



<b><i>Project Title:</i></b>	<i>Quantitative characterization by FIB/SEM “slice and view”</i>
<b><i>Project Short description</i></b>	<p>The combination of Focused Ion Beam (FIB) and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) allows imaging the cross-sections from a variety of samples, ranging from porous thin films to nanostructured electronic devices. The automated and sequential cross-section imaging (“slice and view”) can yield 3D structural reconstructions up to 10 nm spatial resolution.</p> <p>The achievable spatial resolution of FIB/SEM “slice and view” depends on the optimization of many parameters related to the FIB cutting and SEM imaging procedures. In addition, a proper 3D reconstruction and the phases segmentation are fundamental to the reliable extraction of quantitative information from the sample, such as features dimensions, phases’ fractions and overall composition.</p> <p>This project aims at the optimization of the “slice and view” experimental procedure and the development of a standard procedure for the phases segmentation on the 3D reconstruction.</p>
<b><i>Expected Start/end date</i></b>	Feb/2015 – Feb/2016
<b><i>Required degree and Background knowledge of students, minimum gradepoint average, etc...</i></b>	<p>Ideal candidates should have an Engineering (Materials, Physics, Electronic, or related) or Science (Physics, Chemistry) degree.</p> <p>Basic knowledge in materials science is required for this project.</p> <p>Fluent English language, experience on SEM imaging and image treatment are desirable.</p>

**Supervisor at INL**

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