



**THIN FILM RESEARCH
LABORATORY**



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MATERIALS ANALYSIS FOR THE SOLAR INDUSTRY

*Largest open access
pool of materials
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KEY FIGURES:

- Over 370 users annually
- More than 50 M\$ in equipment
- 18 skilled professionals and technicians
- Direct access to 27 faculty members
- Serving the community since 1984

SERVICES TAILORED FOR THE SOLAR INDUSTRY

We have the expertise you are looking for...

- > Chemical analysis of monocrystalline, polycrystalline or thin film photovoltaic cells
- > Silicon wafer analysis
- > PV cell stoichiometry
- > Ellipsometry for solar cells
- > α -Si, μ c-Si, μ c-SiGe film thickness measurement
- > Absorption spectroscopy
- > Photoluminescence measurements
- > CdTe surface chemistry and roughness
- > CIGS grain morphology
- > PV-grade silicon contaminant identification
- > Composition and dopant depth profiling

YOUR MATERIALS ANALYSIS EXPERTS

Serving the industry for over 25 years

- > Highly qualified personnel
- > Cutting-edge equipment
- > Fast turnaround time

TOF-SIMS

AFM

RBS

FTIR

ERD

XRD

XPS

RAMAN

ELLIPSOMETRY

SEM

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MATERIALS CHARACTERIZATION AND MICROANALYSIS

	Analytical techniques	Typical applications	Resolution / sensitivity	Depth resolution	Lateral resolution	Other characteristics
SPECTROSCOPY/SPECTROMETRY	Time-of-flight SIMS <i>IONTOF TOF-SIMS IV</i>	Surface microanalysis of organic and inorganic materials, composition mapping, depth profiling	0.0001 amu 10 ⁸ – 10 ¹¹ at/cm ²	1 – 3 monolayers (static mode)	≥ 150 nm	Mapping T = -196 – 600°C
	XPS/UPS <i>VG Scientific ESCALAB 3 MKII</i> <i>Kratos AXIS ULTRA</i>	Surface analysis of organic and inorganic materials, depth profiling, valence electron energy	0.1 – 1 at% 0.7 eV (VG) 0.26 eV (Kratos)	1 – 10 nm	250 μm (VG) 15 μm nominal 1 μm (imaging)	Mapping T = -196 – 600°C Preparation and deposition chamber
	SAM/Auger <i>Omicron NanoTechnology</i>	Surface and defect analysis, depth profiling	0.1 – 1 at%	2 – 20 nm profiling 3 nm surface	~ 10 nm	EBS-D-UHV, preparation chamber (deposition, heating >1000°C), imaging during heating, ion sputtering
	FTIR <i>Digilab FTS7000; BioRad FTS6000;</i> <i>BioRad FTS3000</i>	Identification of organics and inorganics, local measurement of stress, structure determination	0.5 cm ⁻¹ 1 – 5 wt%	0.1 – 5 μm	imaging : ~ 5 μm	Mapping, step-scan, ATR, photoacoustic cell, depth profiling, MP-IRRAS Wave number range: 400 - 4000 cm ⁻¹
	RAMAN Microspectroscopy <i>Renishaw RM3000; Renishaw InVia;</i> <i>ISA U1000; PI-Acton TriVista</i>	Identification of organics and inorganics, local measurement of stress, structure determination	2 – 5 cm ⁻¹ ≥ 1 wt%	2 μm	1 μm	λ : 488, 514, 633, 782 nm Mapping and depth profiling, confocal mode, line focus
	Absorption spectroscopy <i>BOMEM DA-3 ; ORIEL MS260i</i>	Band structure, impurities, oscillator forces, film thickness, optical properties determination	4 cm ⁻¹	-	1 mm	T = 4 – 300 K Spectral range: 320 – 3000 nm
	Photoluminescence (PL); excitation PL and time-resolved PL <i>BOMEM DA3; ISA U1000;</i> <i>ORIEL MS260i; PI-Acton TriVista</i>	Band structure, impurities, oscillator forces, relaxation dynamics of photogenerated carriers	0.005 nm	-	1 mm	T = 4 K – 300 K Wave length range (CW PL): 400 - 2000 nm Time resolution (TRPL): < 1 ns
	Ellipsometry <i>J.A. Woollam Co. (VASE; M-2000UI; M44; IR-VASE)</i>	n (λ) et k (λ) , d (multilayers), roughness, uniformity, chemical bonds	1.6 – 6.0 nm 1 cm ⁻¹ (IR)	≤ 1 nm (model and material dependent)	3 – 10 mm	Spectral range: 245 nm – 33 μm
Spectrophotometry <i>Perkin-Elmer, Lambda 19</i>	Specular and diffuse transmission and reflection, color, concentration (in solutions)	0.05 – 5 nm (UV-VIS) 0.2 – 20 nm (NIR)	-	2 mm	Spectral range: 175 – 3200 nm	
MICROSCOPY	SEM/EDS <i>Philips XL-20</i> <i>access to a Hitachi S-4700</i>	Imaging and elemental micro-analysis	≤ 1 at%	0.5 – 3 μm (EDS)	2 – 5 nm (SEM) ≥ 0.3 μm (EDS)	Imaging
	AFM/SPM <i>DI - Multimode; DI - Dimension 3100 (2X); DI - Enviroscope;</i> <i>Topometrix Discoverer</i>	Contact, non-contact, tapping, phase imaging, LFM, MFM, FMM, EFM, STM	-	0.01 nm	0.1 nm	Imaging Liquid and electrochemical cells
ACCELERATOR TECHNIQUES	RBS <i>Accelerators Tandetron 1.7 MV and Tandem 6 MV</i>	Depth profiling, thin film composition and thickness	0.001 – 10 at% (element atomic weight dependent)	3 nm	2 mm	-
	ERD, ERD-TOF, ERD by dE/E <i>Accelerator Tandem 6 MV</i>	Depth profiling, quantitative elemental concentration, including H	0.1 – 1 at%	10 nm	2 mm	-
	NRA <i>Accelerator Tandem 6 MV</i>	Depth profiling	0.001 at%	5 nm	2 mm	-
	Channelling <i>Accelerator Tandetron 1.7 MV</i>	Depth profiling, crystalline structure defects and locations	1 at%	5 nm	2 mm	-
	Medium Energy Ion Scattering <i>Accelerator 200 kV</i>	Depth profiling, surface atomic structure	1 at%	0.3 nm	2 mm	Clustered with MBE and XPS systems