

**Chemical phase and valence studies
of plasma sprayed coatings:
EDXRD and
X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XAS) Results**

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**EDXRD (Energy Dispersive X-ray Diffraction) Facility/Program
Capabilities: 3D- Phase & strain mapping**

Hardware: X17B1 National Synchrotron Light Source (ongoing)

Software: developed by Rutgers (freeware) (ongoing)

Mechanism for use: Rutgers contributing user NSLS X17B1

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L. Kabacoff Office of Naval Research

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Materials Plasma Spray ceramic coatings on metals

- μ -alumina-titania (87:13) coating [μ -AT]
- nano-alumina-titania (87:13)+ additives (ZrO_2 & CeO_2) coating [nATCZ]
- new TiO_2 coating

Characterization results

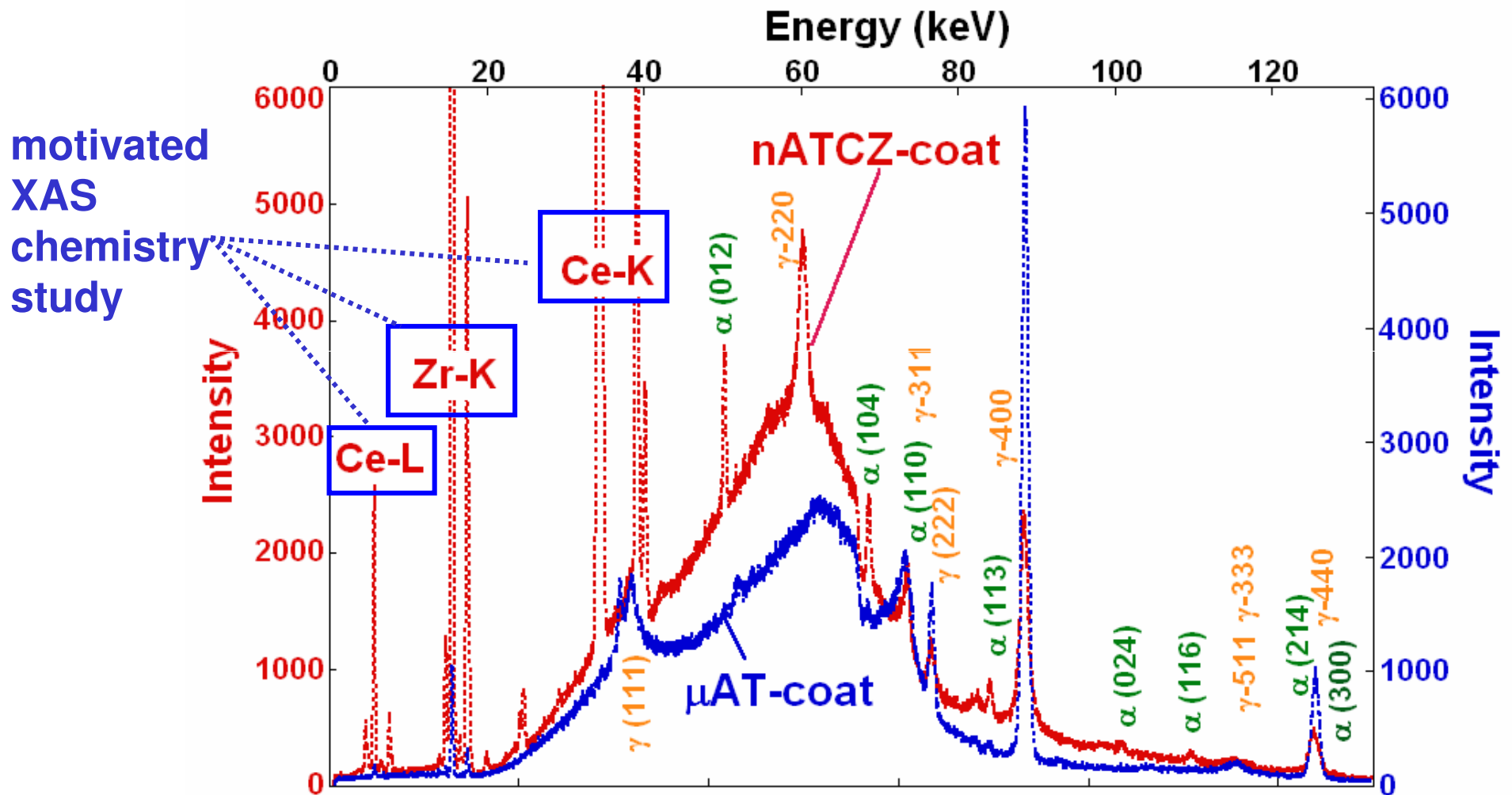
- **EDXRD –structure**
- **X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XAS)**
 - valence state-chemical effects
 - local ligand coordination
 - structure

EDXRD: plasma sprayed alumina-titania coatings (on Ti-6-4)

- **nATCZ** → nano composite alumina-titania coating (87:13)

+ additives ~ 8-10% ZrO_2 & 6-8 % CeO_2

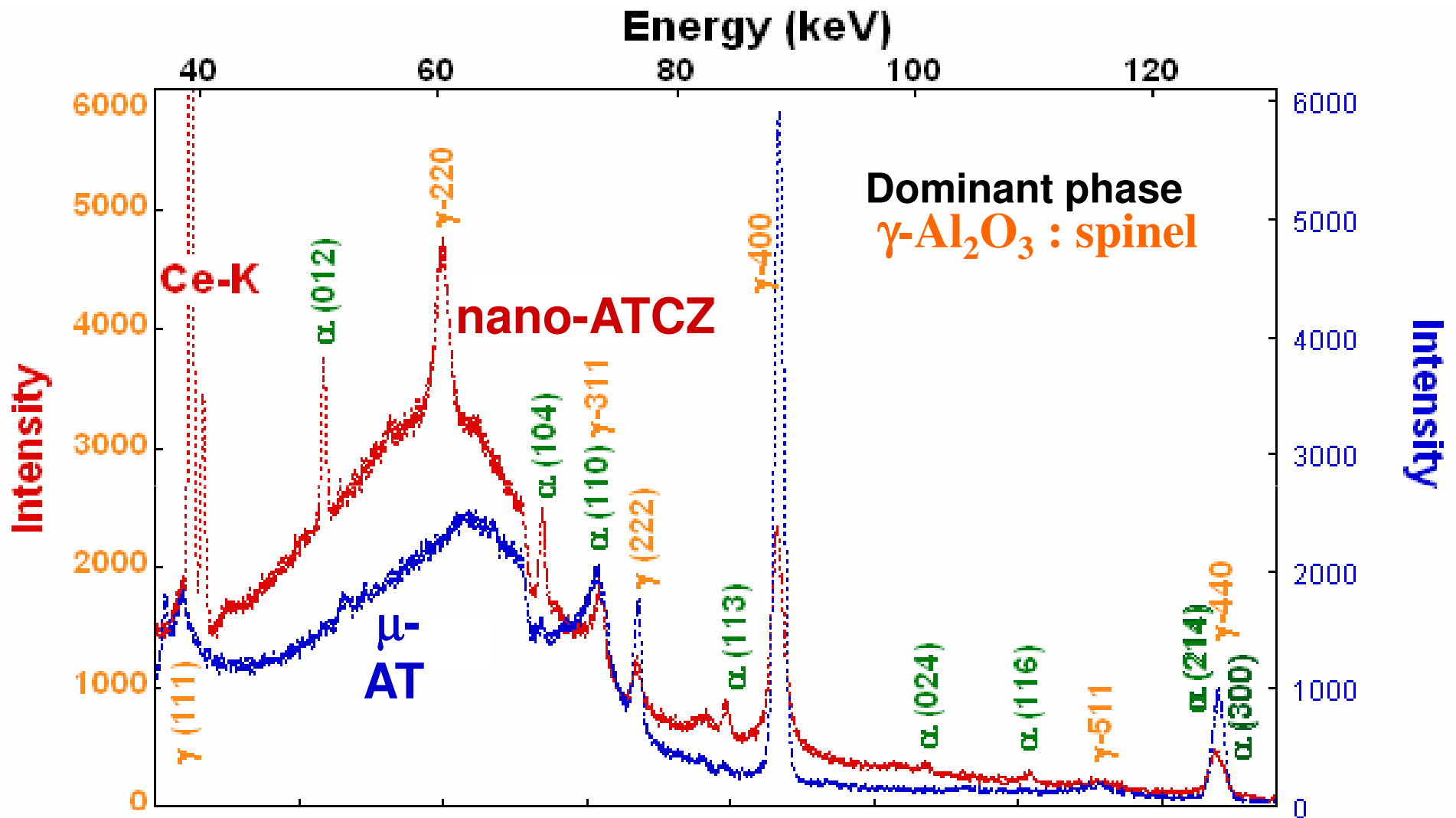
** %-ratios by weight



- μ AT → micro-size alumina-titania (87:13) μ AT coating

EDXRD –structure

Coatings: delaminated & powdered



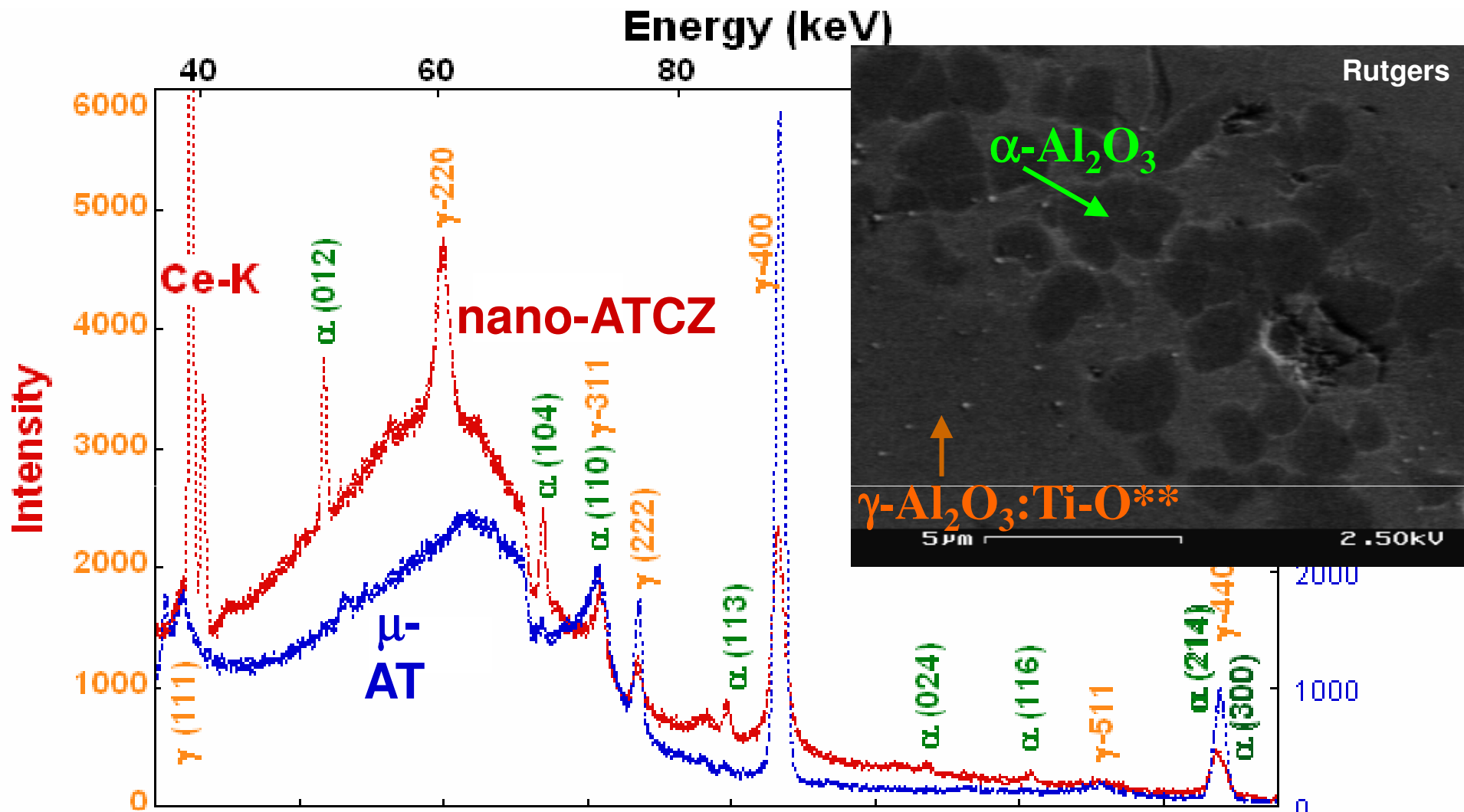
nano-coating

stronger α -Al₂O₃ : corundum lines / content

amorphous content larger

EDXRD –structure

Coatings: delaminated & powdered



nano-coating

stronger α -Al₂O₃ : corundum lines / content

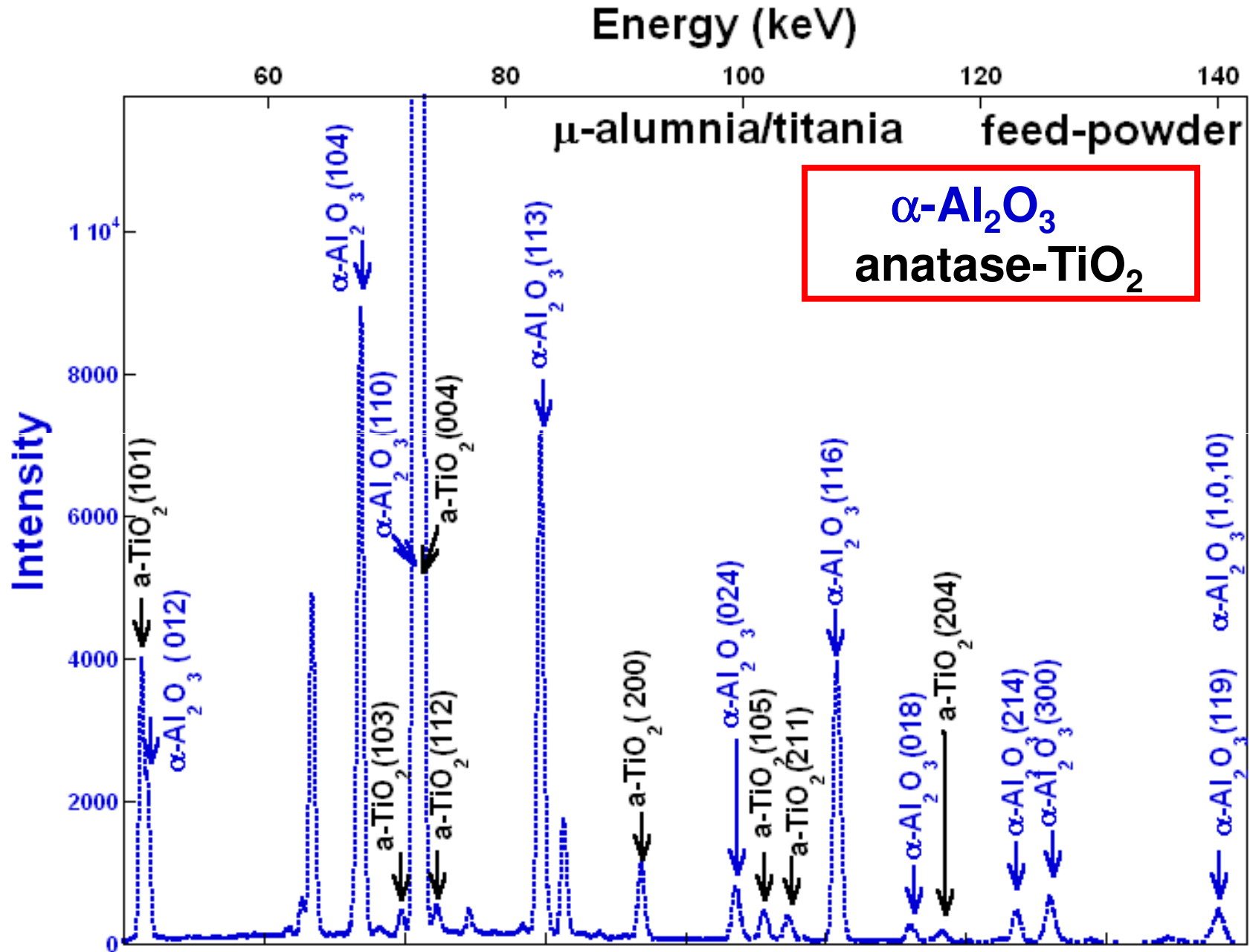
amorphous content larger

XAS micro-nanoprobe would be useful

** U.-Conn. Group electron microscopy: Ti in γ -Al₂O₃
 Goberman, Sohn, Shaw, Jordan, Gell. Acta Mat. 2002;50:1141.
 Bansal et. al. Acta Mat. 51 (2003) 2959–2970:

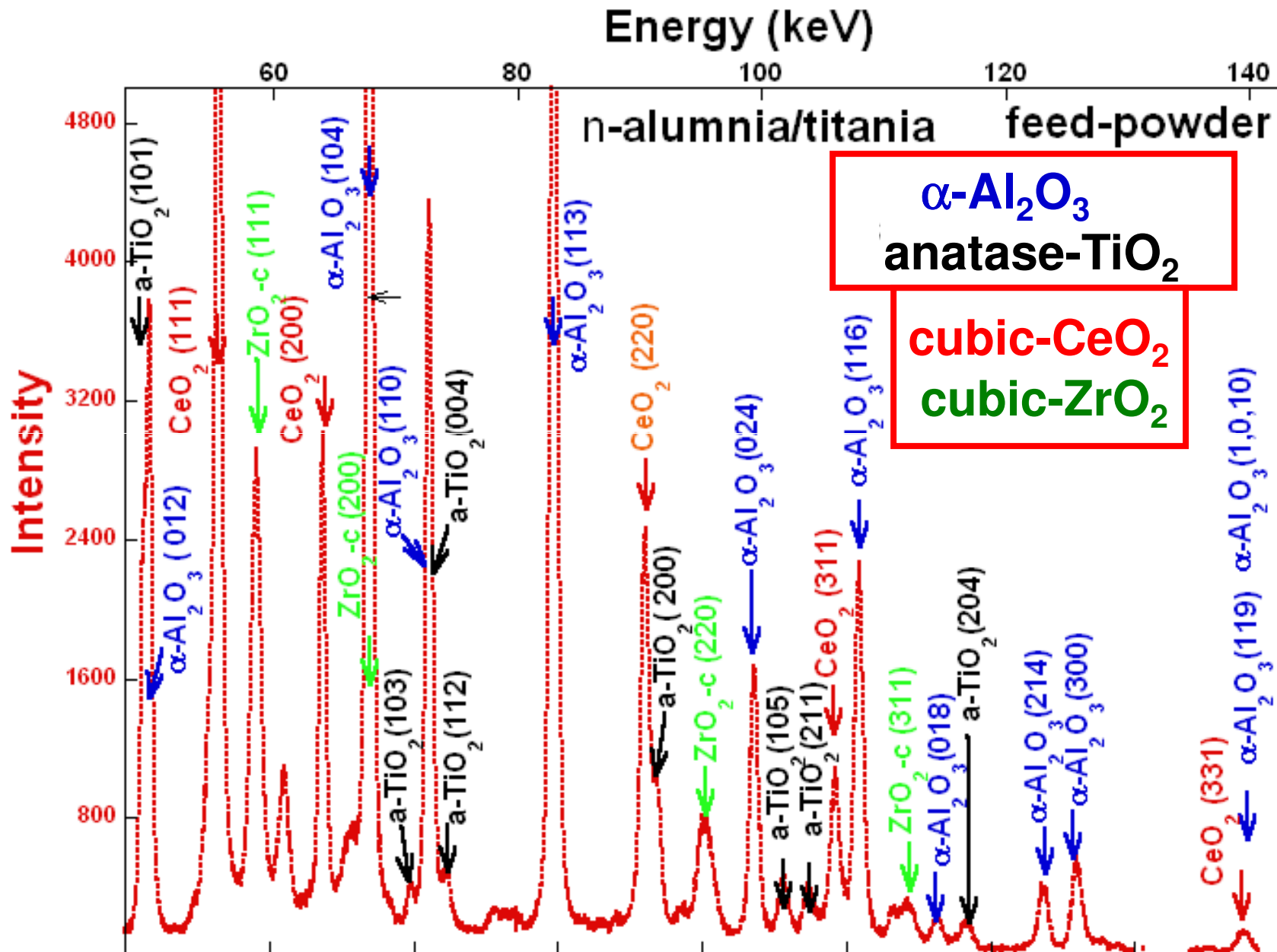
EDXRD –structure

μ -alumina/titania feed powder

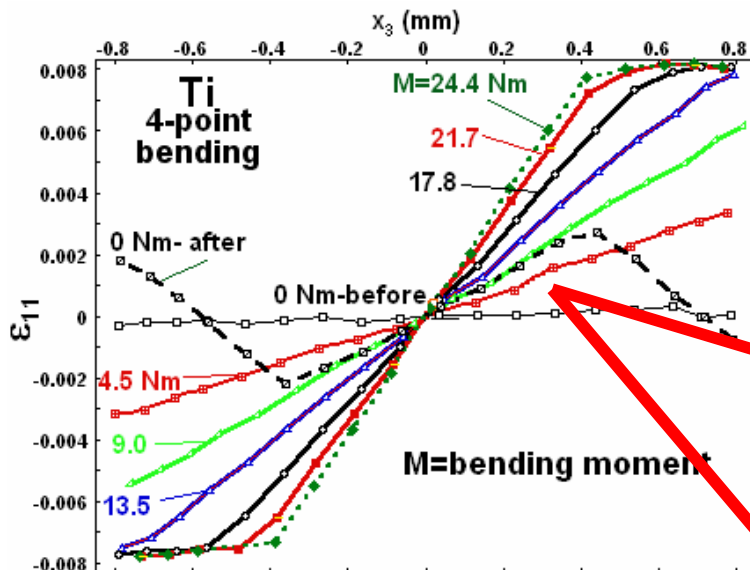


EDXRD –structure

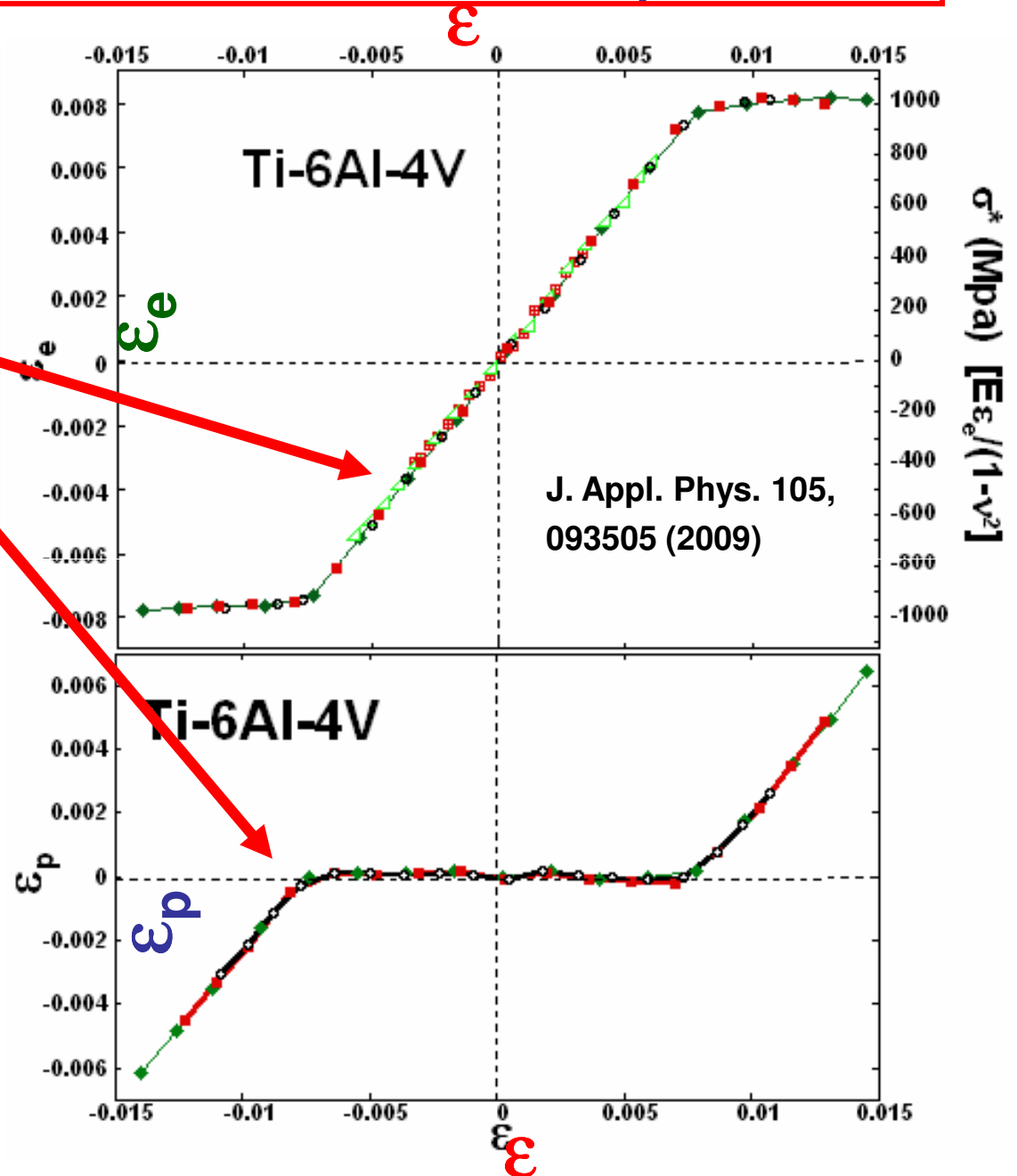
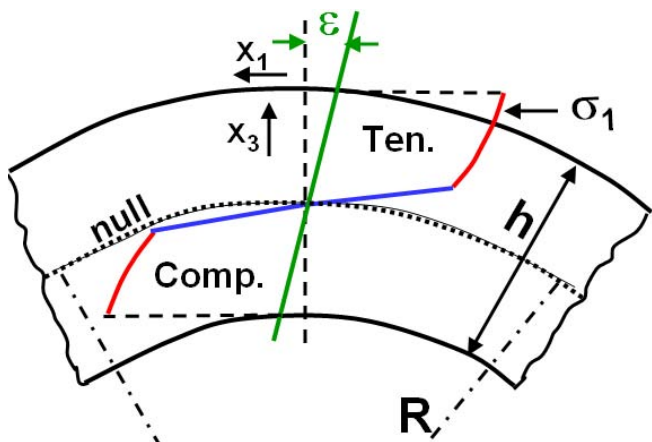
nano-alumina/titania feed powder



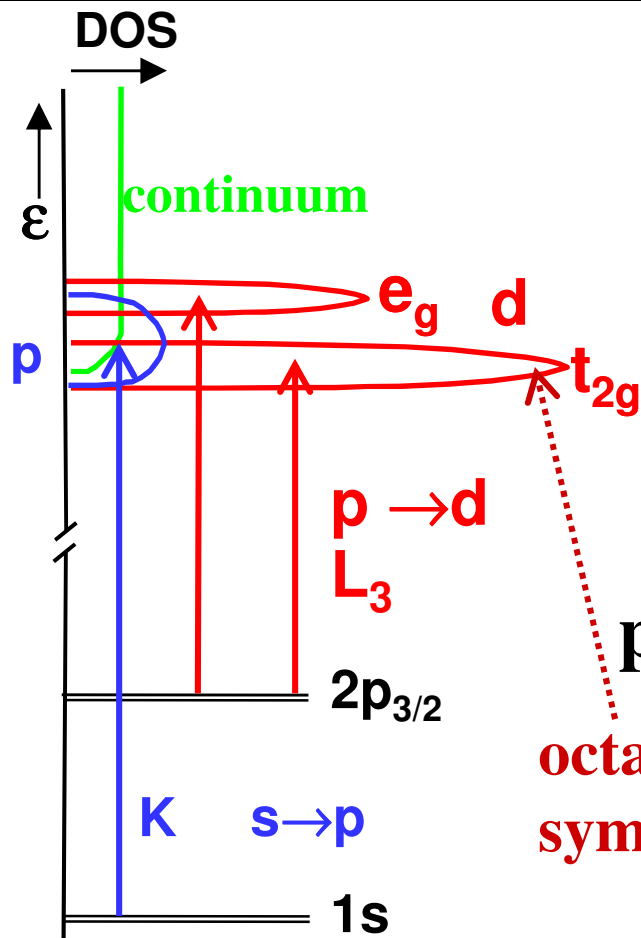
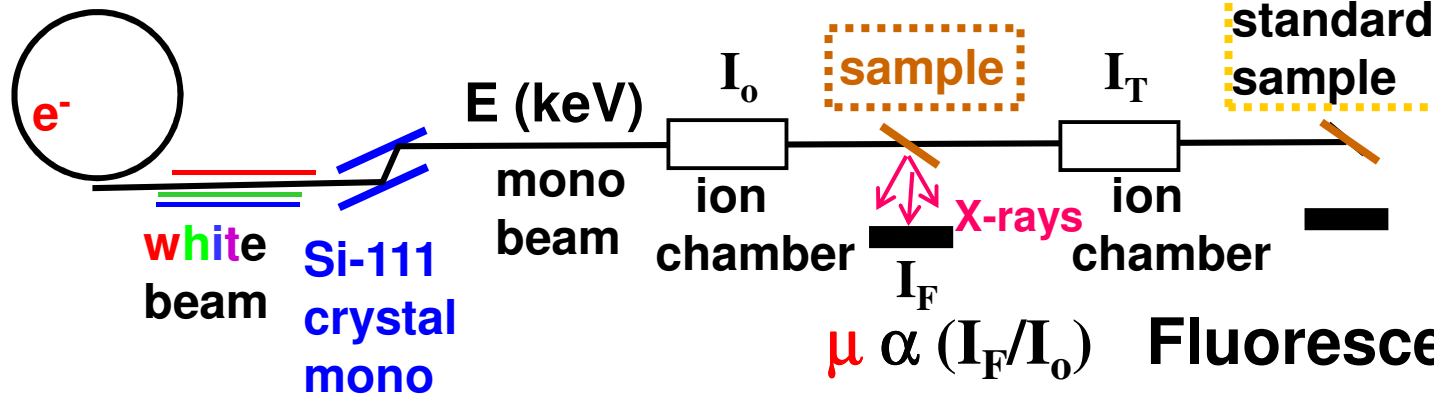
All data collapse to universal curves in ϵ_e or ϵ_p vs. ϵ !!



calculate ϵ = measure ϵ_e + extract ϵ_p



X-Ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XAS)



Fermi Golden Rule

dipole/quadrupole operator

$$\mu(E) = \sum_{\text{final states } f} \rho(E_f) \left| \langle \Psi_f | \hat{H} | \Psi_i \rangle \right|^2$$

$f = \text{empty states}$

$i = \text{core level}$

XAS : hole state spectroscopy

probe of empty states above Fermi level

Atom (element) specific centered probe (inside out view !!!)

- electronic & “crystal” structure

Powerful

**powders, single crystals, very-very low concentration impurities,
very thin films (sub-monolayer), liquids, colloidal suspensions,
amorphous materials ...**

Versatile

**XAS micro-(NSLS)/nano(NSLS-II)- probe:
local mapping of structure chemistry**

Ce Problem and Ce-L₃ valence (special case)

Rare Earth (RE) **4f -localized atomic, core states****

Ce – first RE

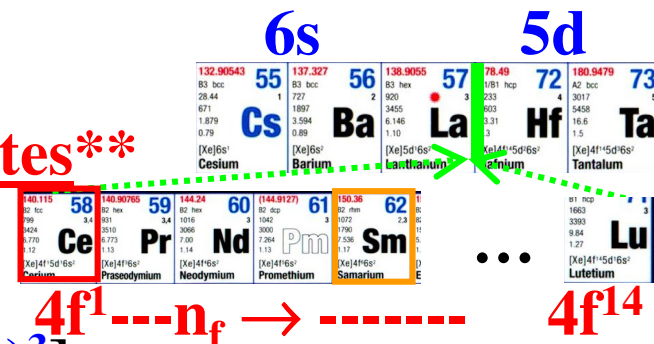
Energy of Ce⁴⁺: [**4f⁰** (5d6s)⁴] ≅ Ce³⁺: [**4f¹** (5d6s)³]

{** Ce borderline **4f- localized 4f – itinerant**}

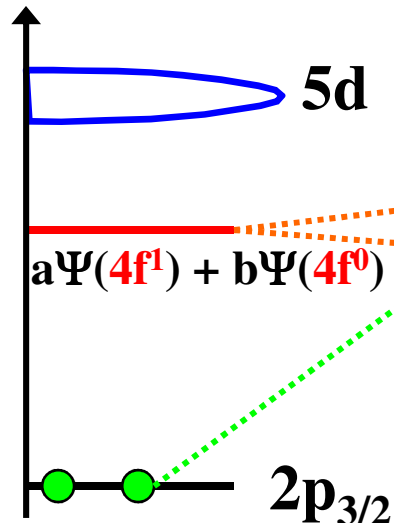
Often mixed-valent (v=4-n_f) Ce solid state ground state

{** n_f < ~3.3}

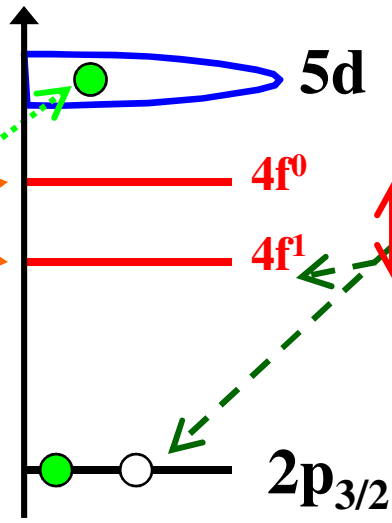
$$\Psi_{GS} = a\Psi(\mathbf{4f^1}) + b\Psi(\mathbf{4f^0}) \quad \text{Ce}^{[4-\frac{n}{f}]^+} : \mathbf{4f}^{\frac{n}{f}} \quad 0 \leq n_f = |a|^2 < 4$$



ε initial state



ε final states (L₃-edge)



Ce-L₃ valence

U = 4f¹/2p-hole Coulomb attraction

L₃ XAS Ce-valence determination {Ce^{3+/4+}, Sm^{3+/4+}, Eu^{3+/4+}, Tm^{3+/4+}, Yb^{3+/4+}}

mixed-valent Ce ground state

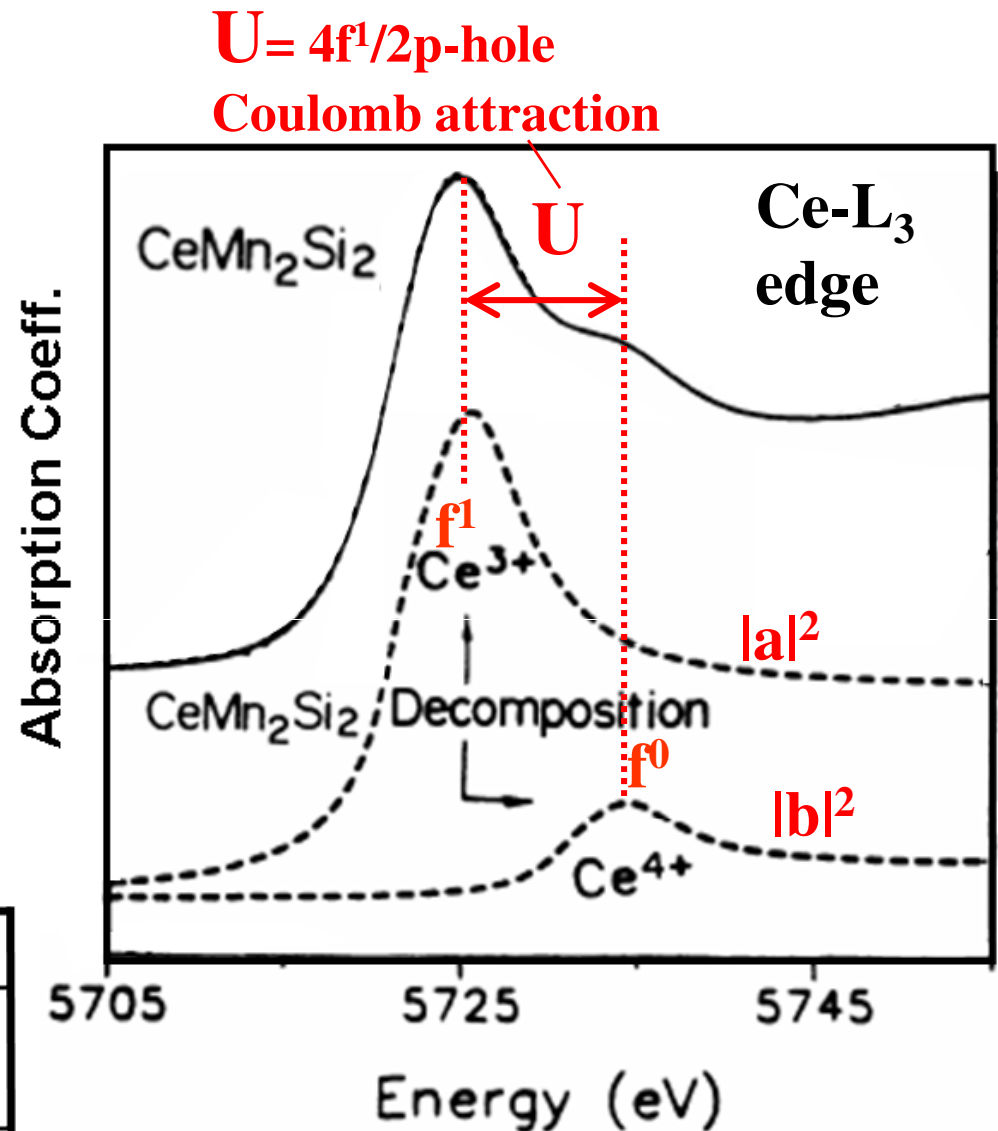
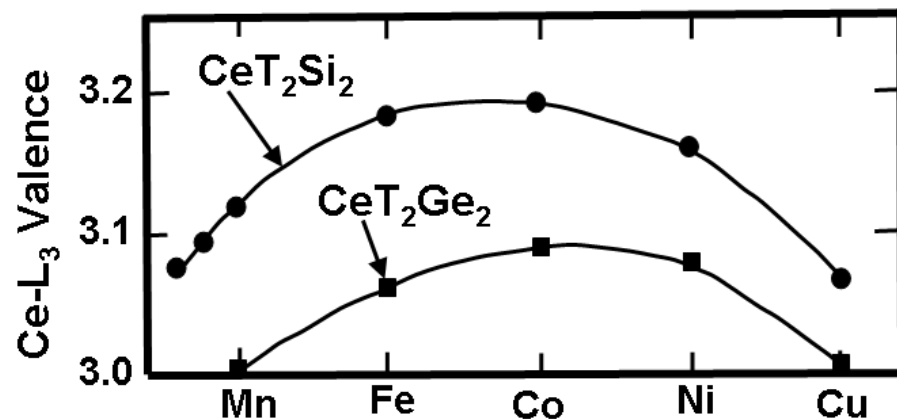
$$\Psi_{\text{GS}} = a\Psi(\textcolor{red}{4f^1}) + b\Psi(\textcolor{red}{4f^0})$$

Ce^{3+} Ce^{4+}

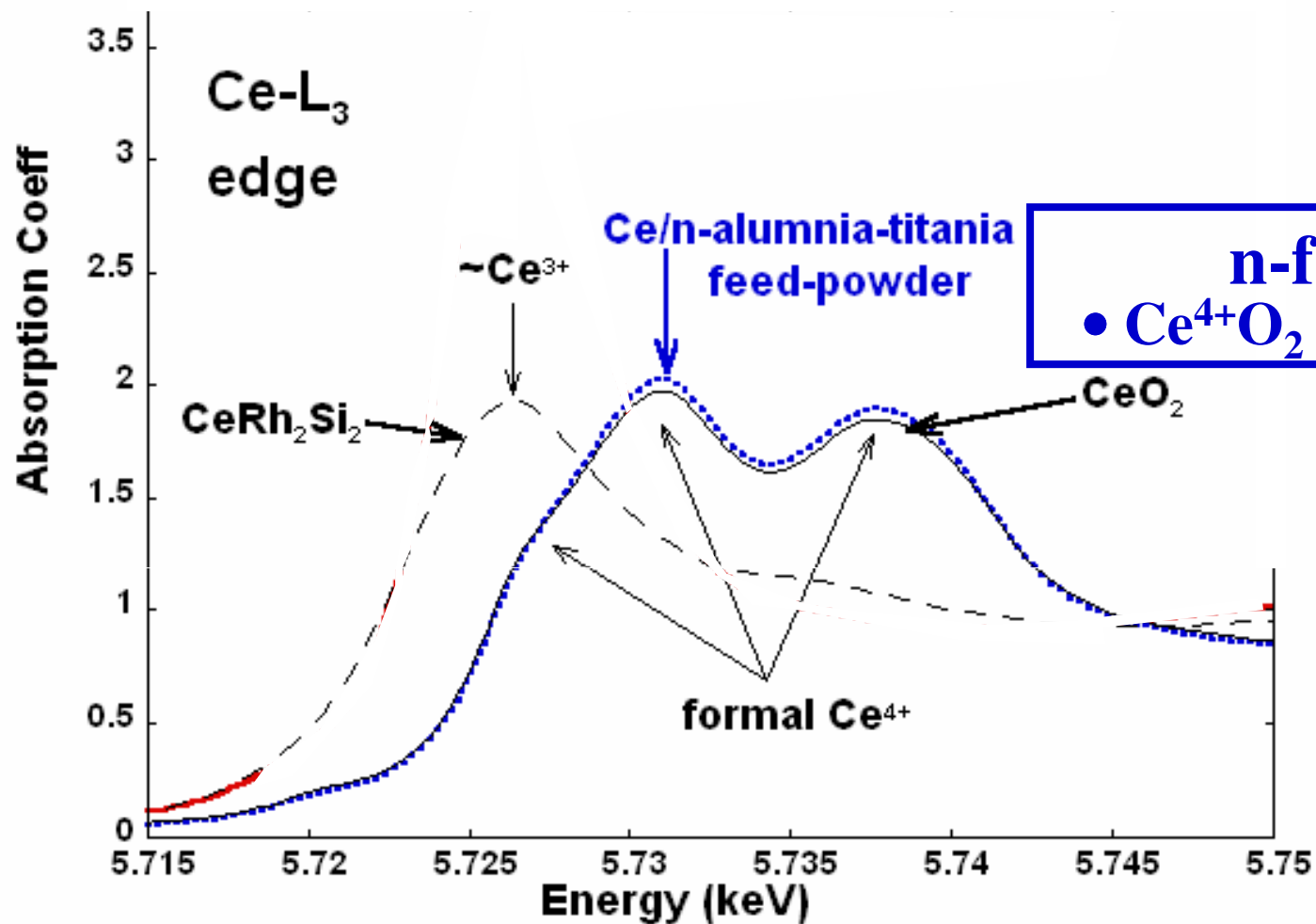
Valence (L₃) = 4 - n_f = 4 - $\textcolor{red}{|a|^2}$

Ce- L₃ valence

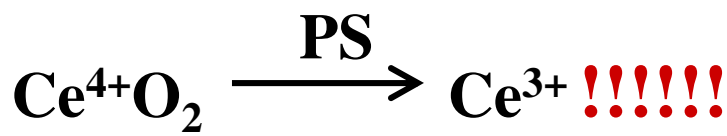
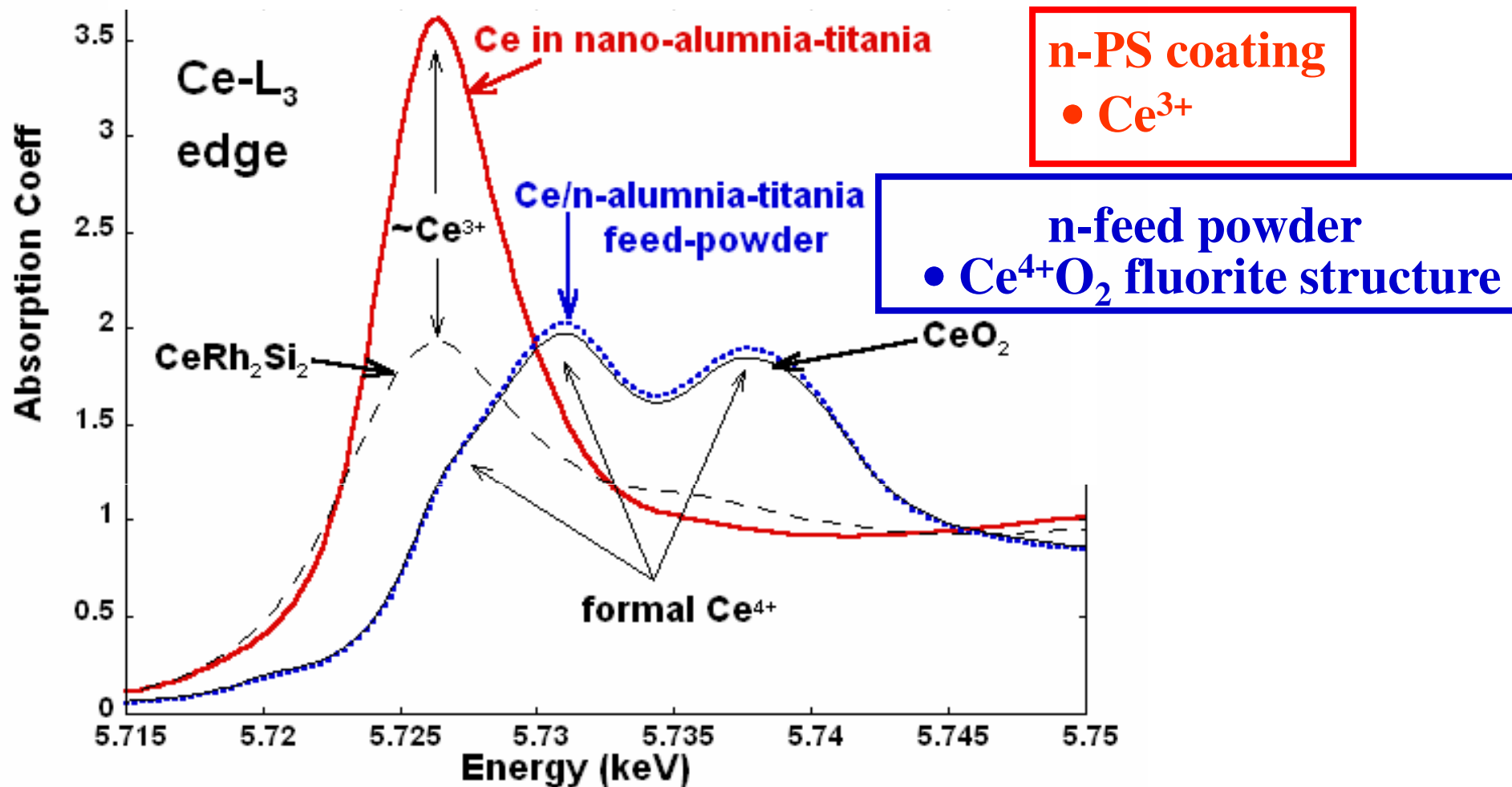
- exquisitely sensitive probe of local chemistry !!



Ce in nano-alumina-titania PS coatings



Ce in nano-alumina-titania PS coatings



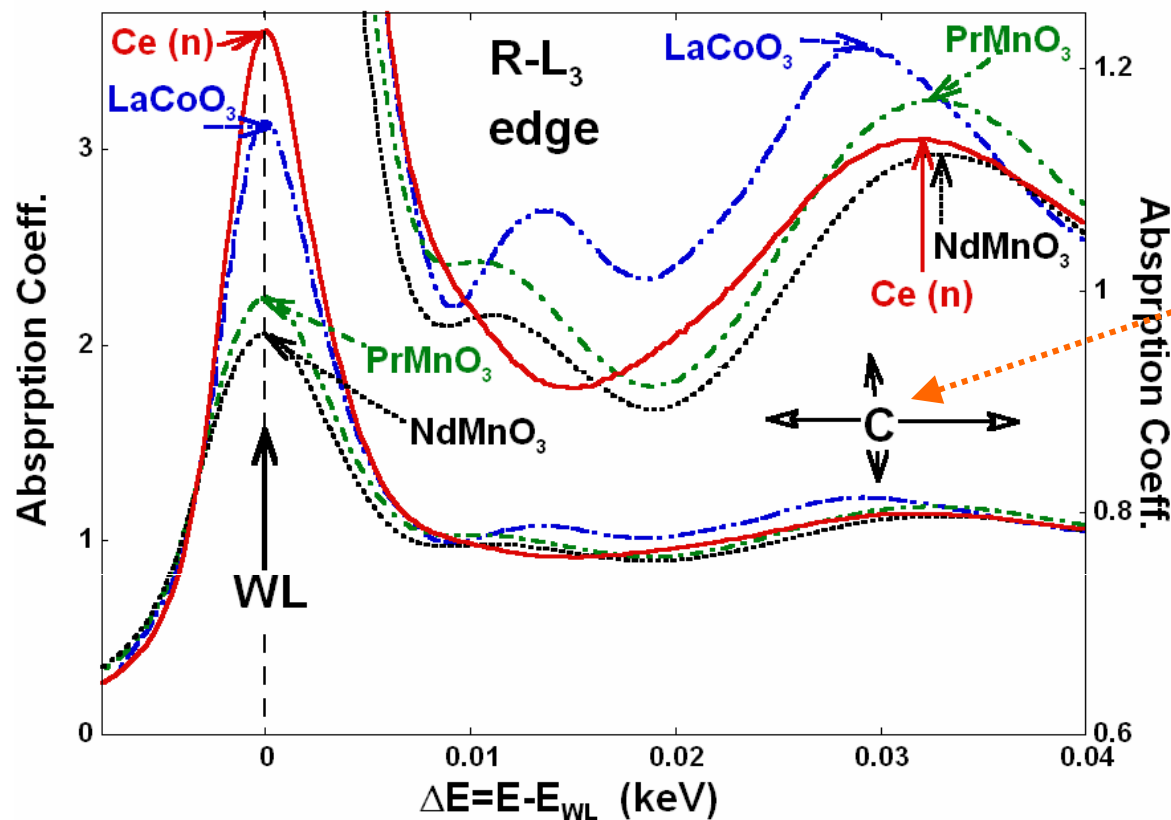
Plasma Spray
Chemical reduction of Ce

Average Ce-O distance estimate

Rare Earth continuum resonance

“C” feature energy

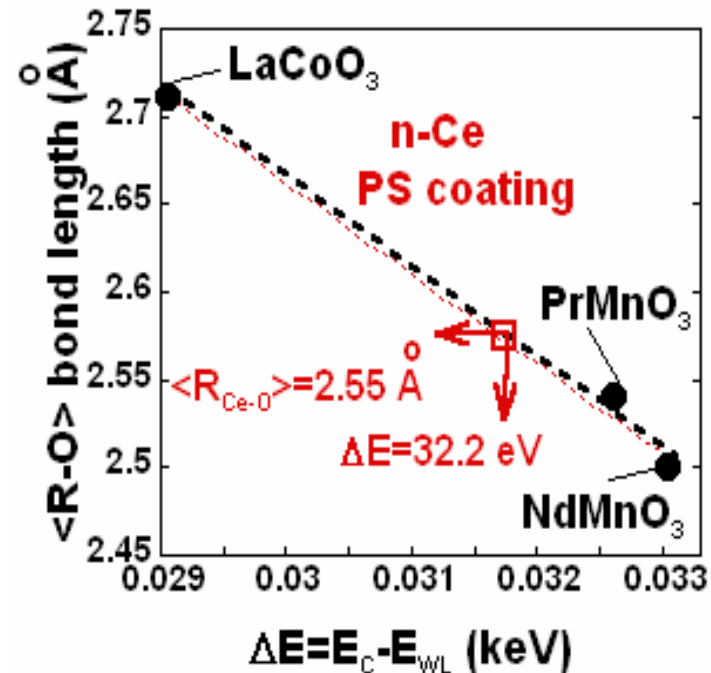
or Natoli's rule: $kr = \text{const}$



Regular shift with
R-O distance

$$\langle R_{\text{Ce-O}} \rangle = 2.55 \text{ \AA}$$

consistent with Ce^{3+}



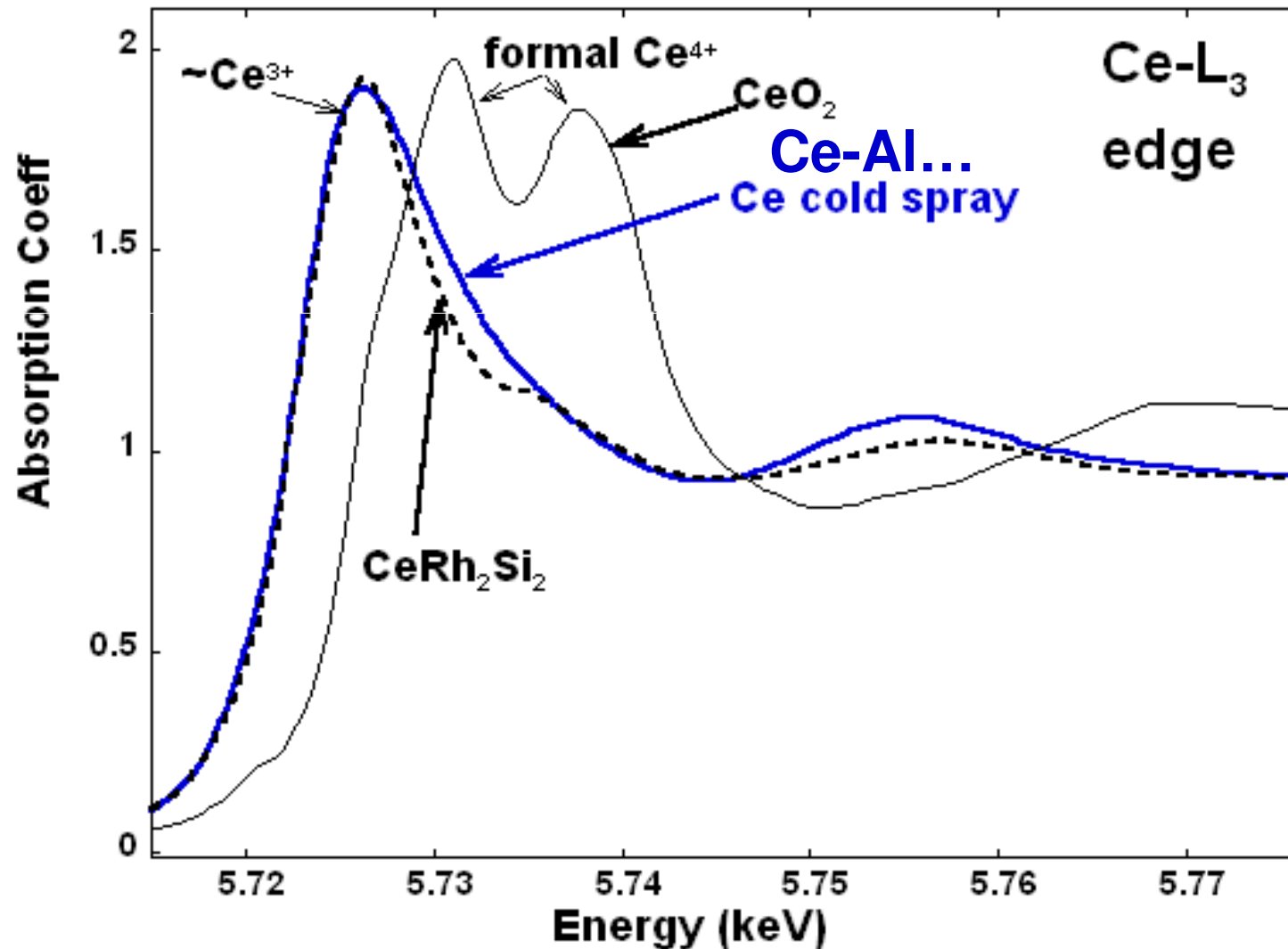
Aside

Ce-Al... cold spray (George Kim & coworkers)

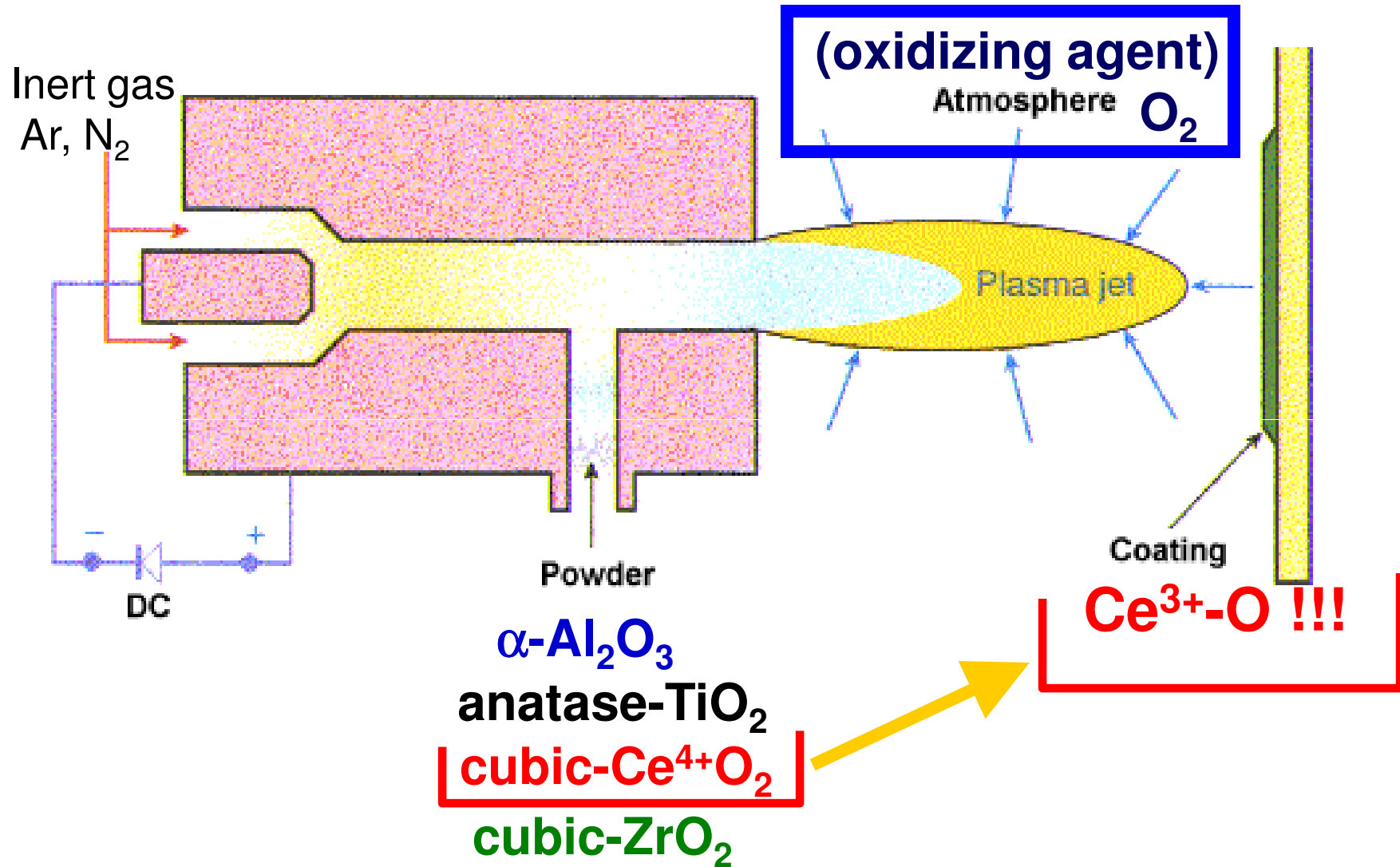
Ce^{3+} typical of Ce-Al inter-metallics

CeAl , CeAl_2 , CeAl_3 , Ce_3Al_3

Very stable against oxidation, very hard



Plasma spray deposition



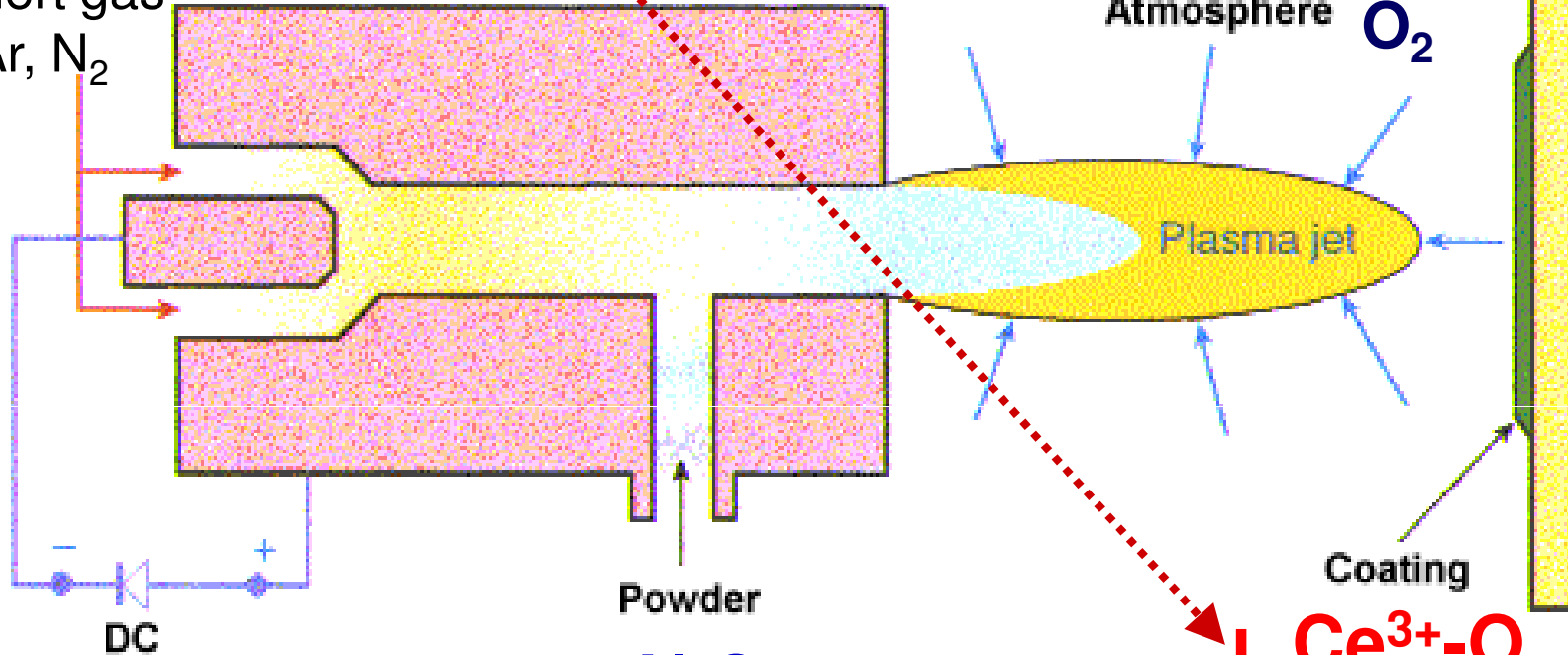
Plasma spray deposition

+ H₂ (reducing agent)

Inert gas
Ar, N₂

(oxidizing agent)

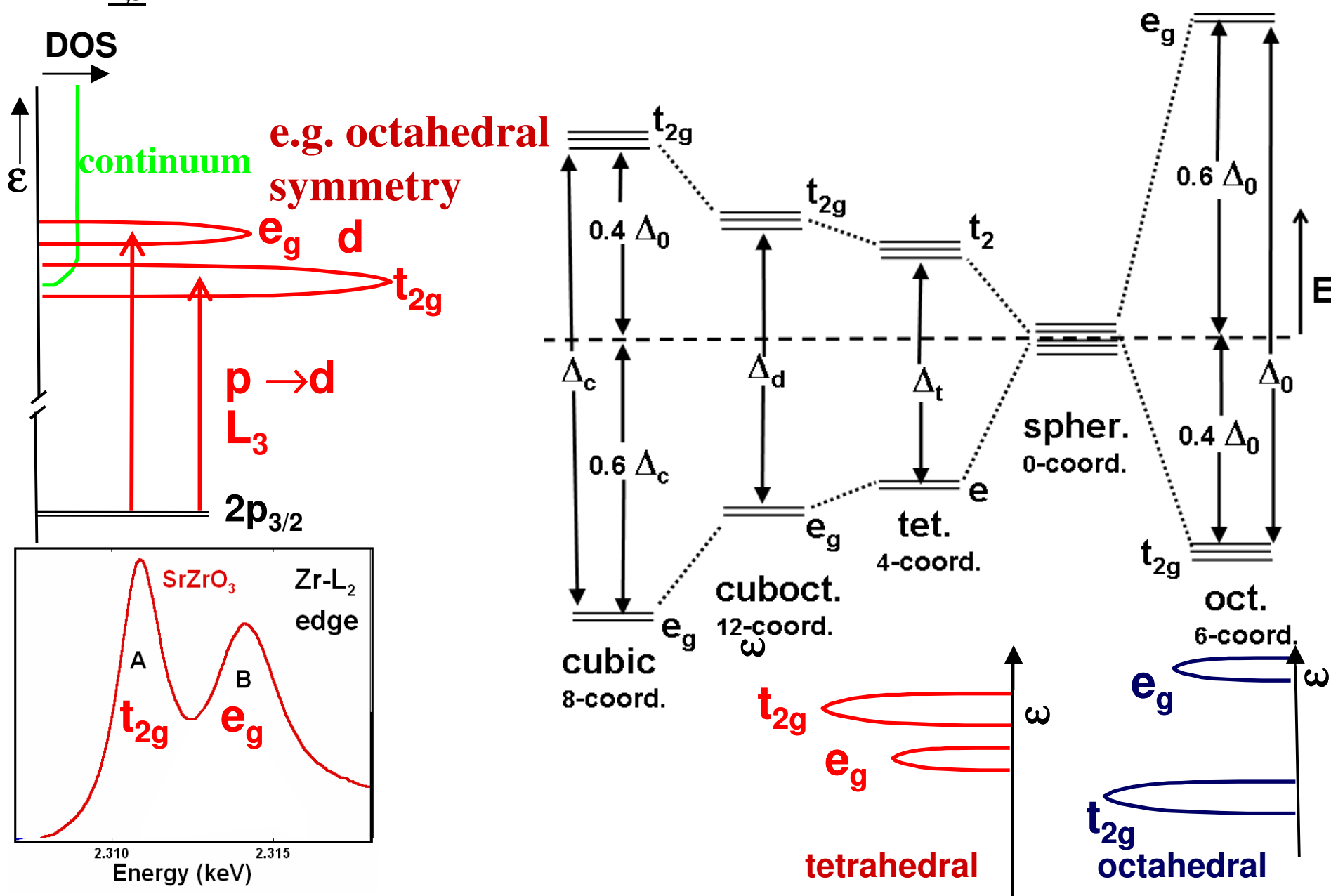
Atmosphere O₂



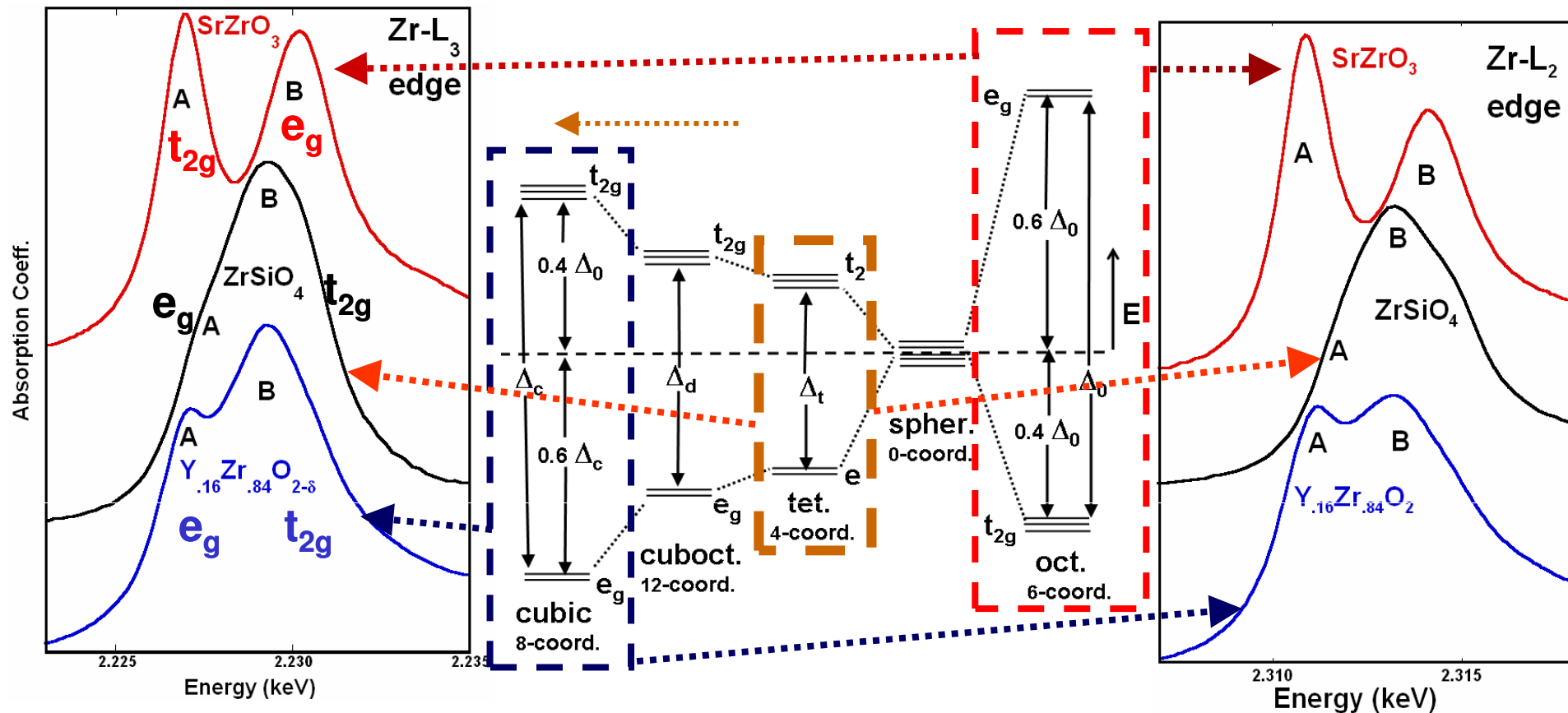
α -Al₂O₃
anatase-TiO₂
cubic-Ce⁴⁺O₂
cubic-ZrO₂

Ce³⁺-O ok?

Zr $L_{2,3}$ -edge probe of local electronic structure: ligand coordination



Zr $L_{2,3}$ -edge probe of local electronic structure: ligand coordination

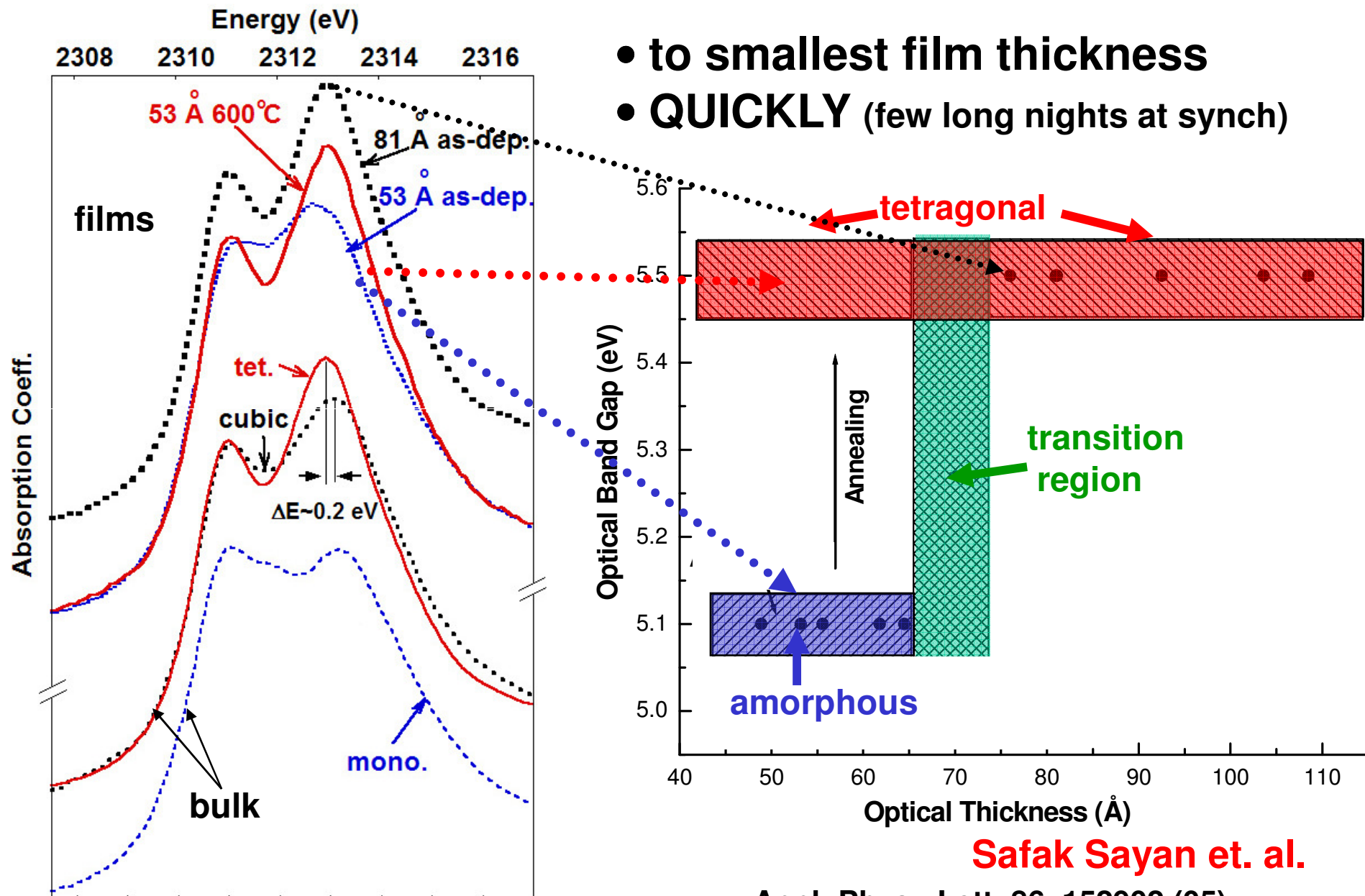


Zr-L₃ XAS – on nanoscale structures

example

electronic structure to map crystal structure in processing space

- to smallest film thickness
- QUICKLY (few long nights at synch)

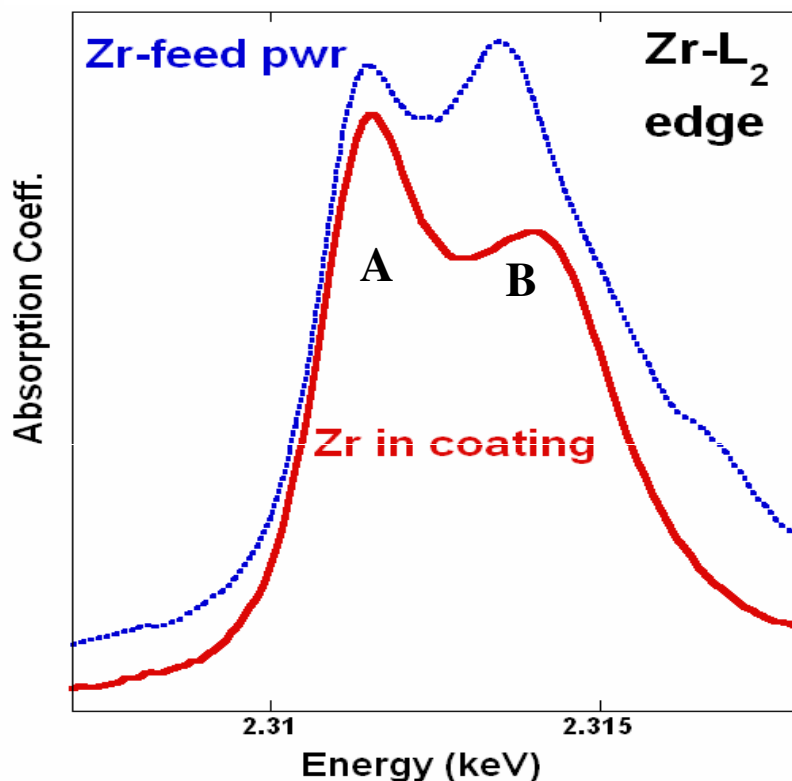
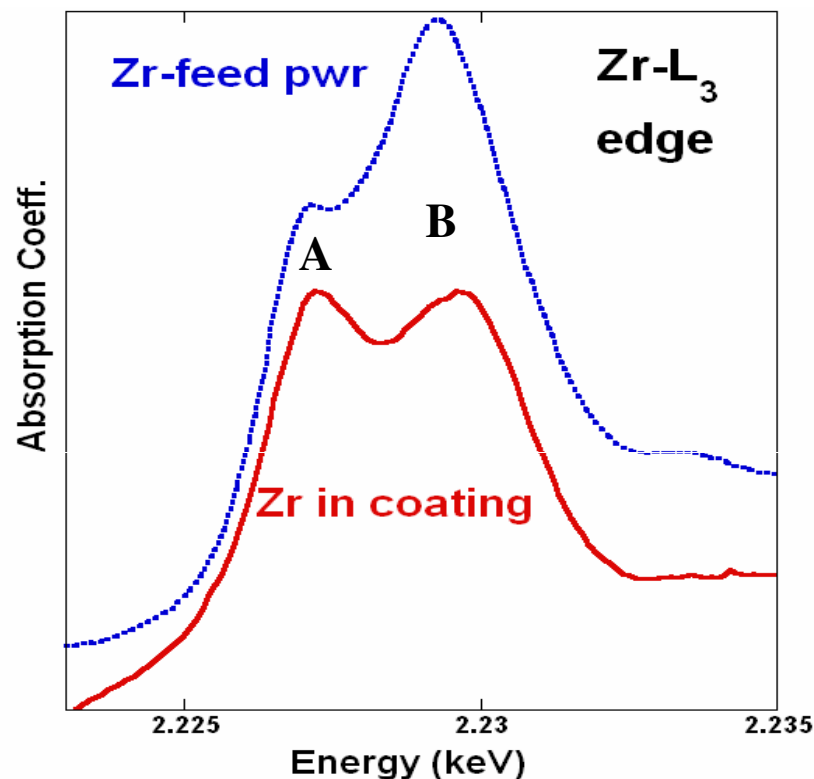


Safak Sayan et. al.

Appl. Phys. Lett. 86, 152902 (05)

Zr in nano-alumina-titania PS coatings

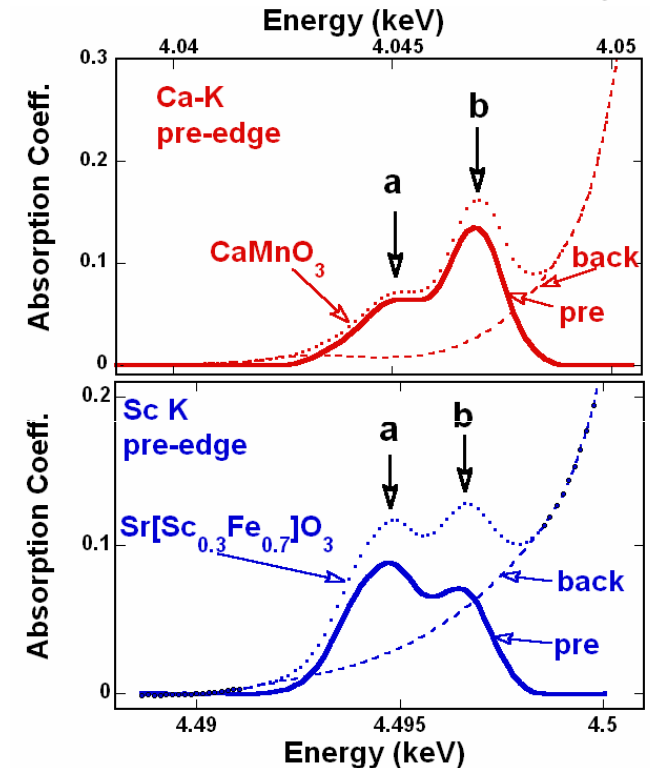
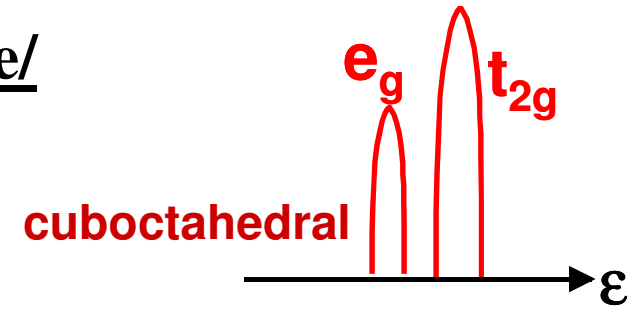
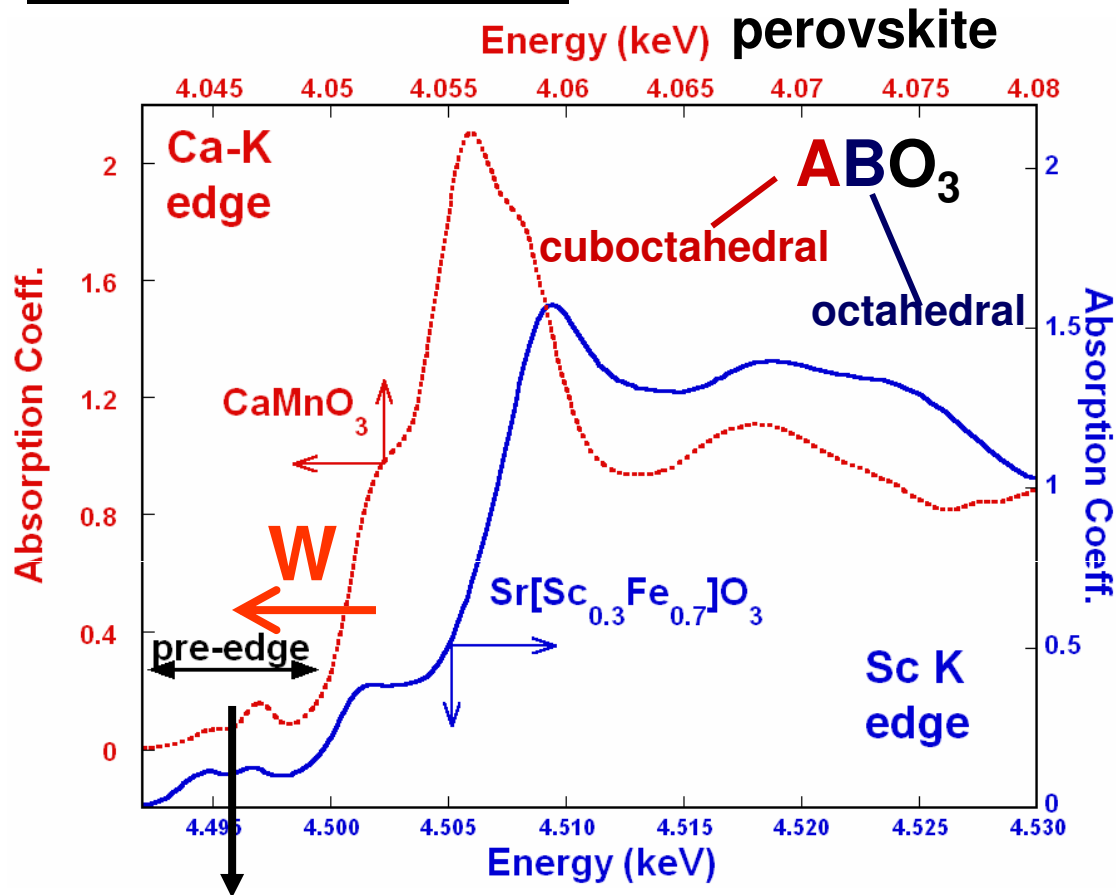
- Zr in nano-alumina-titania feed powder
local cubic symmetry = ZrO_2 ...



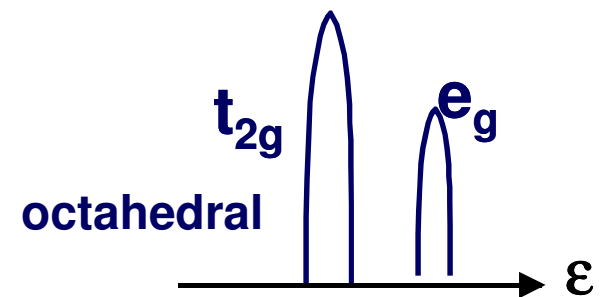
- Zr in nano-alumina-titania PS coating
local octahedral symmetry = ZrO_2

PS
• cubic $\Rightarrow$ octahedral

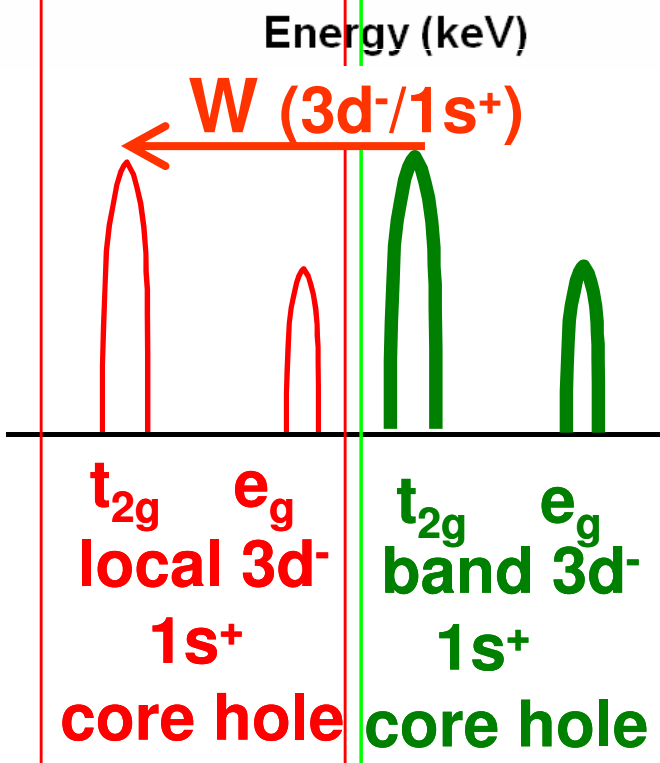
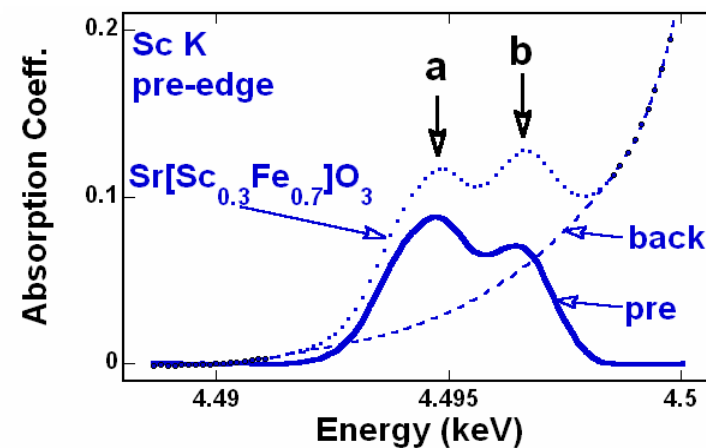
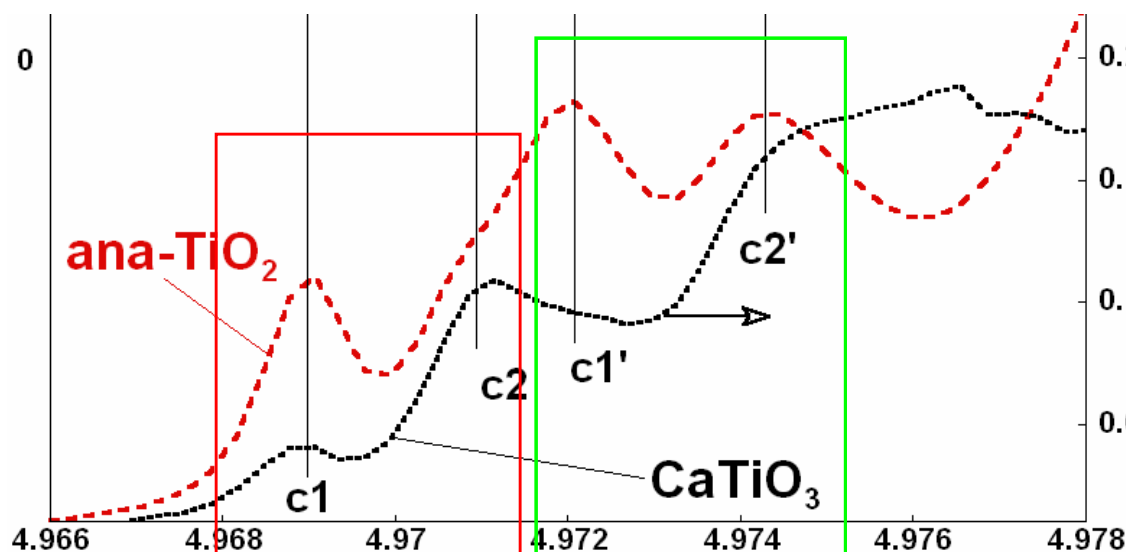
T(3d)-K pre-edge: local electronic-structure/ ligand-coordination



- Final state s-core-hole/d attraction energy **W**
- transitions
 - quadrupole $s \rightarrow d$ (much weaker)
 - + dipole $s \rightarrow d/p$ -hybridized (variable)



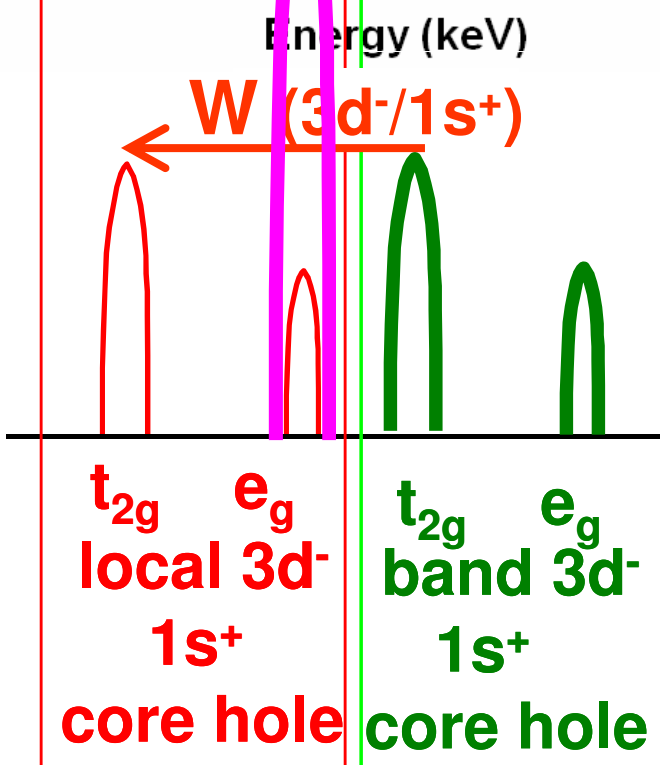
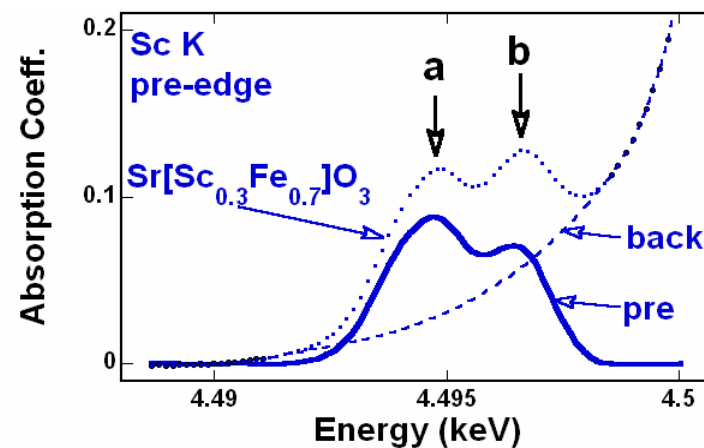
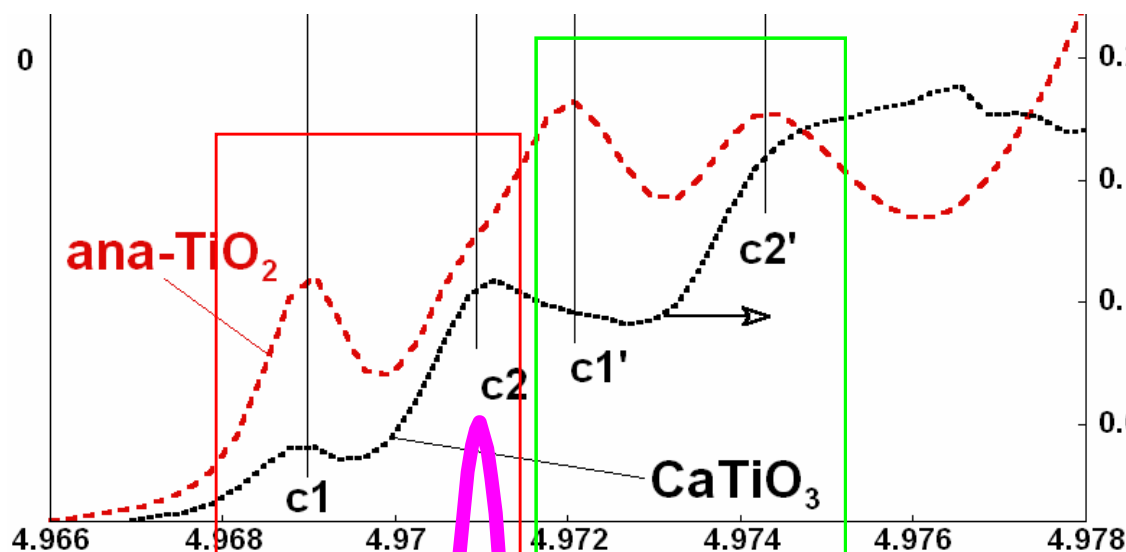
T(3d)-K pre-edge: local electronic-structure- life more complex



$W(3d-/1s^+)$ coulomb attraction energy

- replicate **local-** **band** features

T(3d)-K pre-edge: local electronic-structure- life more complex



$W(3d-1s^+)$ coulomb attraction energy

- replicate **local-** **band** features

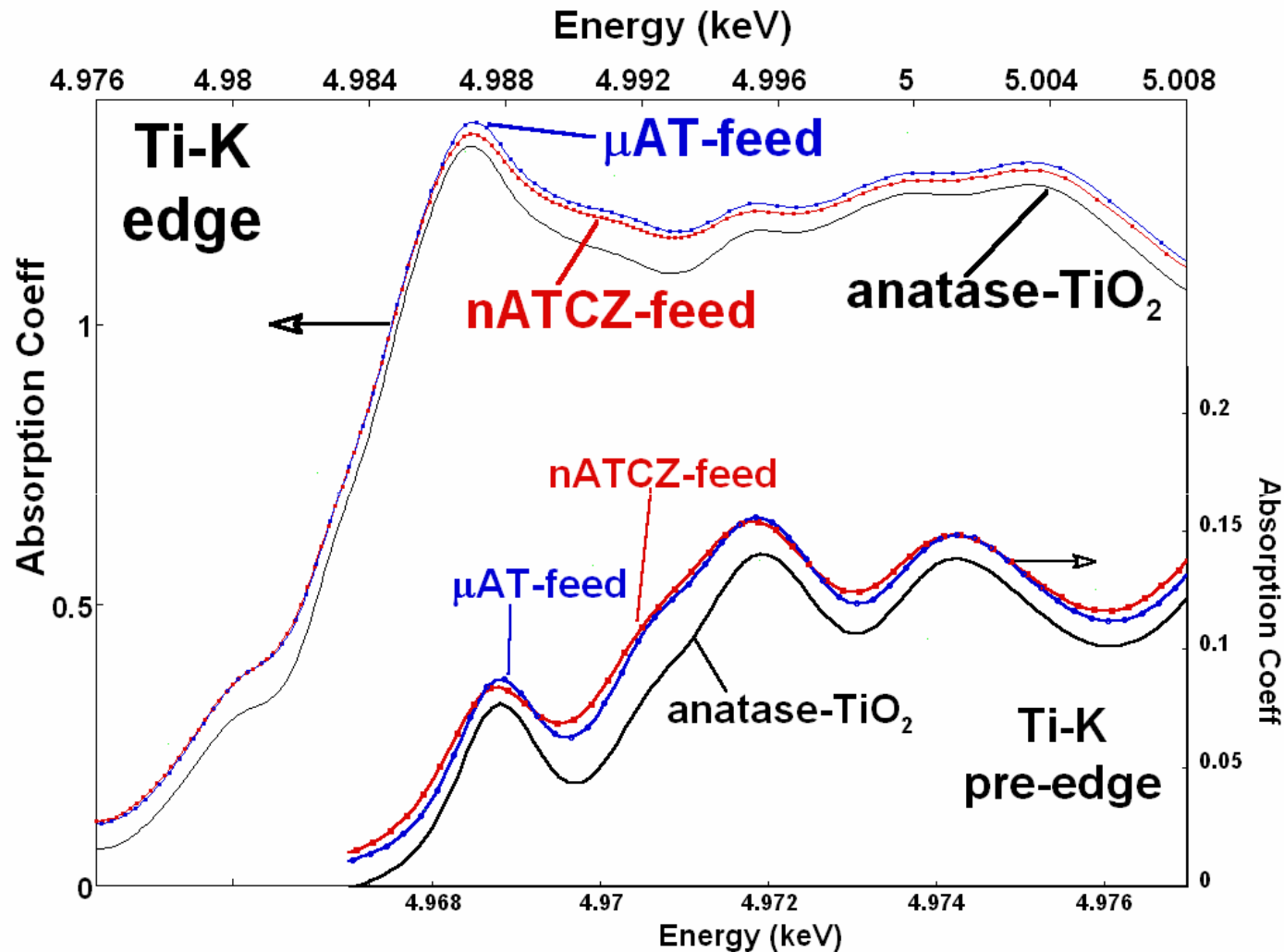
- dipole transitions to $\text{Ti 3d}(e_g)/\text{O}(2p)$ hybrid states

WORSE YET

Ti in feed powder

micro-alumina-titania (μ AT)

nano-alumina-titania-ceria-zirconia (nATCZ)

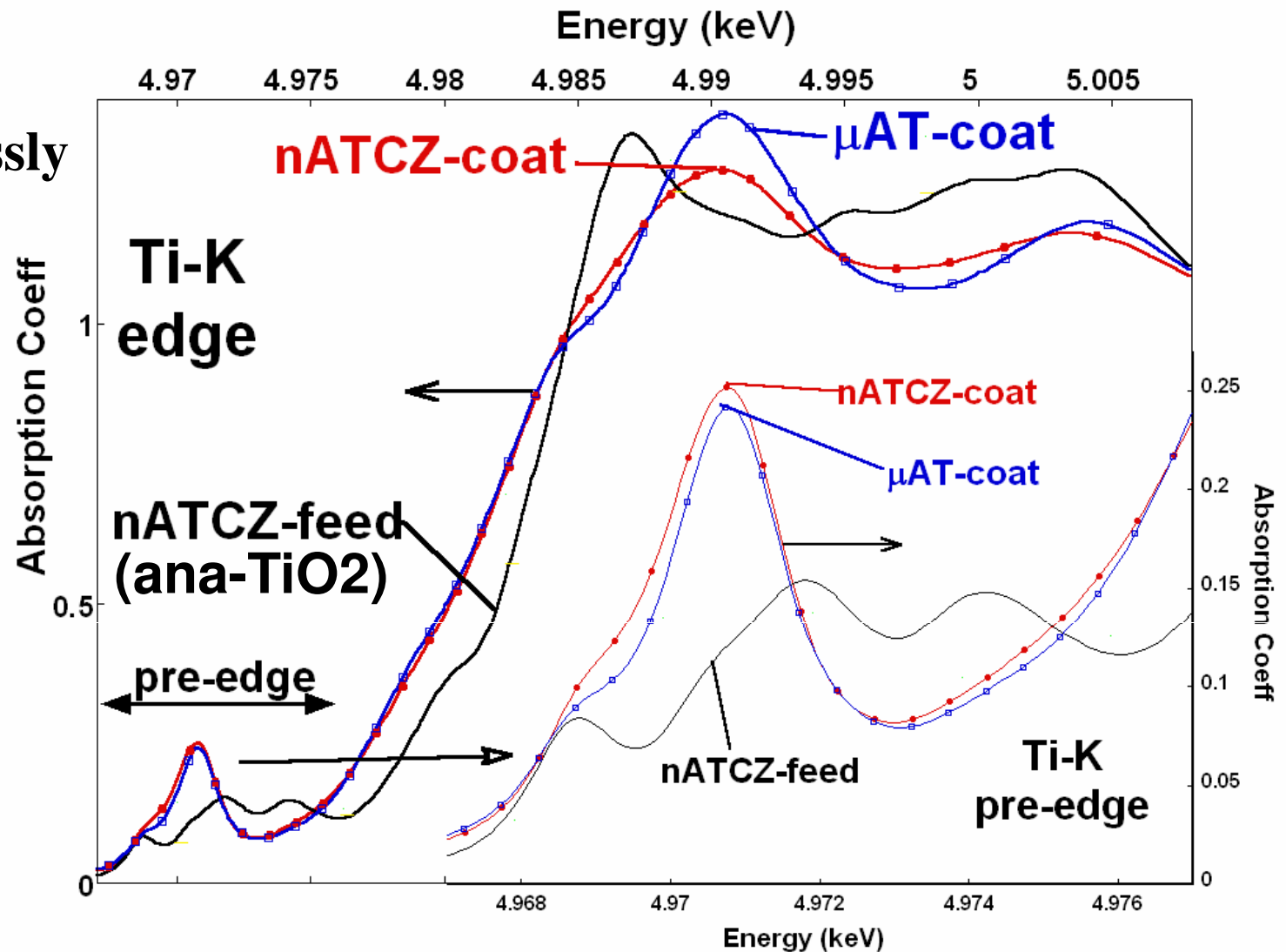


• feed powder μ AT = nATCZ = anatase phase TiO_2

Spectral fingerprint

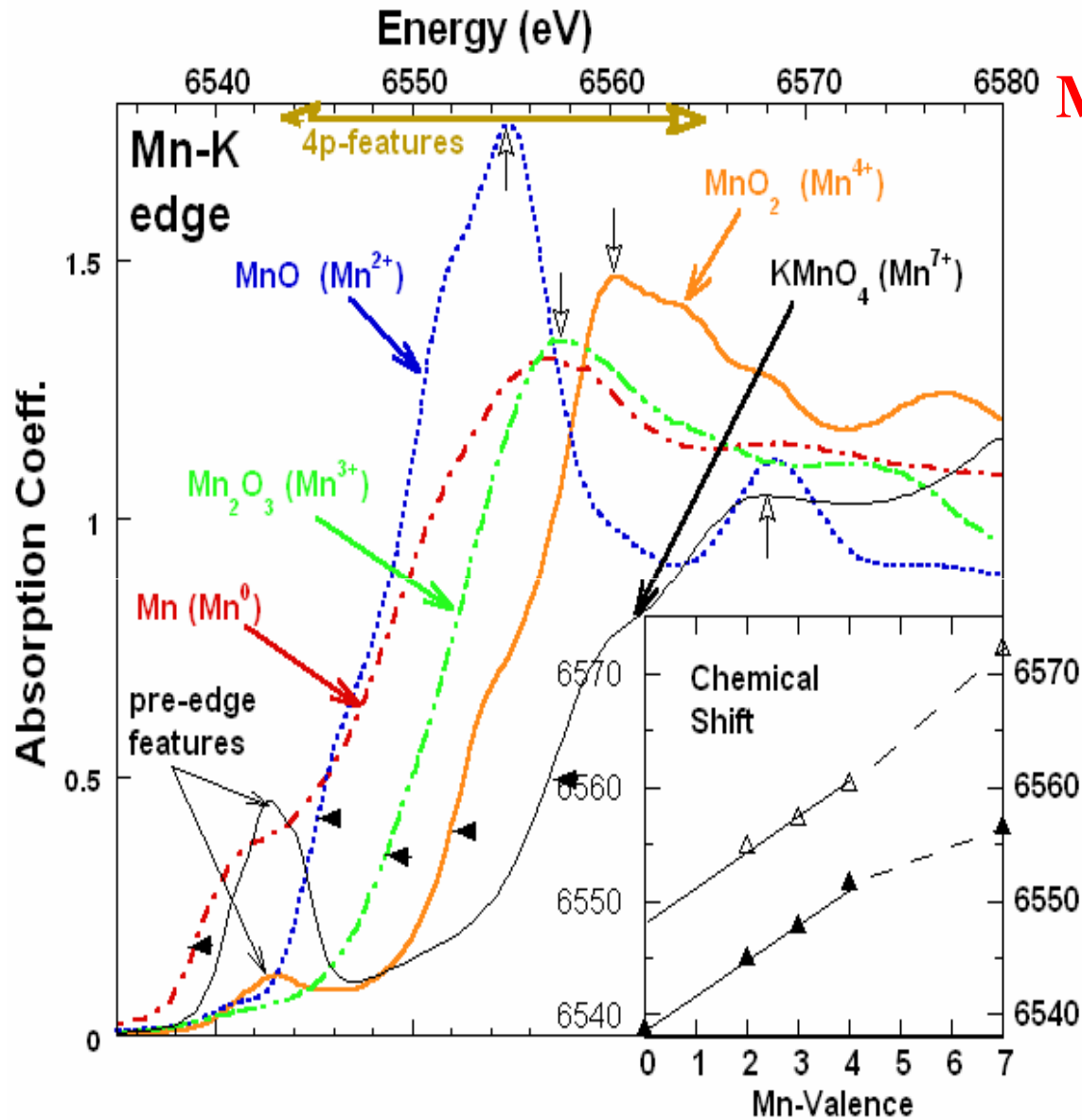
PS coatings

- coatings grossly different structure from ana-TiO₂

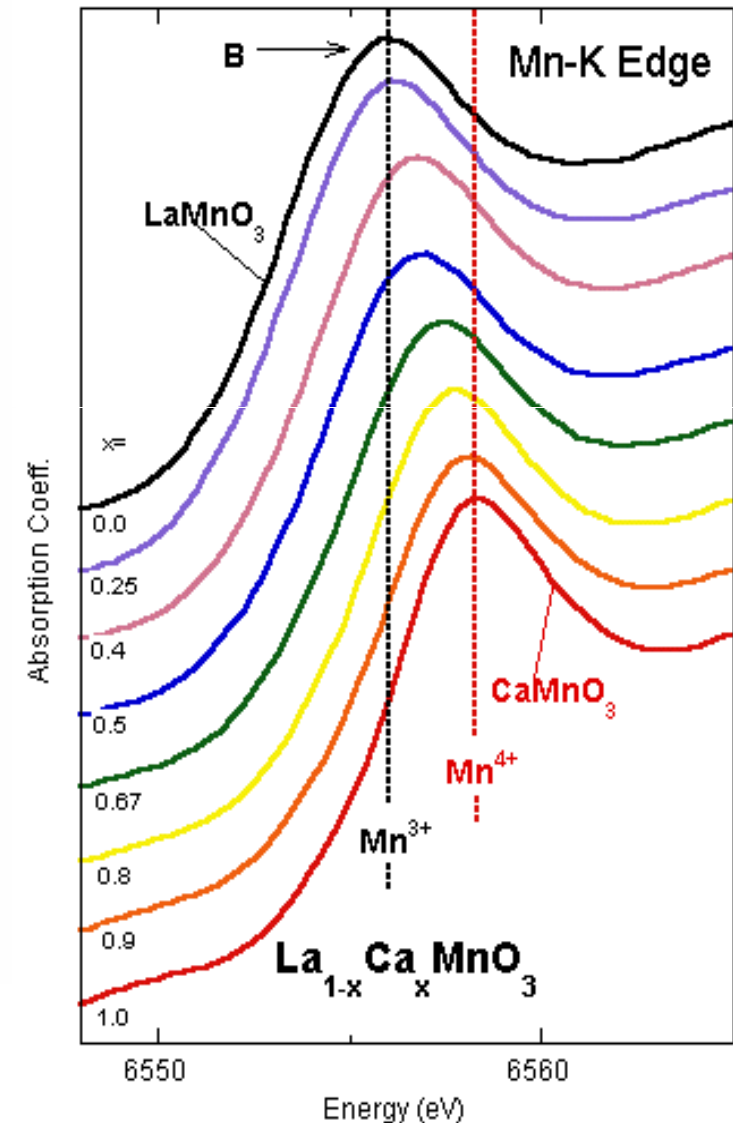


- PS coating quite similar for μ AT & nATCZ
- nATCZ PS coating spectrum broadened $\Rightarrow$ atomic disorder

XAS chemical shift of main edge to higher energy with higher valence

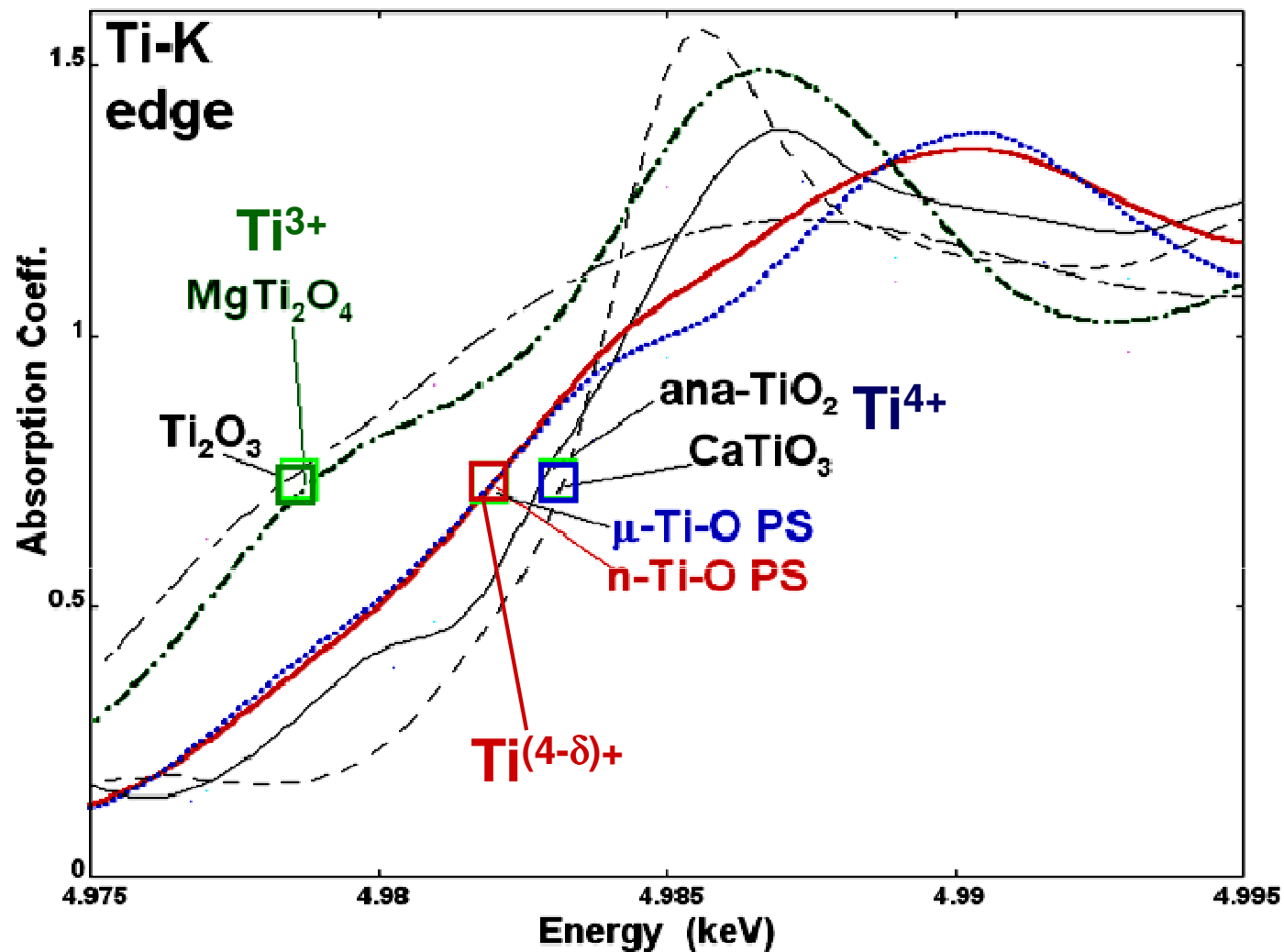


$\text{La}^{3+}_{1-x}\text{Ca}^{2+}_x\text{Mn}^{3+/4+}\text{O}_3$
Mn-K-XAS $\rightarrow$ key $\text{Mn}^{3+}/\text{Mn}^{4+}$



Mn^{N+} : e^- states more tightly bound as $N \uparrow$

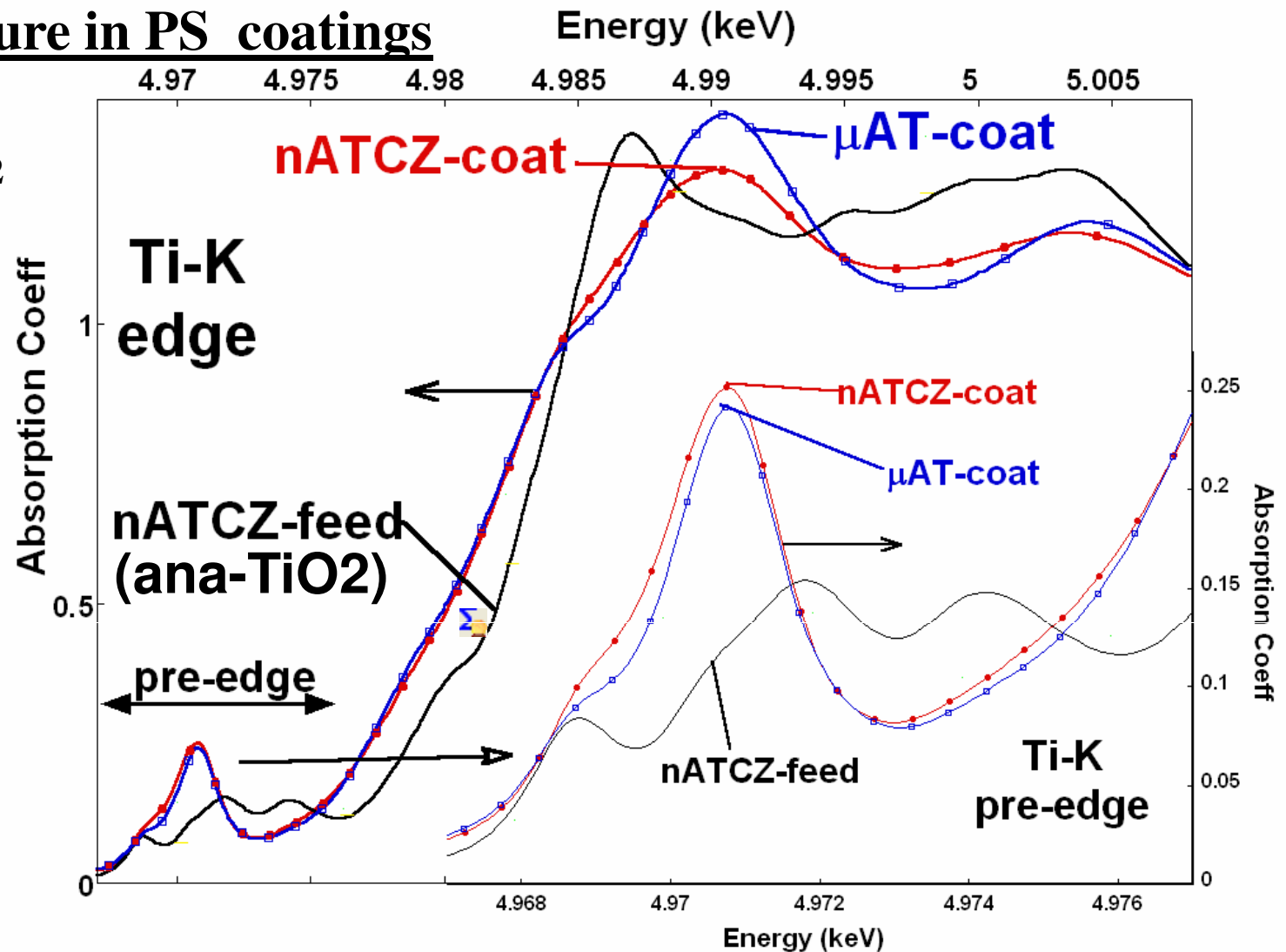
Ti-valence state in alumina-titania PS coatings



- **Ti^{(4-δ)+}** valence reduction in both **μAT** & **nATCZ** PS coatings similar to (but less in magnitude than) Ce

Ti- local structure in PS coatings

- not ana-TiO₂



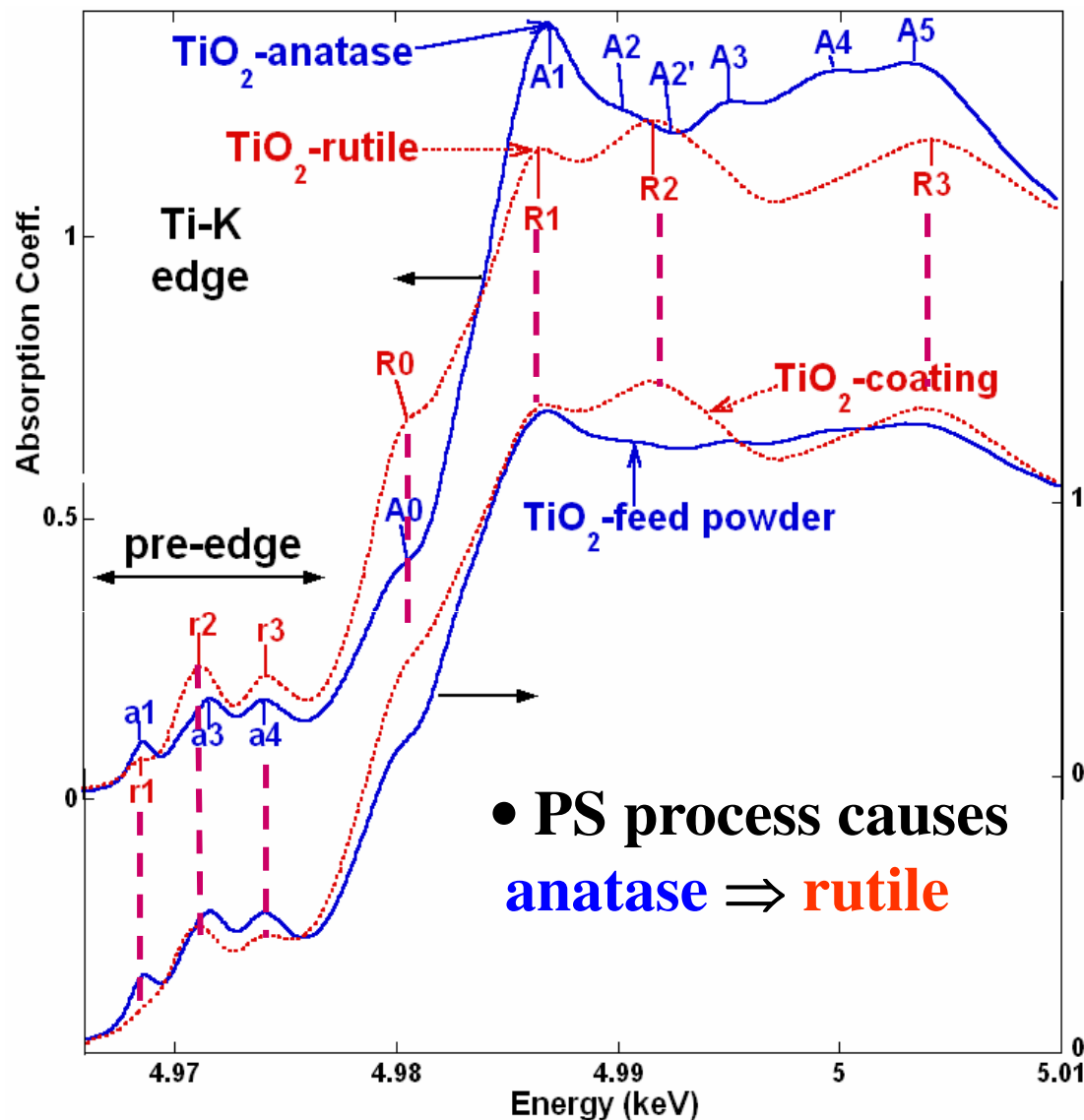
- conjecture** Ti in isolated octahedral sites in spinel γ -Al₂O₃

** U.-Conn. Group electron microscopy: Ti in γ -Al₂O₃

Goberman, Sohn, Shaw, Jordan, Gell. Acta Mat. 2002;50:1141.

Bansal et. al. Acta Mat. 51 (2003) 2959–2970:

Plasma Spray TiO₂ coating (structure) on Ti-6-4



Ti-K edges:
anatase & rutile TiO₂

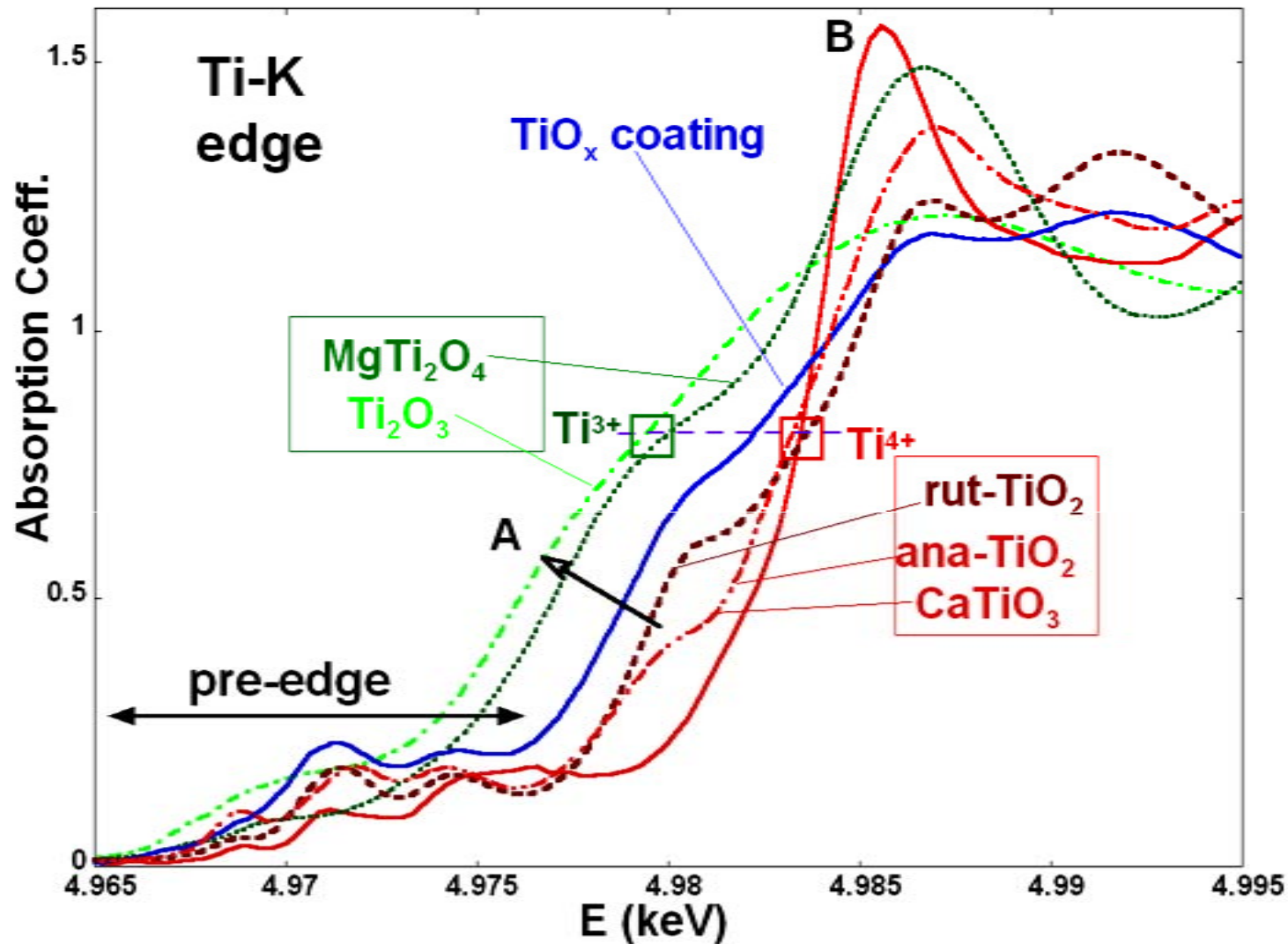
Ti-K edges: TiO₂ feed powder &
plasma sprayed TiO_x coating

- Feed powder
dominantly anatase
(broadened/disordered)

- PS coating
dominant component rutile
(broadened/disordered)

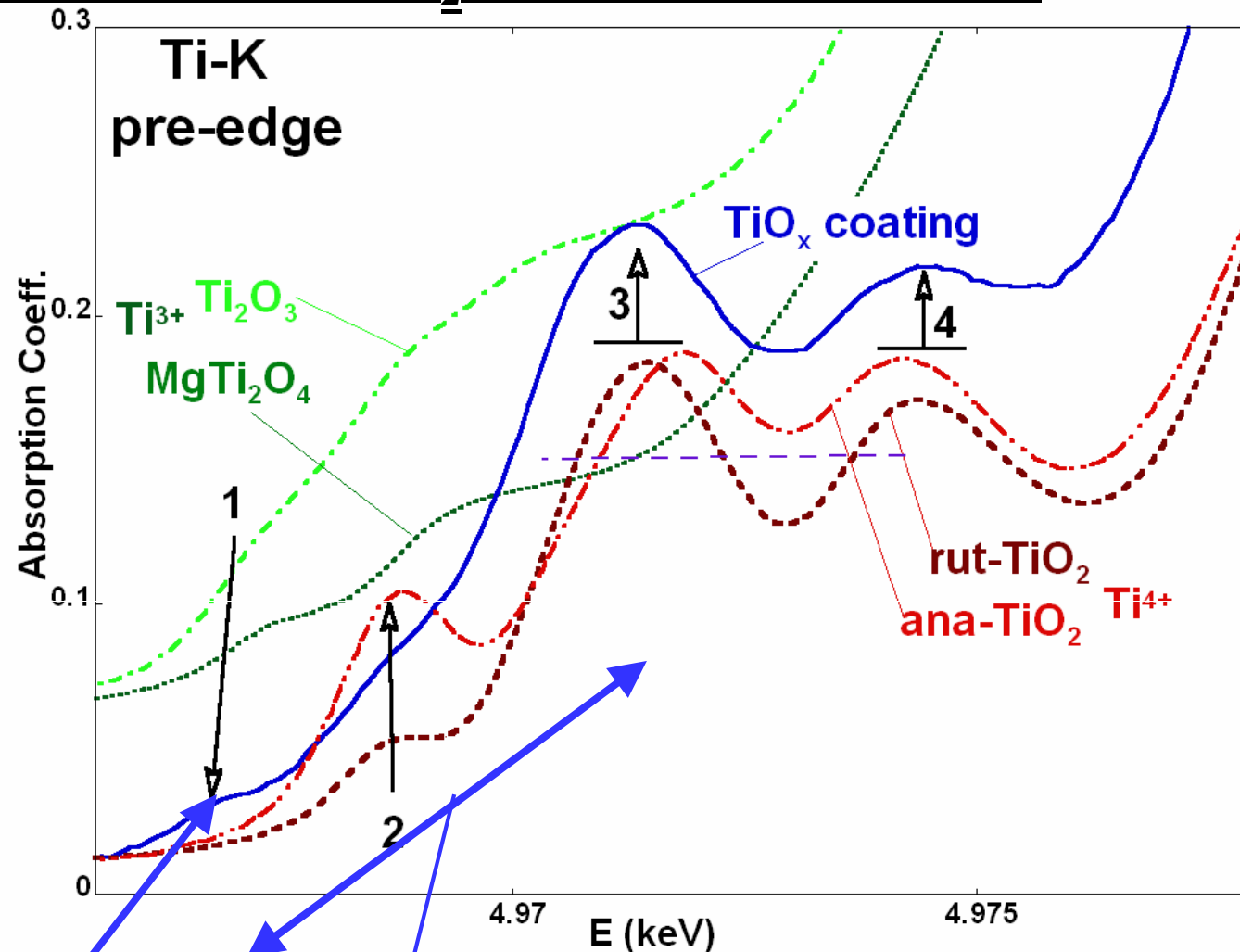
anatase-TiO₂ feed powder $\Rightarrow$ rutile TiO_x coating

Ti-valence state in TiO_2 PS coatings



- large $\text{Ti}^{(4-\delta)+}$ valence reduction in PS TiO_x coating (δ larger than in alumina-titania PS coating)

Ti-valence state in TiO₂ PS coatings (pre-edge)



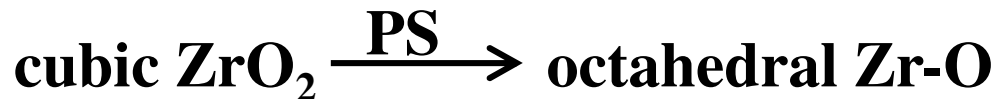
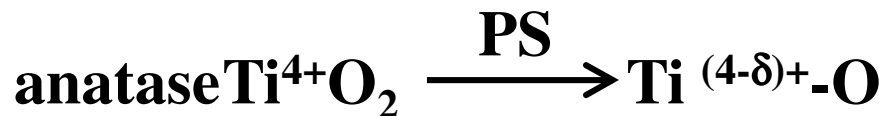
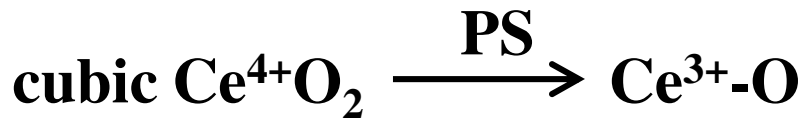
- excess (broad) spectral intensity over Ti³⁺ range
- new spectral feature onset at intensity over Ti³⁺ onset range
- large Ti^{(4-δ)+} valence reduction in PS TiO_x coating

Summary XAS results on plasma spray coatings

feed powder $\xrightarrow{\text{PS}}$ real life coating local structure
local electronic states/chem

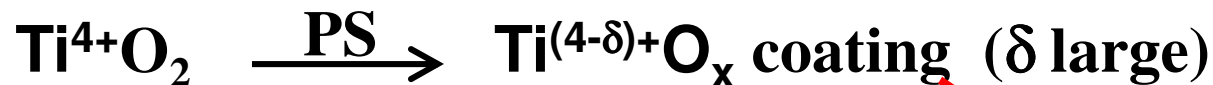
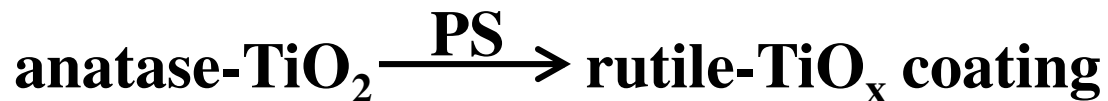
Plasma Spray (PS) Coatings

$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{-TiO}_2$: additives; CeO_2 , ZrO_2



**Chemically reducing
PS environment !**

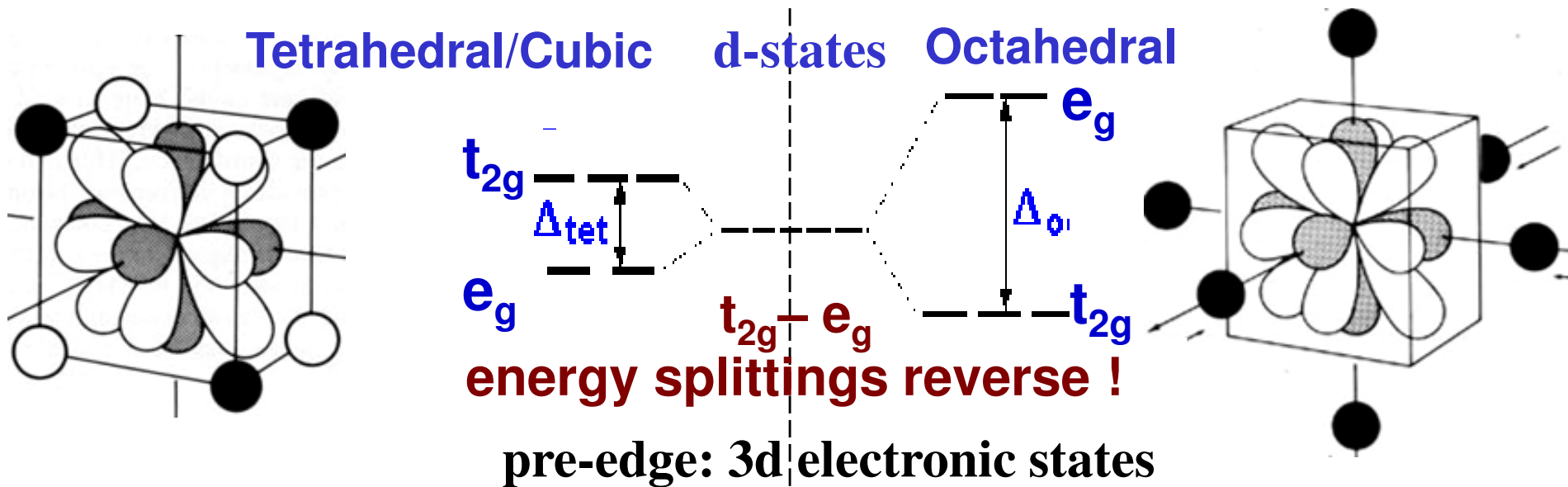
TiO_2



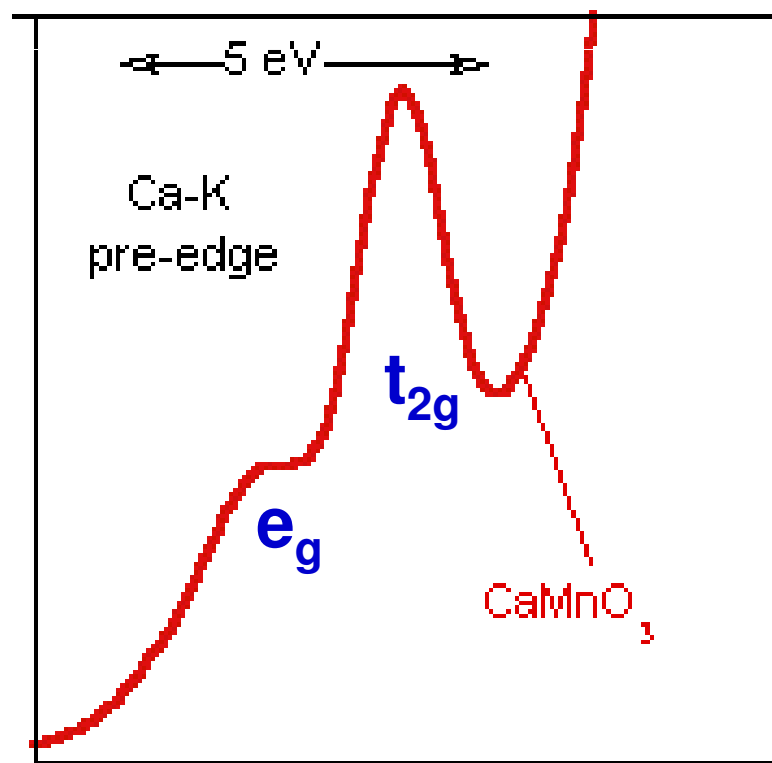
**Chemically reducing
PS environment !**

web page <http://www.physics.rutgers.edu/~croft/FARADAY.HTML>





Cubic Ca-environment



Octahedral Sc-environment

