Front-Cover

This SPELEEM (Spectroscopic Photoemission and Low Energy Electron Microscope) has been introduced into the SPring-8 beamline under the framework of Nanotechnology-related research under the Nanotechnology Researchers Network Project of MEXT. The SPELEEM, a multipurpose and high-performance microscope, allows us to perform element-specific imaging of materials and to investigate the electronic structure from a nano-scale area.

A series of R&D's is undergoing to achieve a spatial resolution less than 20nm. The magnetic domain contrast of ferro- and antiferromagnetic materials can be obtained using magnetic linear or circular dichroism. Real-time observation and time-resolving studies also become possible near future. Dynamical observations of crystal growth, phase transitions, adsorption, diffusion at surfaces, interfaces, chemical reaction and so on are expected.

The inset figures show the antiferromagnetic (AFM) domain structures of NiO(001) obtained by the SPELEEM.

(by T. Kinoshita and F. Z. Guo)