



Spectroscopy, electronic structure and quantification attempt in the spectral range of the Li K α emission band

P. Jonnard

Laboratoire de Chimie Physique – Matière et Rayonnement

Sorbonne Université – CNRS

Paris, France



*EMAS 2025 - 18th European Workshop on MODERN DEVELOPMENTS AND
APPLICATIONS IN MICROBEAM ANALYSIS*

Collaboration



- **ANR** *“Spectroscopy and quantification of lithium by microanalysis”*
- **LCPMR**
 - K. Le Guen
 - K. Hassebi
 - N. Temmar
 - W. Aid
 - R. Benbalagh
 - R. Vacheresse
- **Sorbonne Université**
 - N. Rividi
 - M. Fialin
 - A. Verlaguet
 - G. Godard
 - B. Dubacq
- **CEA Marcoule**
 - E. Brackx
 - P. Schweizer
- **CEA Saclay**
 - M.-C. Lépy
 - Y. Ménesguen
- **McGill University, Canada**
 - R. Gauvin
 - N. Brodusch
- **Nano Optics Berlin**
- **Greateyes**

Spectroscopy in the Li K α range, around 50 eV

- Energy dispersive spectrometry (EDS)
 - EDS – bolometer
 - EDS – silicon drift detector, Si(Li)
- Wavelength dispersive spectrometry (WDS)
 - WDS – crystal
 - WDS – grating

Spectroscopy in the Li K α range, around 50 eV

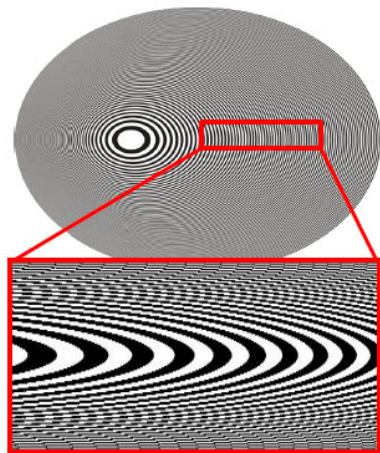
- Energy dispersive spectrometry (EDS)
 - EDS – bolometer
No reported spectroscopy in the Li K range!
 - EDS – silicon drift detector, Si(Li)
Some references with SDD without window
- Wavelength dispersive spectrometry (WDS)
 - WDS – crystal
Wavelength too long (25 nm)! No crystal available; use of periodic multilayers
 - WDS – grating

Spectroscopy in the Li K α range, around 50 eV

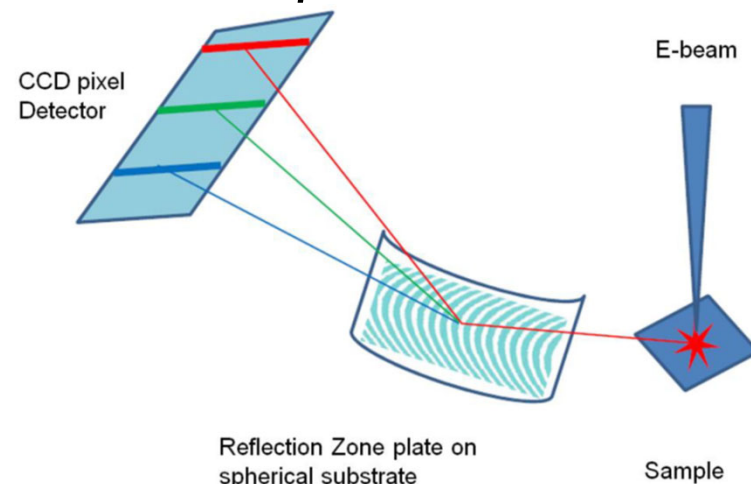
- Energy dispersive spectrometry (EDS)
 - EDS – bolometer
No reported spectroscopy in the Li K range!
 - EDS – silicon drift detector, Si(Li)
Some references with SDD without window
- Wavelength dispersive spectrometry (WDS)
 - WDS – crystal
Wavelength too long (25 nm)! No crystal available; use of periodic multilayers
 - WDS – grating

Spectroscopy in the Li K α range, around 50 eV

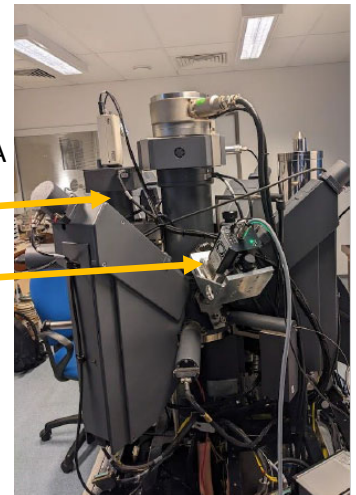
- Variable line spacing grating or **reflection Fresnel zone plate**
- Flat field spectrometer, **no scanning**
- Detection with a linear detector or **CCD camera**
- Grating law **$n\lambda = d(\sin\alpha - \sin\beta)$** d is the period of the grating
 α and β are the incident and detection angles



Images from NanoOptics Berlin

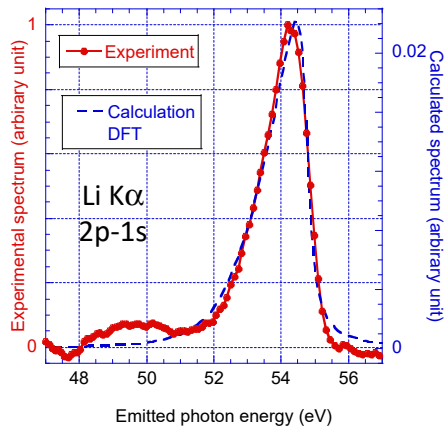


CAMECA
SX100
EPMA
NOB
spectro-
meter

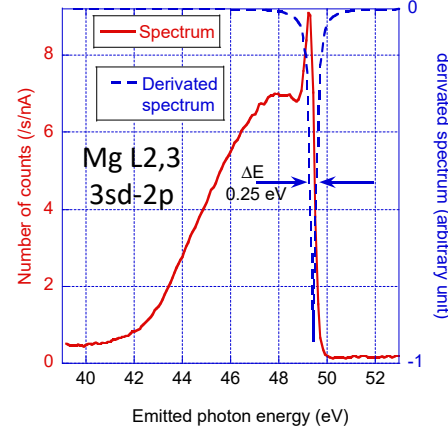


Spectroscopy in the Li $K\alpha$ range, around 50 eV

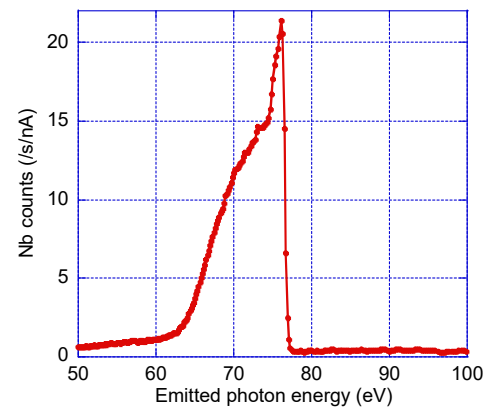
Li $K\alpha$ emission band from Li metal



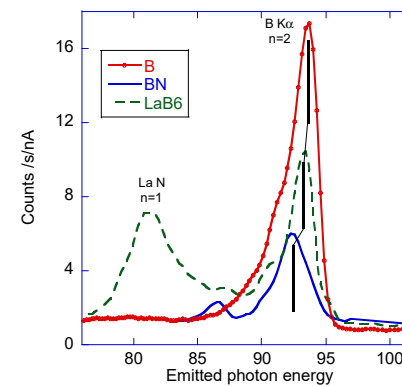
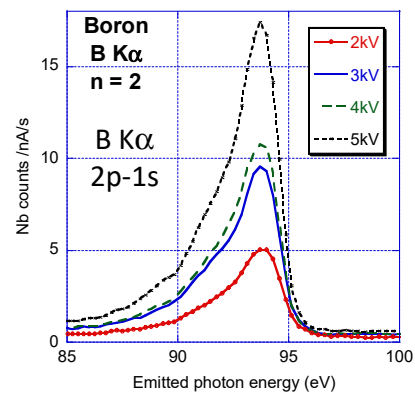
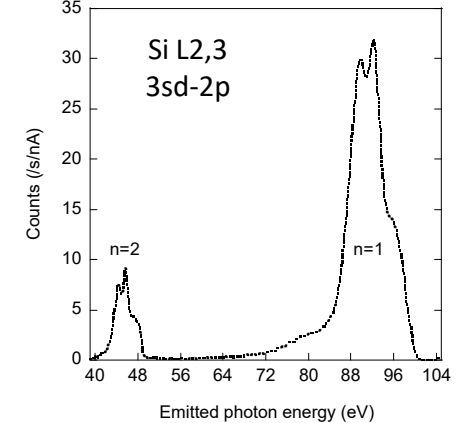
Mg L2,3 emission band from Mg metal



Al L2,3 emission band from Al metal

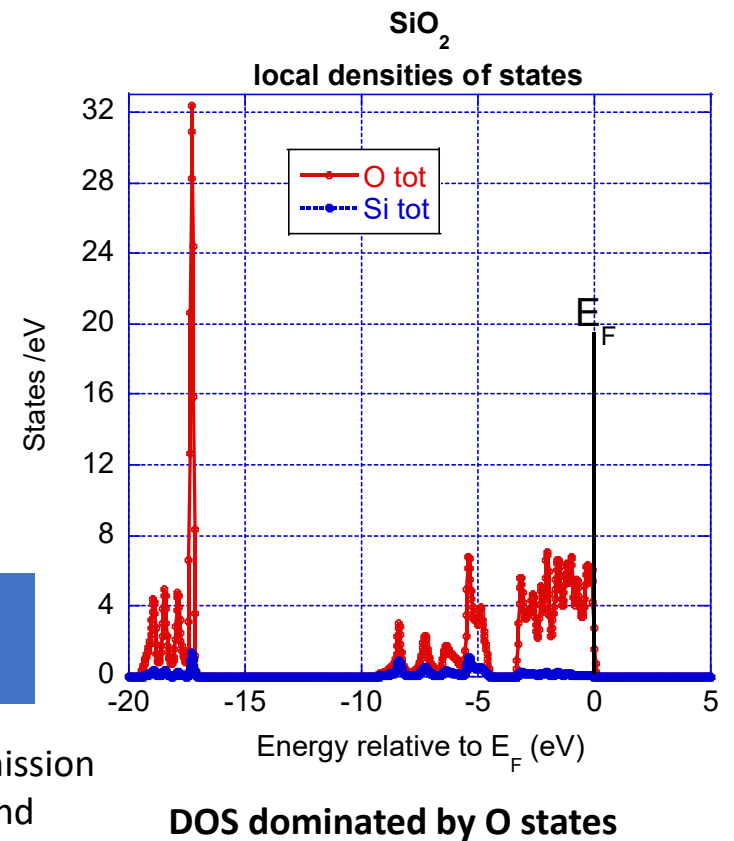
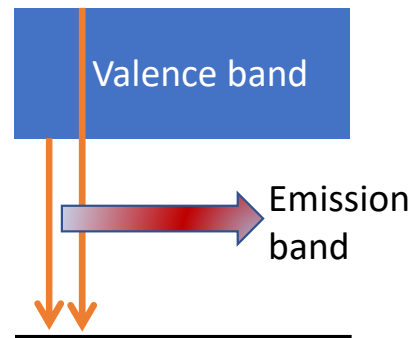
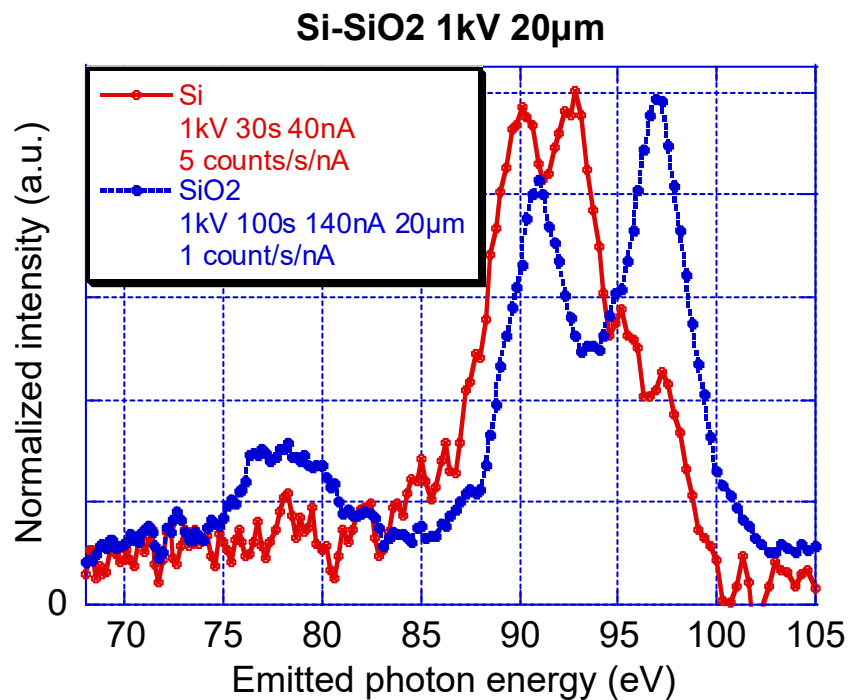


Si L2,3 emission band from pure silicon



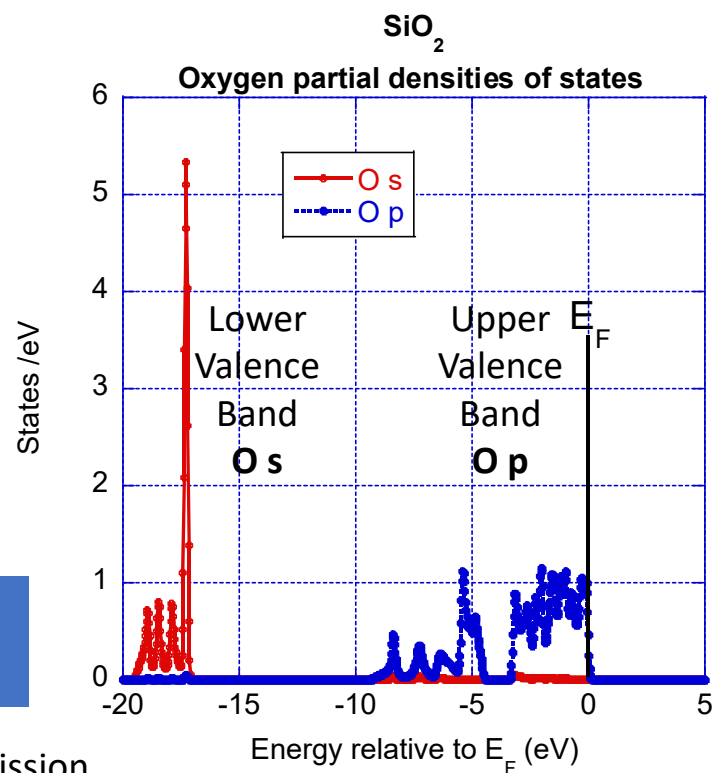
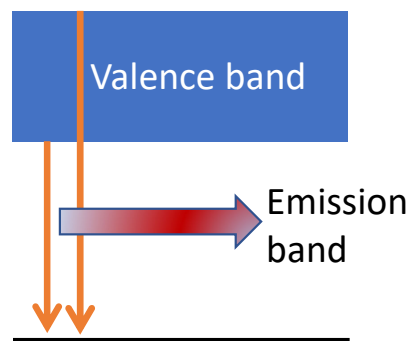
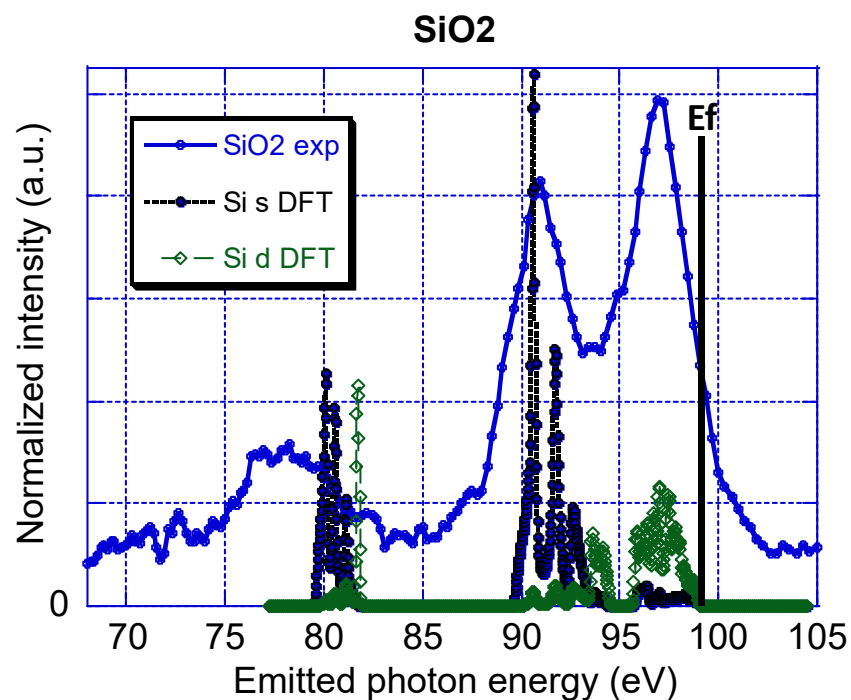
Electronic structure

Si L2,3 **emission band** (3sd – 2p_{1/2,3/2})



Electronic structure

Si L2,3 **emission band** ($3sd - 2p_{1/2,3/2}$)



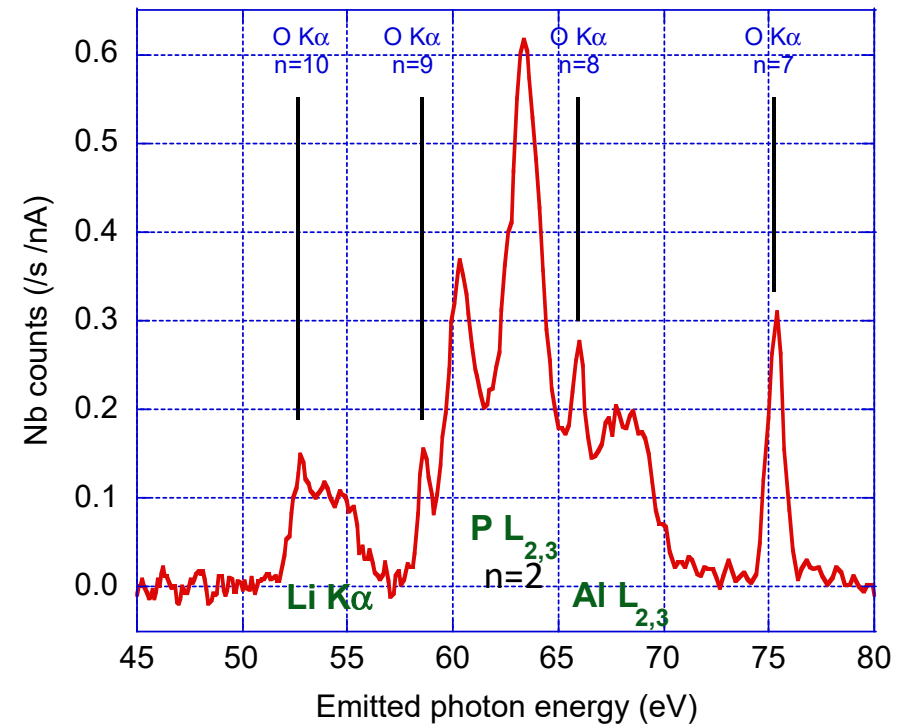
Valence band splitted: **UVB + LVB**

The splitting depends on
the electronegativity of the ligand

Electronic structure: amblygonite

Phosphate (Li,Na)AlPO₄(F,OH)

3 kV



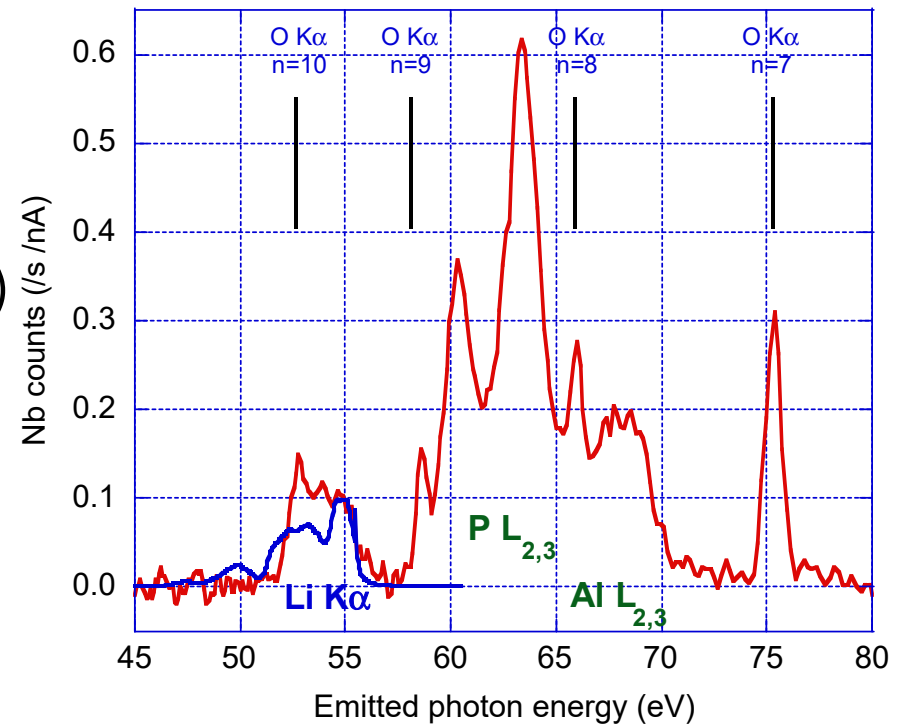
Electronic structure: amblygonite

Phosphate (Li,Na)AlPO₄(F,OH)

3 kV

Li K spectrum calculated with

- Li 2p local and partial density of states
- Broadening with Li 1s core hole lifetime (L 0.03 eV)
- Experimental broadening (G 0.25 eV)
- Weighing matrix elements
- **Alignment** exp. and calc. energy scales with Li 1s binding energy (relative to E_F)



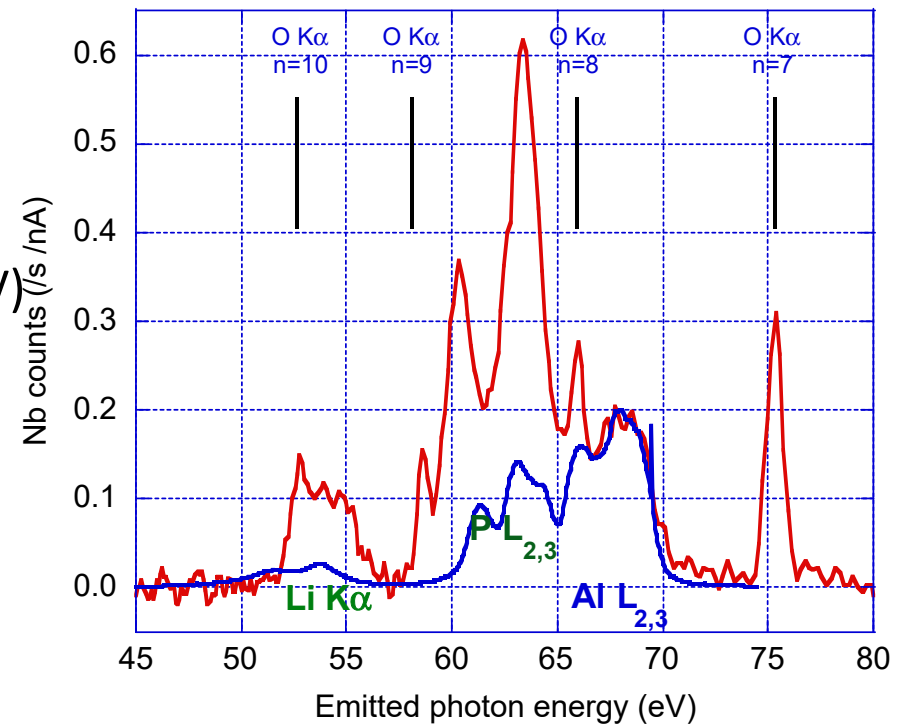
Electronic structure: amblygonite

Phosphate (Li,Na)AlPO₄(F,OH)

3 kV

Al L spectrum calculated with

- Al 3sd local and partial density of states
- Broadening with Al 2p core hole lifetime (L 0.04 eV)
- Experimental broadening (G 0.4 eV)
- Weighing matrix elements
- **Alignment** exp. and calc. energy scales with Al 2p binding energy (relative to E_F)



Electronic structure: amblygonite

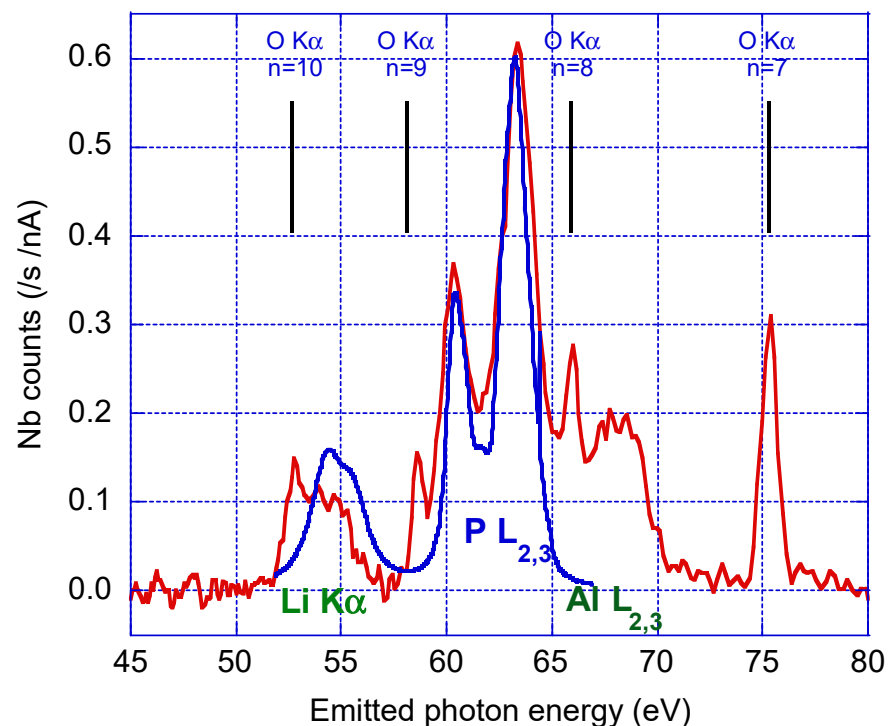
Phosphate (Li,Na)AlPO₄(F,OH)

3 kV



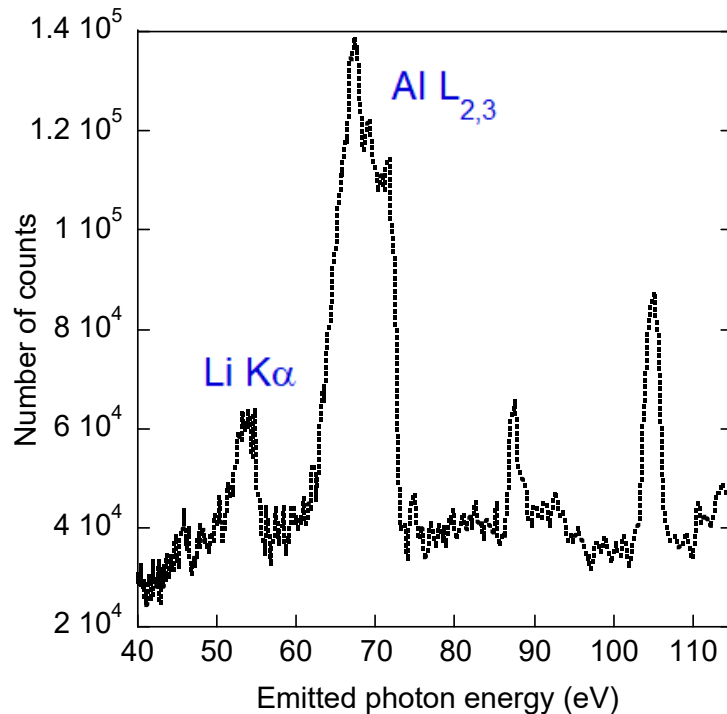
P L spectrum calculated with

- P 3s local and partial density of states
- Broadening with P 2p core hole lifetime (L 0.07 eV)
- Experimental broadening (G 0.75 eV)
- Weighing matrix elements
- **Alignment** exp. and calc. energy scales with P 2p binding energy (relative to E_F)

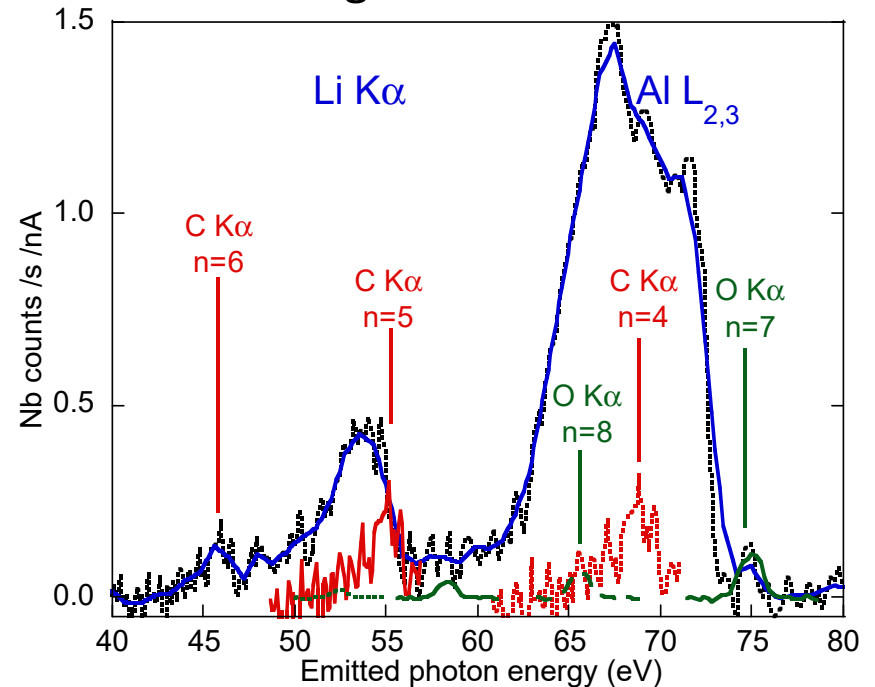


Quantification: AlCuLi quasi-crystal

Both **Li K α** (2p-1s) and **Al L_{2,3}** (3sd-2p)
obtained at the same time in the same range



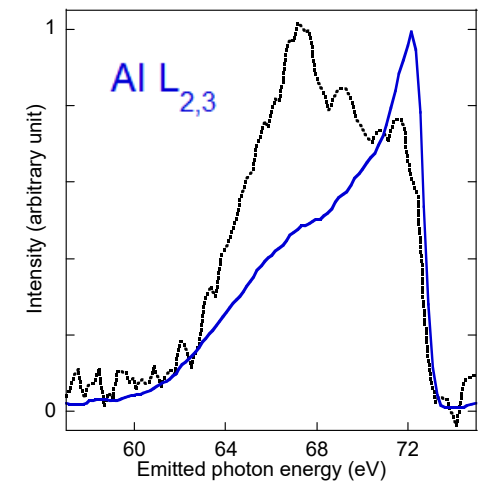
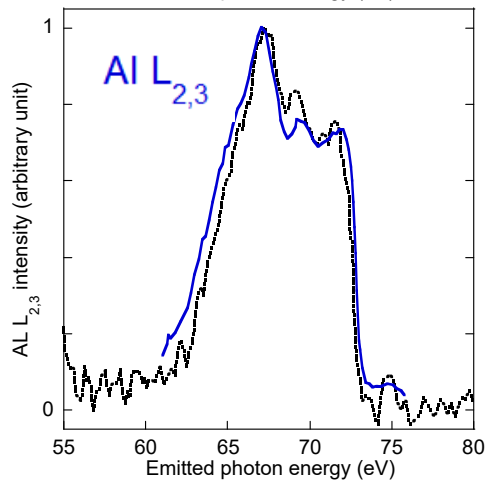
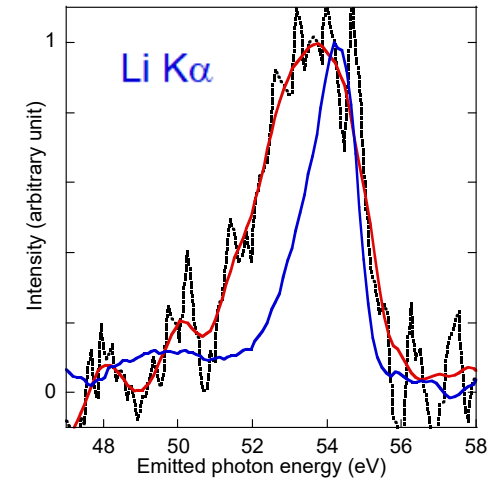
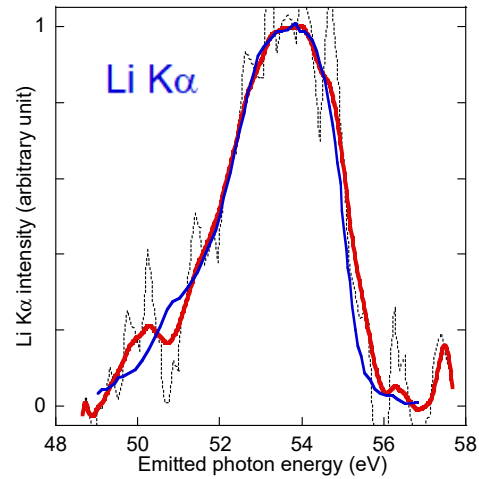
Subtraction of C K α and O K α emissions
knowing the relative intensities of
their high diffracted orders



Quantification: AlCuLi quasi-crystal

Comparison with

- Previous study (3 kV)
Phys. Rev. B **37**, 6529 (1988)
- Spectra of pure metals



Quantification: AlCuLi quasi-crystal

- PAP model / pure Li and Al as standards
- Different absorption coefficients tested
- Cu weight fraction obtained by difference

Al_{0.57}Cu_{0.22}Li_{0.21} wt.

This is only an **estimation**
due to large uncertainties
coming from:

MAC database	Ultra-soft x-ray range with Li Kα and Al L_{2,3} emissions		
	Al (wt%)/(at%)	Li (wt%)/(at%)	Cu (wt%)/(at%)
MAC30	74.2/52.7	16.2/44.5	9.4/2.8
Chantler	49.6/35.6	19.8/55.1	30.5/9.3
EPDL97	51.2/37.2	19.1/53.7	29.6/9.1
PENELOPE 2018	57.3/39.1	20.7/54.6	21.9/6.3
EPDL 2023	63.8/51.6	12.9/40.4	23.2/8.0
MAC database	Soft x-ray range with Al Kα and Cu Lα emissions		
	Al (wt%)/(at%)	Li (wt%)/(at%)	Cu (wt%)/(at%)
MAC30	59.6/44.1	16.9/48.3	23.5/7.5

- Polishing of the sample
- Background subtraction
- C K α and O K α subtraction
- Presence of Cu M_{2,3} emission
- Attenuation by surface contamination
- Presence of Al L satellite in Li K α ?
- Suited quantification model?
- ...

Conclusion

- Spectroscopy possible in the Li K range
- Li K range difficult to study owing to low intensities, spectral interferences, sensitive materials, ...
- Electronic structure calculations can help to guide and interpret the spectra
- Quantification has been tested

Acknowledgments



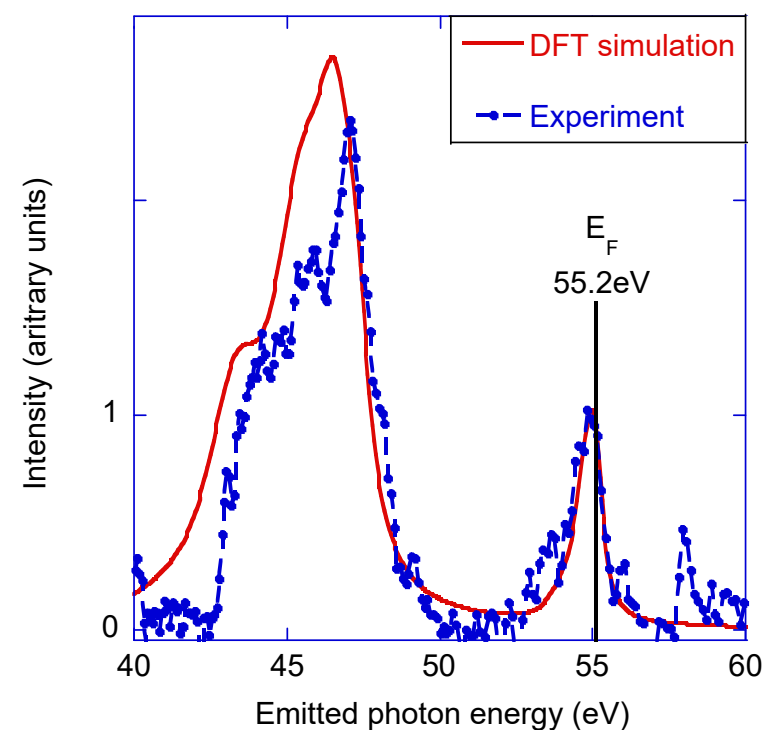
Thank you
Gracias
Gracies
Merci

Electronic structure: lepidolite

Alumino-silicate $\text{K}(\text{Li},\text{Al})_3(\text{Si},\text{Al})_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{F},\text{OH})_2$

Li K spectrum calculated with

- Li **2p** local and partial density of states
- Broadening with Li **1s** core hole lifetime (L 0,03 eV)
- **Experimental broadening** (G 0,25 eV)
- Weighing **matrix elements**
- **Alignment** exp. and calc. energy scales with Li 1s binding energy (relative to Fermi energy)



Electronic structure: lepidolite

Alumino-silicate $\text{K}(\text{Li},\text{Al})_3(\text{Si},\text{Al})_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{F},\text{OH})_2$

Li K spectrum calculated with

- Li **2p local and partial density of states**
- Broadening with **Li 1s core hole lifetime** (L 0,03 eV)
- **Experimental broadening** (G 0,25 eV)
- Weighing **matrix elements**
- **Alignment** exp. and calc. energy scales with Li 1s binding energy (relative to Fermi energy)

Spectral interference with Si L_{2,3} emission band diffracted at the second order

No observation of the Li K emission band!

