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Extremely low secondary electron emission from metal/dielectric particulate coatings

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*14th Spacecraft Charging Technology Conference
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Noordwijk, The Netherlands
April 4-8, 2016*

Extremely low secondary electron emission from metal/dielectric particulate coatings

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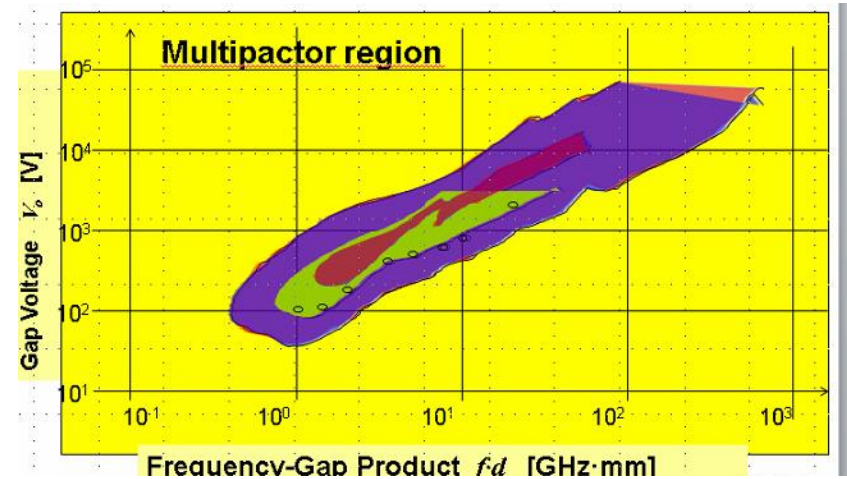
Materials Physics Group, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, 84322, USA

CONTENT

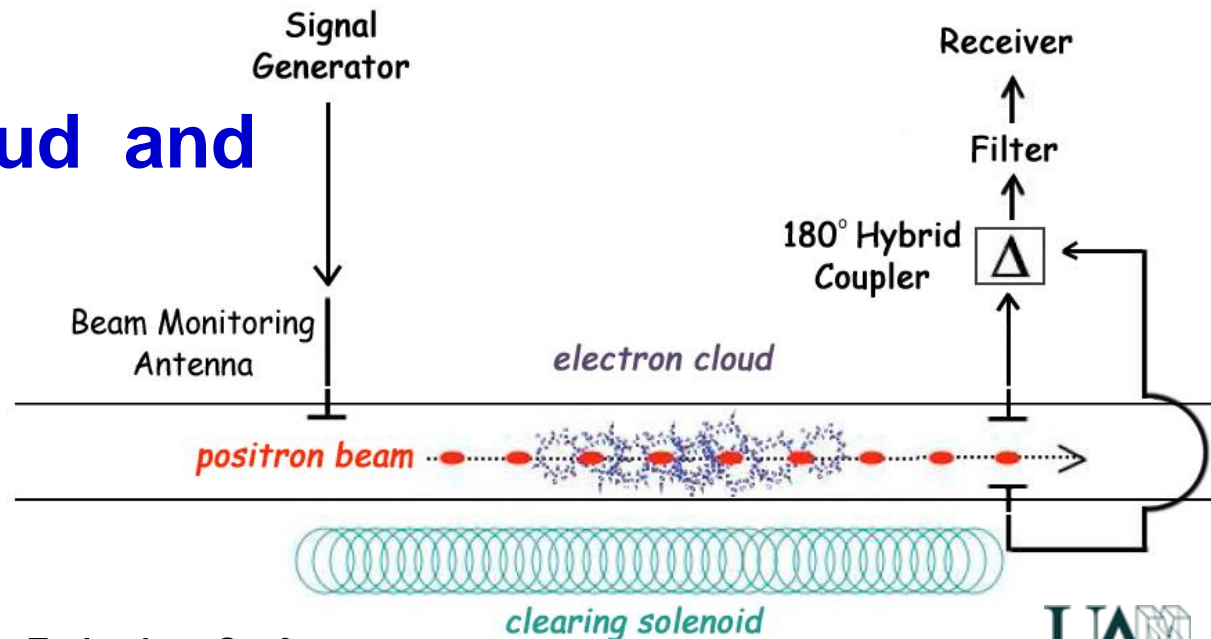
- **Main goals**
- **Introduction: Antimultipactor coatings**
- **Antimultipactor coatings for ESA**
- **Micrometric dielectric particulate coatings**
- **Extremely low secondary electron emission from metal/dielectric particulate coatings**
 - **SEY simple theoretical model**
- **Conclusions**

To mitigate:

1. The multipactor effect in space-related high-power RF hardware



2. The electron cloud and its adverse consequences



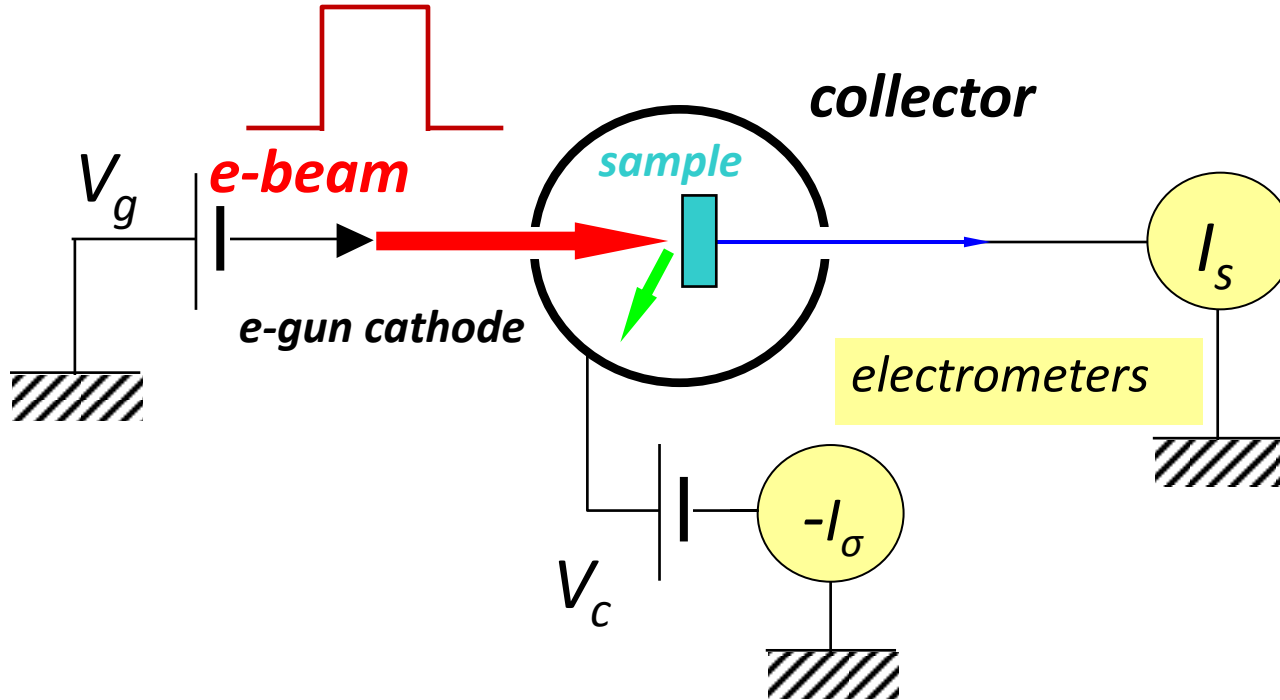
Multipactor phenomenon characteristics

- **Weak discharge**
- **Secondary electron emission seed and feedback (avalanche)**
- **Only occurring under vacuum conditions**
- **Threatening any RF component**
- **Can cause disturbances/degradation of on-board satellite equipment and even total loss of the mission**

$$I_p = I_\sigma + I_s \quad I_\sigma > 0, I_p < 0$$

I_s is measured in the sample

I_p is measured in the Faraday cup



collector connected to ground,

Development of coatings with low secondary electron emission yield (SEY)

Main objectives:

Very low SEY

like Au / roughAg

$$\sigma_{\max} < 1.5$$

$$E_1 > 200 \text{ eV}$$

**Very low RF
 surface resistance**

close to Ag

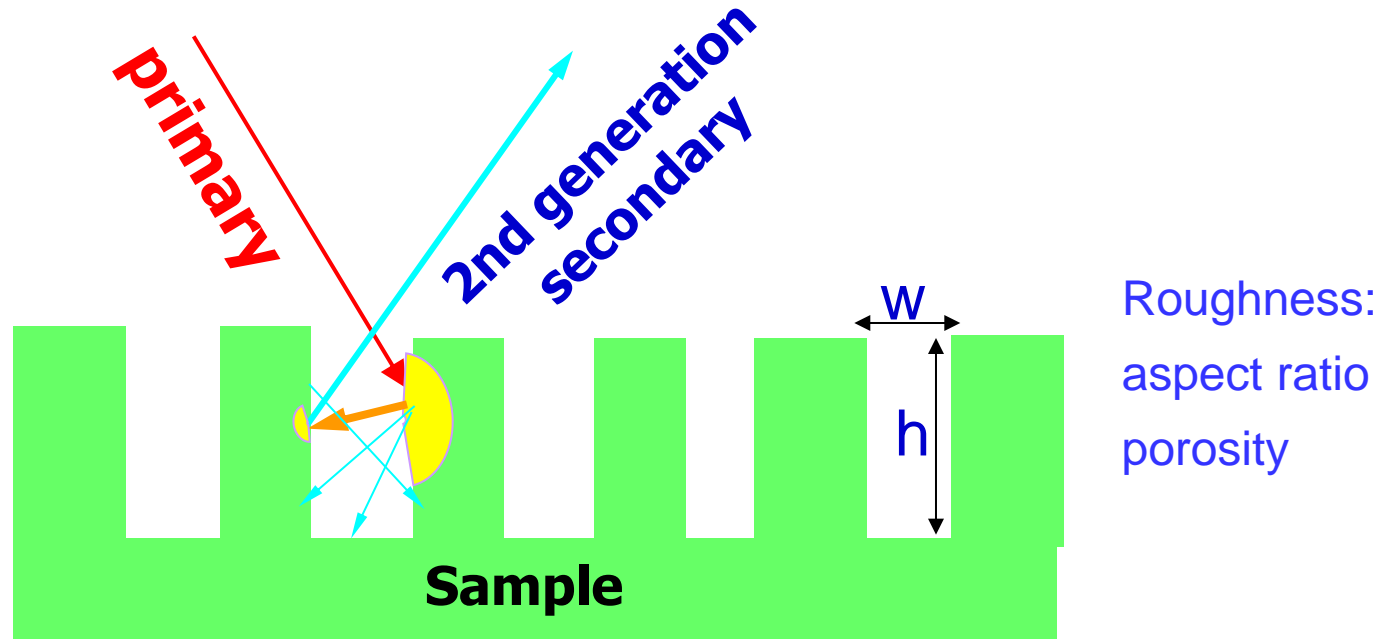
$$< 1.5 \times R_{\text{surf}}(\text{Ag})$$

Tesat en ITI

Very slow aging in air

> one year

Secondary Emission Suppression by Surface Roughness of High Aspect Ratio



in each generation secondary energy decreases

- **Low SEY**
- **High E_1 value**
- **High stability in air Ag, Au, ...**
- **High conductivity Ag**

Varias
pequeñas
modificaciones

Anti-Multipactor Coatings Deposition Methods

Gas (UHV)

**Physical Vapor
Deposition**

Evaporation

**Ion implantation
and/or reaction**

Sputtering

Liquid

**Chemical
Methods**

**Chemical Etching
or Growth**

Anodization

Solid

**Particles
Deposition**

**Varias
pequeñas
modificaciones**

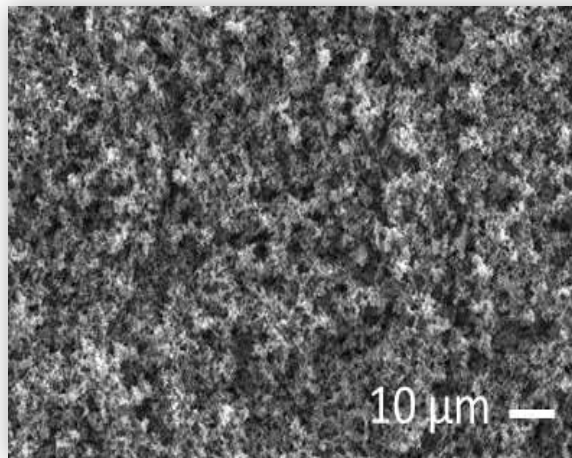
ANTI MULTIFACTOR COATINGS

DIFFERENT KINDS TESTED

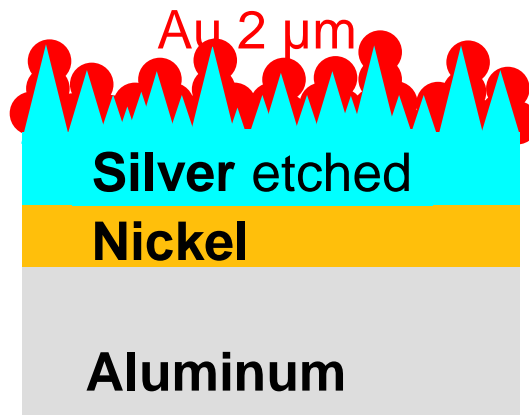
CHEMICAL ETCHING



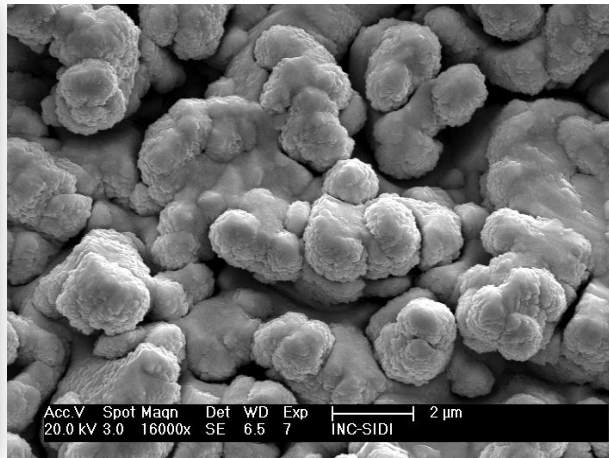
Etched aluminium



$$\Delta \approx 1\mu\text{m} \quad R_r/R_s = 2.4 @ 12 \text{ GHz}$$



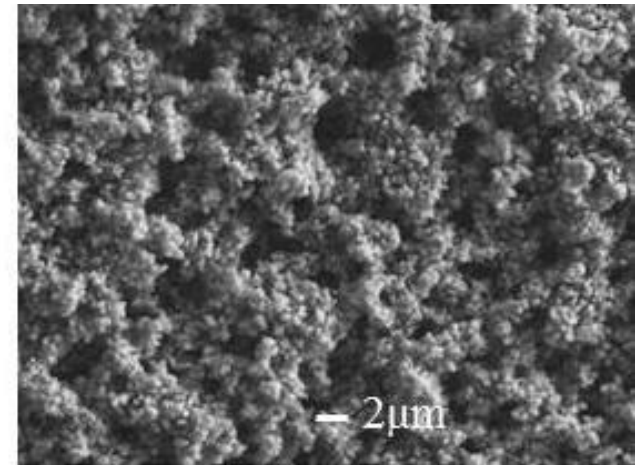
Gold-coated etched silver



ROUGH NEG



NEG-coated etched Al



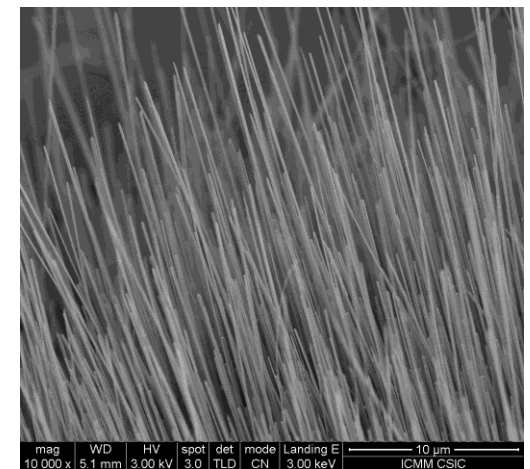
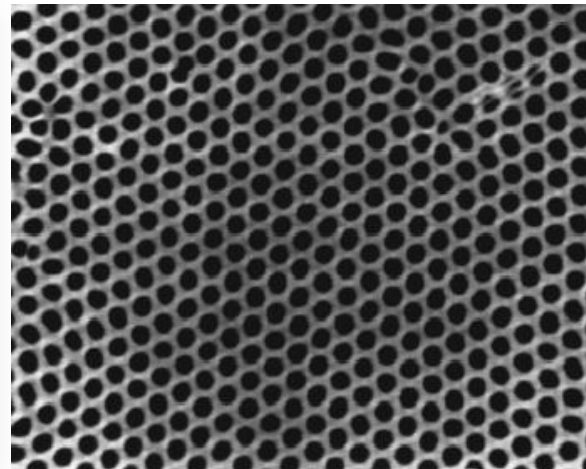
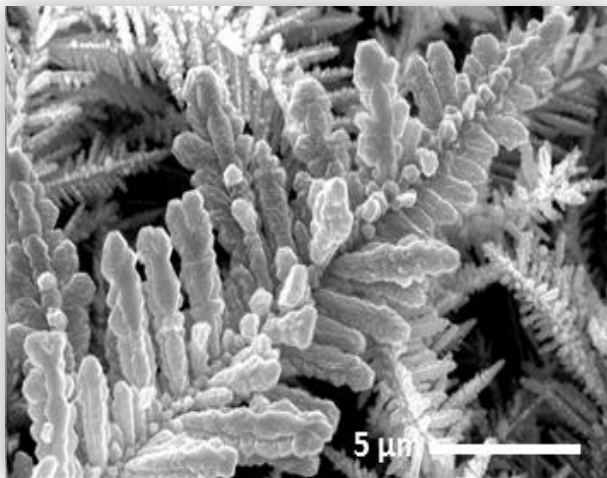
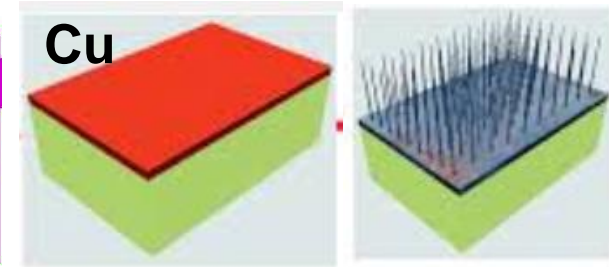
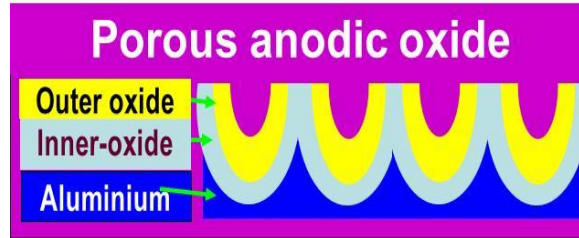
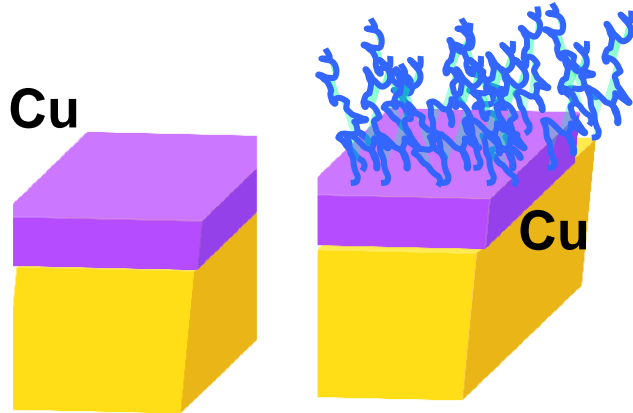
ANTI MULTIFACTOR COATINGS

DIFFERENT KINDS TESTED

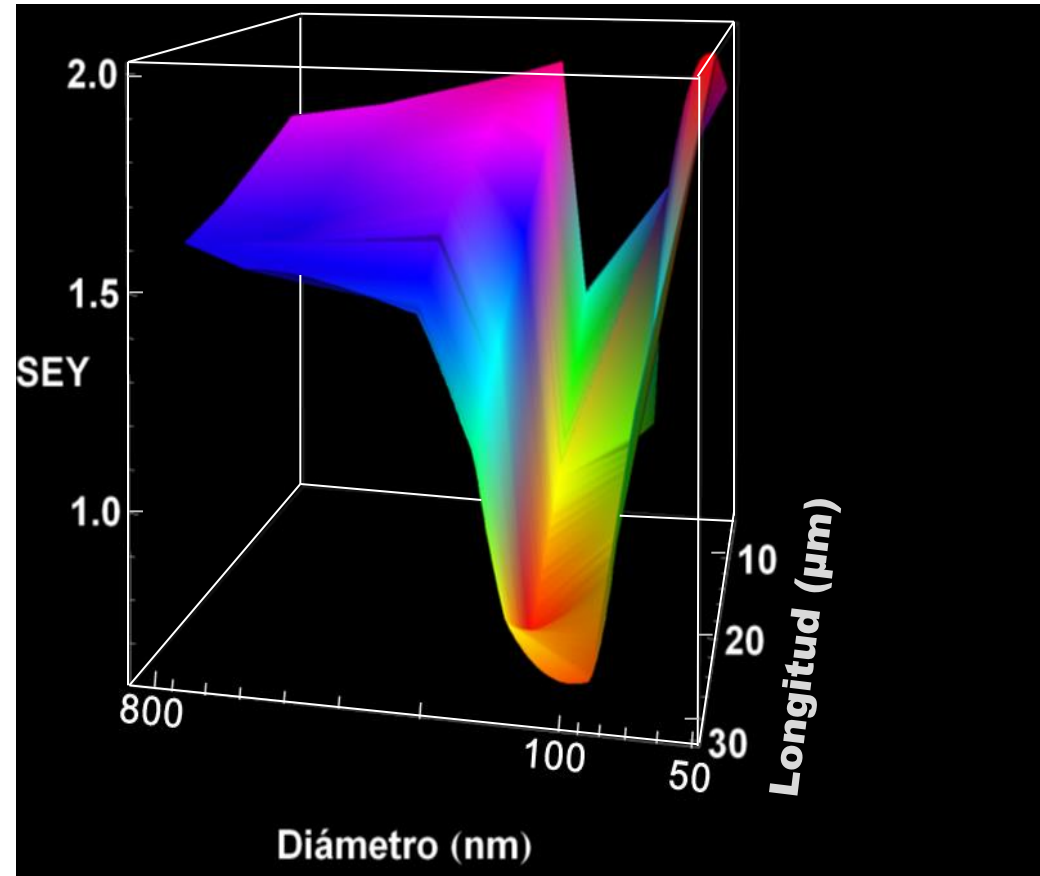
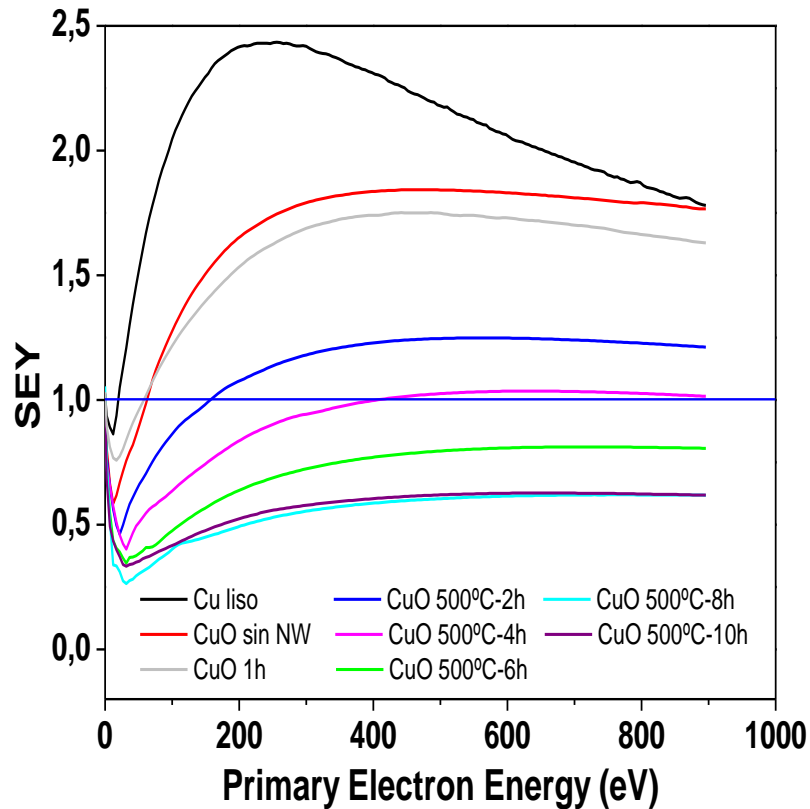
Ag microstructured

Nanoporous templates

CuO nanowires



CuO nanowires

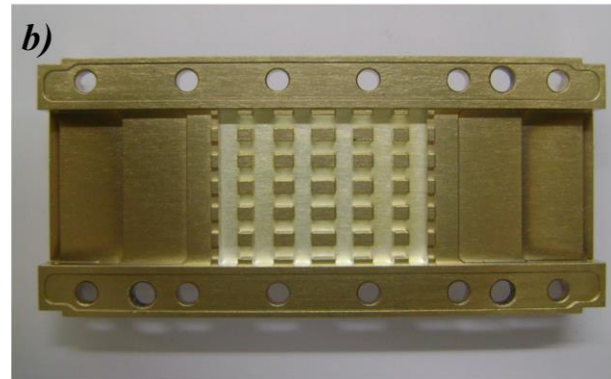
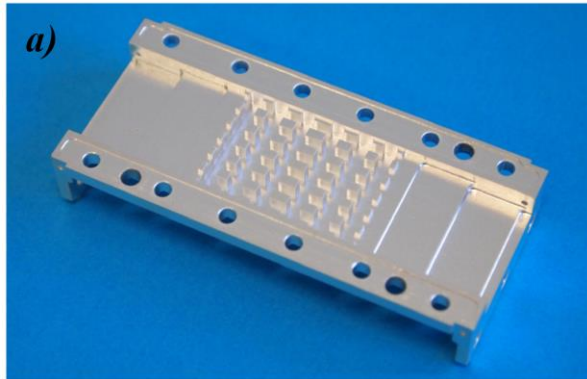


$T = 500^{\circ}\text{C}$,

DEFINITION OF SAMPLES

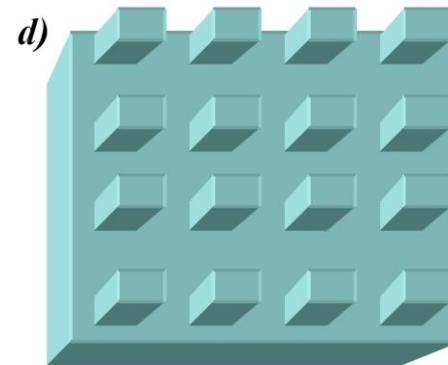
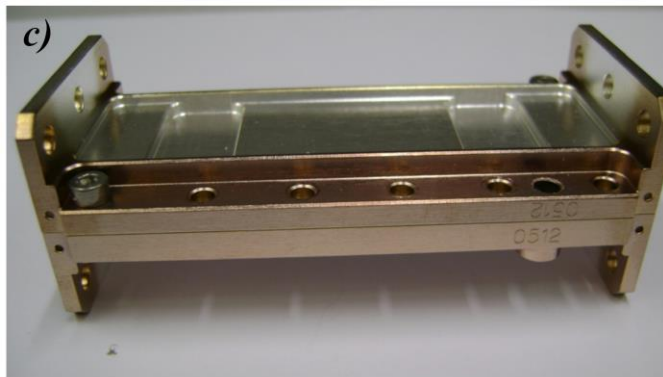
Harmonic low-pass corrugated filters = Multipactor samples
for low-power RF behaviour and multipactor threshold tests

as received
 Ag plating



treated
 filter

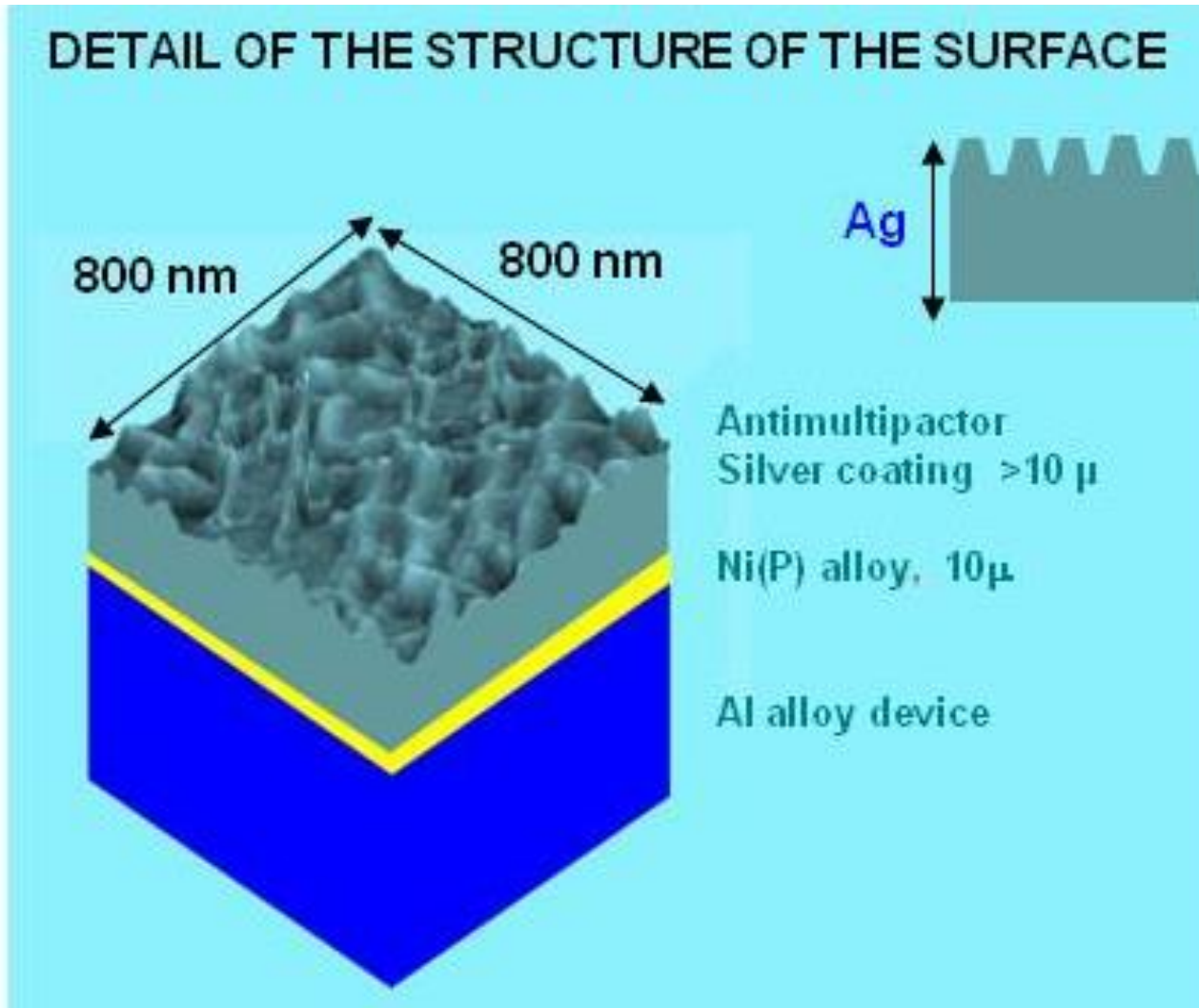
RF filter



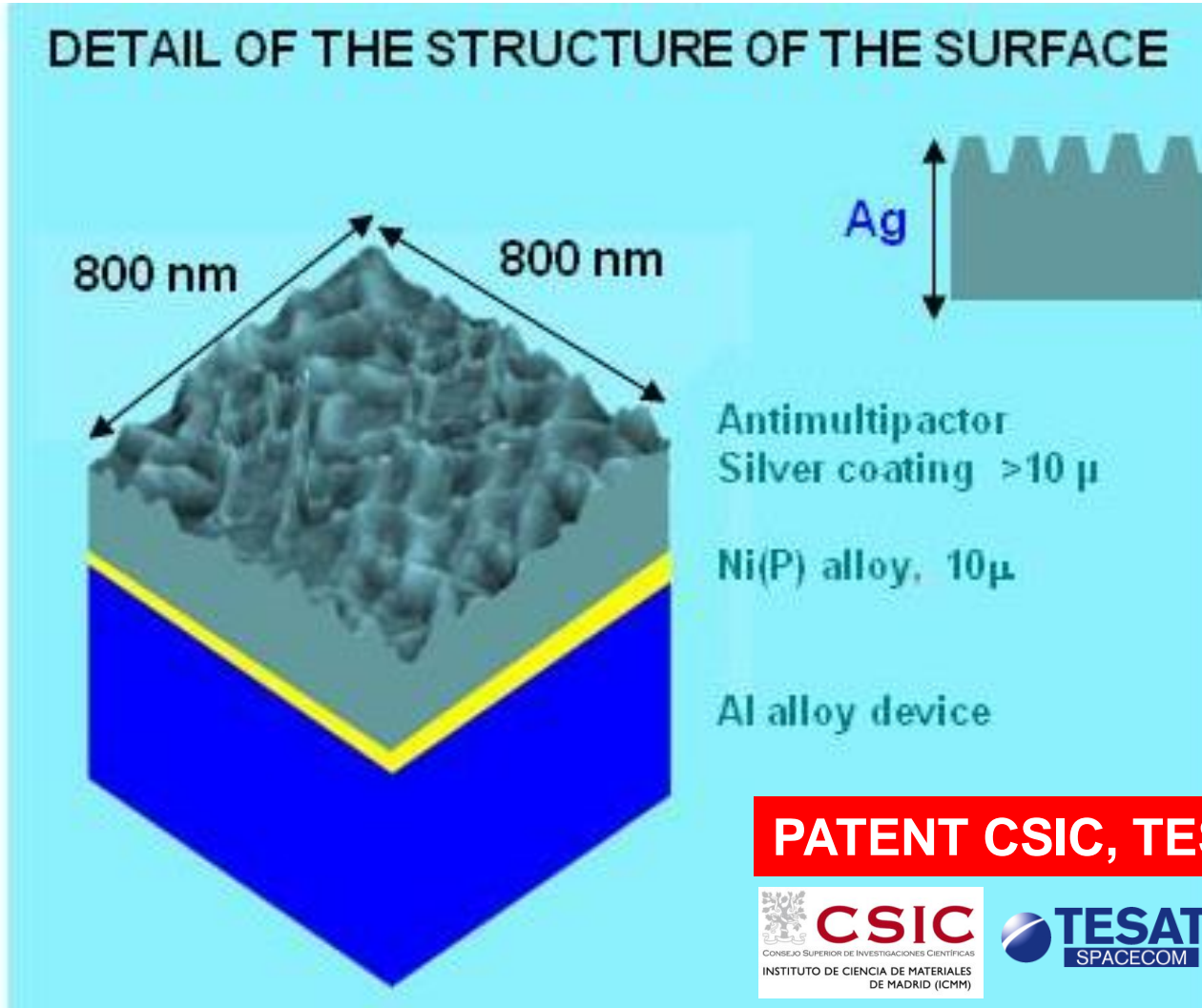
rectangular
 crossing
 grooves in
 corrugated
 central part

K band 10.9 - 36.0 GHz

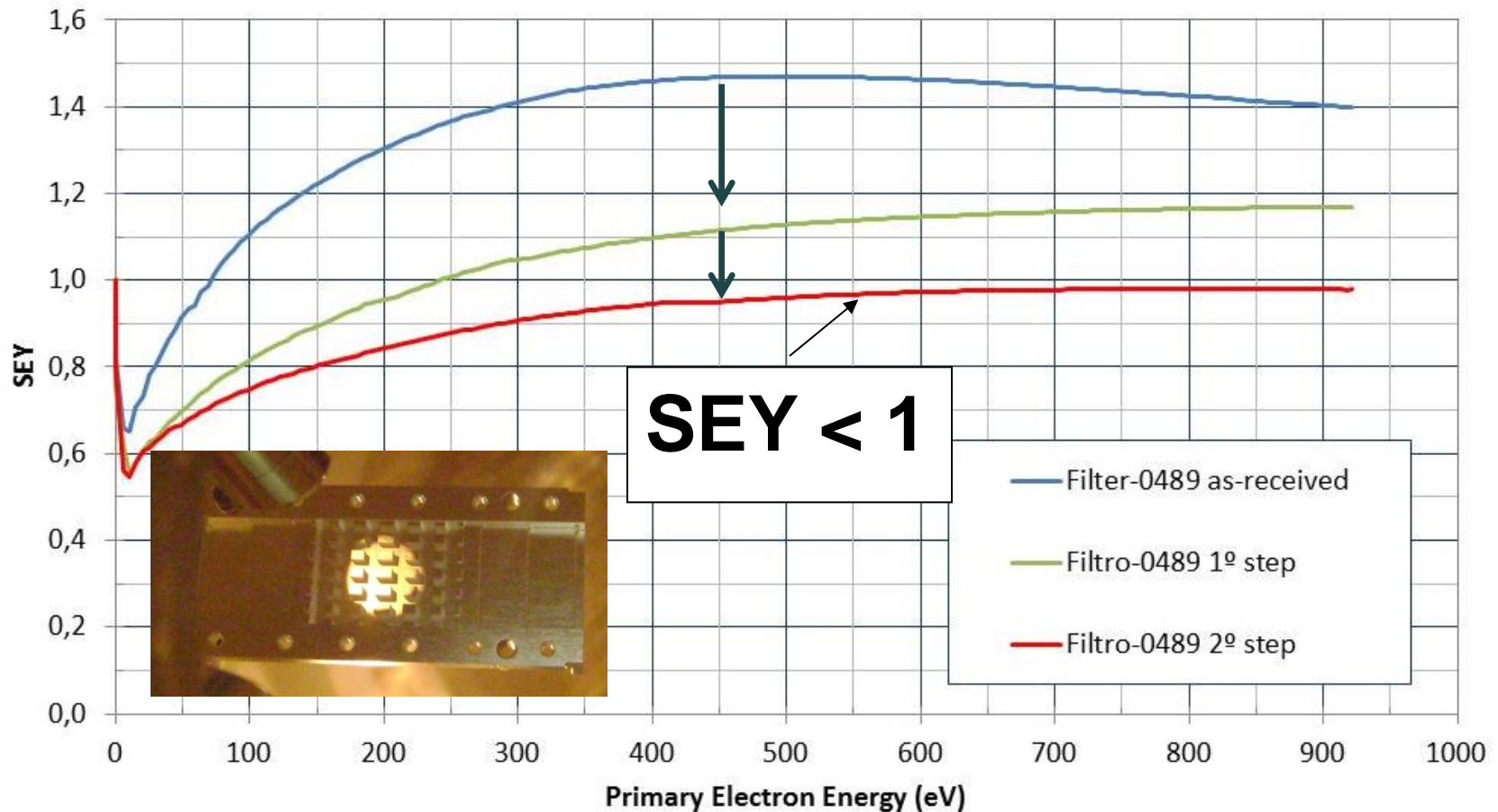
Microstructured silver



THE CHEMICAL TECHNIQUE



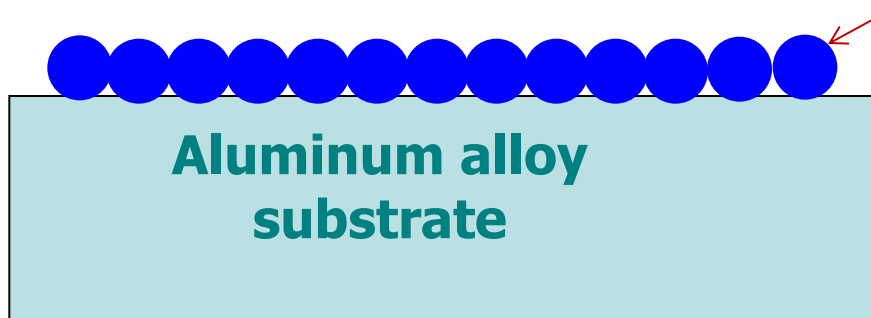
SEY curves of treated filter



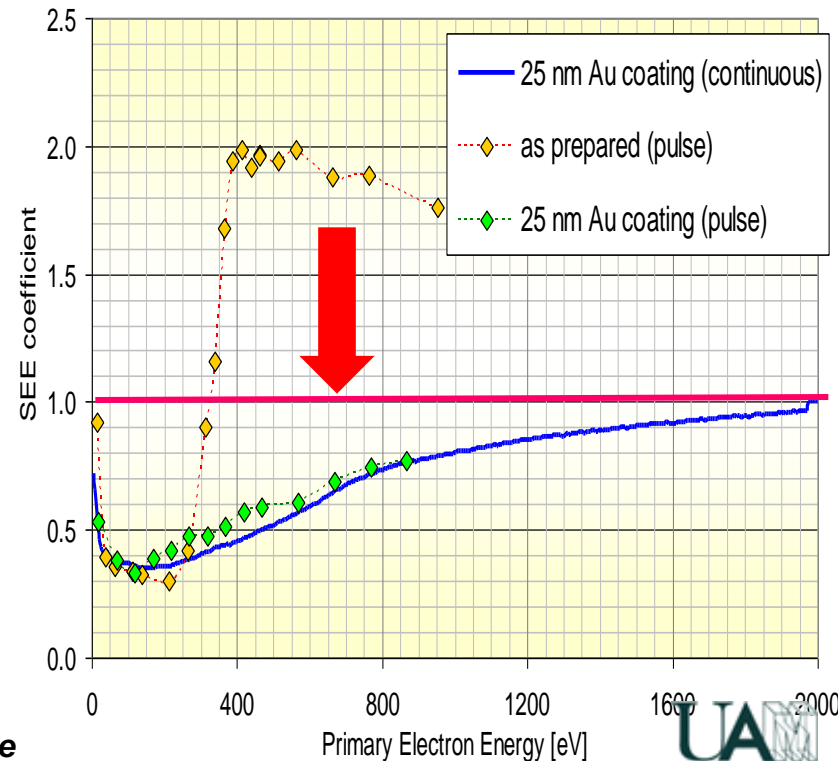
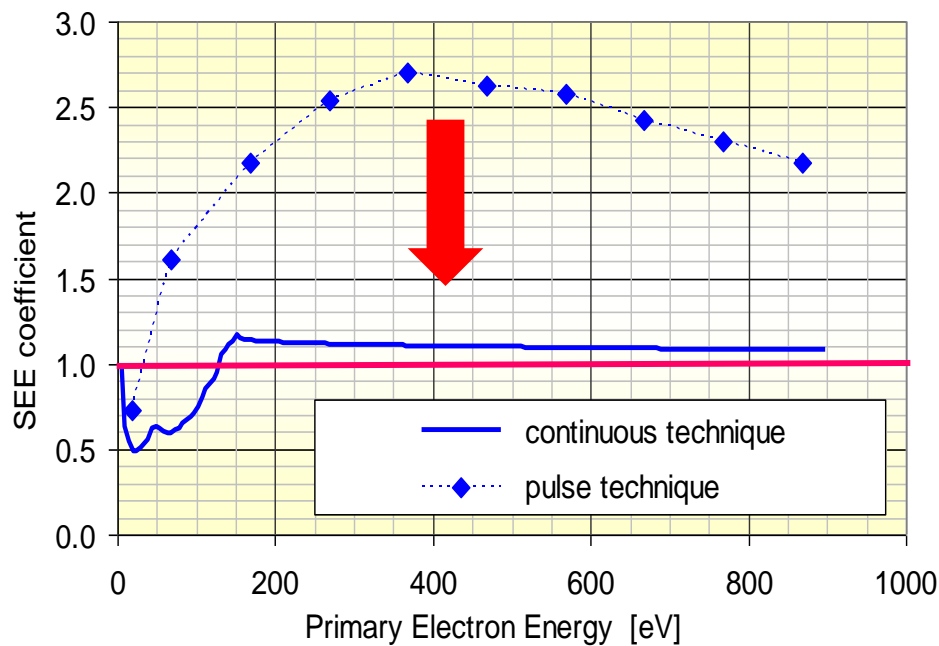
PATENT CSIC, TESAT , ESA

Micrometrical Al_2O_3 Particles Coating

From suspension of nano-metrical Al_2O_3 particles



Indentation of micro-metrical ceramic particles



Extremely low secondary electron emission from metal/dielectric particulate coatings

Metallic/Dielectric MicroParticle Mixture

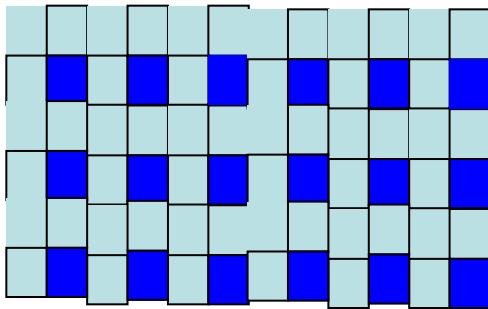
Irregular shape



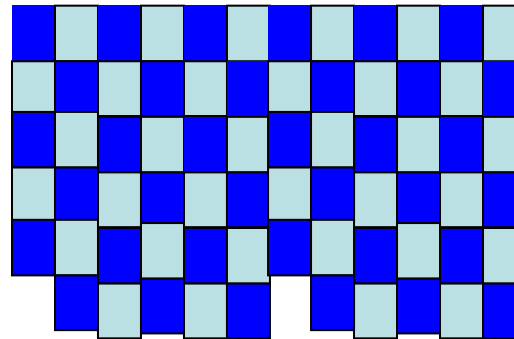
Al particle



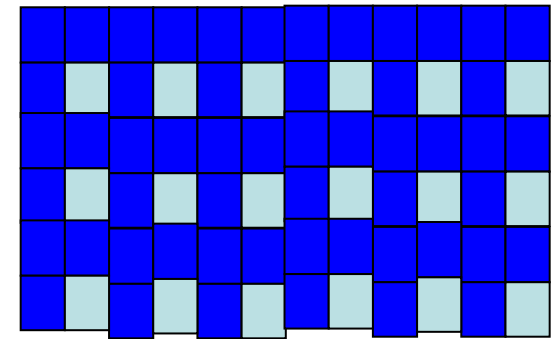
Al₂O₃ particle



25% Al₂O₃



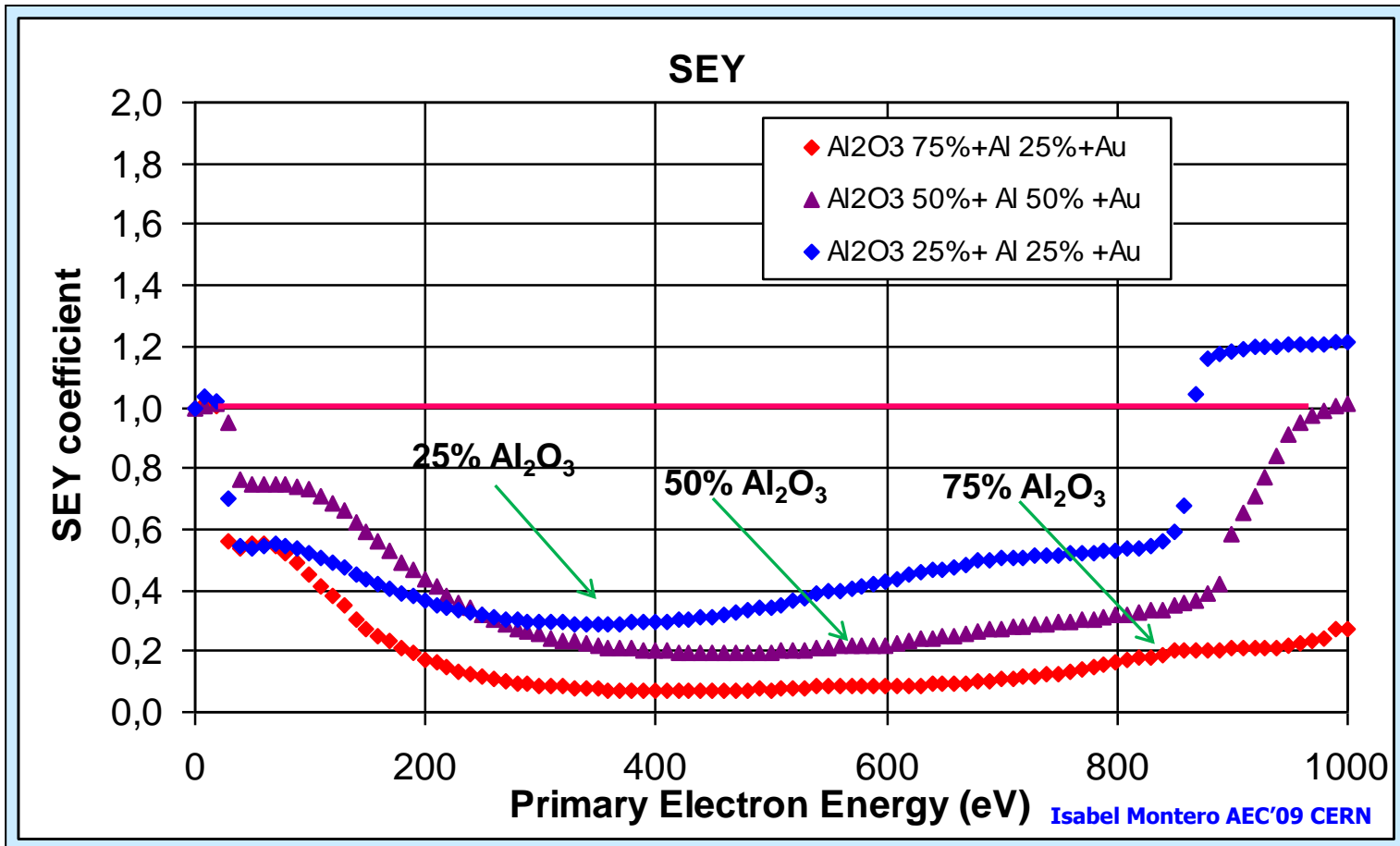
50% Al₂O₃



75% Al₂O₃

Surface top view

Extremely low secondary electron emission from metal/dielectric particulate coatings



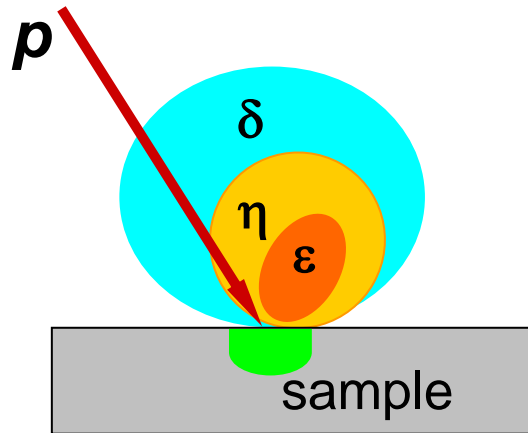
SEY values close to 0

Extremely low secondary electron emission from metal/dielectric particulate coatings

SEY Theoretical Model

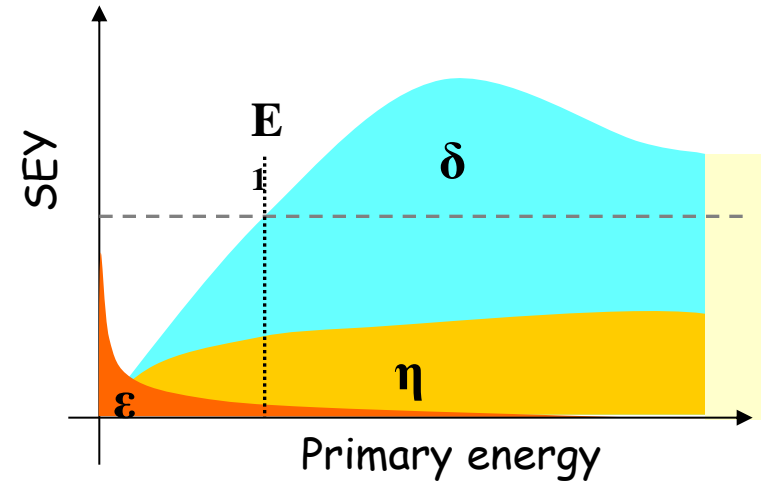
a simple attempt for explaining

Secondary electron emission yield (SEY)

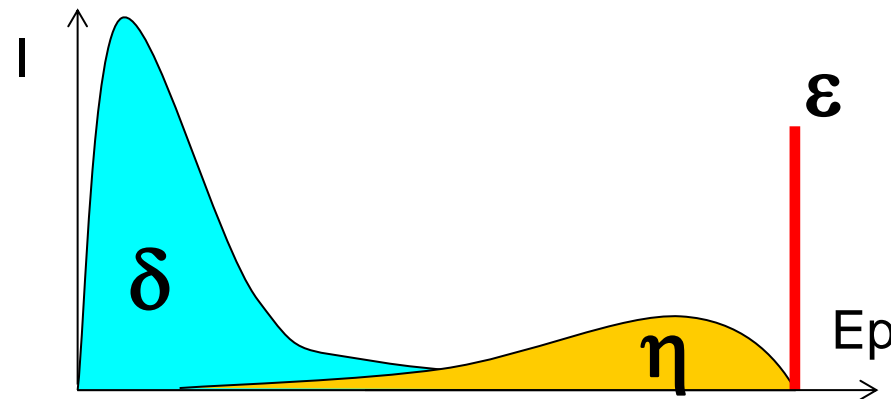


$$SEY = - I_{\sigma} / I_p$$

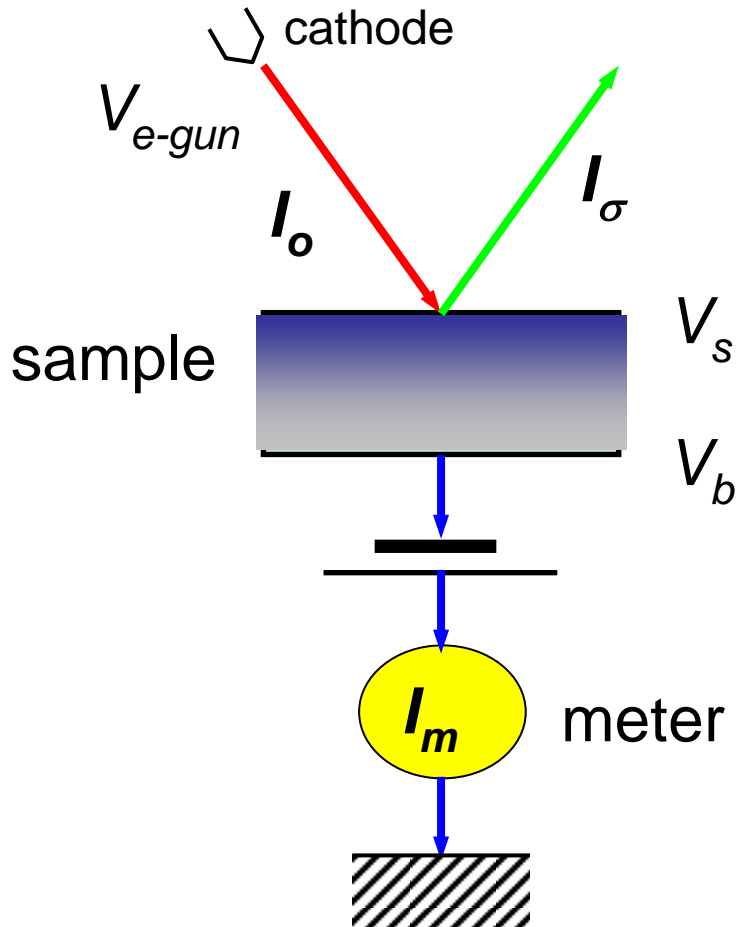
$$I_{\sigma} = I_{\delta} + I_{\eta} + I_{\epsilon}$$



EDC, Energy Distribution Curves



Sample current technique for SEY test



$$\sigma_{eff} = \frac{I_\sigma}{I_o} = 1 - \frac{I_m}{I_o}$$

$$I_o = I_\sigma + I_m$$

During calibration with a Faraday cup ($I_\sigma = 0$), I_o is measured in the pico-amp meter.

The apparent primary energy is:

$$E_p = V_b - V_{e-gun}$$

(in units of eV and V)

The real primary energy is:

$$E_o = V_s - V_{e-gun}$$

In a perfect conductive sample $V_s = V_b$

$$\sigma_{eff}(E_o, V_s) = \delta_{eff}(E_o, V_s) + \eta_{eff}(E_o, V_s) + \varepsilon(E_o)$$

The Cumulative Probability Functions (MEST)

For the true secondary electron emission:

$$F_s(X) = \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan \left(\frac{\tan^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} X^{n_s} \right)}{\tan \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \cdot X_s \right)} \right)$$

where

$$X_s = 1.5 \cdot \min \left\{ \frac{\phi}{E_o}, 0.3 \right\} \cdot \frac{\phi}{\phi + (E_o/75)}$$

and $n_s = 0.65$, $\phi = 5$ eV are material *dependent constants* ($X_{max} \approx \phi/E_o$).

For the inelastically backscattered secondary electron emission:

$$F_b(X) = \frac{1 - \cos \left(\pi \cdot X_b^{n_b} \cdot X^{n_b} \right)}{1 - \cos \left(\pi \cdot X_b^{n_b} \right)}$$

where $n_b = 1.5$ and $X_b = (2^{1/n_b} \cdot X_{max}) = 0.85$ are material dependent constants

The condition of stationary or *dc* SEY measurement is:

$$\sigma_{eff}(V_s) - 1 = I_m / |I_o| = (|I_o| \cdot R_o)^{-1} \cdot (1 + \alpha \cdot V_{sample}^2) \cdot V_{sample}$$

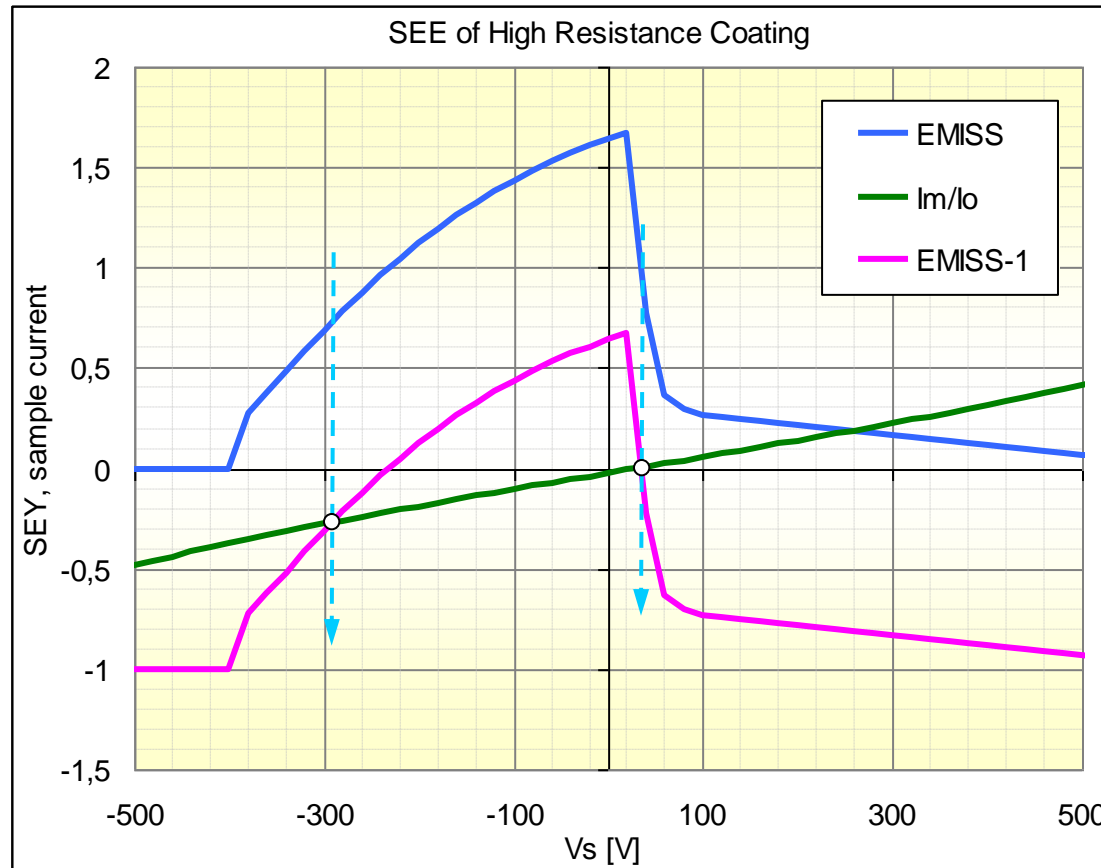
Explain atypical SEY: to solve this equation, i.e.,

to find the possible values of E_p and V_{sample} solutions of this equation,

with $\sigma_{eff} - 1 < 0$, $I_m < 0$, and $V_{sample} < 0$

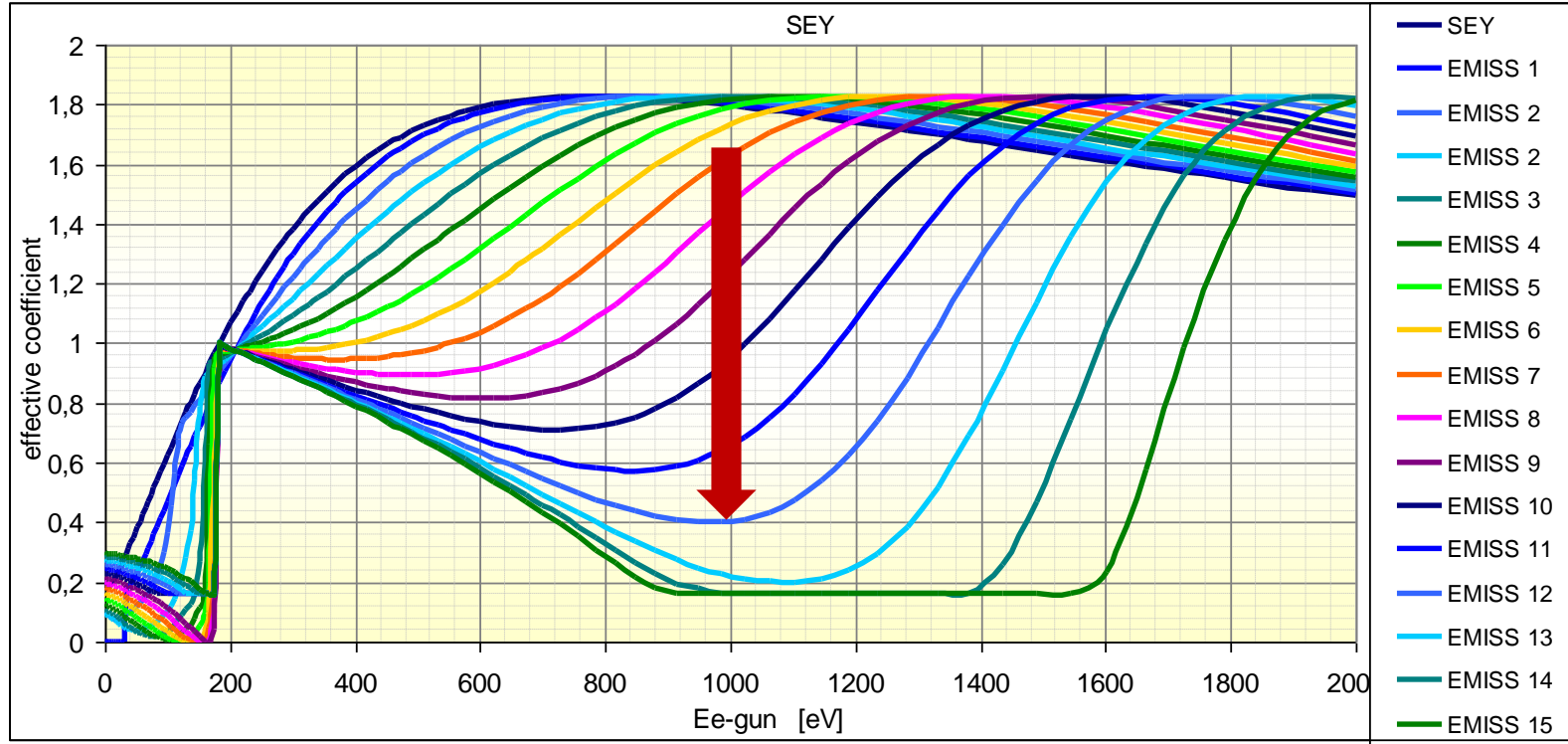
($V_{sample} > 0$ and $I_m < 0$ is not possible)

Two solutions for a certain wide primary energy (E_p) range above the first cross-over energy E_1



Secondary electron emission as a function of sample voltage,
for $E_p = 400$ eV. $EMISS = \sigma_{eff}$

The **atypical** solution with $\sigma_{eff} < 1$, $V_s < 0$, and E_o decreasing from E_1 to values close to 0

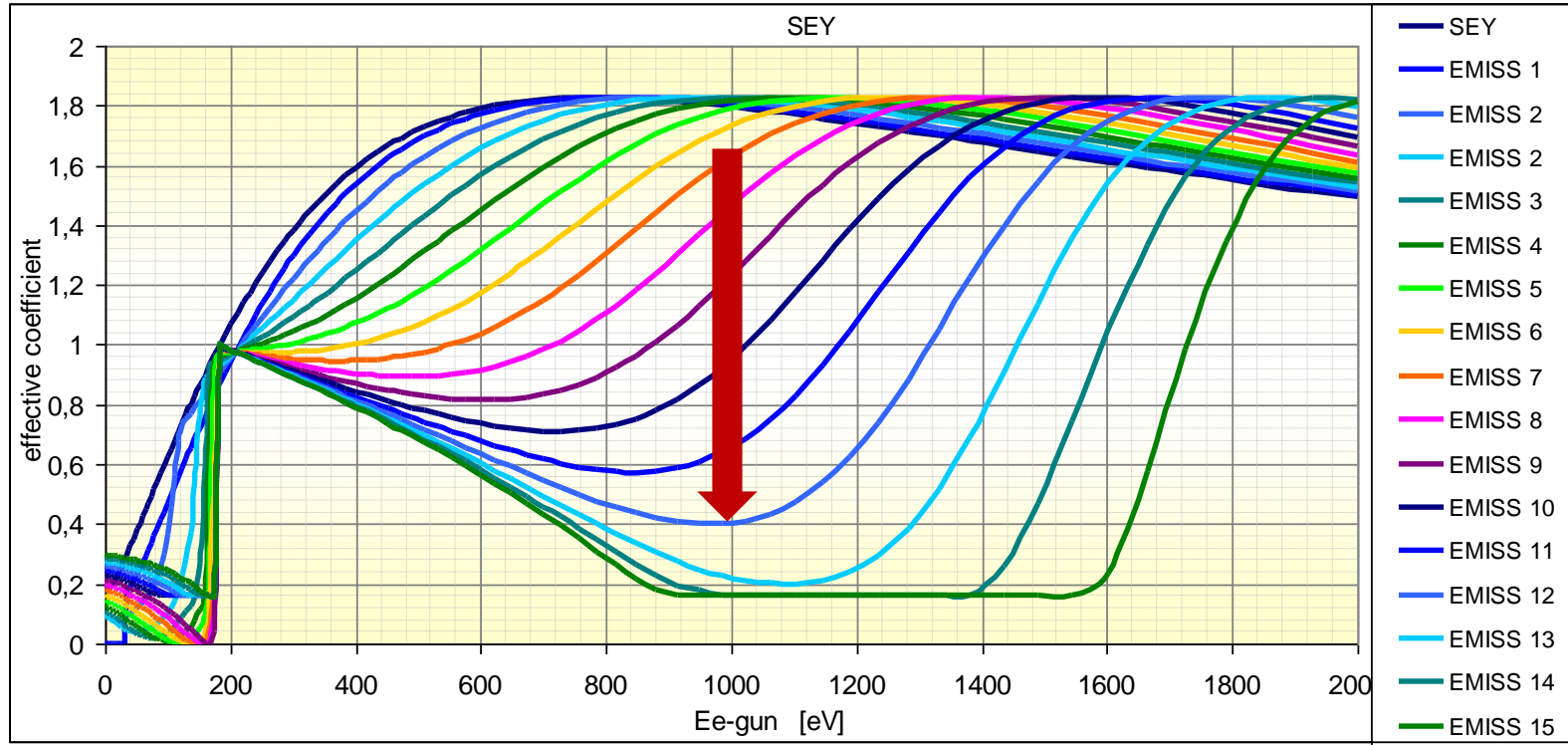


Evolution of effective SEY in an iterative procedure with

$$\Delta V_{sample} = -k \cdot (\sigma_{eff} - 1 - (I_m / |I_o|))$$

Convergence to $\sigma_{eff} < 1$ in a energy range 210 – 850 eV.

The **atypical** solution with $\sigma_{eff} < 1$, $V_s < 0$, and E_o decreasing from E_1 to values close to 0

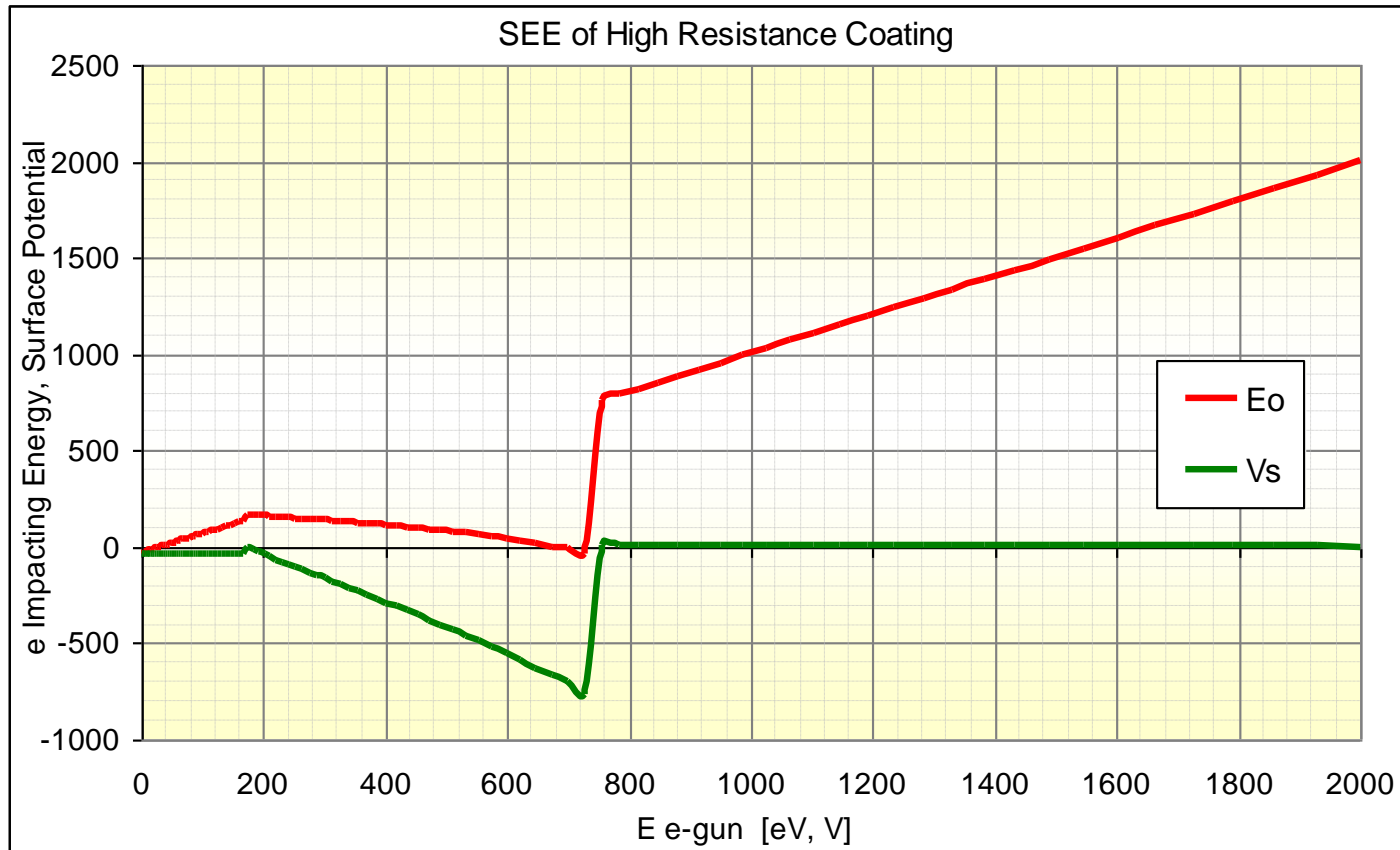


Evolution of effective SEY in an iterative procedure with

$$\Delta V_{sample} = -k \cdot (\sigma_{eff} - 1 - (I_m / |I_o|))$$

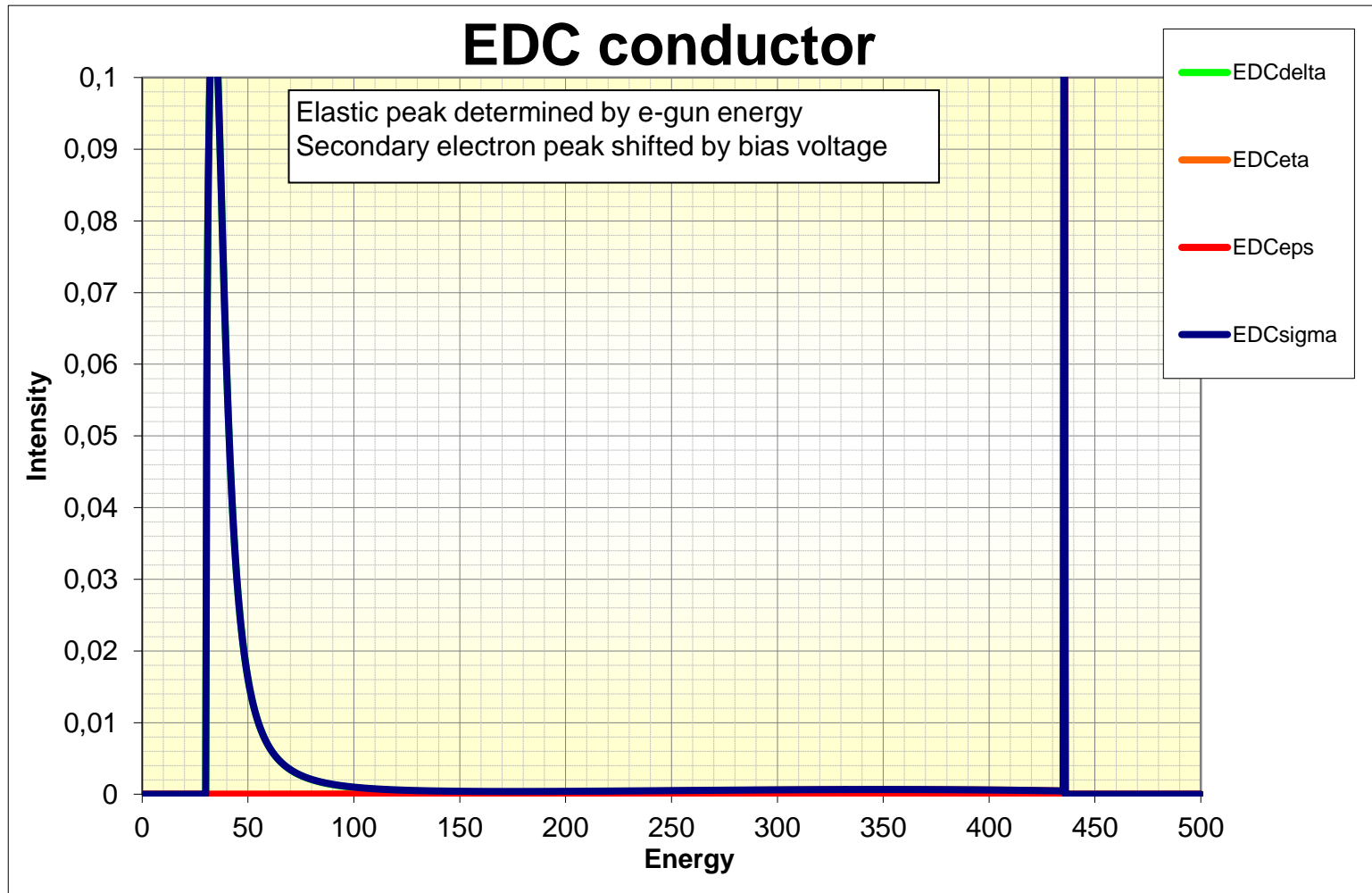
Convergence to $\sigma_{eff} < 1$ in a energy range 210 – 850 eV.

Above this wide energy range with two solutions, only the normal one, $\sigma_{eff} = 1+$, is always possible.

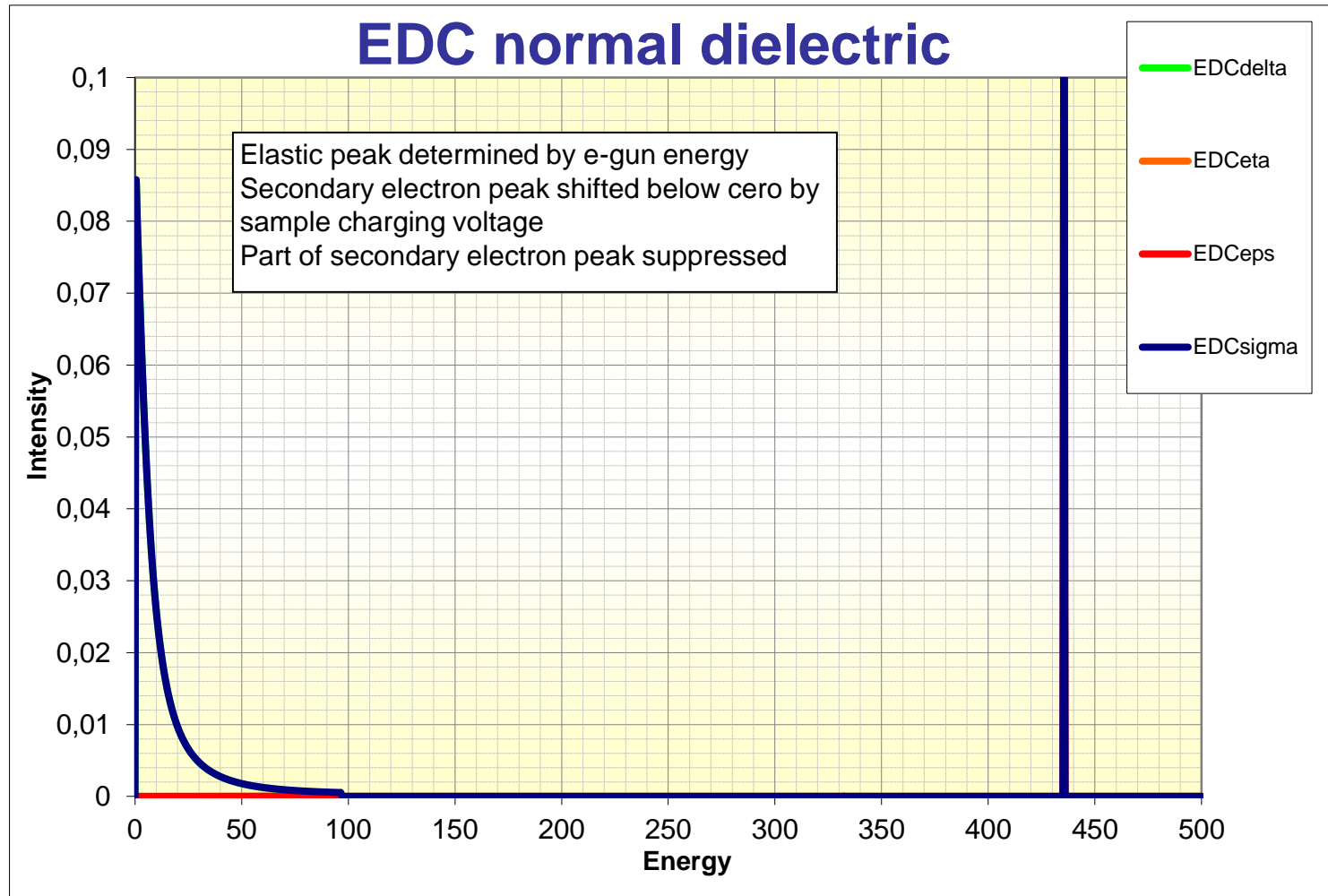


Real primary energy and surface potential of the high resistance coating as determined by Solver of Excel

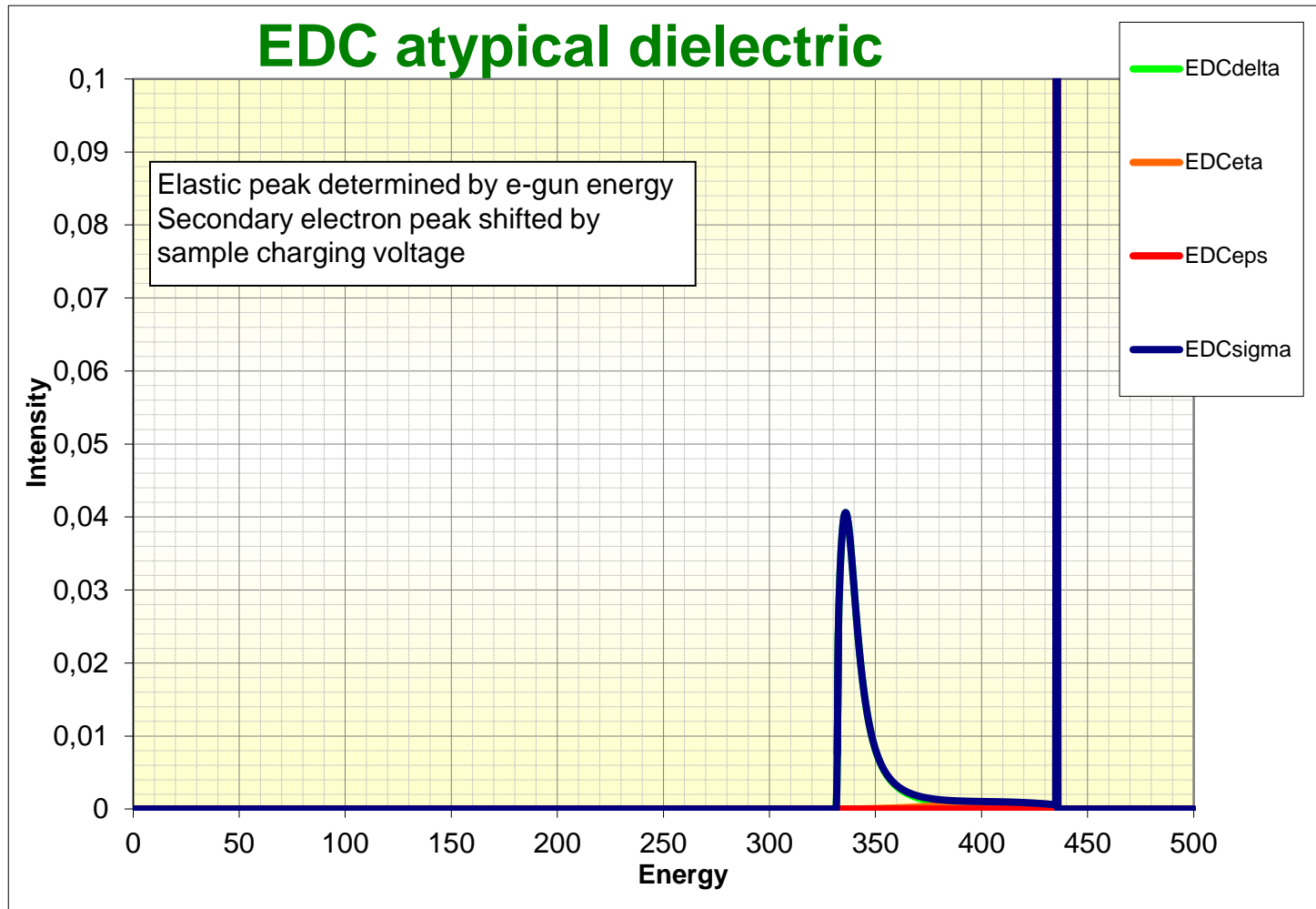
Energy Distribution Curves, EDC



Energy Distribution Curves, EDC



Energy Distribution Curves, EDC



MAIN CONCLUSIONS:

Coatings of micrometric surface roughness can avoid Multipactor effect.

SEY of metal/dielectric particulate coatings can be lower than 0.2 until E_p of the order of 1000 eV.

The extreme decrease of SEY of metal/dielectric particulate coatings could be explained by using a simple model:

Two different solutions were found:
the normal and the atypical one with extremely low-SEY values

Why the atypical one is chosen by metal/dielectric particulate coatings?

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**