

SENSOFAR



3D Optical Profiler

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PII-FIRI Seminar 12.1.2026
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Lab. of Molecular Science & Engineering



Four imaging techniques in one device



CONFOCAL

- Best lateral resolution: 140 nm
- Slopes up to 70° for smooth surfaces and 86° for rough surfaces
- Continuous confocal: Speed comparable to AIFV
- High Repeatability, down to 1 nm system noise
- Thickness measurements from 1.5 μ m to several mm



INTERFEROMETRY

- Large FOVs with nanometer system noise no matter the objective
- PSI: 0.01 nm system noise
- Thickness measurements from 1.5 μ m to 100 μ m



ACTIVE ILLUMINATION FOCUS VARIATION

- Measures slopes up to 86° on scattering surfaces
- Active Illumination allows measurements on smooth surfaces
- Fastest acquisition, 200 planes in 3 s
- Multiple light sources



SPECTROSCOPIC REFLECTOMETRY

- Transparent thin films from 50 nm to 1.5 μ m
- Acquisition in less than 5 s
- One objective can cover all the range
- Different spot sizes (3.5 μ m to 40 μ m)

Features

	Ai FOCUS VARIATION	CONFOCAL	INTERFEROMETRY
Rough samples	★★★	★★★	★
Smooth samples	★	★★	★★★
Micro-scale features	★★	★★★	★★★
Nano-scale features		★★	★★★
High local slopes	★★★	★★	★
Thickness		★★★	★★★

- Available objectives:

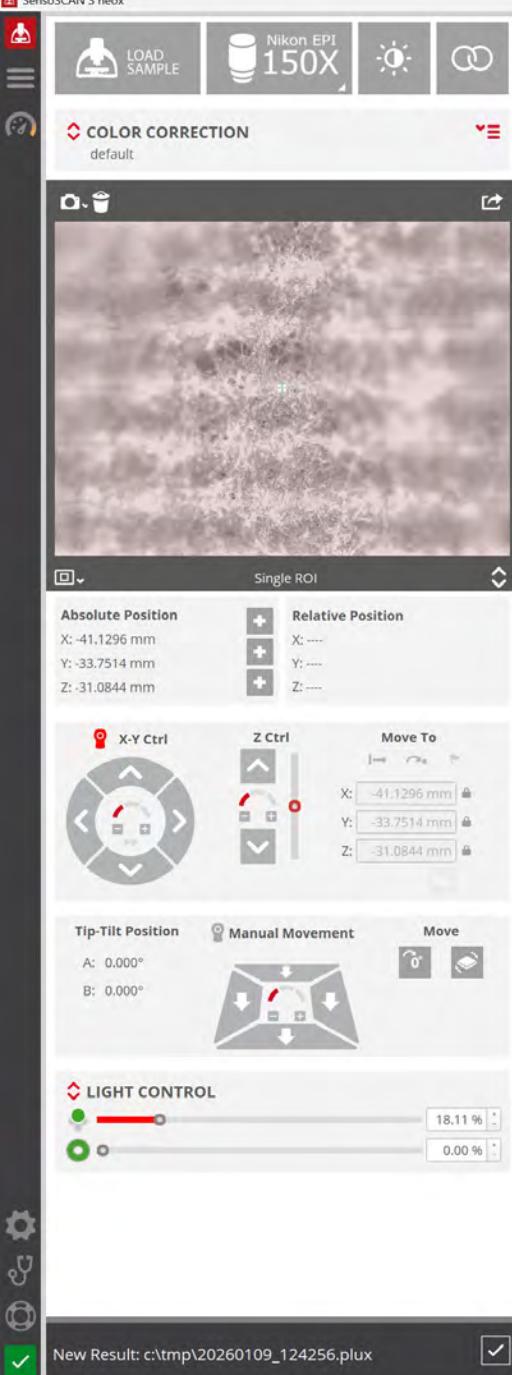
- Confocal / AIFV:

- 5x NA 0.15 WD 23.5 mm
 - 20x NA 0.45 WD 4.5 mm
 - 50x NA 0.8 WD 1.0 mm
 - 150x NA 0.95 WD 0.2 mm

- Interferometry:

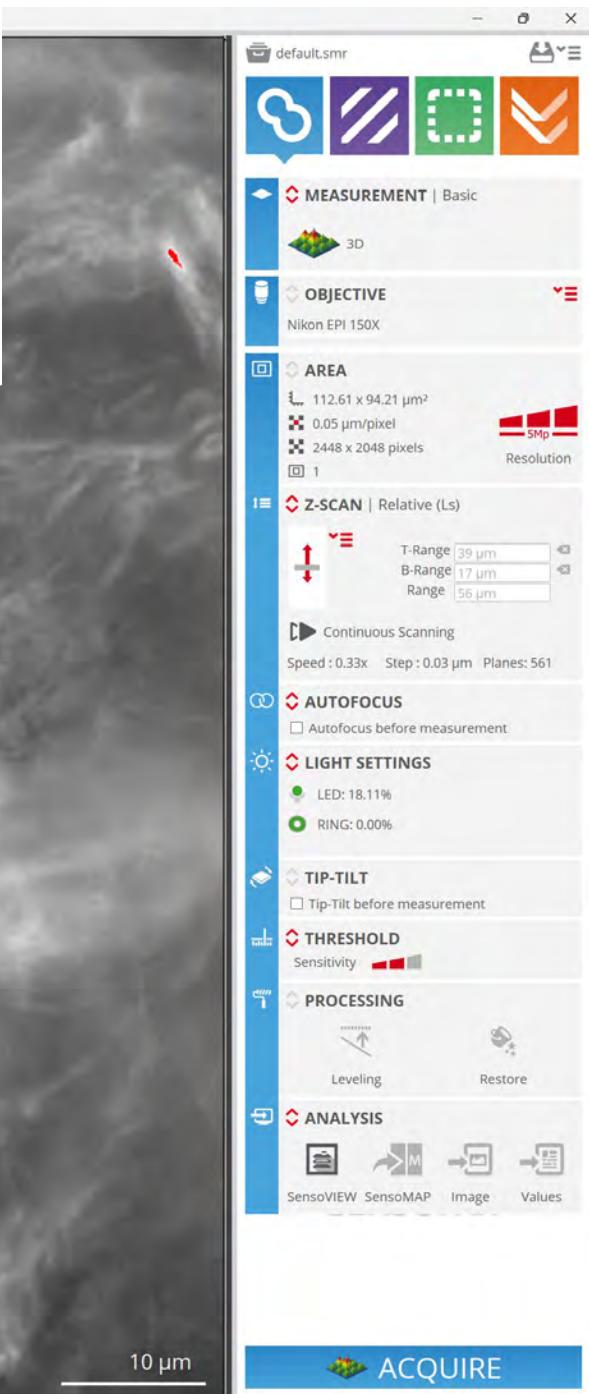
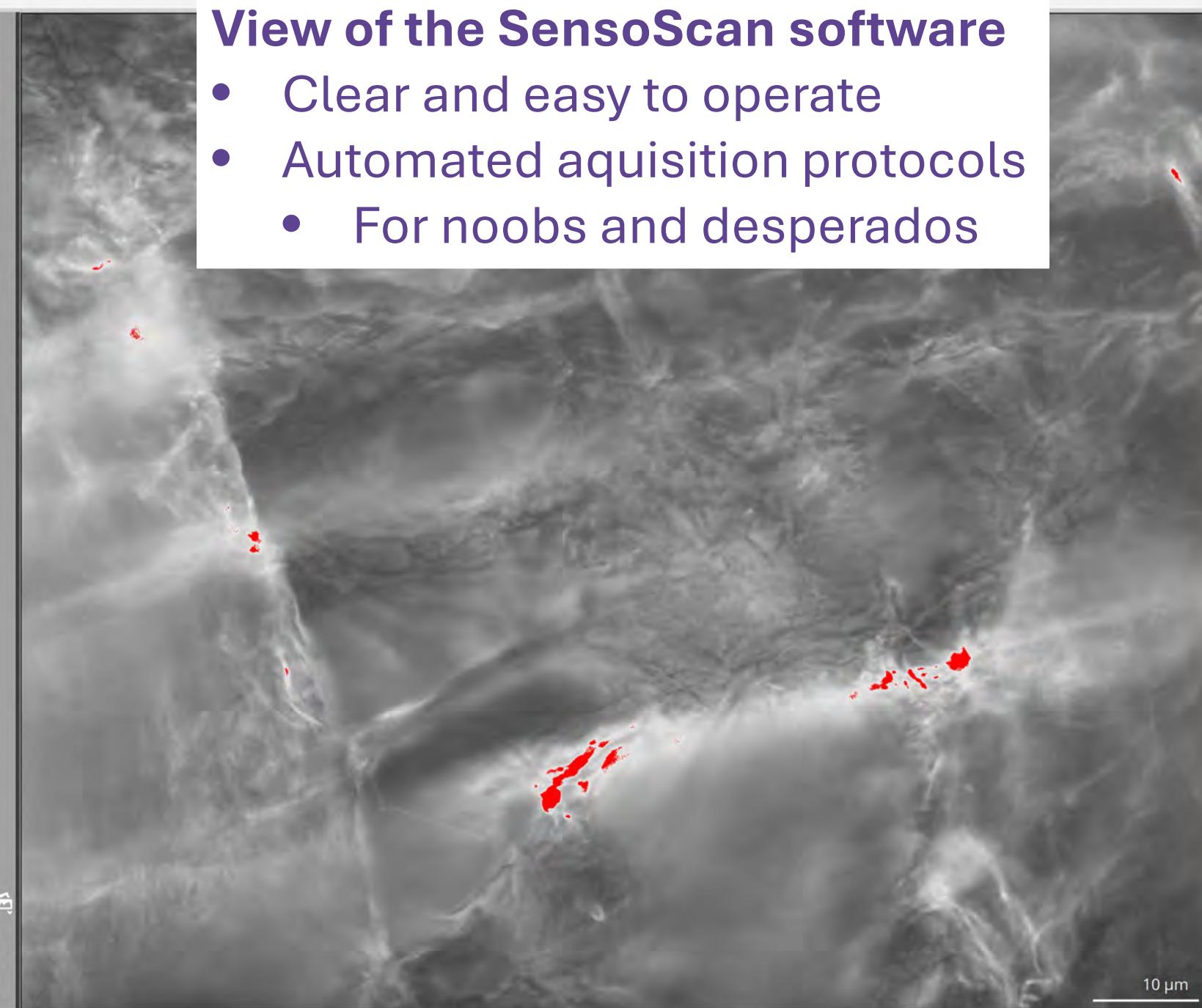
- 10x NA 0.3 WD 7.4 mm
 - 20x NA 0.4 WD 4.7 mm
 - 50x NA 0.55 WD 3.4 mm

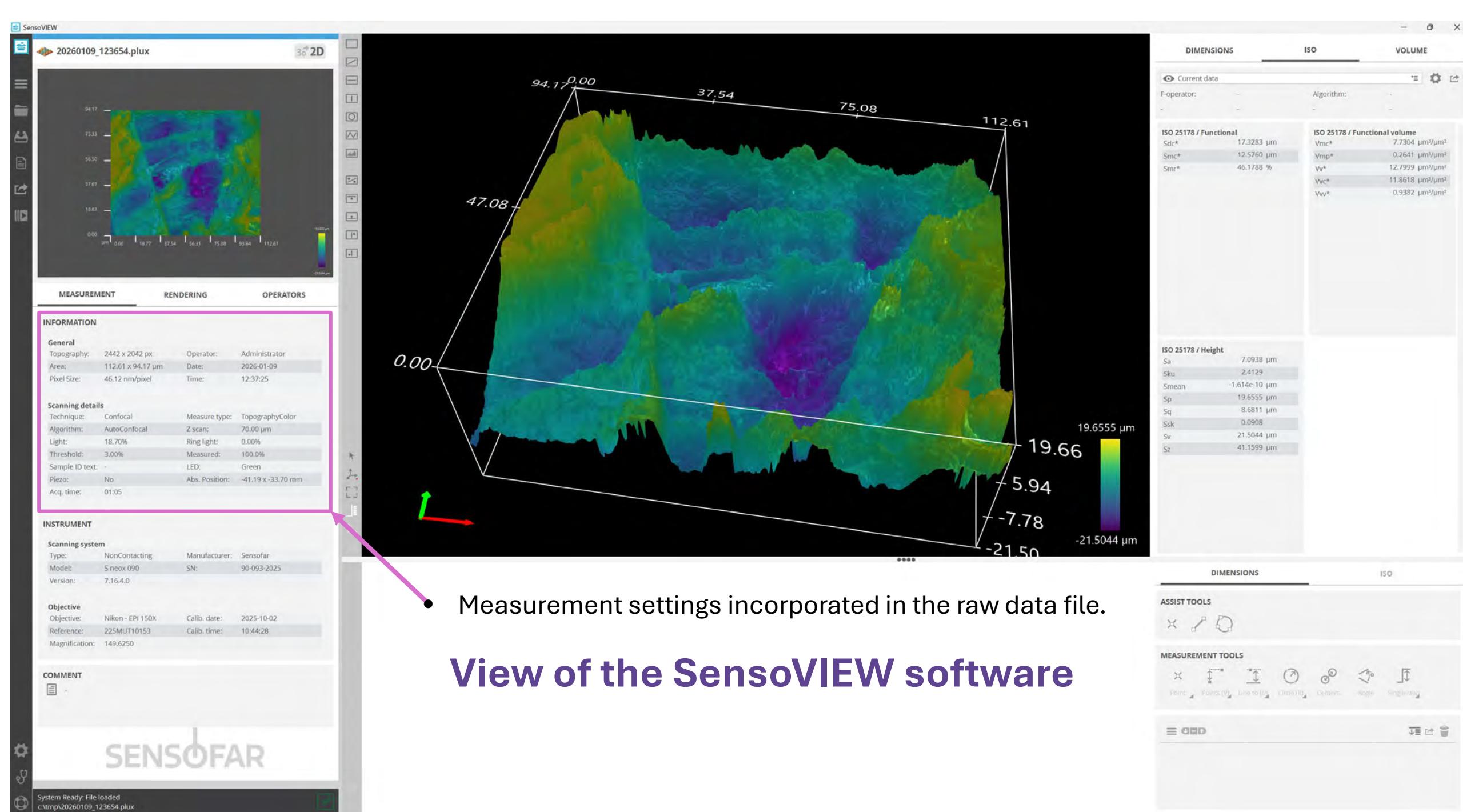
- Camera: 5 Mpx - 2448x2048 pixels (60 fps)
- Field of View from 0.018 to 6.7 mm
- Piezoelectric scanner with capacitive sensor: 200 μ m range; 1.25 nm resolution
- Sample weight up to 8 kg
- Ring illumination

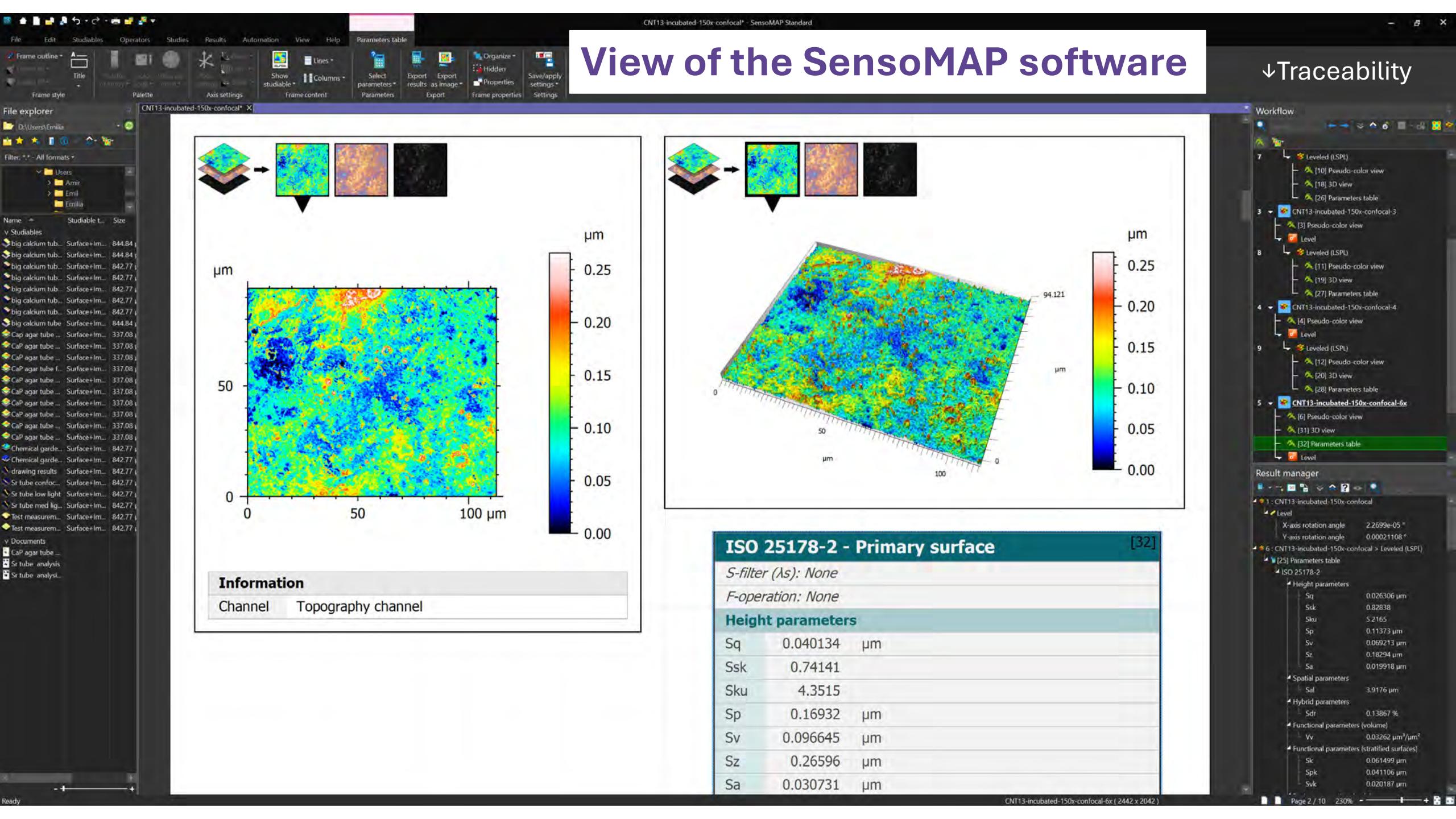


View of the SensoScan software

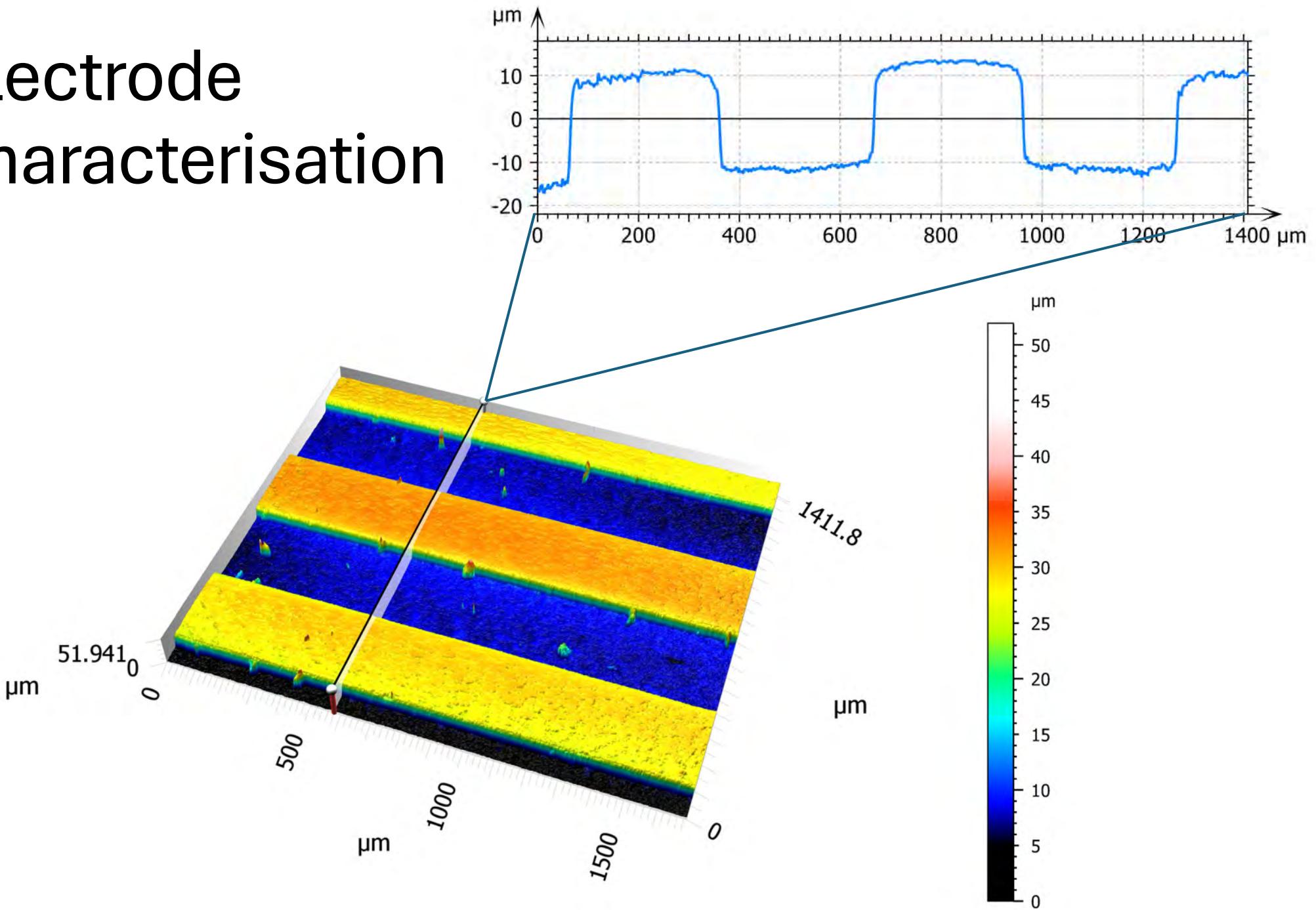
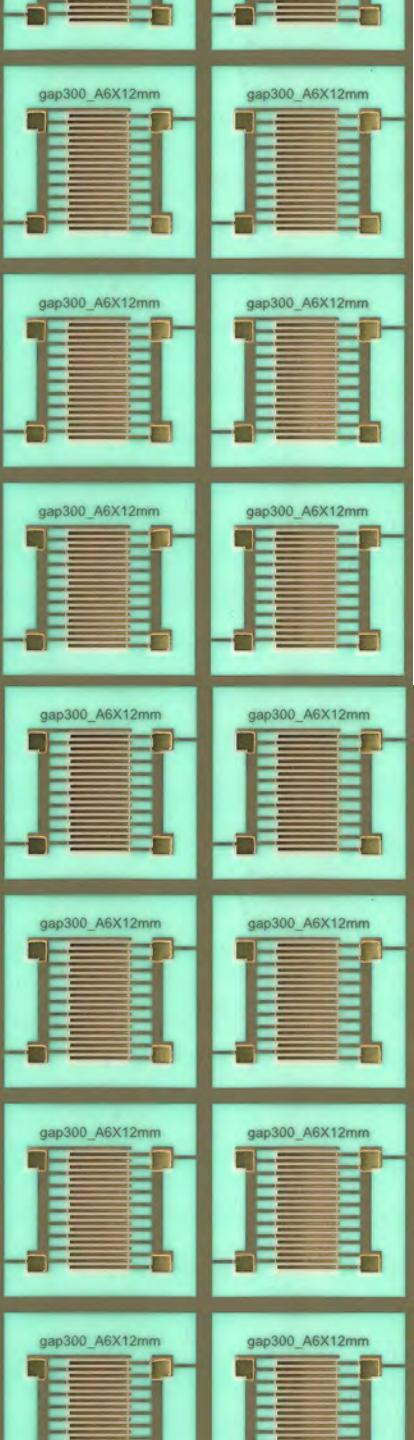
- Clear and easy to operate
- Automated acquisition protocols
 - For noobs and desperados



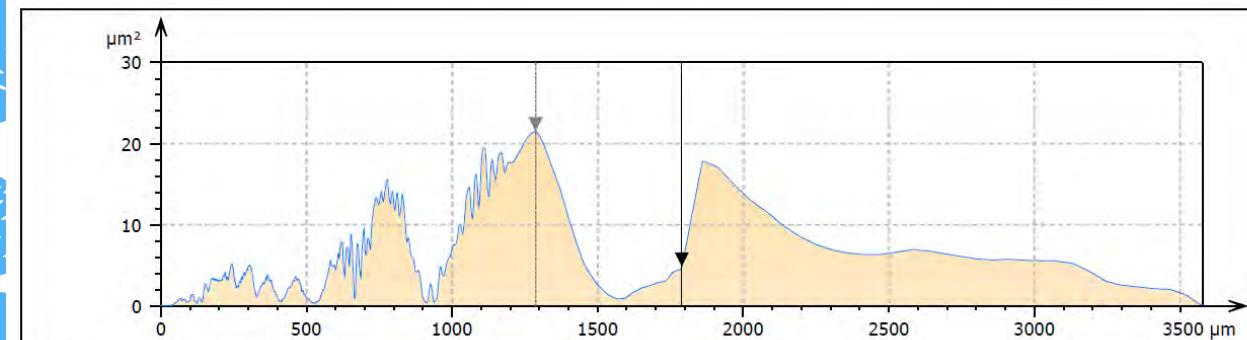
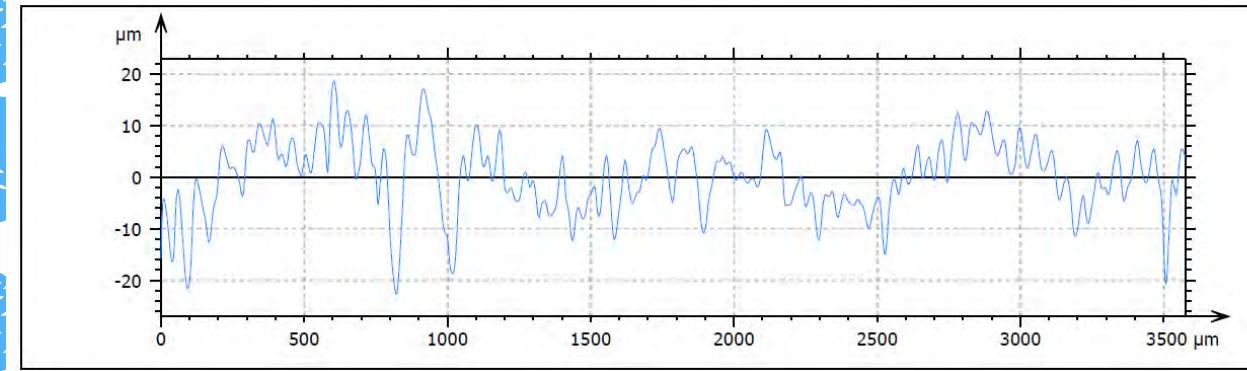




Electrode characterisation



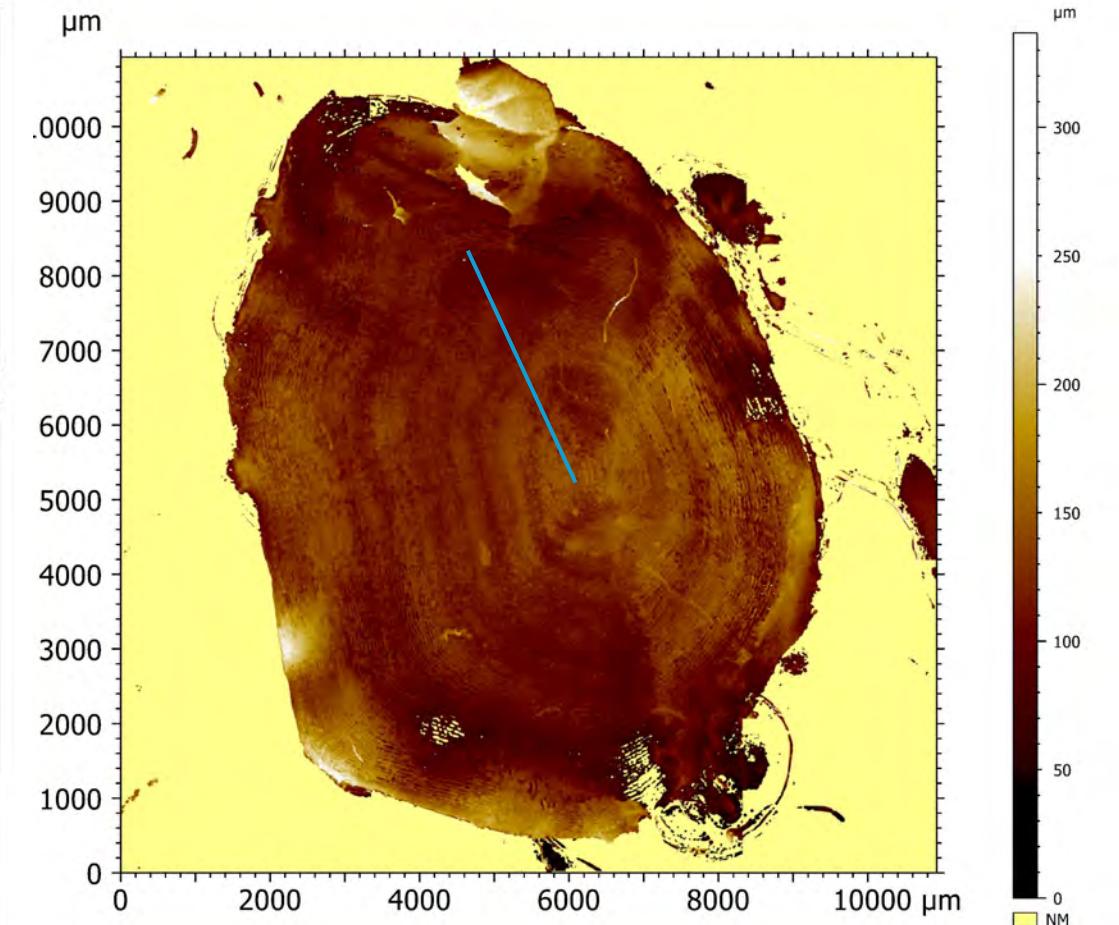
Fish scales


Information

Number of iterations 32
 Smoothing 11
 Window function None

Parameters

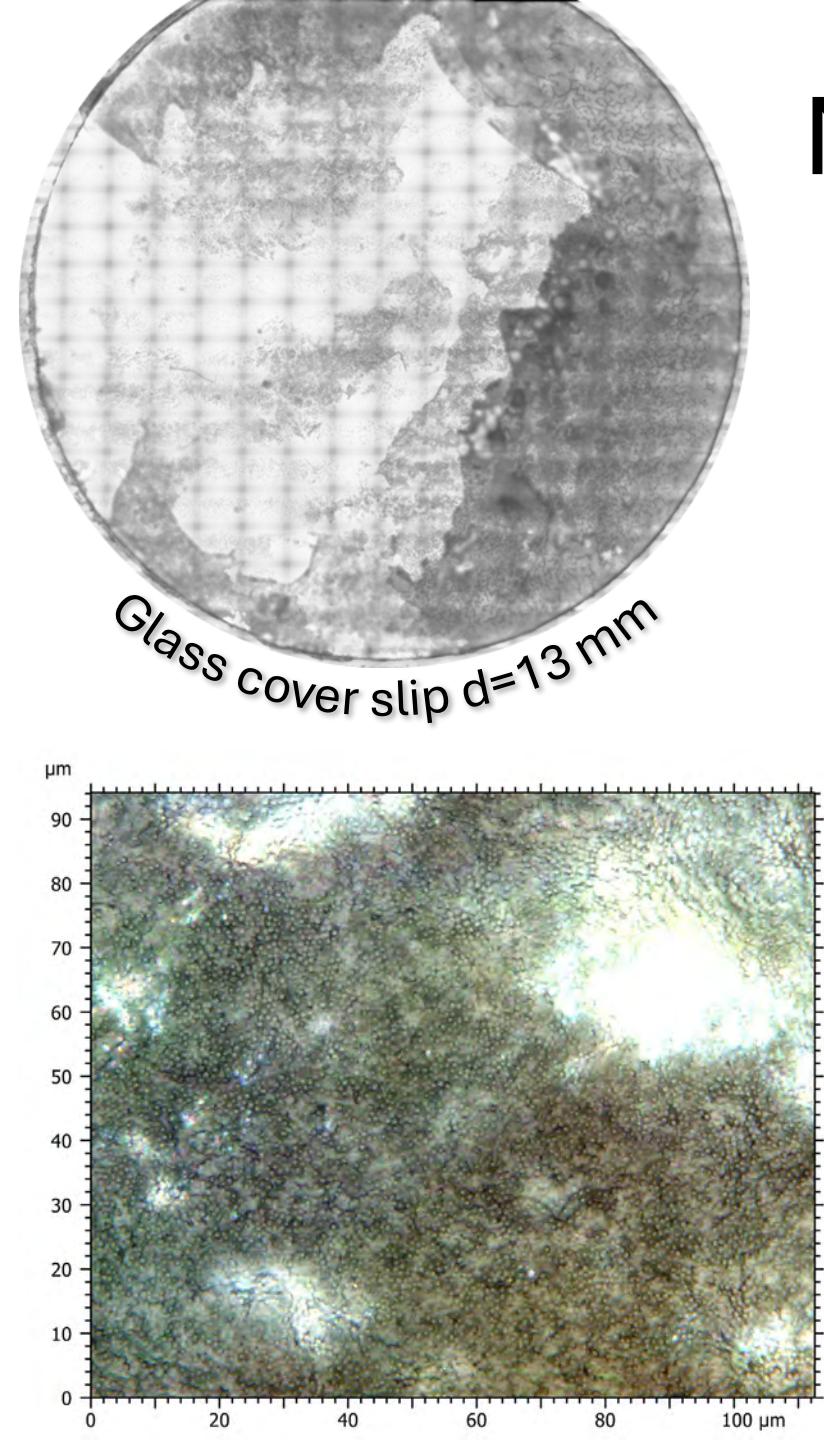
	Value	Unit
Wavelength	1788.9	μm
Magnitude	2.2093	μm
Dominant wavelength	1286.6	μm
Maximum magnitude	4.6402	μm



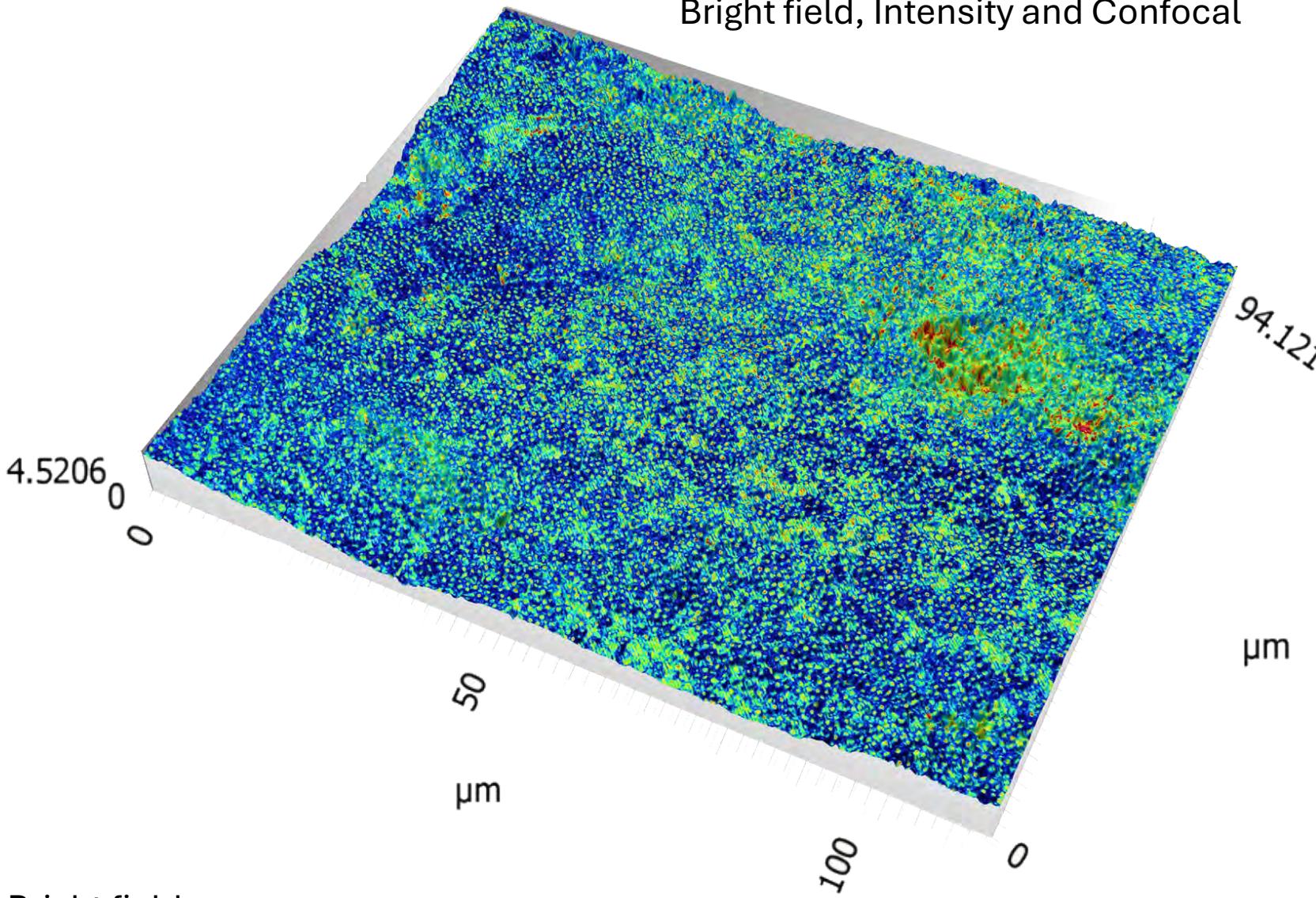
↑ Stitching of multiple images

MRSA biofilms

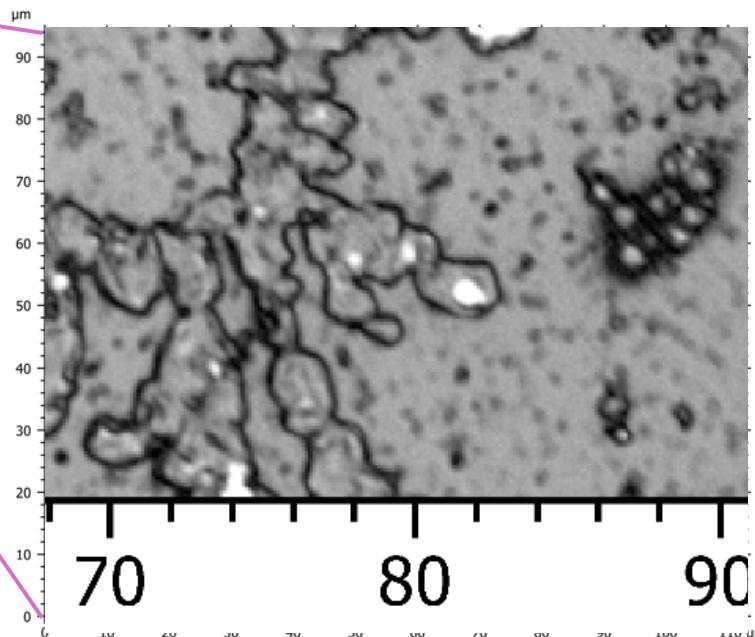
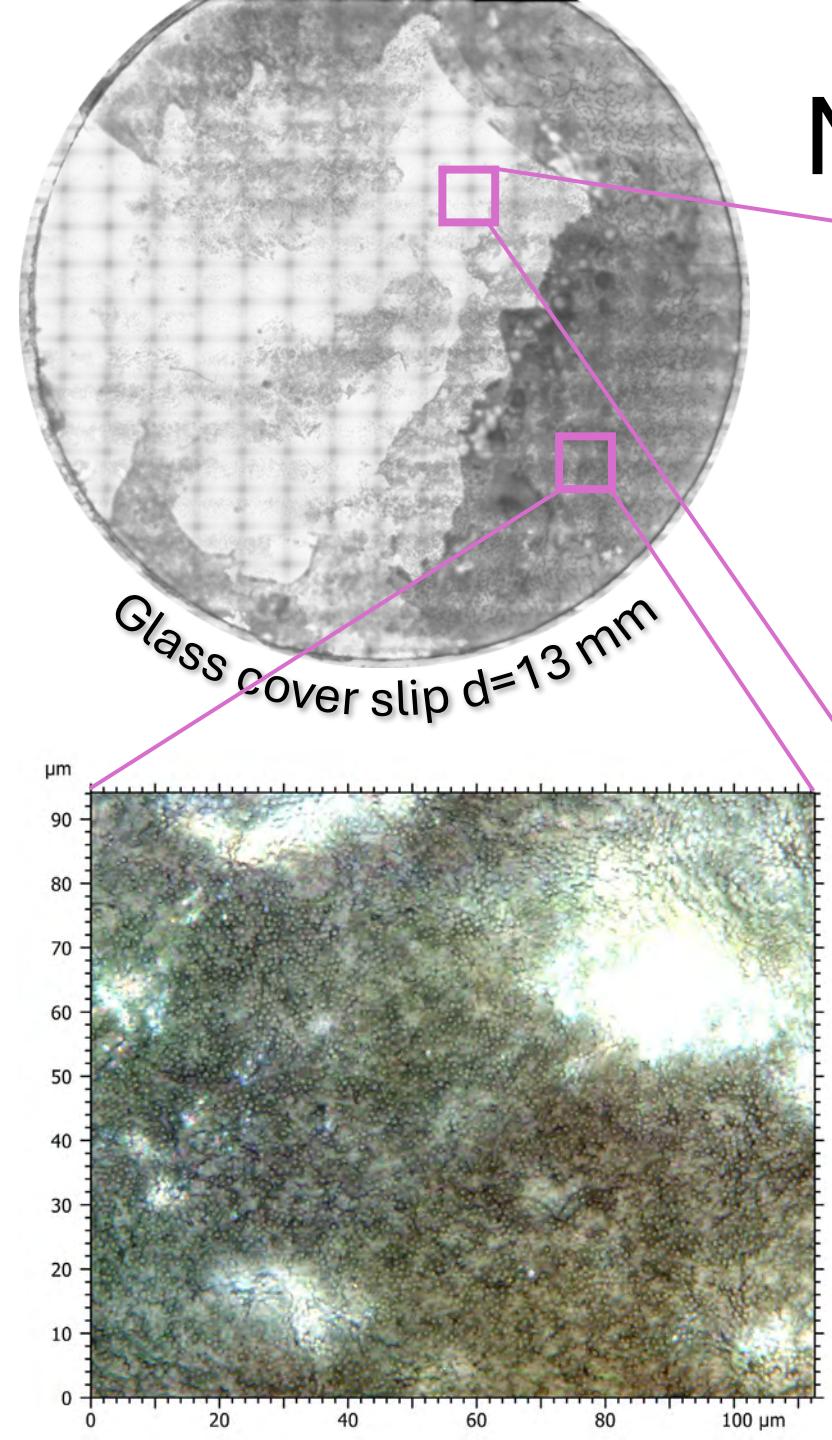
↓Combined
Bright field, Intensity and Confocal



←Bright field

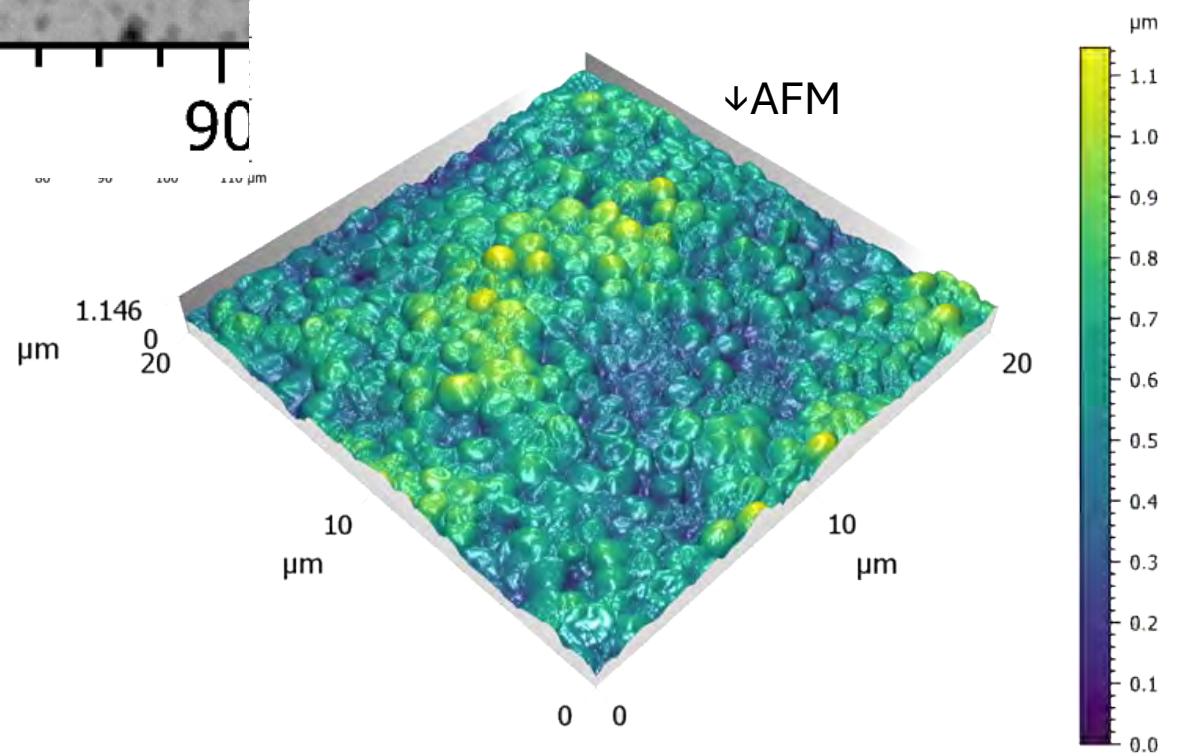


MRSA biofilms



←DIC

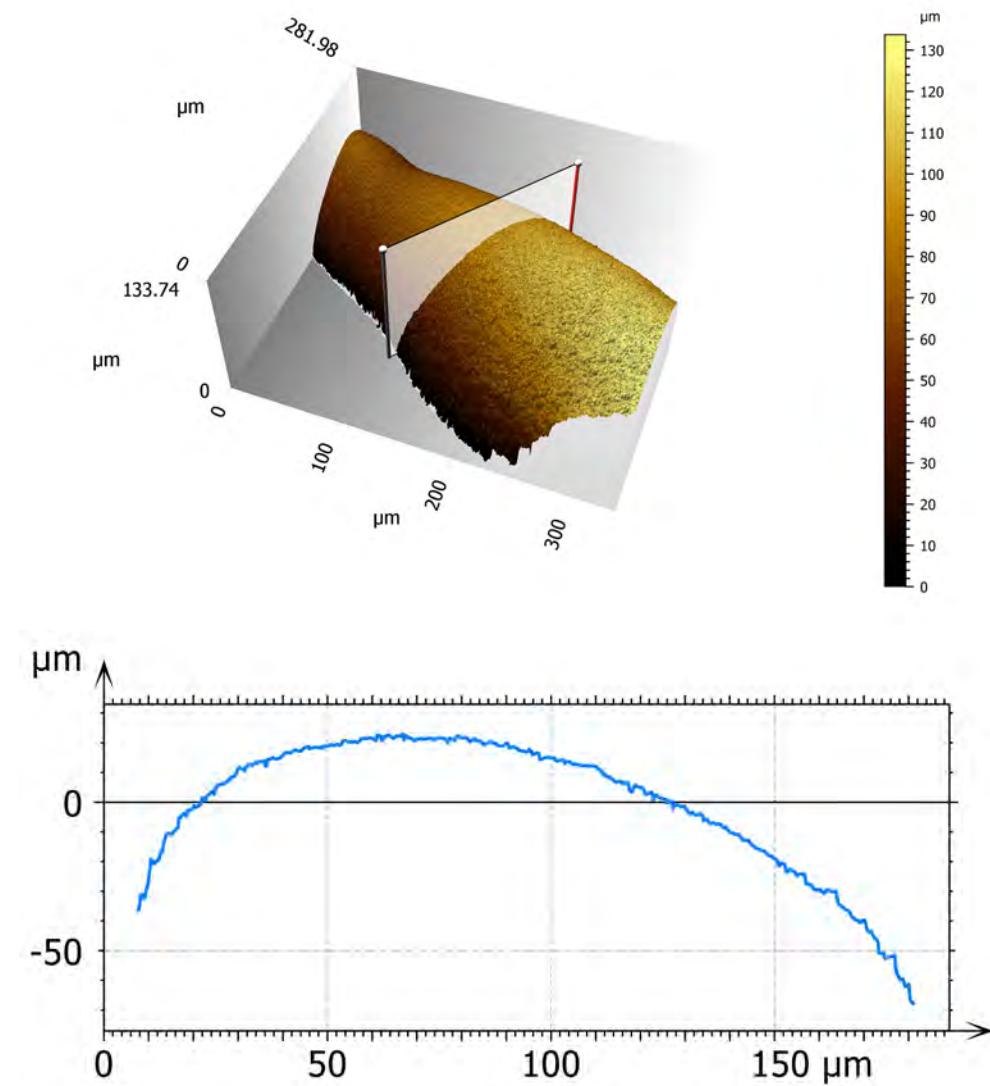
Staphylococcus aureus
 $d \approx 500 - 1000 \text{ nm}$



←Bright field

CaP agar tube

PhD cand. Emilia Ares (FyKe)



Summary

- Consider **profilometry** if:
 - You want to **3D image** your sample on the mid-micrometer/high-nanometer scale
 - Lateral resolution 140 nm
 - No sample processing required
 - You want to **measure** your sample's
 - **Features** (layer thicknesses, heights, widths, morphology ...)
 - Particles
 - Fibres
 - **Topography & roughness** (wear, coatings, processing, ...)

- The **S Neox** profilometer is **quick** and **easy to use**
- Affordable
 - 10 € / hour for ÅAU users
- Contact me for training & info:
 - emil.rosqvist@abo.fi
 - OpenIRIS



ST Instruments Sensofar S Neox 3D Optical Profiler ★
Physical Chemistry
Affiliations: AAU
Type: Profilometer
Location: Aurum B323



Thank you!



Confocal microscopy



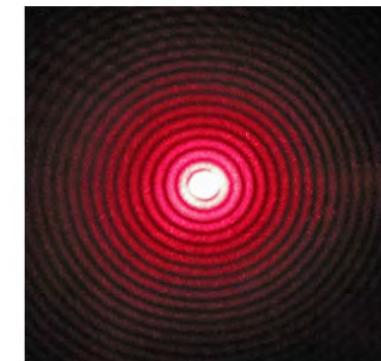
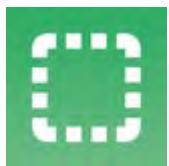
2D images are captured stepwise at different depths while out-of-focus light is blocked.



Interferometry

- **Phase Shift Interferometry (PSI):** Acquires interference data during a controlled phase shift. Preferred technique for very smooth surfaces. Sub-ångström resolution for all NA, to allow large field of view imaging with same height resolution.
- **Coherence Scanning Interferometry (CSI):** Uses interference fringes to determine topography, transparent film structure, and optical properties, e.g.
- **Extended Phase Shifting Interferometry (ePSI):** Combines ePSI and CSI achieving 0.1 nm measurement noise.

Ai FV



Circular fringes