X-ray reflectivity and Grazing Incidence Small Angle X-Ray Scattering

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### Introduction

Nanoparticles, nanowires, thin films and multilayers... have New physical properties (e.g. magnetic, but also electronic, catalytic or photonic)

## Atomic structure, size, shape & organization

### **Growth conditions &**

Morphology, temperature ... of the substrate surface

complementary to Near Field Microscopy

- non destructive statistical information over mm scale
- depth sensitivity, from 20 Å up to several mm
- length scale probed : from a few Å to mm

X-ray

- quantitative analysis
- following in-time: deposit annealing gas adsorption
- in situ, in UHV, during growth (and sometimes in real time)
- no charge effects : insulating samples (single crystal oxide substrates)

### X-Ray Scattering



$$\overrightarrow{q=k_f} - \overrightarrow{k_i} = \overrightarrow{G_{hkl}}$$
 vector of the reciprocal space

**Explores Reciprocal Space** 

### **Reciprocal Space of nanostructures deposited on a substrate**





- Structure, composition
- Epitaxial relashionships
- Relaxation
  - Coherent
  - Incoherent (dislocations)
- Registry / substrate lattice
- Intermixing with substrate
- Substrate distortions

Grazing Incidence Small Angle X-ray Scattering (GISAXS) and X-R Reflectivity (XRR)

Morphology @ nanometer scale



- Shape (facets, equilibrium shape)
- Dimensions
- Size distributions
- Organization
- Growth mode
- Density profile
- Thin film thickness
- Interface roughness
- Buried layers
  - ....

# Nanostructures (nanoparticles, nanowires, thin films, multilayers ...) & **X-rays**

### **X-RAY METHODS AT GRAZING INCIDENCE**



## X-Ray Reflectivity: Principle





X-Ray
$$n_1$$
Reflectivity: $-- n_2 < 1$  $n_2$ 

adapted M. Tolan Univ. Dortmund



## Reflection and refraction – Perfect surface



## Reflection and refraction: perfect surface

• Fresnel equations:

Relationships between the amplitudes of incident, transmitted and reflected beam.

$$n=1$$

$$E_{0}$$

$$k_{i}$$

$$E_{0}$$

$$\alpha_{i}$$

$$\alpha_{f}=\alpha_{i}$$

$$\alpha_{t}$$

$$k_{t}$$

$$E_{t}$$

$$k_{t}$$

$$k_{t}$$

$$k_{t}$$

AmplitudeIntensityReflection
$$r = \frac{E_r}{E_0} = \frac{\sin(\alpha_i - \alpha_t)}{\sin(\alpha_i + \alpha_t)} \approx \frac{\alpha_i - \alpha_t}{\alpha_i + \alpha_t}$$
 $R = \left|\frac{E_r}{E_0}\right|^2$ Transmission $t = \frac{E_t}{E_0} = \frac{2\sin(\alpha_i)\cos(\alpha_t)}{\sin(\alpha_i + \alpha_t)} \approx \frac{2\alpha_i}{\alpha_i + \alpha_t}$  $T = \left|\frac{E_t}{E_0}\right|^2$ 

## Limiting and asymptotic values for Fresnel equations



## **Exact evaluation of Fresnel reflectivity**

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\rm F}(\alpha_i) &= |r|^2 = \frac{(\alpha_{\rm i} - p_+)^2 + p_-^2}{(\alpha_{\rm i} + p_+)^2 + p_-^2} \\ \alpha_t &= p_+ + \mathbf{i}p_- \\ p_{+/-}^2 &= \frac{1}{2} \Big\{ \sqrt{(\alpha_{\rm i}^2 - \alpha_{\rm c}^2)^2 + 4\beta^2} \pm (\alpha_{\rm i}^2 - \alpha_{\rm c}^2) \Big\} \end{aligned}$$

 $\rightarrow$  Absorption  $\beta$  also play a significant role

## Fresnel Reflectivity: $R_{F}(\alpha_{i})$ with absorption



## **Transmission Function with absorption**



## Penetration Depth with absorption



### The geometry of X-ray reflectivity





## **Reflectivity from multilayers**

### Multiple scattering (dynamical calculation)



adapted M. Tolan Univ. Dortmund

### Reflectivity from layer on substrate. Ex: PS on Si



→Reflectivity used as an everyday laboratory tool to measure the thickness of layers deposited on a substrate

adapted from M. Tolan Univ. Dortmund

## **Rough interfaces: statistics**



## Refractive Index Profile n(z)*Electron Density Profile* $\rho(z)$

adapted M. Tolan Univ. Dortmund

### Reflectivity by a rough surface : which roughness ?



Same Roughness or & Refractive Index Profile n(z) !



## Roughness in multilayers?



### Effect of interfacial roughness on reflectivity: single interface



→ Reflectivity very efficient to measure (small) (statistically averaged) roughness of surfaces or interfaces.

Roughness at several interfaces



### Thin film with surface and interface roughness. Example: PS layer on Si, with roughness



→Effects of surface and interface roughness very different → $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$  and d can be determined independently Reflectivity calculation for arbitrary density profiles



## Example of fit of reflectivity curve:



adapted M. Tolan Univ. Dortmund

Simplier aproach: Kinematical approximation





### Example: roughness

$$\rho'(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp(-\frac{z^2}{2\sigma^2}) \Longrightarrow R(q) = R_F(q) \exp(-q^2\sigma^2)$$

## Kinematical versus dynamical calculation





## Pb: Loss of the phase:



Different ways to solve the phase problem:

- -Inclusion of pre-knowledge
- -Anomalous reflectivity

**Ex: Multilayers:** 



 $\rightarrow$ X-ray reflectivity used to characterize the thickness, period and roughnesses of multilayers.

## Rough surfaces → diffuse scattering



→ Lateral features of the roughness – Height-height correlations

### Ex.: Roughness correlations in multilayers?



Uncorrelated roughness



Wavelength-dependent inheritance of roughnes.



## **Conclusions on reflectivity**

Specular reflectivity measures

- average density (mass and electron density)
- layer thicknesses
- interface roughness

Off-specular reflectivity probes

- Height-height correlations
- lateral order at nanometer-micrometer scale
- Refraction under grazing incidence
- tuneable scattering depth

Why GISAXS ?

### GISAXS

- Statistical information
- Lateral and vertical correlation
- shape as seen by x-rays: input for diffraction experiments
- Information about buried objects

### AFM / STM

- Local information
- Detailed shape





### Grazing Incidence Small Angle X-ray Scattering (GISAXS)



2D image around direct beam: Fourier transform of objects

### Morphology

- Shape
- Sizes
- Size distributions
- Particle-particle
   pair correlation function

Standard 3D growth (Volmer-Weber)



#### Example : 20 Å Ag/MgO(001) 500K

[100]

**Q**, [010]



Anisotropic islands: truncated square pyramids with (111) facets
Off-specular reflectivity:

Probed length scales?

#### La géométrie de diffusion : GISAXS et réflectivité



#### Le GISAXS ou comment mesurer des distances de l'ordre du nanomètre avec des rayons X ?

Le transfert de moment :  
grandeur pertinente ?  

$$\vec{q} = \vec{k}_{f} - \vec{k}_{i}$$

$$\vec{q} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} [\cos \alpha_{f} \cos 2\theta_{f} - \cos \alpha_{i}]$$

$$q_{x} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} [\cos \alpha_{f} \sin 2\theta_{f}]$$

$$q_{z} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} [\sin \alpha_{f} + \sin \alpha_{i}]$$

$$\vec{q} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} [\sin \alpha_{f} + \sin \alpha_{i}]$$

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"No" limitation in  $2\theta$ : d from 100nm to 0.1nm



$$Q_x = 2k \sin\theta \sin(\omega - \theta)$$
  

$$Q_x = 2k \sin\theta \cos(\omega - \theta)$$
  

$$|Q_x| \simeq \frac{1}{2k} Q_z^2,$$

As the scattered intensity usually drops quite fast as a function of  $Q_z$ , the range of lateral momentum transfer is limited. Typically achievable scattering angles are in the order of  $2\theta = 3^{\circ}$ .<sup>3</sup> This puts an upper limit to the the accessible range of lateral structure dimension:

$$d_{\parallel} > \frac{2\pi}{|Q_{x,\max}|} \simeq \frac{\pi}{k \sin^2 \theta}.$$

Using  $2\theta = 3^{\circ}$  and  $k \simeq 4 \text{ Å}^{-1}$  (for copper radiation), we obtain  $|Q_{z,\max}| \simeq 0.005 \text{ Å}^{-1}$ , i.e., XRR is suitable only for the investigation of *lateral* structures with dimensions d > 1000 Å (this value depends, of course, on the wavelength and on how rapidly the intensity drops with  $Q_z$ , which depends, e.g., very sensitively on surface and interface roughnesses). usually named  $\alpha_i$ , the exit angle is  $\alpha_f$  correspondingly. The reciprocal space coordiare given by the relations

$$Q_x = k (\cos \alpha_i - \cos \alpha_f \cos 2\theta)$$
  
 $Q_y = k \cos \alpha_f \sin 2\theta$   
 $Q_z = k (\sin \alpha_i + \sin \alpha_f).$ 

 $Q_z$  is equivalent to the corresponding expression in XRR, Eq. (2.2), but now  $Q_z$  is virzero, and  $Q_y$  is finite instead. Hence for the determination of parameters of the versample structure, XRR and GISAXS are equivalent. However, as is obvious from Fino restriction of  $Q_y$  due to the Laue zones exists, and consequently GISAXS is the m of choice for the investigation of small lateral structures ( $d_{\parallel} < 1000$  Å). As a "prize the enlarged range of lateral momentum transfer, the lateral resolution is much so than for XRR:

$$\begin{aligned} |\Delta Q_y| &= \left| \frac{\partial Q_y}{\partial \theta} \right| \Delta \theta + \left| \frac{\partial Q_y}{\partial \alpha_f} \right| \Delta \alpha_f = \\ &= 2k \cos \alpha_f \cos 2\theta \Delta \theta + k \sin \alpha_f \sin 2\theta \Delta \alpha_f \\ &\simeq 2k \left( \Delta \theta + \alpha_f \theta \Delta \alpha_f \right) \\ |\Delta Q_y| &\simeq 1.5 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ Å}^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

## **Quantitative analysis of GISAXS**







## Equilibrium shape of particles. Ex: 1.5nm Pd/MgO @ 650 K



C. Revenant, F. Lazzari, F. Leroy, G. Renaud, C.R. Henry, PRB 69 (2004)

### **Self-organized growth : systems**



## Self-organized growth of cobalt islands on a

# -Au(677) kinked surface

#### The kinked Au(677) surface



### Modelisation of a kinked Au(677) surface



#### **GISAXS** data and fits



#### Co growth at room temperature



## **Self-organized growth : Systems**



 Self-organized growth of cobalt islands on a

-dislocations network at the Ag/MgO(001) interface

# Ordering of nanostructures induced by a dislocation network : principle

Misfit dislocation network





- Significant surface strain if :  $H{<}\Delta$ 

#### Ag/MgO(001) ultra-thin film: in situ GIXS, XRR and GISAXS



Ultra-thin (5nm) Ag film of homogeneous thickness, with an ordered array of dislocation

4. Co Deposition

Room temperature : trap energy >> thermal energy
 Deposition rate (0.05 Å/min): diffusion length of Co adatoms >>10 nm

## Self-organized growth of magnetic cobalt dots on an interfacial dislocation network : Co/Ag/MgO(100)



#### **Position of Co islands / dislocation cores**



# Size and shape evolution of Co dots upon deposition time

$$I_{\text{interference}}(\vec{q}, time) = 2\sqrt{I_{disloc}}(\vec{q}) \times \cos\left(\vec{q}_{//}\vec{d}_{//} + q_{\perp}H\right)$$

Interference(q<sub>1</sub>,time)





## Conclusions

- GISAXS for the first time in situ during growth
- Combined with GIXS → Atomic structure + Morphology
- Quantitative information on nano-particles shape/size/ordering
- Very sensitive to the ordering of nanostructures

• *In situ* surface X-ray diffraction and GISAXS combined for determining conditions for ordering of Co islands on a Ag/MgO dislocation network

Determination of the nucleation site, size and shape of islands during organized growth of :

- Co on Au(111)
- Co on kinked Au(677) : in between kinks and at the step edges
- Co on Ag/MgO(001) : upon the dislocation core

## **Potential and future directions**

#### •GISAXS extremely sensitive to the very premisses of organization

used to monitor organized growth in real-time and quickly reach the right thermodynamical and kinetic conditions for the organization.

In situ studies during

- → surface reactivity (e.g. catalytic reactions, annealings ...)
- $\rightarrow$  growth (during MBE, (MO)CVD, LPE );
- $\rightarrow$  use of gaseous, liquid or solid surfactants, at High p, T ...

•Eventually probing the shape & 2D organization of biological molecules deposited on surfaces?

→Conformation and function of selected bio-molecules?

### La section efficace de diffusion en GISAXS et l'approximation de l'onde distordue DWBA

- « petits angles »
  - · pas d'effets de polarisation
  - diffusion par des écarts δp à la densité électronique moyenne = rugosité ou des variations de contraste électronique
- formulation cinématique de la diffusion (expression volumique)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto \left| \int \delta \rho(\vec{r}) \exp(iq.\vec{r}) \right|^2$$

- α<sub>i</sub> et α<sub>f</sub> proches de l'angle critique de réflexion totale externe = effet de réfraction du faisceau ou pic de Yonéda
- DWBA = combinaison du traitement dynamique et cinématique de la diffusion
  - réflexion-réfraction aux interfaces
  - traitement cinématique de la diffusion par δρ, sans inclure les effets de diffusions multiples
  - approche similaire en réflexion neutronique
- section efficace calculée au premier ordre en théorie des perturbations par rapport au système idéal

#### Historique

- 1982 : DWBA et la diffraction en incidence rasante, G. Vineyard Phys. Rev. B26, 4146 (1982)
- 1988 : Théorie DWBA pour les surface rugueuses, S.K. Sinha et al., PRB 38, 2297 (1988)
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- 1994 : DWBA d'ordre 2 en réflectivité, D.K.G. De Boer, Phys. Rev. B 49, 5817 (1994), 51, 5297 (1995)
- 1995 : DWBA : rugosité et variation de contraste électronique, M. Rauscher, Phys. Rev. B 52, 16855 (1995)
- 1999 : GISAXS pour des îlots sur une surface, J. Appl. Phys., 86, 673 (1999)

### Formulation de la DWBA

Point de départ : équation de Helmholtz  $\langle \nabla^2 + k^2 \rangle \psi \rangle = V(r) |\psi \rangle$ pour l'onde électromagnétique  $V(\vec{r}) = k^2 \left[1 - n(\vec{r})^2\right] = \overline{V(\vec{r})} + \delta V(\vec{r})$ Potentiel diffusant  $\begin{array}{l} \text{Élément de matrice de transition } \left\langle f | T | i \right\rangle = \left\langle \widetilde{\psi}_{\mathrm{f}} \left| \overline{V} \right| \varphi_{\mathrm{i}} \right\rangle + \left\langle \psi_{\mathrm{f}} \left| \delta V | \chi \right\rangle \approx \left\langle \underbrace{\widetilde{\psi}_{\mathrm{f}} \left| \overline{V} \right| \varphi_{\mathrm{i}}}_{\overline{V}_{\mathrm{if}}} \right\rangle + \left\langle \psi_{\mathrm{f}} \left| \delta V | \psi_{\mathrm{i}} \right\rangle \\ & \underbrace{\psi_{\mathrm{f}} \left| \delta V | \psi_{\mathrm{f}} \right\rangle}_{\overline{V}_{\mathrm{if}}} \right\rangle \\ \end{array} \right\rangle$ 

 $\phi_i(\vec{r}) = \exp(i\vec{k}_i.\vec{r})$  $\psi_{i}(\vec{r}) = T_{i} \exp(i\vec{k}_{i}.\vec{r}) + R_{i} \exp(i\vec{k}_{i}.\vec{r})$ Vecteurs propres du système idéal  $\widetilde{\psi}_{f}(\vec{r}) = T_{f}^{*} \exp(i\vec{k}_{f}.\vec{r}) + R_{f}^{*} \exp(i\vec{k}_{f}^{**}.\vec{r})$ Vecteurs propres du système idéal avec renversement temporel

Onde incidente

Règle d'or de Fermi

$$\begin{split} & \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto \left\langle \left| \left\langle i \left| T \right| f \right\rangle \right|^2 \right\rangle = \left\langle \left| \overline{V}_{if} + \delta V_{if} \right|^2 \right\rangle \\ & \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right\rangle_{spec} \propto \left| \overline{V}_{if} + \left\langle \delta V_{if} \right\rangle \right|^2, \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right\rangle_{diff} \propto \left\langle \left| \delta V_{if} \right|^2 \right\rangle - \left| \left\langle \delta V_{if} \right\rangle \right|^2 \end{split}$$

#### Quelques exemples de sections efficaces en GISAXS

Développement suivant la géométrie du potentiel de diffusion Rugosité de surface  $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto |T_i(\alpha_i)|^2 S(\vec{q}) |T_f(\alpha_f)|^2 \implies Pic \ de \ Yonéda$   $S(\vec{q}) = \frac{(\Delta \rho)^2}{|q_{\pi}|^2} \exp\{-[q_{\pi}^2 + q_{\pi}^{*2}]\sigma^2/2\} \times \iint_{S} \left[\exp\{q_{\pi}|^2 C(\vec{r}_{i/})\} - 1\right] \exp(i\vec{q}_{i/} \cdot \vec{r}_{i/}) d^2r_{i/} \qquad C(r_{i/}) = \left\langle z(r_{i/}) z(r_{i/} + r_{i/}) \right\rangle$ 

Remarques : principe de réciprocité

Cas limites : α<sub>i</sub>, α<sub>f</sub>• •α<sub>c</sub> q<sub>zt</sub>• q<sub>z</sub> et |T| • 1 -approximation de Born valide q<sub>zt</sub> σ• 1 - TF de la fonction d'autocorrélation de la rugosité

#### Multicouches rugueuses corrélées



Traitement analogue mais plus complexe ! Point de départ = optique des multicouches Complexité = corrélation hauteur-hauteur inter-couches

Inclusions sous la surface



Îlots sur une surface



$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto |T_{i}(\alpha_{i})|^{2} S(q_{//}, q_{zt}) |T_{f}(\alpha_{f})|^{2}$$

$$S(\vec{q}) = \left| \int_{V} \exp(iq.\vec{r}) d^{3}r \right|^{2} \text{ Transformée de Fourier de l'objet diffusant}$$
Cas approfondi par la suite !

#### **Distorted Wave Born Approximation (DWBA) for supported islands**

M. Rauscher, T. Salditt et H. Spohn, Phys. Rev. B 52, 16855 (1995) M. Rauscher et al. J. Appl. Phys. 86 (12), 6763 (1999)



Coherent interferences between 4 waves with different  $q_z$ !





Diffuse Scattering due to size distributions, and sizes-distances and sizes-sizes correlations

Two usual extreme approximations neglecting correlations:



Correlations deduced from analysis of TEM images Pd/MgO(001)





#### In plane scattering : coherent versus incoherent ?



## Result from scattering theory



Courtesy of V. Holy

#### Lateral size distribution and zeros of the form factor





## **Evolution of facetting as a function of annealing time**





#### « Super-cristallography » of the Co cluster lattice on Au(111) before coalescence



#### Analysis parameters

- rectangular 2D paracrystal (∆K) with three variants oriented at 120°
- Triangular islands (R,H and size distribution)
- Centering of the mesh  $\delta y$


### GISAXS on Bimolecules B. Krause, ID01





# Results: data analysis ISS





#### Example III: composition of Ge domes on Si

-5

-10

11043



Ge

Energy [eV]

11103

to amplify contrast:

measure at high Q!

T. Schülli et al PRL, 90, 66105 (2003)

# Contrast variation: Q dependence



anomalous correction enhanced at high Q
higher resolution for ∆a/a = -q<sub>r</sub>/Q
Si content from deviation of I<sub>E1</sub>/I<sub>E2</sub> for pure Ge
All possible GID reflections should be measured

Si interdiffusion : vertical composition profile from (A)-GID at (800)



7 ML MBE growth at 600°C Ge domes

Small size dispersion

Direct method!

RESULTS

- Sharp Si/Ge interface
- ≻Ge plateau at 85%
- ≻∆a/a monotonic
- > dot is highly strained

T. Schülli et al PRL, 90, 66105 (2003)

## "Nano - Tomography": 3D real space image shape, size, strain and composition of Ge/Si alloy islands

11.2 ML Ge domes on Si (001) grown by CVD at 600°C



#### Results:

the lateral variation of the Ge concentration changes with height Si rich core covered by Ge rich alloy concentration from pure Si at bottom to pure Ge at top

T.Schülli *et al.* PRL90, 66105 (2003) A. Malachias *et al.* PRL91, 176101 (2003)

## Oxide layer and crystalline core



oxidation  $\Rightarrow$  foot of the dot was part of the substrate

GaAs

## Oxide layer and crystalline core



oxidation  $\Rightarrow$  foot of the dot was part of the substrate

GaAs

#### Magnetic resonant X-ray scattering from an array of CoPt multilayers



#### **Coherent scattering on magnetic microstructures**



Beutier – Chesnel

CF les PRBs.



(to be sensitive to surface)

## Coherent Diffraction from a 5 $\mu$ $\in$



Christian Schroer, Edgar Weckert, Andreas Schropp, I. Vartanyants, Hasylab and ID01



#### Measurement

Simulation

- Elements of modern X-ray physics, J. Als-Nielsen et D. McMorrow, John Wiley&Son (2001)
- X-ray scattering from soft-matter thin films, M. Tolan, Springer Tracts in Modern Physics, Vol148 (1998)
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- Scattering of X-rays and neutrons at interfaces, D. Dietrich et A. Haase, Phys. Rep. 260 (1995) 1-138
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- Surface X-ray diffraction, K. Robinson et D.J. Tweed, Rep. Prog. Phys. 55 (1992) 599-651
- Surface structure determination by X-ray diffraction, R. Feidenhans 'I, Surf. Sci. Rep. 10 (1989) 105-188

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