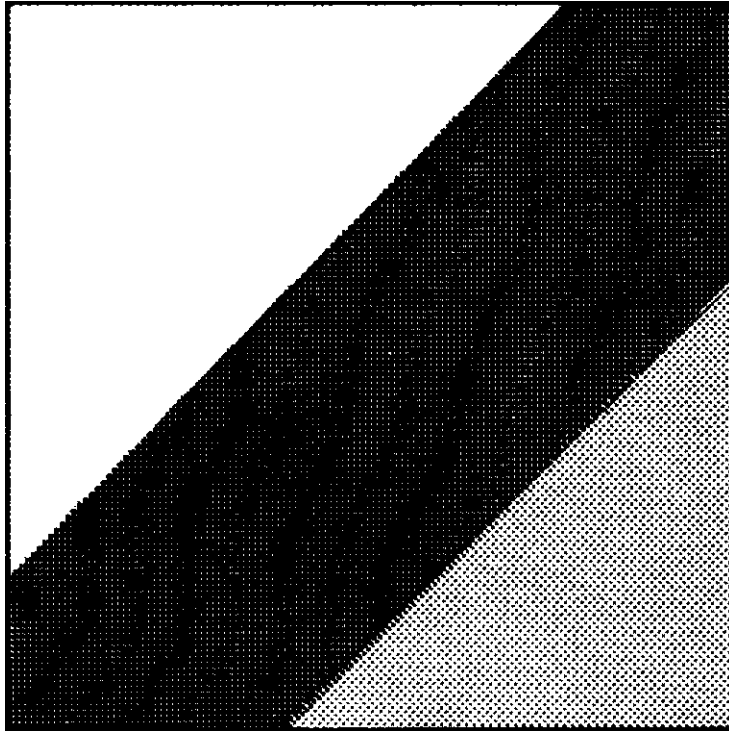
Electron image  
(Very high mag and small field of view)



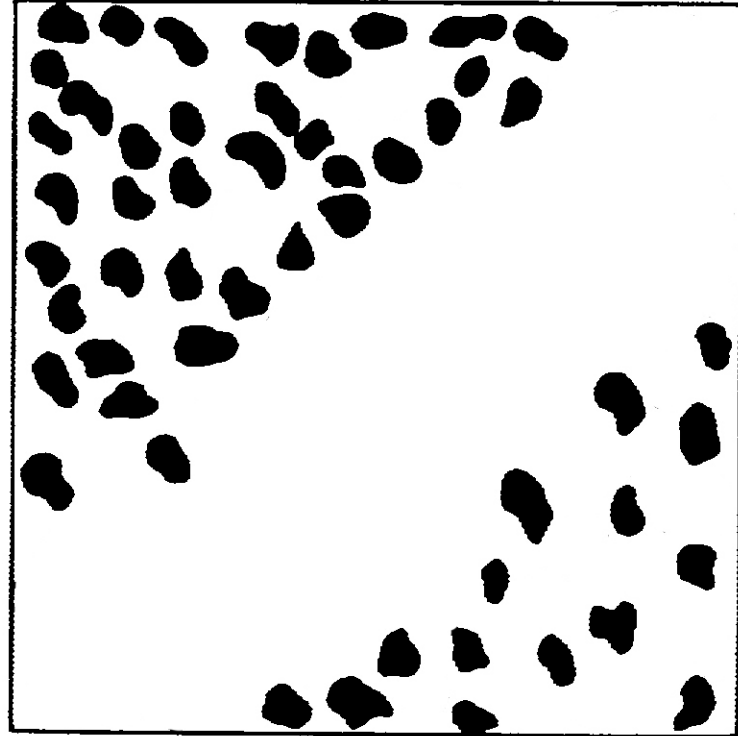
Developed but  
unfixed emulsion

# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.a The Photographic Process



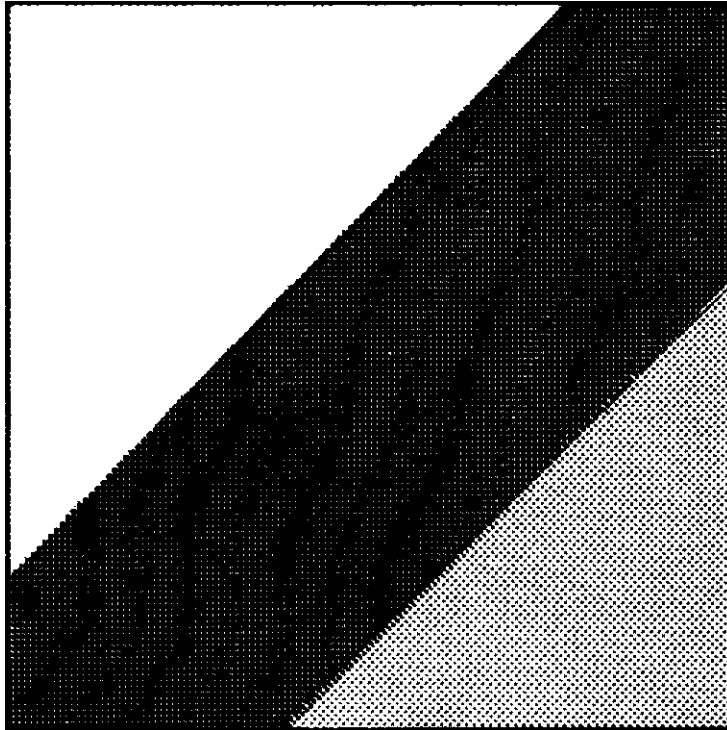
Electron image  
(Very high mag and small field of view)



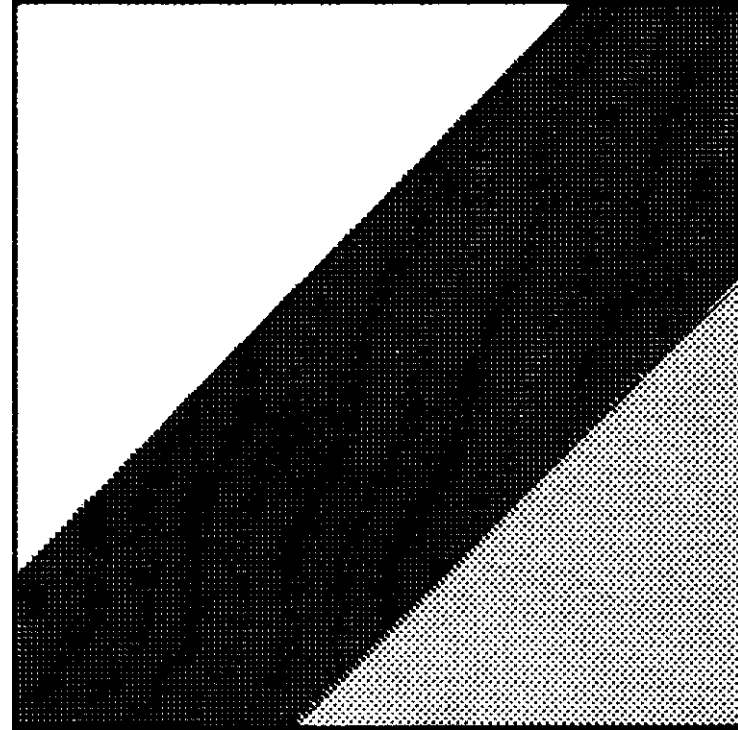
Final photographic  
image (“negative”) after fixation

# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.a The Photographic Process



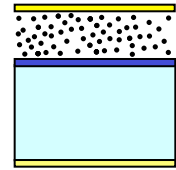
Electron image  
(Very high mag and small field of view)



Electron image

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)



★ Photographic process

☆ Optical density

Density related to exposure

Density/exposure curves

Contrast

Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion

Electron range in emulsion

Number of grains per electron

Graininess

Resolution (image spread - electron diffusion)

## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

### I.E.10.b Optical Density (OD) of the Processed Emulsion

#### **Optical Density:**

Quantitative measure of how black the photographic emulsion gets when exposed to radiation

#### **Definition:**

$$OD = \log_{10}(I_o / T)$$

$I_o$  = intensity of **incident** radiation

$T$  = intensity of **transmitted** radiation

## I.E.10 Photography (Film)

### I.E.10.b Optical Density (OD) of the Processed Emulsion

**OD:** quantitative measure of blackening of the emulsion

$$OD = \log_{10}(I_o / T)$$

#### EXAMPLES:

**OD = 1.0** for any portion of the photographic negative that transmits **10%** of the incident light (**T = 0.1**)

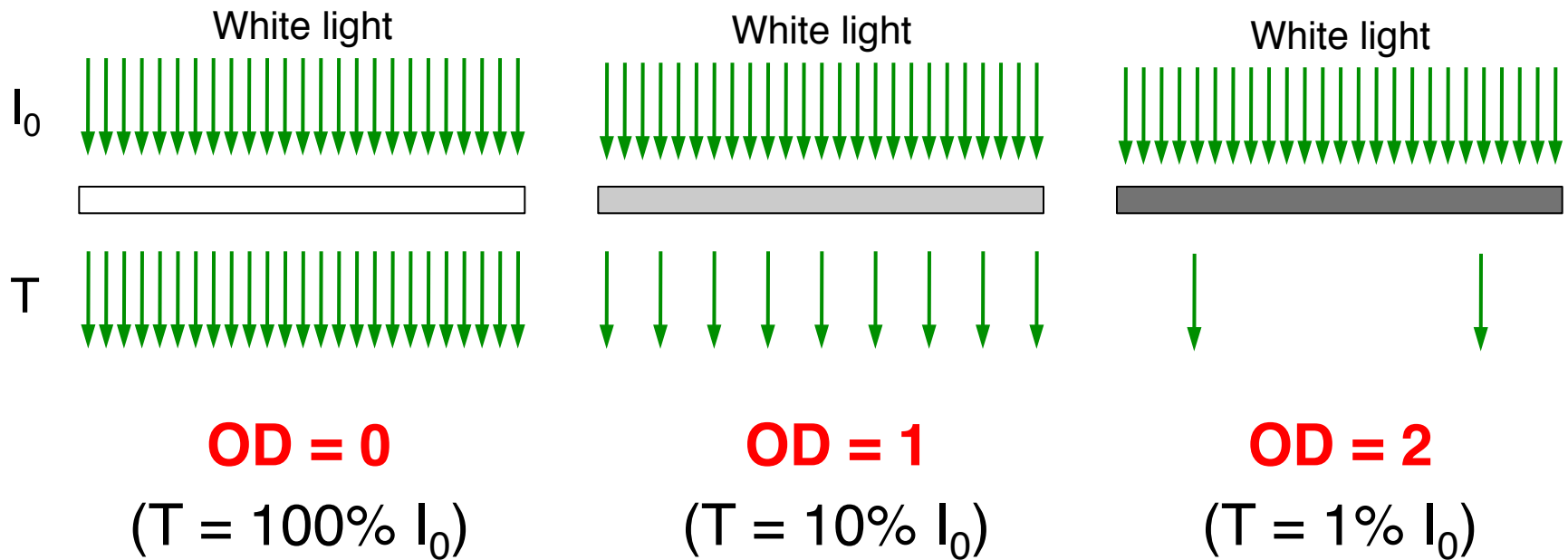
**OD = 2.0** for any portion that transmits only **1%** of the incident light (**T = 0.01**)



# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

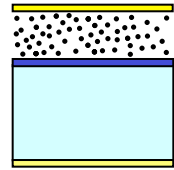
## I.E.10.b Optical Density (OD) of the Processed Emulsion

$$OD = \log_{10}(I_0 / T)$$



# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

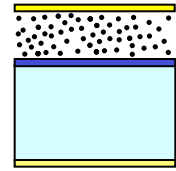
## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)



- ★ Photographic process
  - ★ Optical density
  - ★ Density related to exposure - lecture notes p.106
  - ★ Density/exposure curves - lecture notes pp.106-107
  - ★ Contrast - lecture notes p.107
  - ★ Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion - lecture notes p.108
  - ★ Electron range in emulsion - lecture notes pp.108-109
- Number of grains per electron
- Graininess
- Resolution (image spread - electron diffusion)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

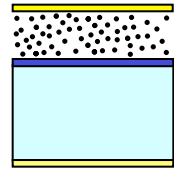
## I.E.10 Photography (Film)



- ★ Photographic process
- ★ Optical density
- ★ Density related to exposure
- ★ Density/exposure curves
- ★ Contrast
- ★ Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion
- ★ Electron range in emulsion
- ★ Number of grains per electron
- Graininess
- Resolution (image spread - electron diffusion)

## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

### I.E.10.h Number of Grains / Electron



Each **electron** in the image likely hits **more** than 1 Ag halide crystal as it passes into and through the emulsion

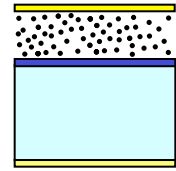
**~1 halide crystal for each 2  $\mu\text{m}$**  of emulsion thickness

**~ 10 grains per electron track** for 20  $\mu\text{m}$  thick emulsion

Each **electron** hits and passes through **several** halide crystals, losing some energy in each crystal

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

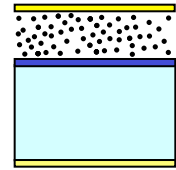
## I.E.10 Photography (Film)



- ★ Photographic process
- ★ Optical density
- ★ Density related to exposure
- ★ Density/exposure curves
- ★ Contrast
- ★ Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion
- ★ Electron range in emulsion
- ★ Number of grains per electron
- Graininess
- Resolution (image spread - electron diffusion)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

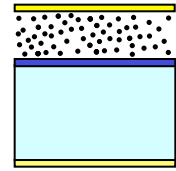
## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)



- ★ Photographic process
- ★ Optical density
- ★ Density related to exposure
- ★ Density/exposure curves
- ★ Contrast
- ★ Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion
- ★ Electron range in emulsion
- ★ Number of grains per electron
- ★ Graininess - *lecture notes pp.109-110*
- ★ Resolution (image spread - electron diffusion)

## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

### I.E.10.i Graininess



Statistical phenomenon caused by “**electron noise**”

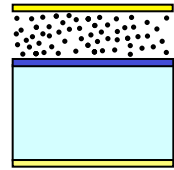
Random distribution of  $e^-$  “particles” in the beam

### **Graininess:**

- **NOT a defect** in the photographic emulsion
- Product of **two random processes**

## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

### I.E.10.i Graininess



**Graininess is the product of 2 random processes**

1. **Random arrival** of electrons at the film

Over **large** areas of an electron image, radiation appears **uniform**

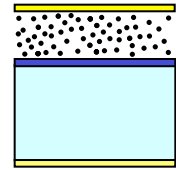
Over **small** regions, radiation distribution is **NOT uniform**

2. Granularity in the **emulsion**



# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

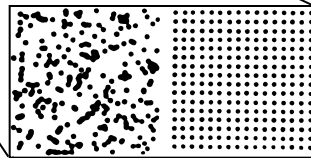
## I.E.10.i Graininess



**Graininess is the product of 2 random processes**

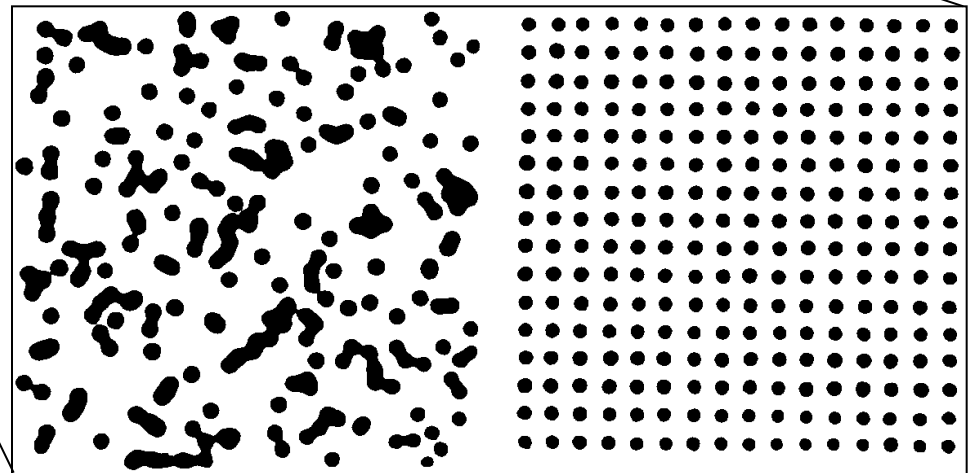


Hypothetical images (same # of developed grains):  
Left (random distribution)  
Right (regular arrangement)



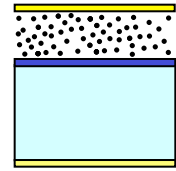
Recorded TEM negatives show random distribution of grains due to electron noise

Graininess is more evident with photographic enlargement



# I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

## I.E.10.i Graininess



**Graininess is the product of 2 random processes**

### 1. **Random arrival** of electrons at the film

Over **large** areas of an electron image, radiation appears **uniform**

Over **small** regions, radiation distribution is **NOT uniform**

### 2. Granularity in the **emulsion**

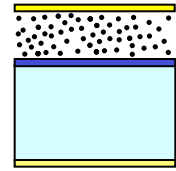
Results from variations in:

- # of halide crystals hit by each electron in the image
- Area over which exposed crystal grows during development

**Graininess in TEM images mainly caused by #1**

# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.i Graininess



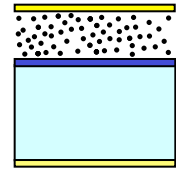
### Ways to Reduce Graininess

To increase  $S/N$ , **need to increase “exposure”**

1. Use **more electrons** when recording images ( “routine” TEM)
2. Use **image processing**: average many images together (effectively increases the # of electrons per image point)
3. Use **film development strategies**  
Have minimal effect on e- noise but can reduce grainy appearance

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

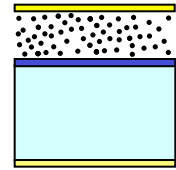
## I.E.10 Photography (Film)



- ★ Photographic process
- ★ Optical density
- ★ Density related to exposure
- ★ Density/exposure curves
- ★ Contrast
- ★ Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion
- ★ Electron range in emulsion
- ★ Number of grains per electron
- ★ Graininess - *lecture notes pp.109-110*
- ★ Resolution (image spread - electron diffusion)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

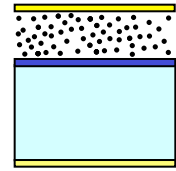
## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)



- ★ Photographic process
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- ★ Contrast
- ★ Speed (sensitivity) of electron emulsion
- ★ Electron range in emulsion
- ★ Number of grains per electron
- ★ Graininess
- ★ Resolution (image spread - electron diffusion)

## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

### I.E.10.j Resolution - Image Spread



## Emulsions Have Limited Resolution

Electron **tracks** through the emulsion **don't follow straight lines** perpendicular to the surface

Electrons **scatter away** from the incident direction by interacting with atoms in the Ag halide crystals

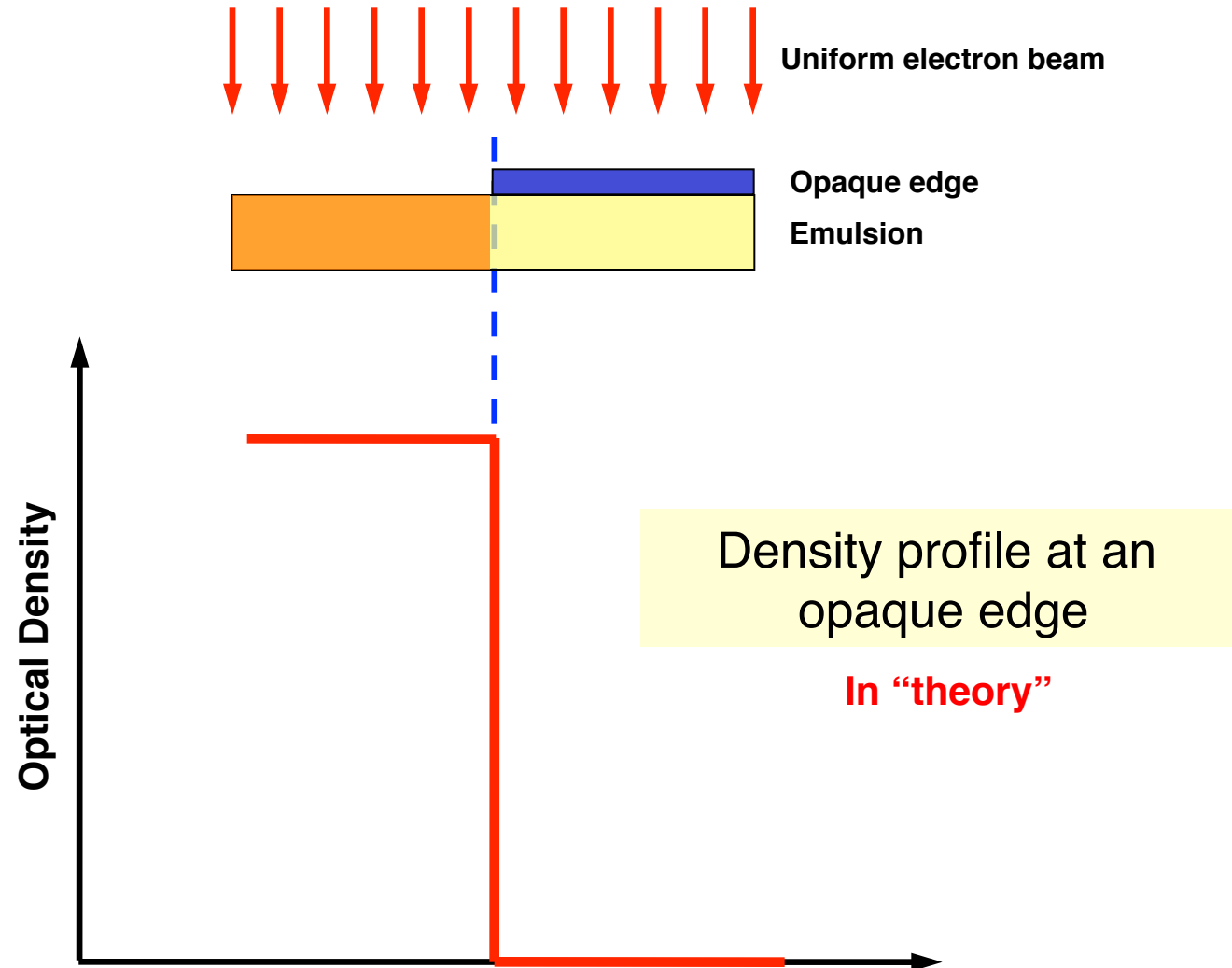
**Sideways scatter** of electrons in the emulsion is called “**electron diffusion**”

∴ **Image details** are **spread out** and **contrast is reduced**



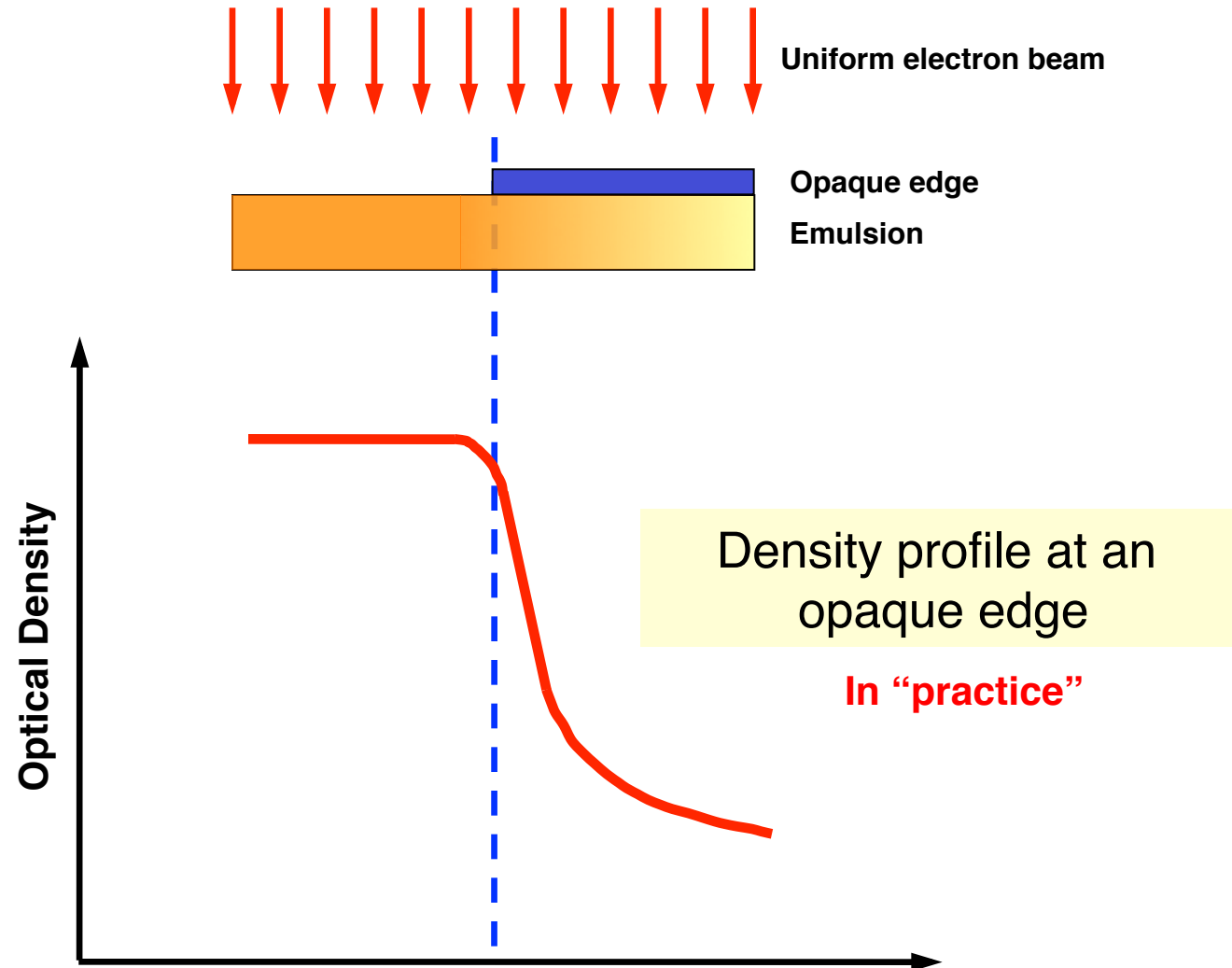
# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.j Resolution - Image Spread



# I.E.10 Photography (Film)

## I.E.10.j Resolution - Image Spread





## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

### I.E.10.j Resolution - Image Spread

## What's the Bottom Line?

**Resolution** in the FINAL (*i.e.* **recorded**) image is always **POORER THAN** the resolution achieved in the **electron** image

## The solution?

Use magnification high enough to make sure details in the electron image are captured by the emulsion

**But not too high!!!** (restricted field of view, excessive damage, etc.)



## I.E.10 Photography (**Film**)

### I.E.10.j Resolution - Image Spread

**Seems like everything affects resolution**

Size of lens aperture (diffraction effects)

Lens aberrations (spherical, chromatic, asymmetry)

Defocus effects (phase contrast Fresnel fringes)

Emulsion grain size

Electron diffusion in emulsion

**And yes, you can expect some more...**



# § I: The Microscope

I.E Operation of the TEM

→ I.E.10 Photography (Film)

→ I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

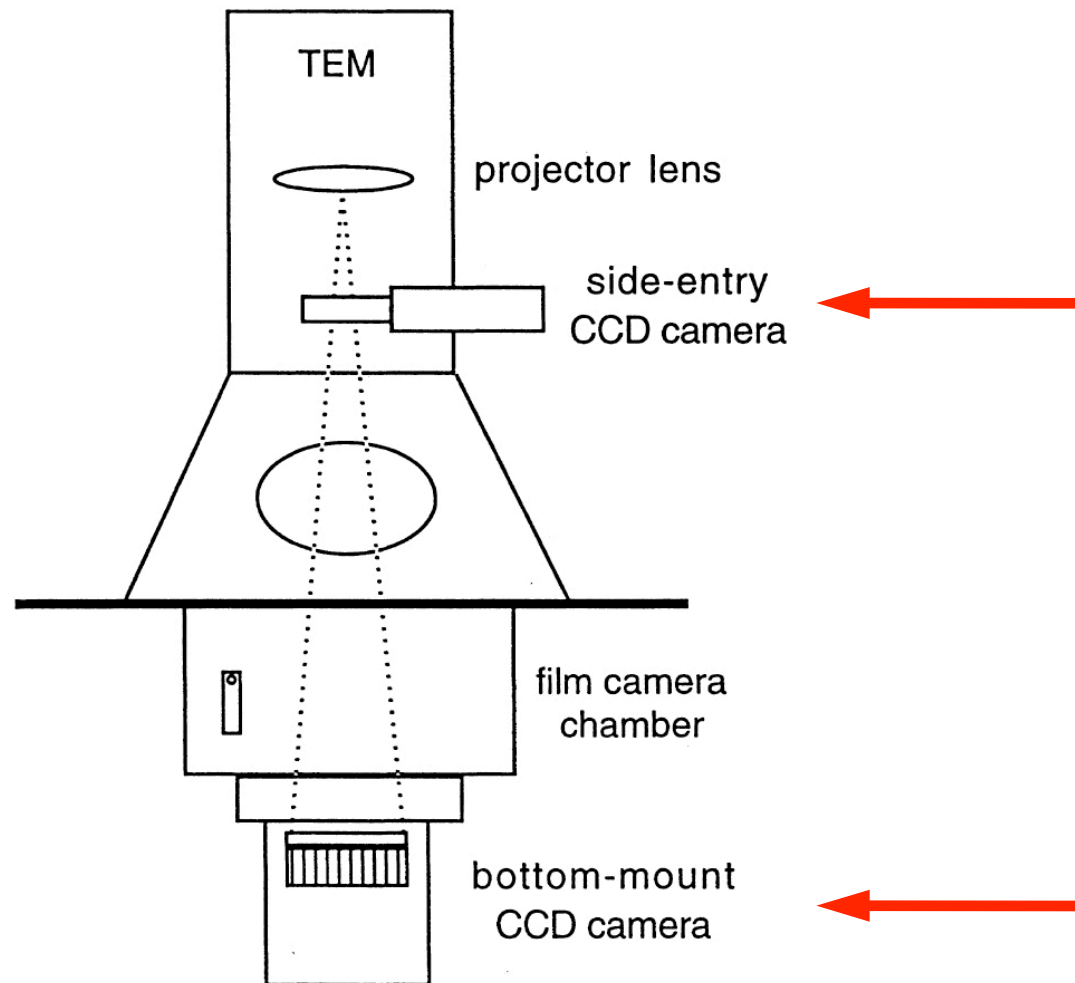
I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

## CCD Detectors/Cameras

CCD = Charge Coupled Device

# I.E OPERATION OF THE TEM

## I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)



# I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

## Quotable Quotes

Film



Digital

## I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

### Quotable Quotes

*...likely consequence of these trends is that TEM film cameras and EM photographic darkrooms will ultimately be relegated to technical museums. As a practical example, this entire paper was prepared without any use of silver-halide-based photographic emulsions, and its authors have no intention of ever stepping into a photographic darkroom again.*

Krivanek & Mooney *Ultramicrosc.* 49[1993]95

*Direct digital recording with slow-scan CCD cameras [...] provides a significant advantage over film such as higher sensitivity and dynamic range. [...] performance characteristics [...] challenge the dominance of film as the recording medium for many scientific imaging requirements. [...] These cameras are revolutionizing the way microscopists think about addressing problems of data acquisition ...*

Fan & Ellisman *Ultramicrosc.* 52[1993]21

*...data acquisition in the electron microscope will increasingly be with electronic detectors. ...CCDs are not yet suitable for high resolution imaging.*

Faruqi, Henderson, & Subramaniam *Ultramicrosc.* 75[1999]235

*...digital imaging systems appear to be poised to replace film in TEM.*

*...a much larger array size will be needed to match the large field of view and the great details typically contained in a piece of TEM film.*

Fan et al., *Ultramicrosc.* 84[2000]75

*CCDs are increasingly replacing photographic film as the recording medium of choice in electron microscopy.*

Meyer et al., *Ultramicrosc.* 85[2000]9

*... traditional and still the most common recording medium is photographic film ...*

Koeck *Microsc. Res. & Tech.* 49[2000]217

## I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

### **So where do we stand today?**

Film has already been replaced by CCD cameras in many applications

Film and CCDs are in the process of losing the next “battle” against DDDs

DDD = Direct Detection Device

**(measures electron events directly)**



## I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

### Advantages of Recording Images by CCD

- **Immediate** image access (no tedious film development)
- Much **larger dynamic range** than film
- Strict **linear response** with electron dose
- Amenable to all types of **automated** experiments
  - Auto-focusing and astigmatism correction
  - Auto-imaging
  - Electron tomography
  - Electron holography
  - Protein electron crystallography
  - Telemicroscopy
  - etc. etc.

## I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

### Disadvantages of Recording Images by CCD

- **Poorer “pixel” resolution** (15  $\mu\text{m}$  vs.  $\sim$  5-10  $\mu\text{m}$  for film)
- **Limited number of pixels**, hence **small field of view**
  - Affordable CCDs have 1k<sup>2</sup> or 2k<sup>2</sup> pixel arrays
  - Film is comparable to 16,000 by 20,000 pixels
- High upfront cost ( $\sim$  \$200K for high quality 4k<sup>2</sup> camera)

## I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

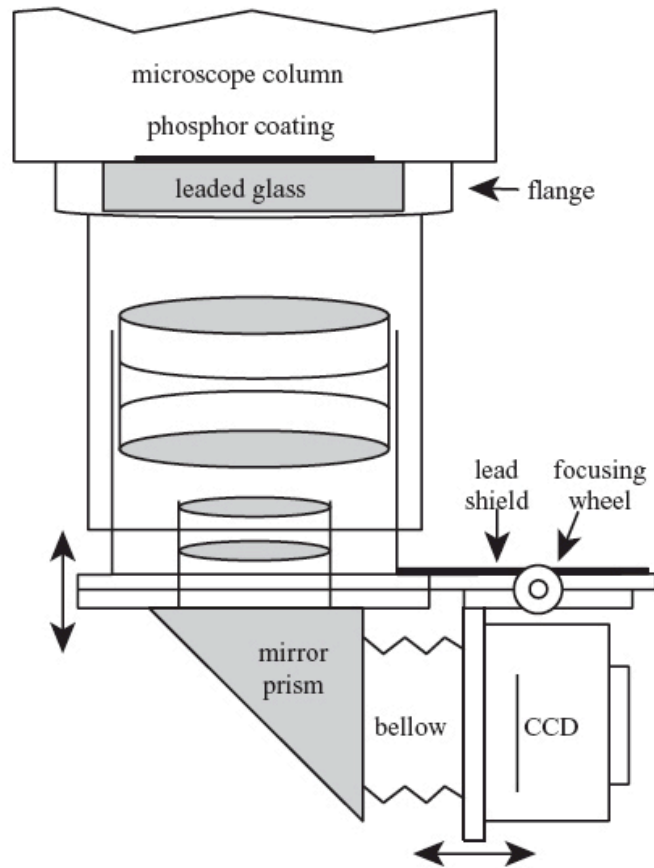
### CCD Topics (Woulda, Coulda, Shoulda...)

- CCD design (lens or fiber optic coupling)
- Mount in TEM (in-line or retractable or off-line)
- Scintillators (YAG; P43 GOS; red P20 phosphor)
- Dark current; gain normalization; readout noise; Peltier cooling
- Pixel size; pixel resolution (PSF: point spread function); pixel binning
- MTF (modulation transfer function of camera)
- Nyquist frequency/sampling
- DQE (detective quantum efficiency of electron detection)
- Dynamic range
- Distortion

# I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

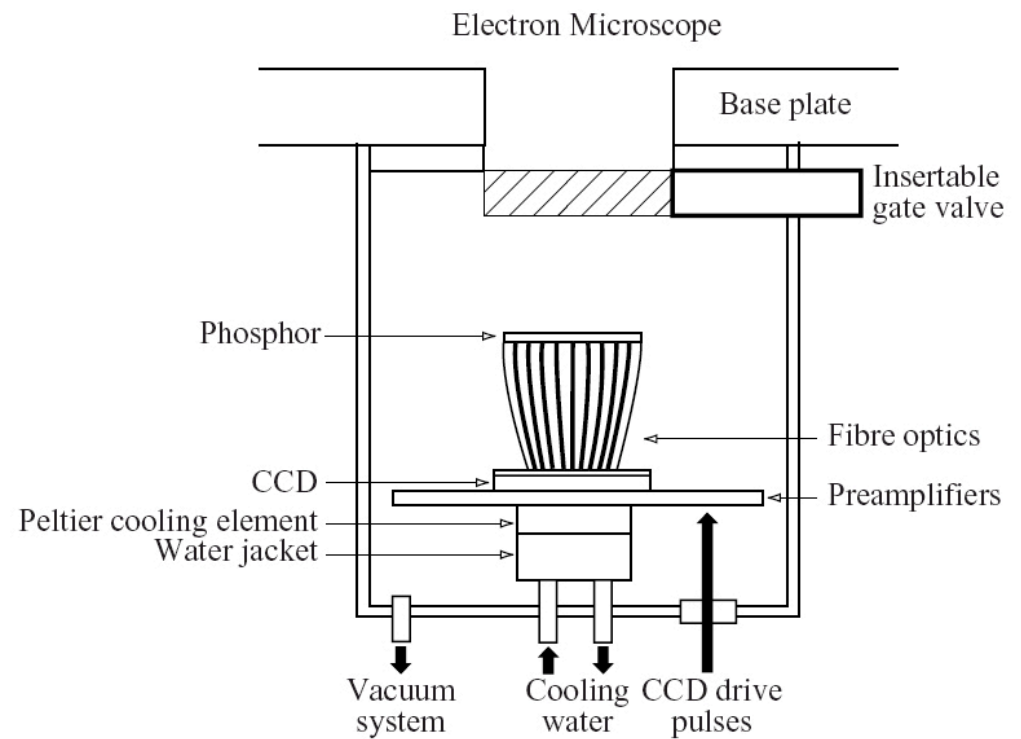
## Two Basic CCD Designs

### Lens-Coupled



From Fan & Ellisman [1993], p.22

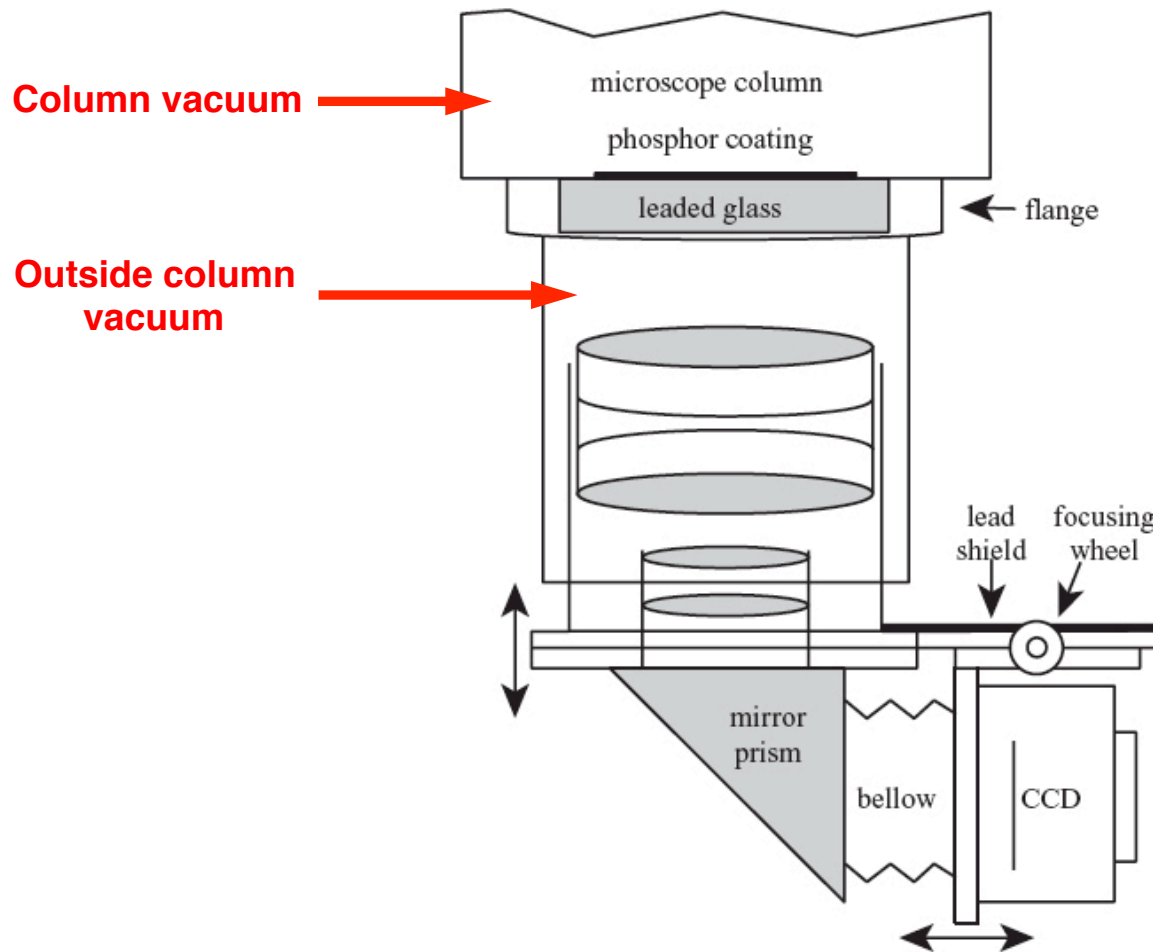
### Fiber Optic-Coupled



From Faruqi & Andrews [1997], p.234

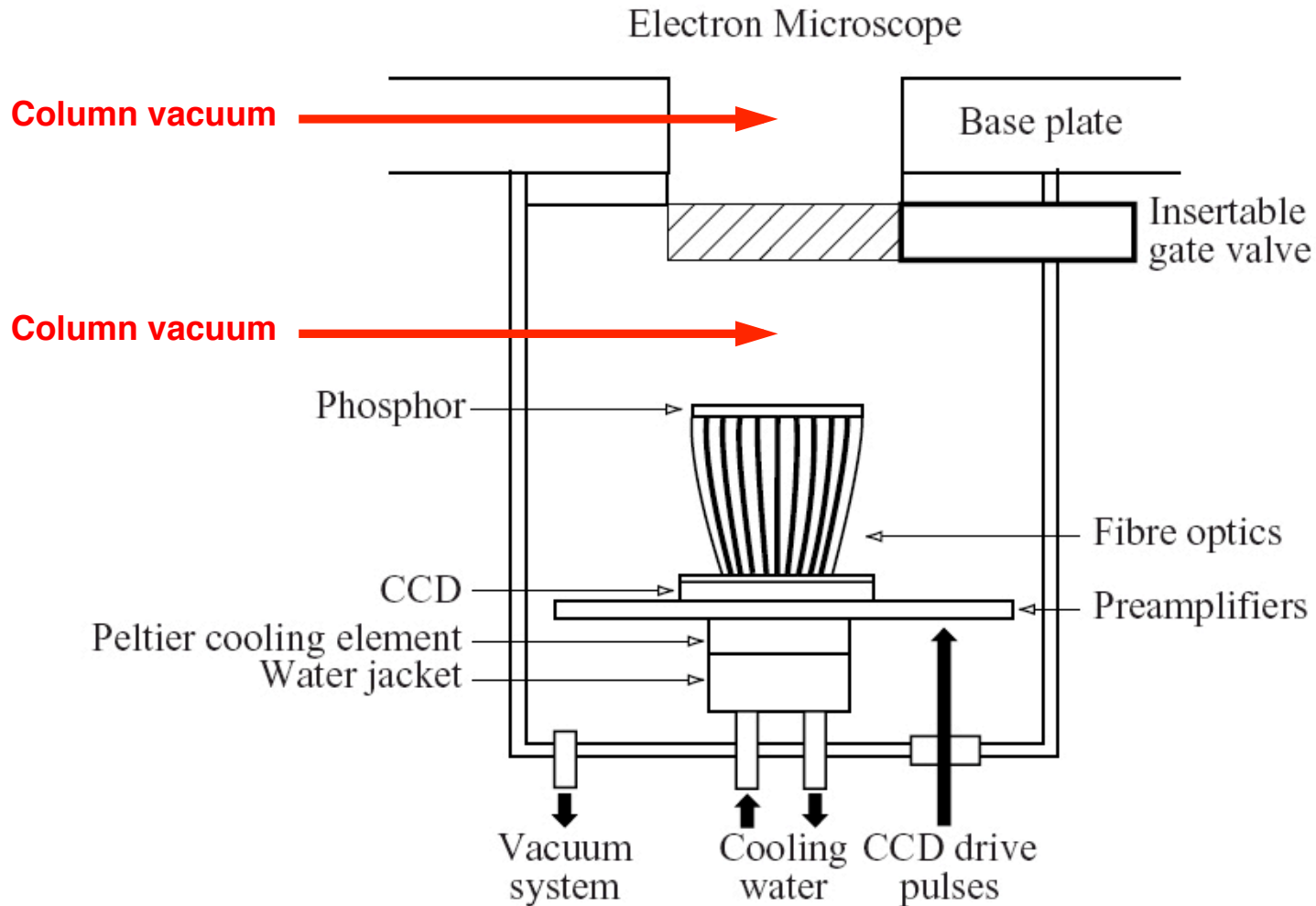
# I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

## Lens-Coupled CCD

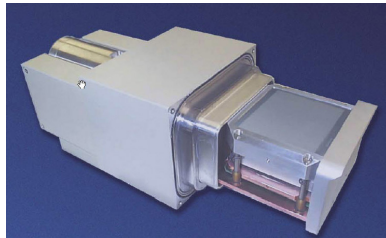


# I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

## Fiber Optic-Coupled CCD

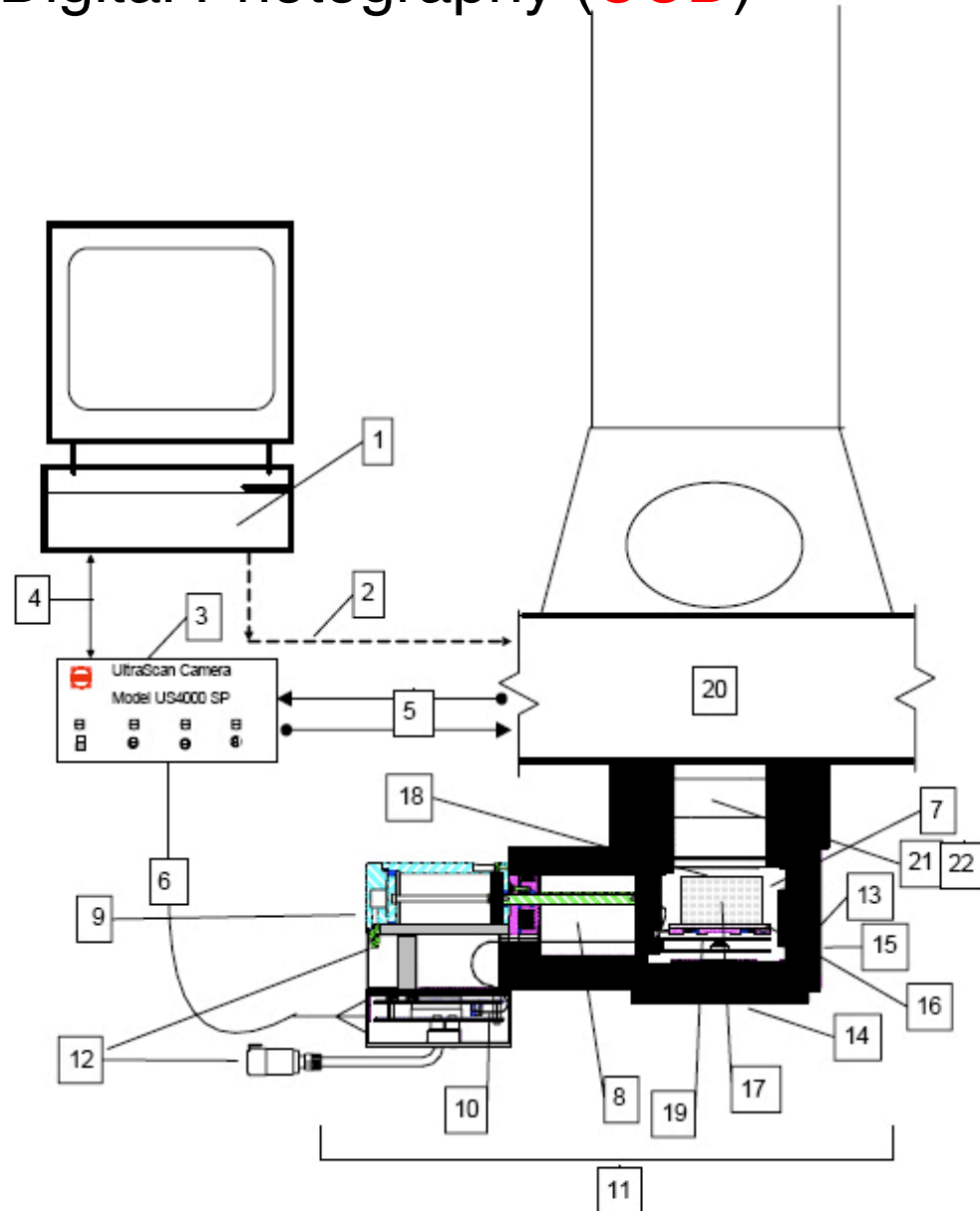


# I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)



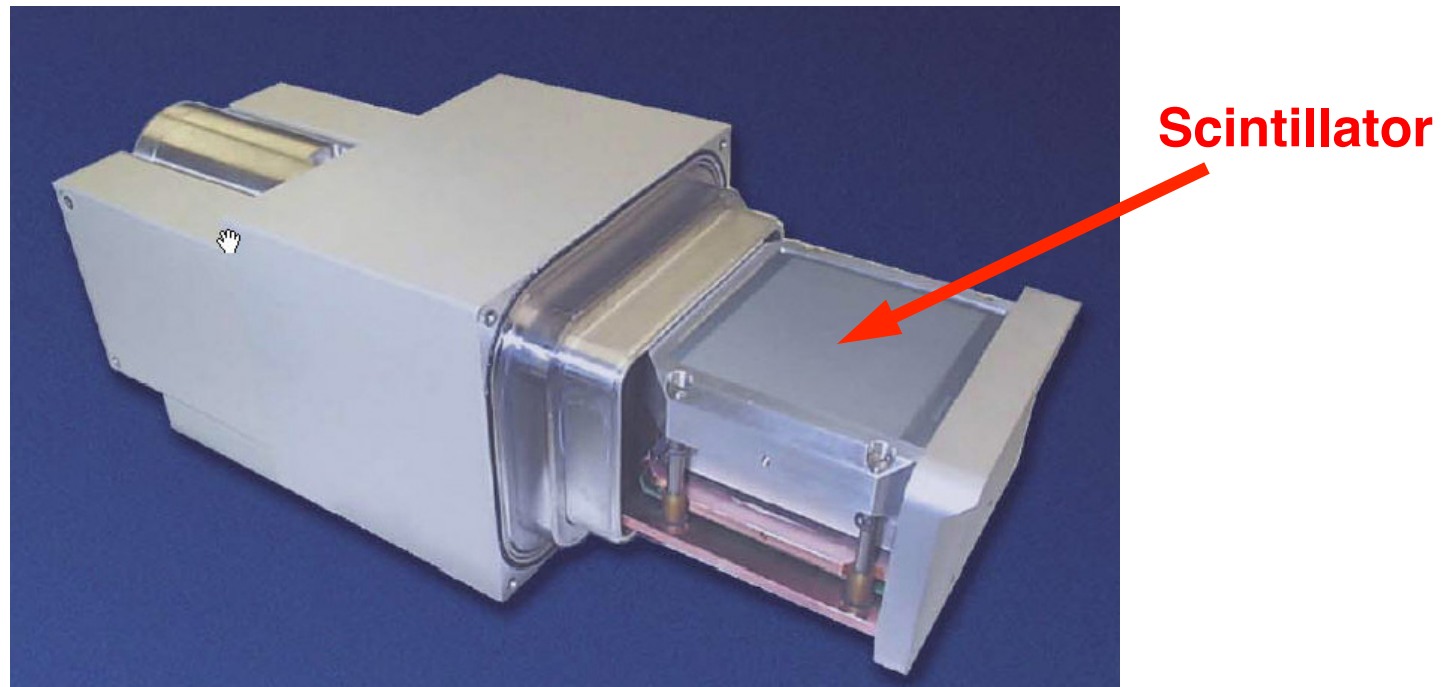
**UltraScan System**

1. Computer
2. TEM-interface cable (optional)
3. Controller
4. Camera-interface cable
5. Shutter-interface cable
6. Camera-interface cable
7. UltraScan vacuum chamber
8. Drive assembly
9. Pneumatic inlets
10. Preamp assembly
11. UltraScan camera module
12. Coolant connections
13. X-ray shielding
14. Blanking flange
15. Accessory port
16. Charge-coupled device
17. Fiber optic plate
18. Electron scintillator
19. Peltier cooler
20. Electron microscope
21. Microscope vacuum
22. UltraScan flange



## I.E.11 Digital Photography (CCD)

### Microscopy with a CCD



CCDs like the 16 megapixel Gatan Ultrascan™ (4080 x 4080 15  $\mu\text{m}$  pixels) can produce high quality digital images in the TEM