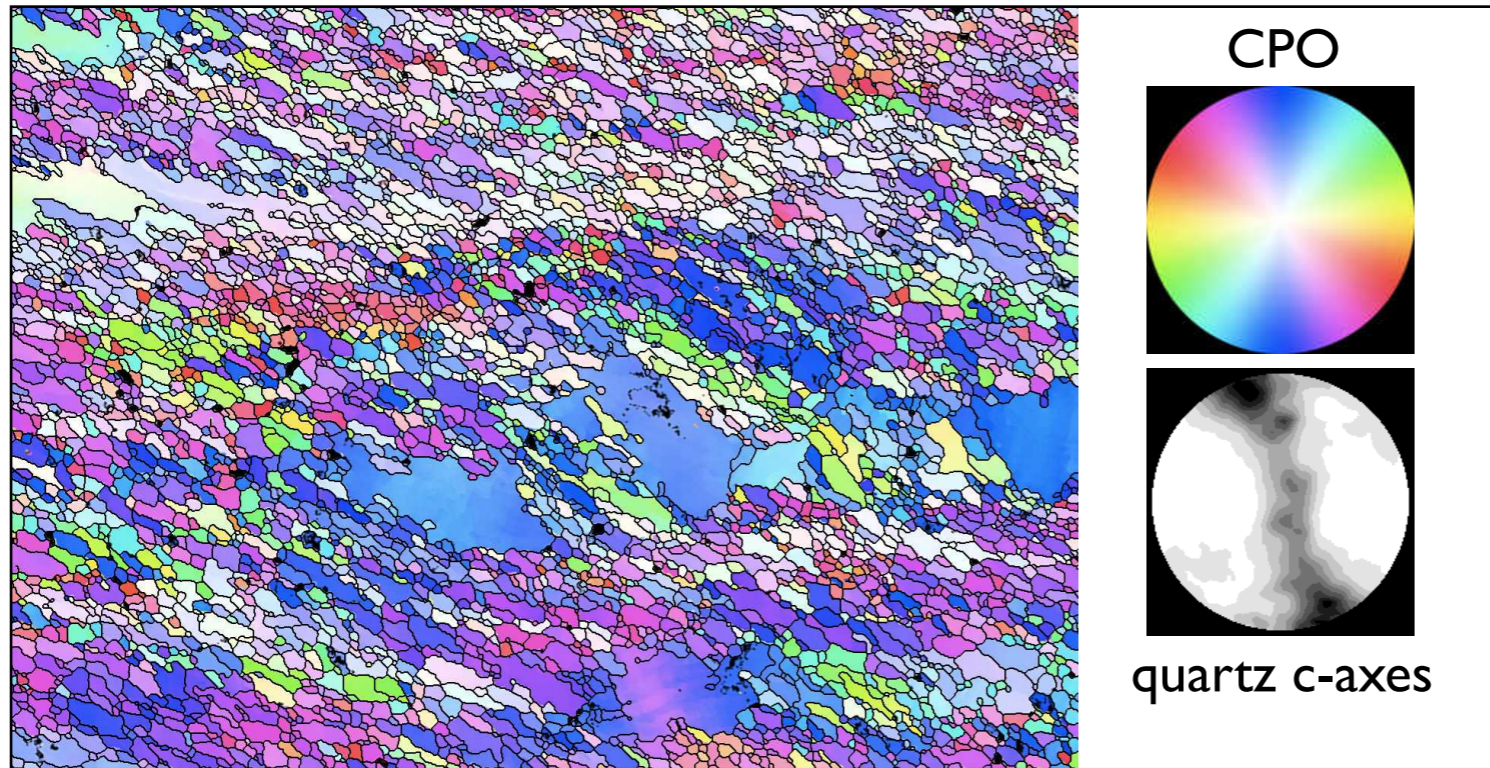


**Three decades of Orientation  
Imaging in Structural Geology -  
Visualization and Analysis of  
Rock Properties**

**[renee.heilbronner@unibas.ch](mailto:renee.heilbronner@unibas.ch)**

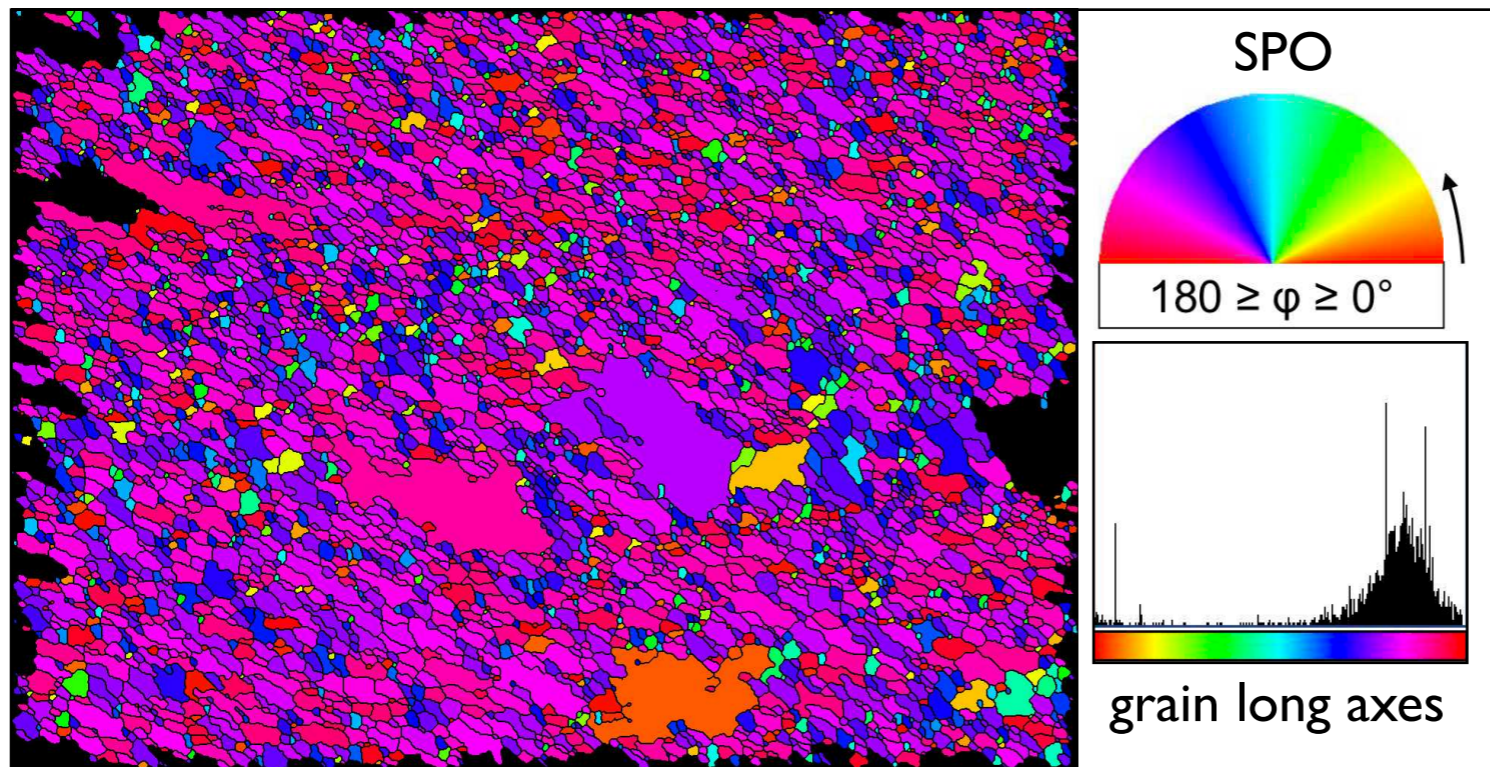


# Abstract



Three decades of Orientation Imaging in Structural Geology – Visualization and Analysis of Rock Properties...

... and the problem of extrapolating from 2D to 3D



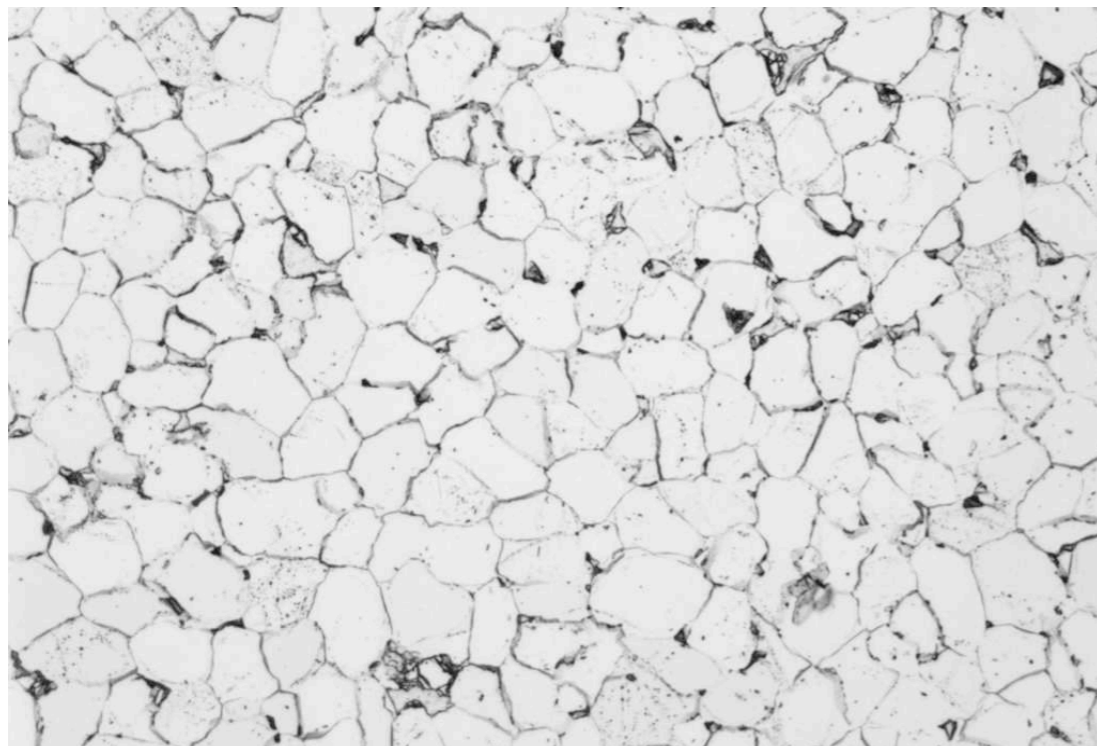


# what is behind this talk ?

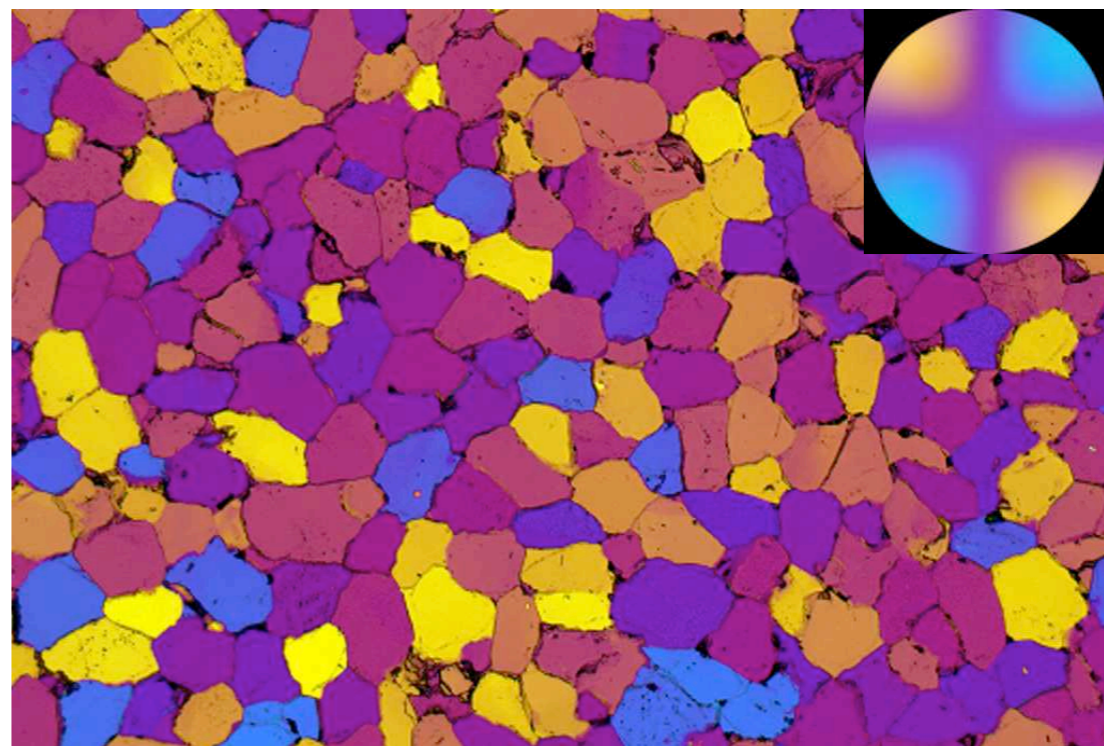




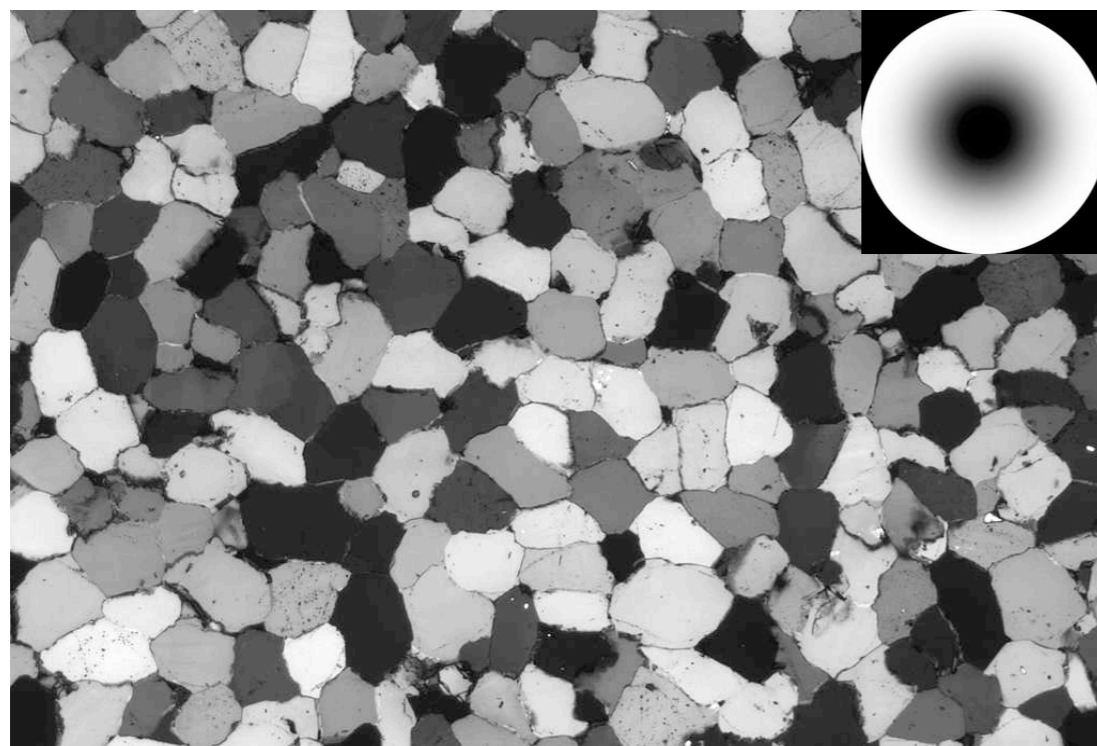
# CIP – c-axis orientation imaging



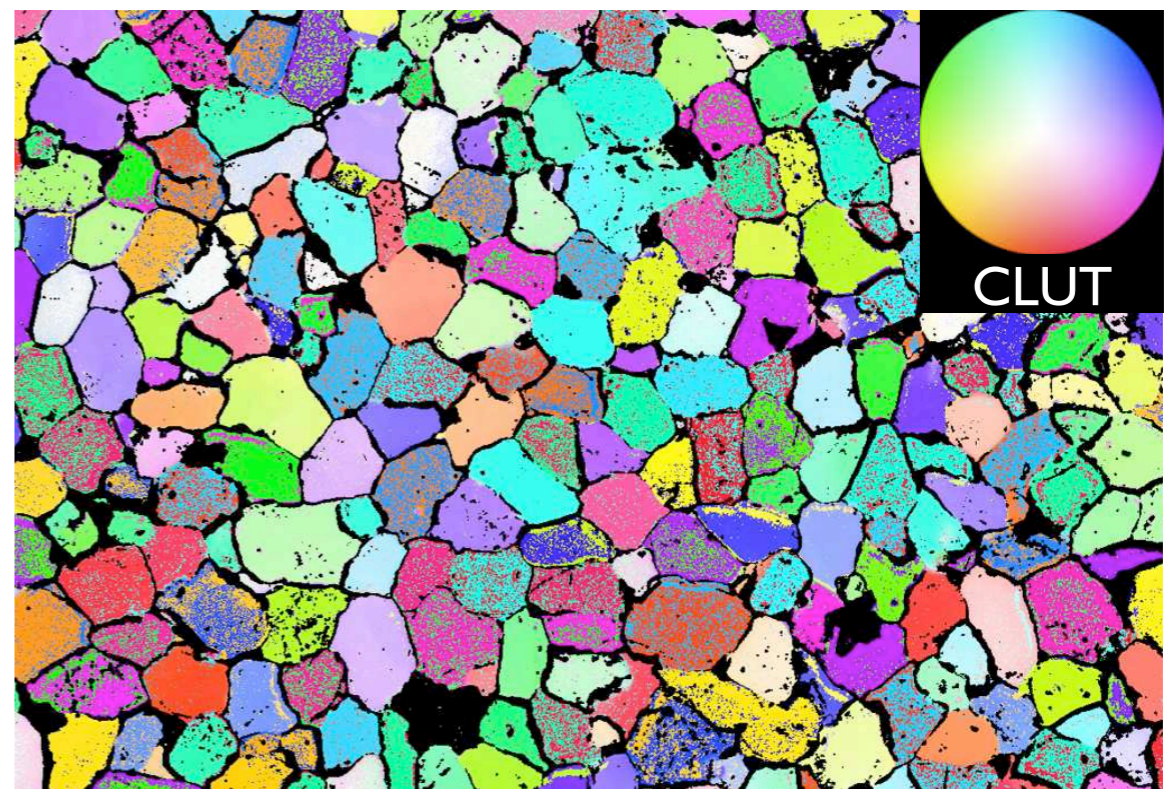
nopol  $\neq$  Orientation Image



+PolLambda = Orientation Image



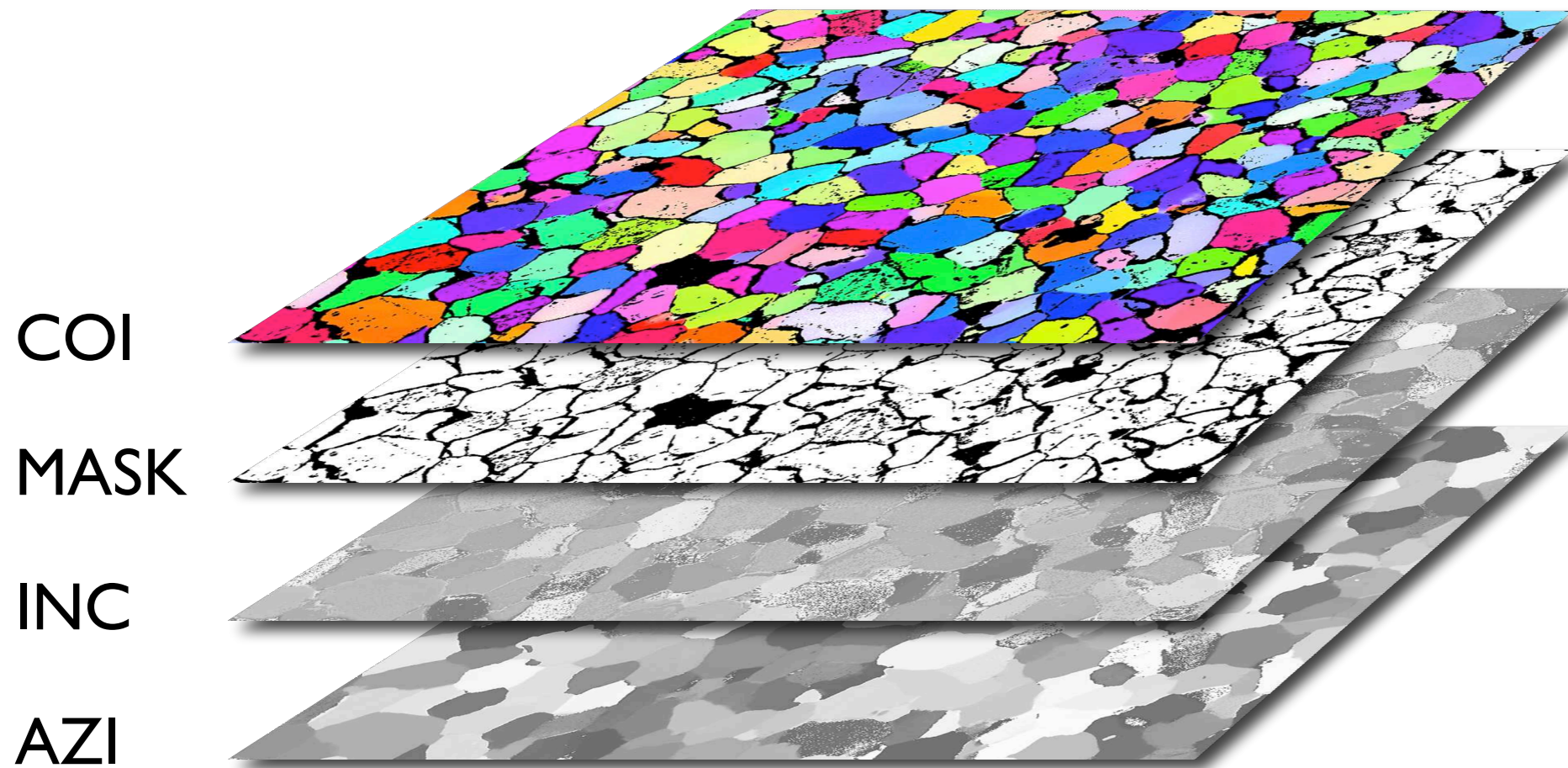
cirpol = Orientation Image



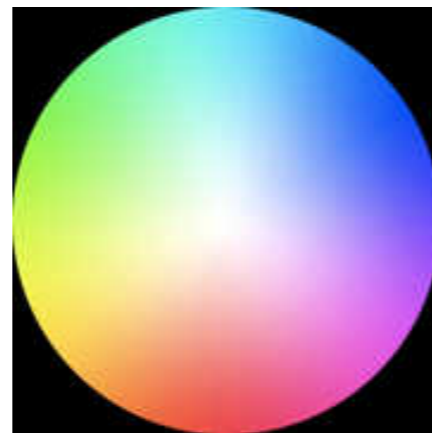
COI = Orientation Image



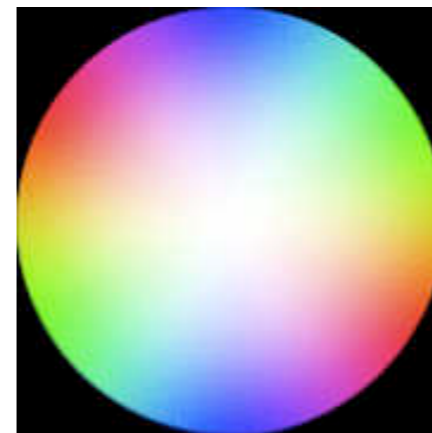
# COI – c-axis orientation image



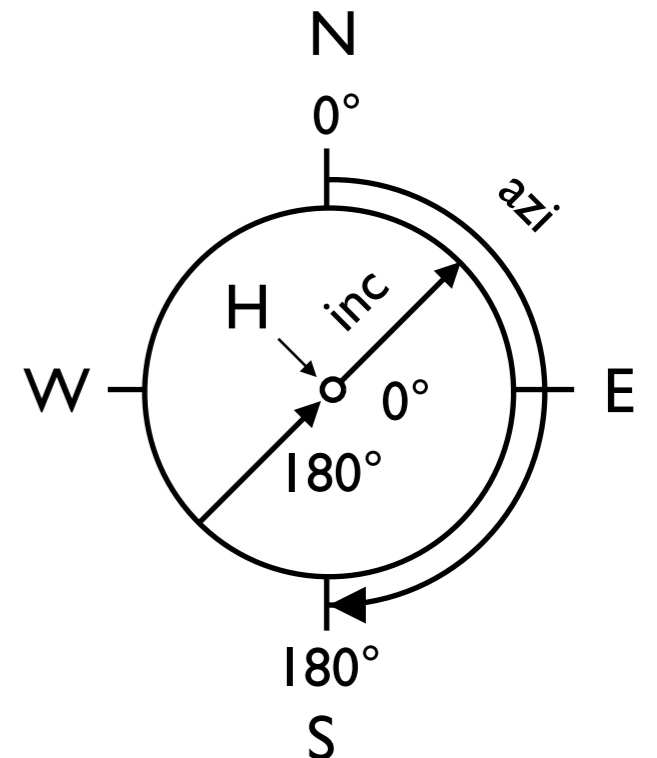
CLUT



CIP-Standard



CIP-Spectrum

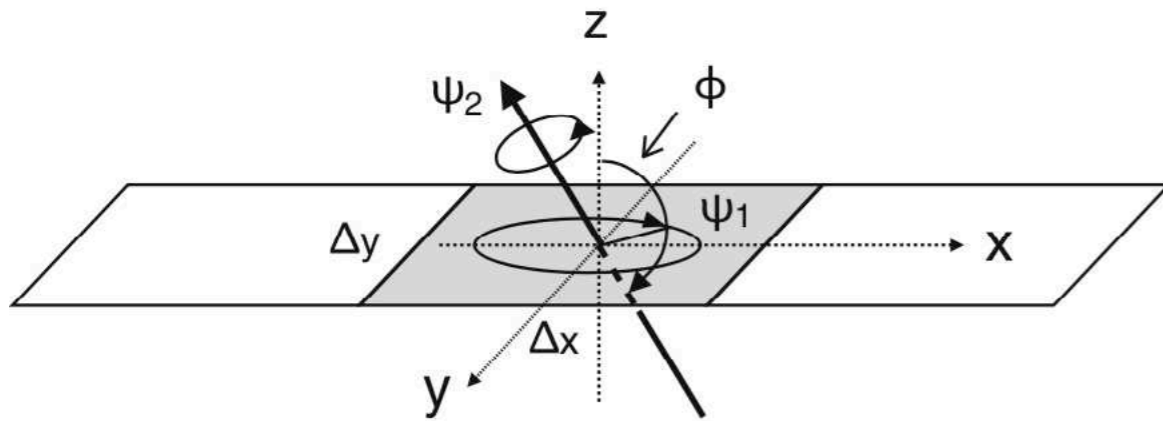




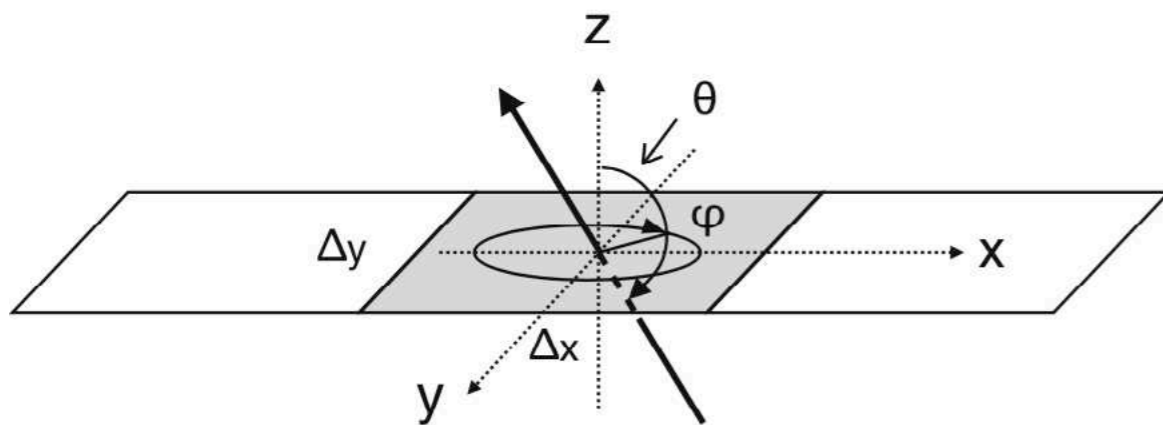
# all kinds of orientations

## EBSD vs. CIP

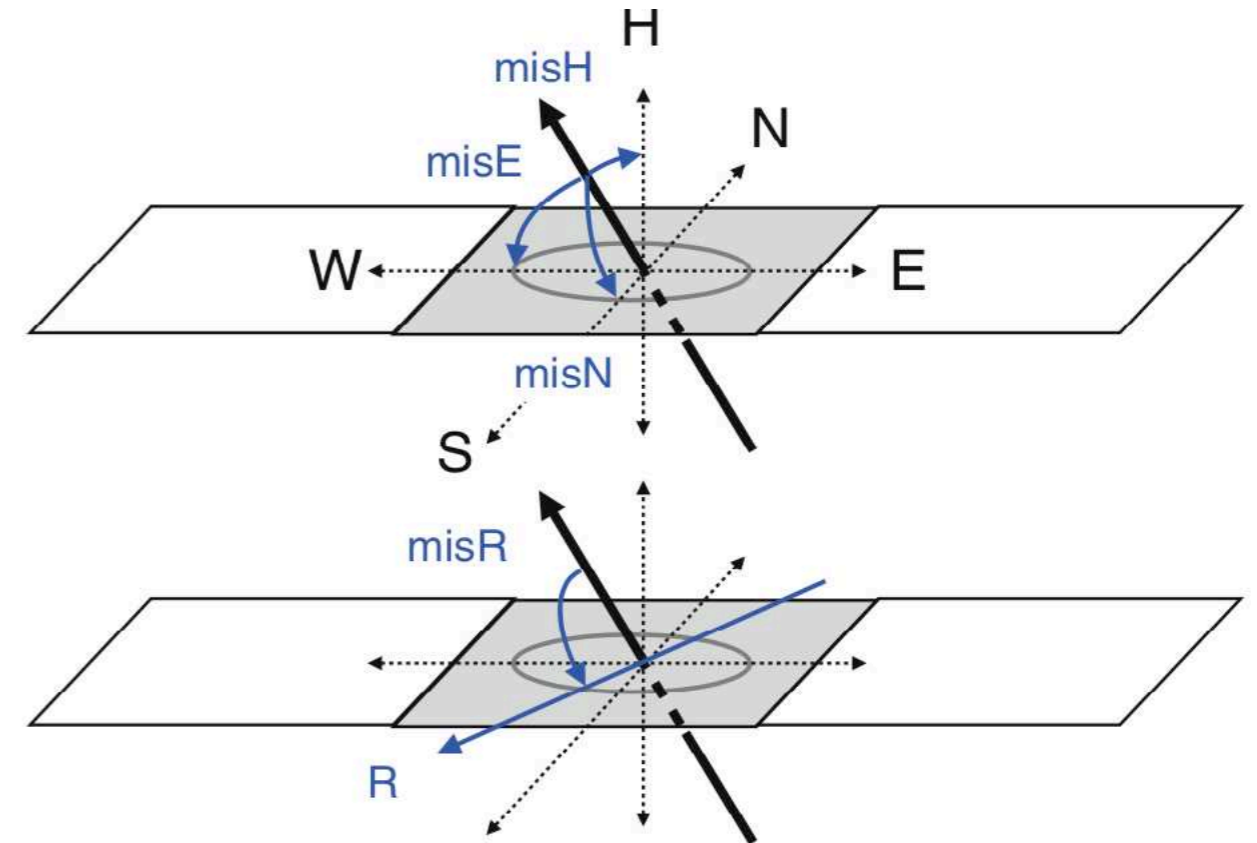
Euler angles ( $\psi_1, \phi, \psi_2$ )



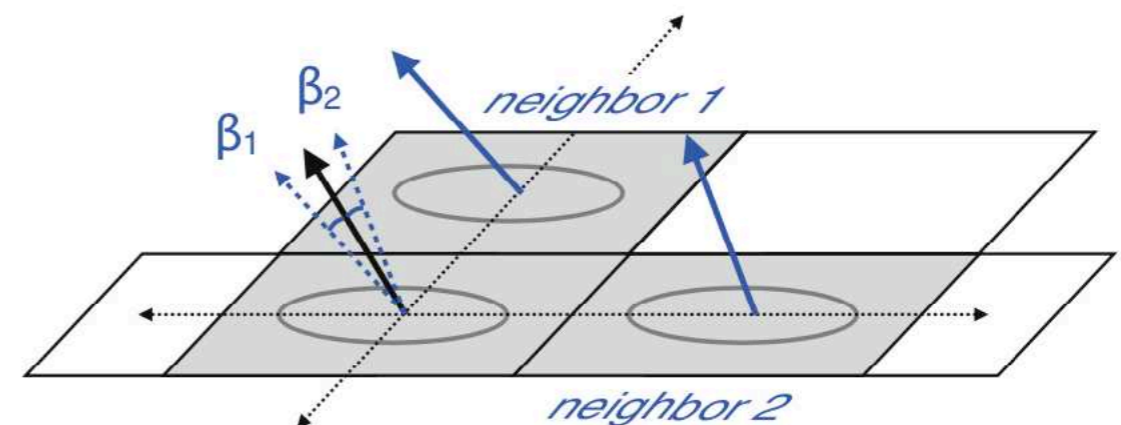
orientation ( $\varphi, \theta$ ) of c-axis



## CIP misorientation



## CIP orientation gradient





# EBSD – full orientation imaging

**IPF coloring**

**Euler coloring**

**ψ<sub>1</sub>**

**φ**

**ψ<sub>2</sub>**

**only 2 angles**

**AZI**

**INC**

**Al element map to mask feldspars**

**c-axis coloring**

**CIP Standard CLUT**

**c-axis coloring**

**CIP Spectrum CLUT**



history of orientation

imaging ...

... as by the CIP method



# 1950 – Bruno Sander

## Achsenverteilungsanalyse (AVA)

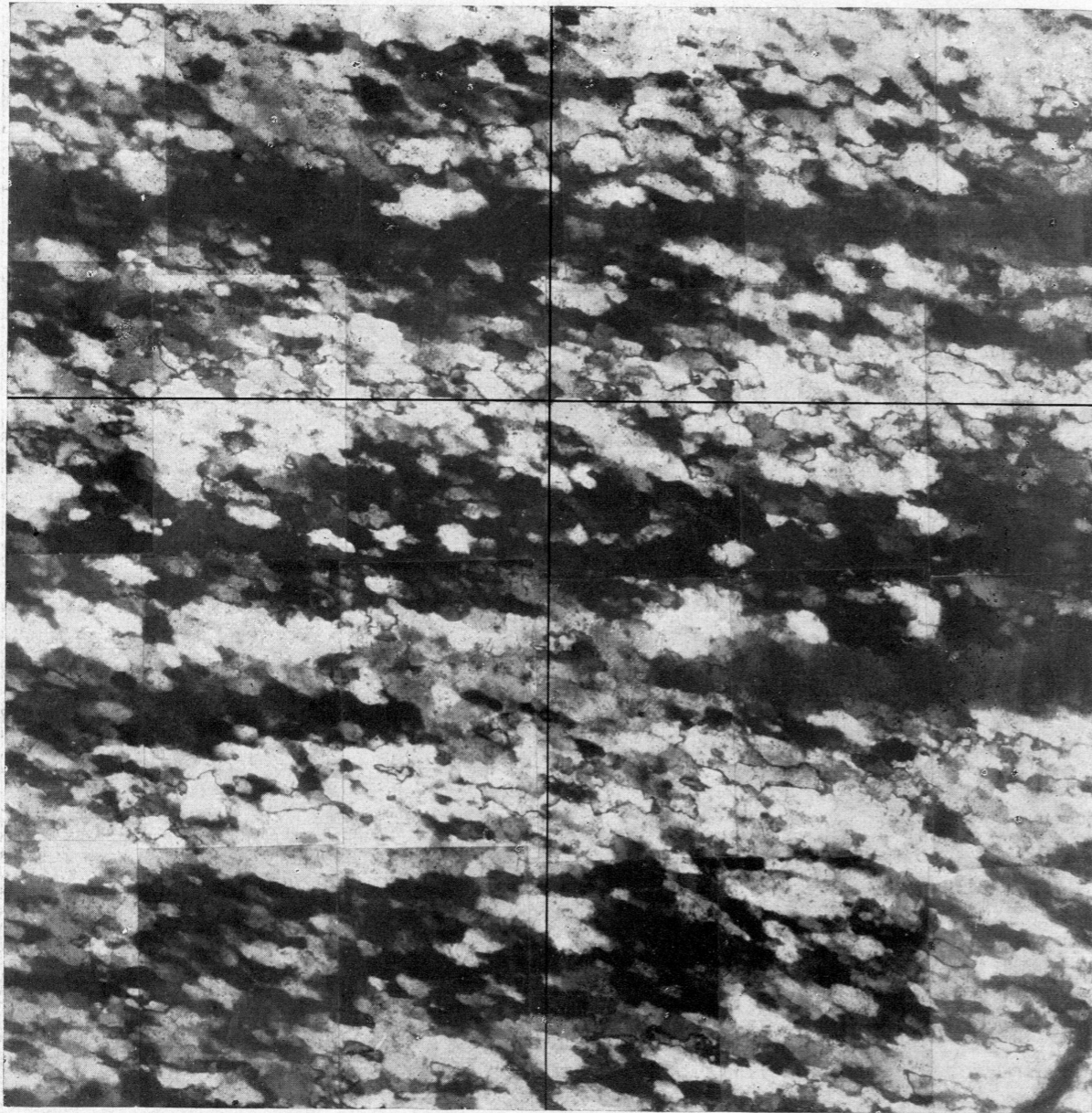


PLATE II.a. Quartzite, Rensenspitze, Bozen; section  $\perp a$ ; crossed Nicols;  $\times 90$

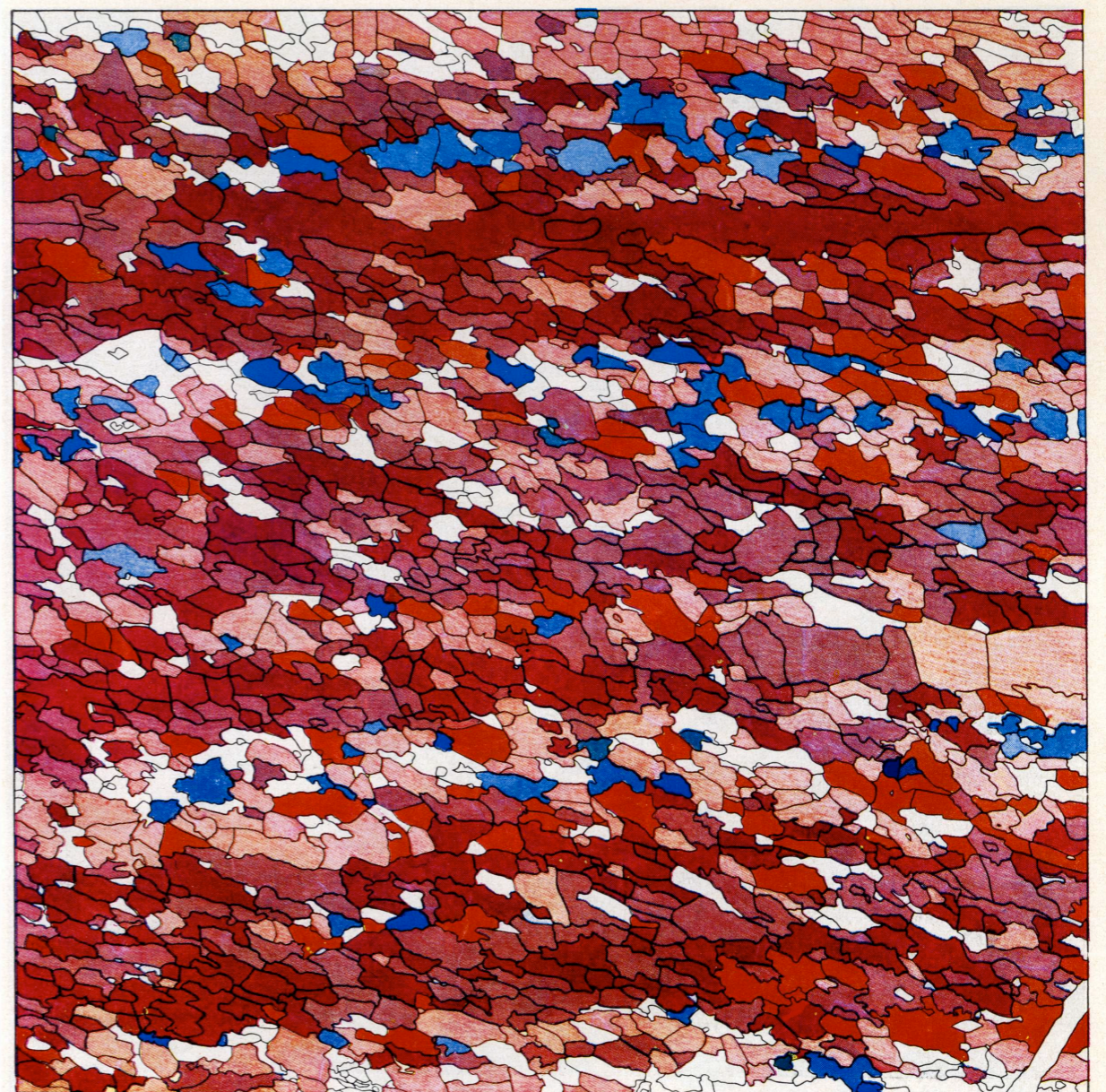
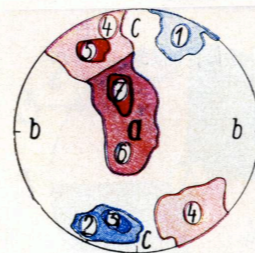


PLATE II.b. Quartzite, Rensenspitze, Bozen; section  $\perp r a$ ; 1629 quartz-axes;  $\times 90$ ; A.V.A. (Ramsauer)



Sander, B. 1950. *Einführung in die Gefügekunde der geologischen Körper, zweiter Teil: Die Korngefüge*. Springer, Wien.



# 1991 – EUG VI, Strasbourg

## QUARTZ C.P.O.

### DERIVATION OF QUARTZ C.P.O. BY MEANS OF DIGITAL IMAGE ANALYSIS

C. PAULI, R. PANOZZO HEILBRONNER, and R. GSCHWIND

(Geol.-Paleontol. Institute & Dept. Scientific Photography, Basle University, Basle, Switzerland)

In cases where X-ray goniometry is inapplicable, quartz c-axis orientations are usually determined by U-stage or photometric measurements. The latter method (Price, Am. J. Sci., 273, p.523-537, 1973) is based on light intensity

variations that result from the rotation of polarizers. The proposed new method works in two significant ways: (a) the light intensity is measured for digitized image matrices, and (b) the polarizers are rotated. In this manner, a color image is created, each image plane corresponding to a different rotation direction.

The white light intensity curve,  $I(\alpha)$ , can be derived from the values of a few selected quartz grains. The curve has the form:  $A \cdot \sin^2(2 \cdot \alpha - 2 \cdot B) + C$ , and the azimuth of a grain can be derived. At low inclination measurements this method is perfect, at higher inclinations it is less accurate.

periodicity in order to remove reference filters and



Christian Pauli

## SEGMENTATION

### QUARTZ C-AXIS ORIENTATION AS BASIS FOR IMAGE SEGMENTATION

R. PANOZZO HEILBRONNER, R. GSCHWIND, and C. PAULI

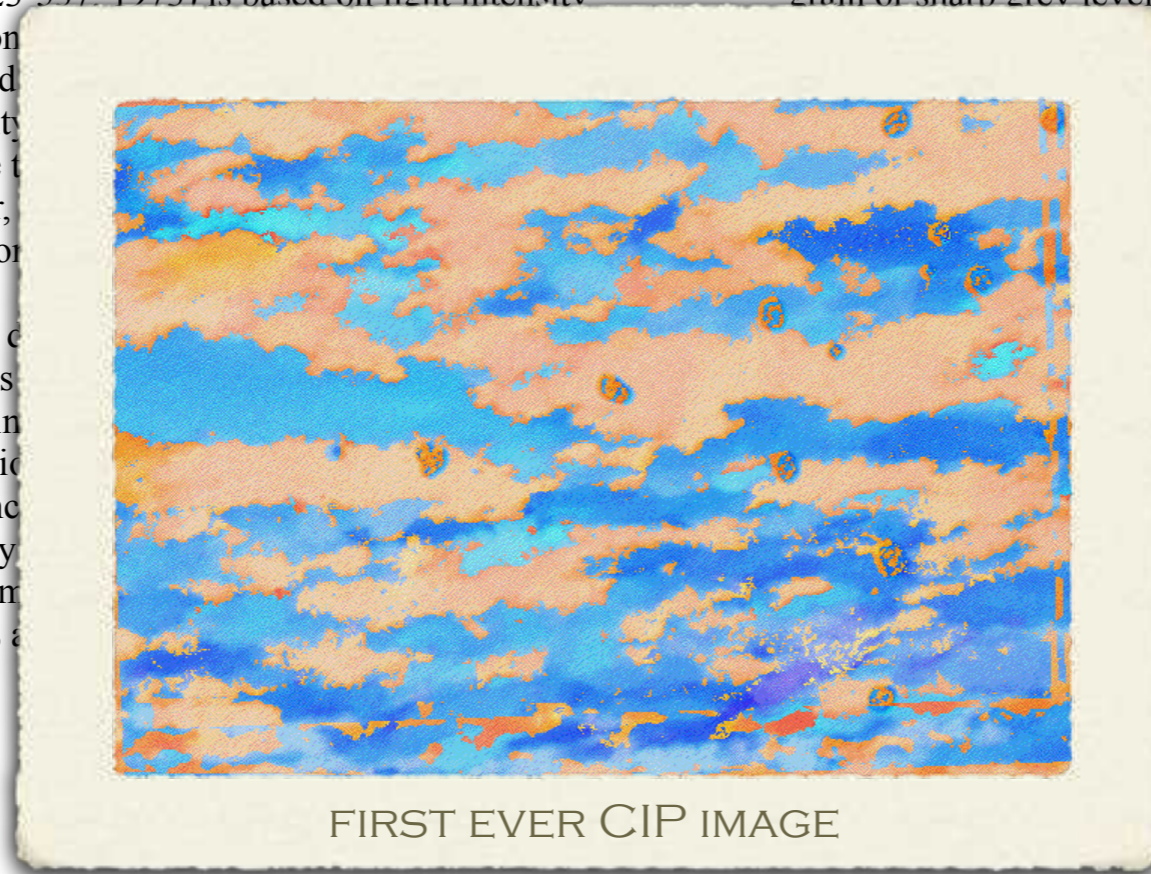
(Dept. Scientific Photography & Geol.-Paleontol. Institute, Basle University, Basle, Switzerland)

Conventional segmentation techniques are based on recognition of patterns or grey level differences that occur within an image. Constant grey level within a grain or sharp grey level differences at grain boundaries are the underlying

most successful segmentation algorithms. The proposed method is based on the grey level that may be recorded for a given grain orientation with respect to the crossed polarizers. Using this information (i.e., digitization of a stationary image at incremental rotation angles) is here proposed as basis for segmentation. Instead of first segmenting an image and then assigning a value to each segmented grain, first the orientation of each pixel is determined and then the segmentation is based on orientation differences.

This method is necessary: (a) for the derivation of a stationary thin section at various rotation angles,  $\alpha$ , of  $20^\circ$ , nine image planes are necessary. (b) for the derivation of the  $I(\alpha)$  curve (see Pauli et al, this volume). (c) for the derivation of the  $\theta$  and inclination from  $I(\alpha)$  curve. This derivation is based on the fact that pixels exhibiting low correlation coefficients are rejected. (d) for region filtering: pixel areas with identical absolute deviation are interpreted as connected. (e) for edge detection: sharp changes in absolute orientation are detected at grain boundaries. (Possibility of differentiating subgrain and grain boundaries.)

The orientation of azimuth,  $\theta$ , and inclination,  $\phi$ , such that close spatial orientation is expressed by close similarity of colour (high resolution A.V.A.).



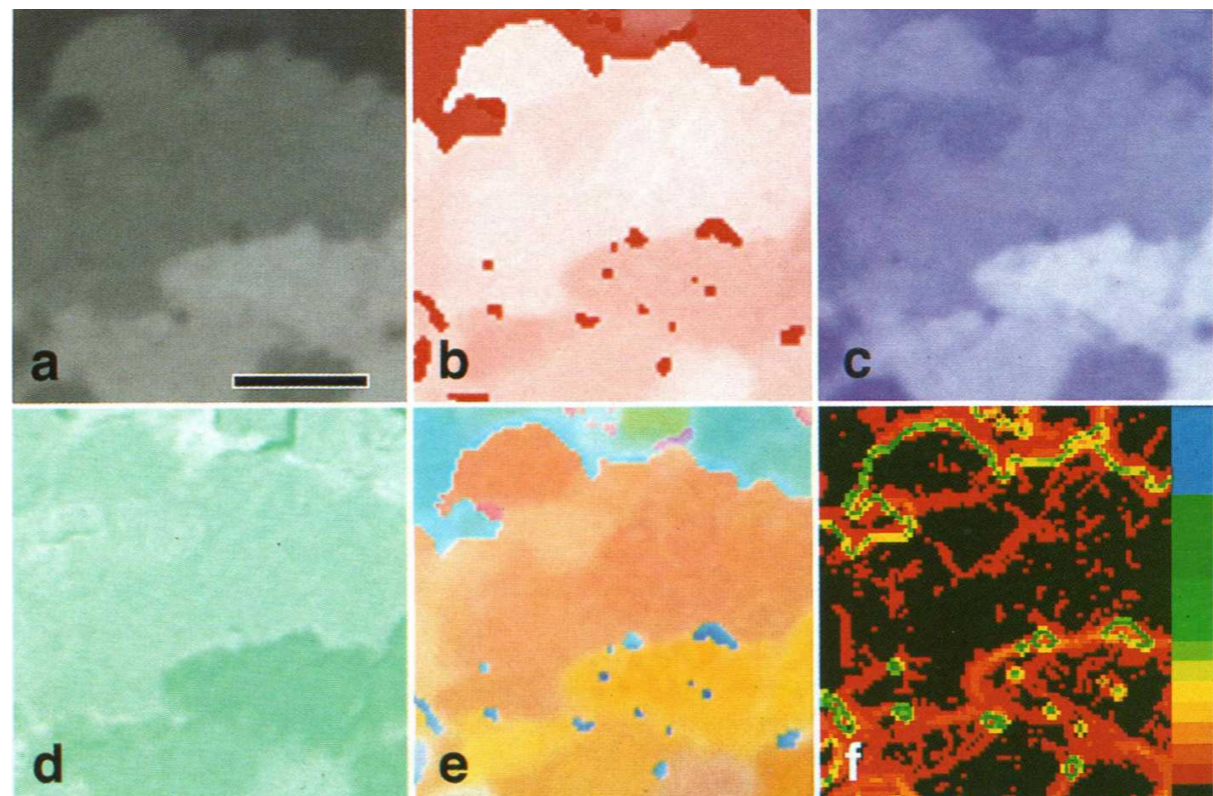
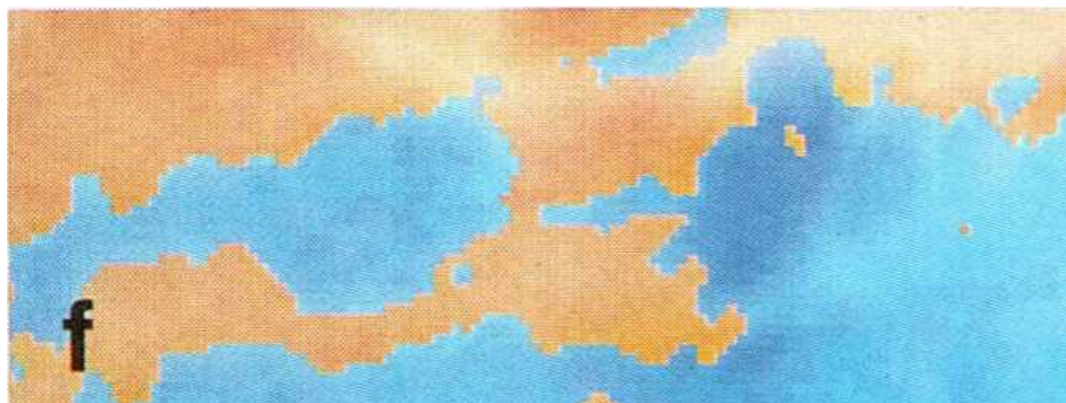
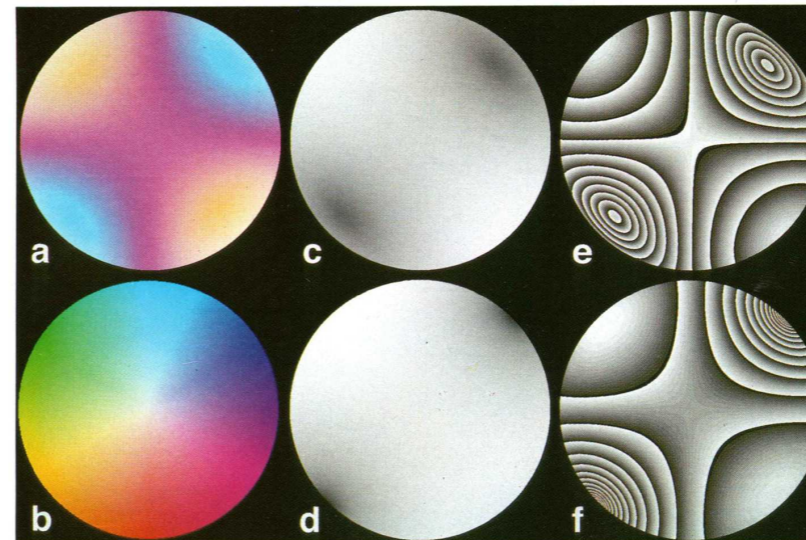
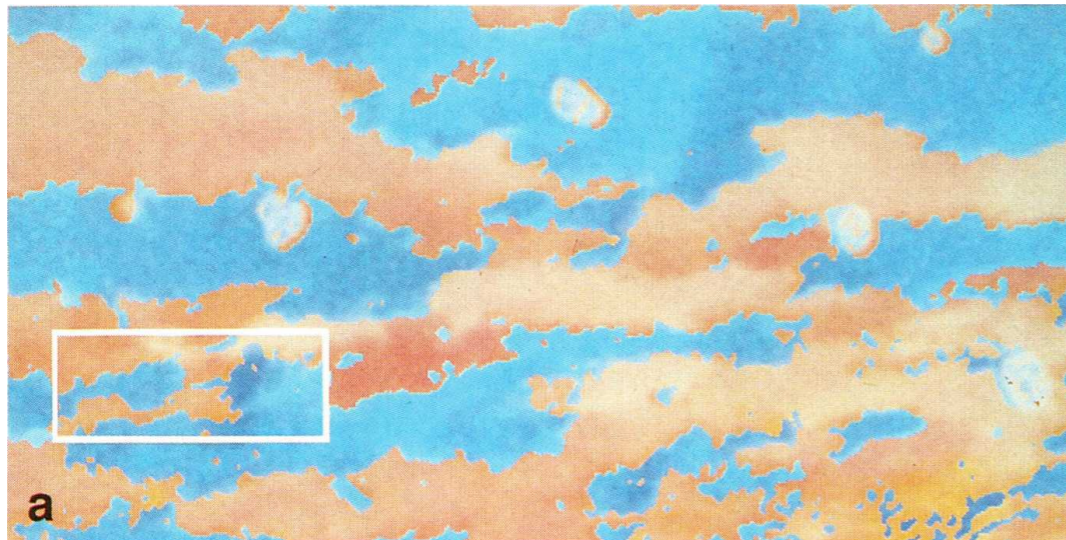
FIRST EVER CIP IMAGE

spatial orientation is expressed by close similarity of colour (high resolution A.V.A.).



# 1993 – publication, JSG

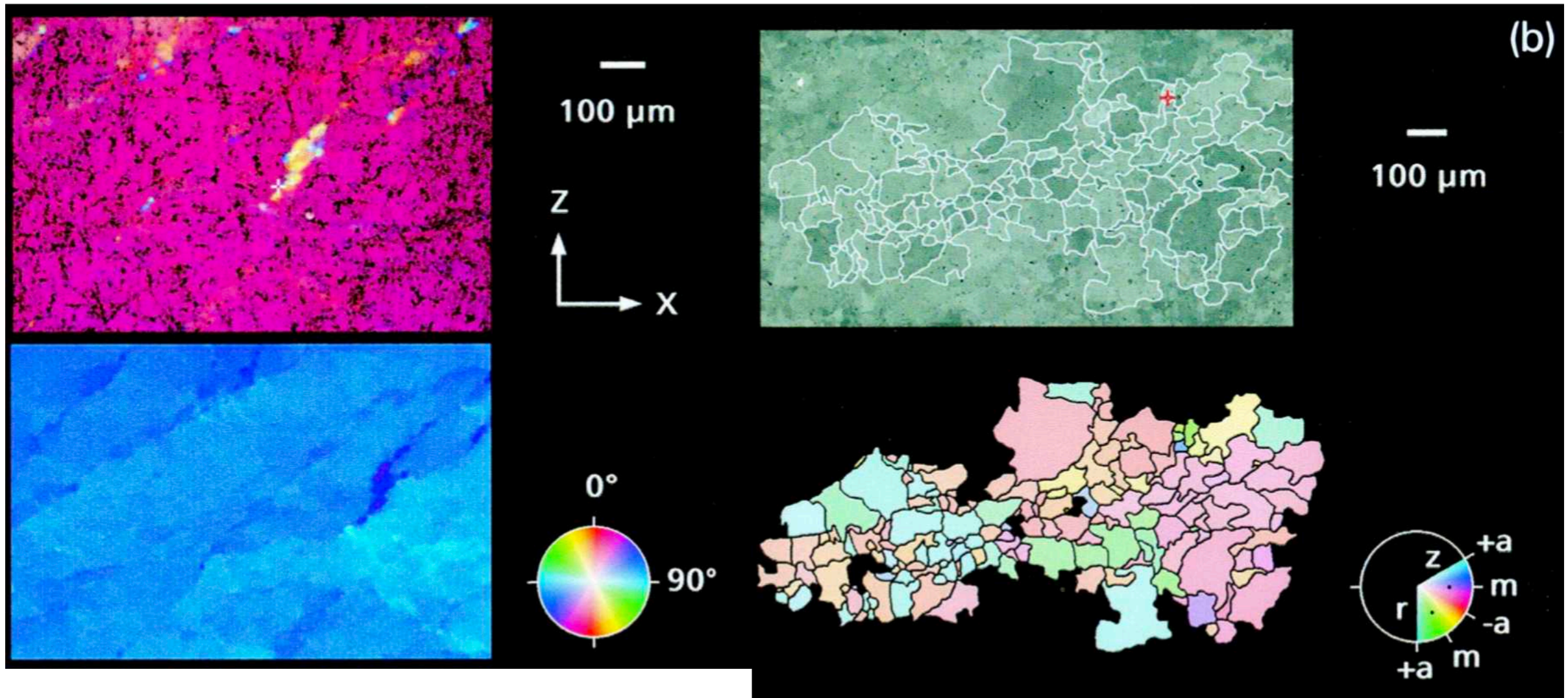
(computer-integrated polarisation microscopy)



*Heilbronner, R.P. & Pauli, C. (1993) Integrated spatial and orientation analysis of quartz c-axes by computer-aided microscopy, JSG, 15, p.369*



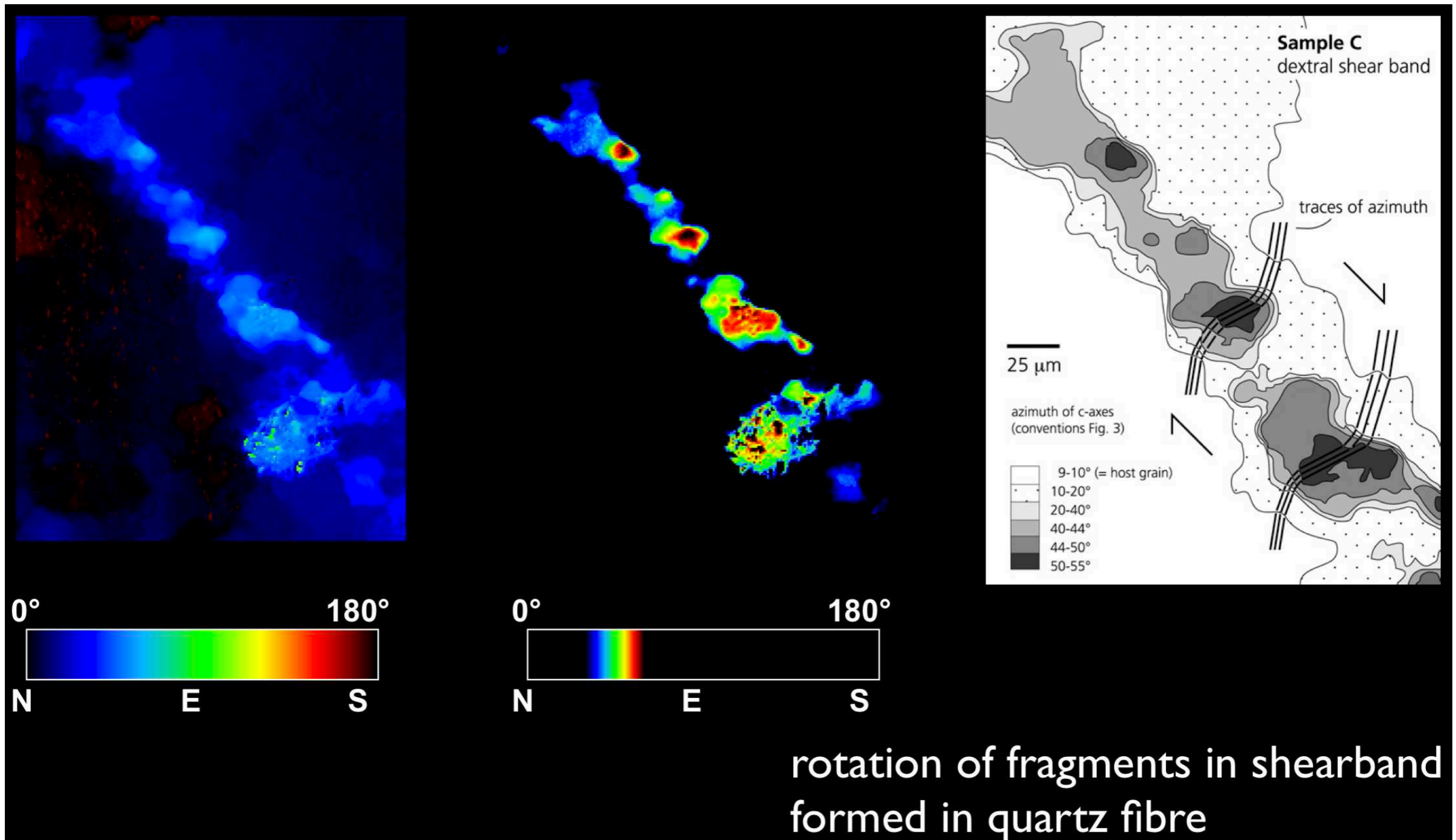
# 1999 – publication Tectonophysics



Mirjam van Daalen, Renée Heilbronner, Karsten Kunze (1999) Orientation analysis of localized shear deformation in quartz fibres at the brittle–ductile transition, *Tectonophysics*, 303, 83.



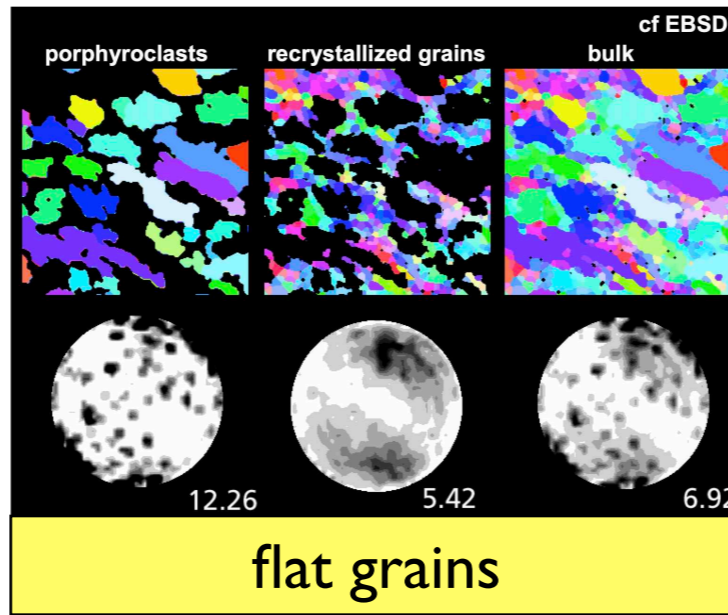
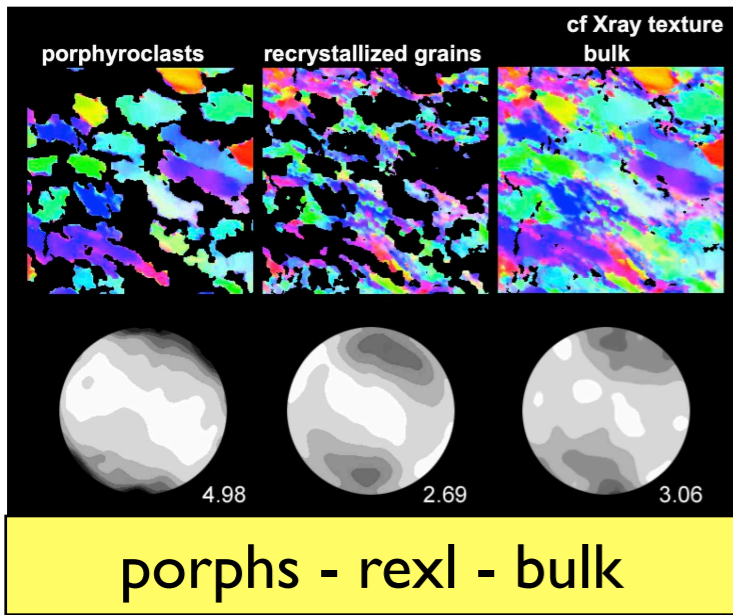
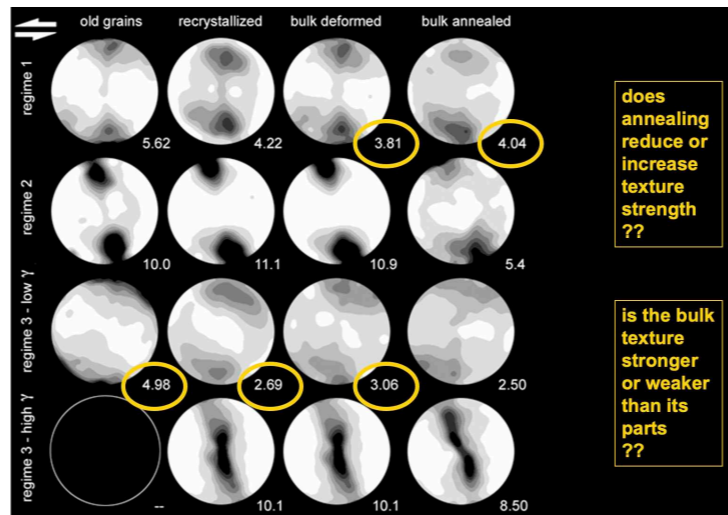
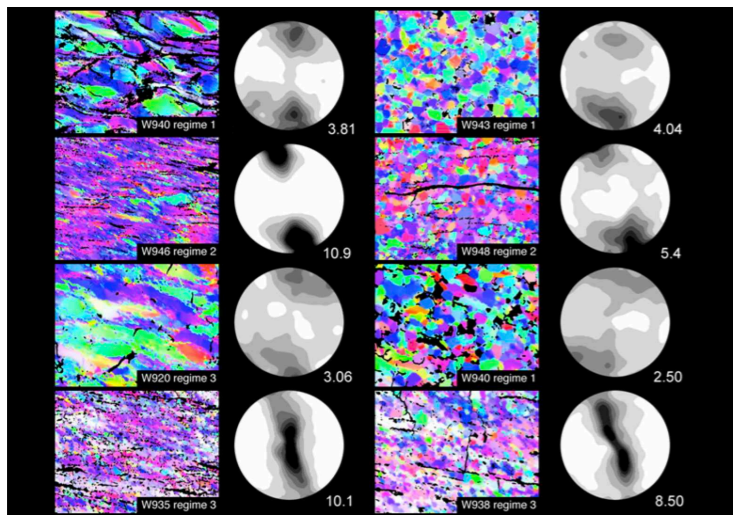
# 1999 – publication Tectonophysics



Mirjam van Daalen, Renée Heilbronner, Karsten Kunze (1999) Orientation analysis of localized shear deformation in quartz fibres at the brittle–ductile transition, *Tectonophysics*, 303, 83.



# 2002 – IAMG, Berlin



## COMPARISON OF COARSE- AND FINE-GRAINED QUARTZ TEXTURES USING THE POLE DENSITY INDEX (PDI)

### Conclusions (of long abstract)

We therefore propose that new - grain independent - measures such as the PDI introduced in this paper be adopted for the quantification of the strengths of textures (and ultimately for texture).

With respect to assessing the strength of c-axis pole figures before and after annealing, for example, the PDI performs the classical CPOmax measure.

The theory in this paper is not restricted to CPOmax (c-axis pole figures) but to all CPOs that are derived from any type of image. It also applies to incompletely annealed matrices. This is of particular importance in the context of partial pole figures which are obtained by masking out certain parts of the orientation image.

**Strength of texture?!**

**mathematical definition of PDI**

**pole density index (PDI)**

$$I[\hat{P}_c(\circ)] = \int \hat{P}_c^2(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} = \int \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n k(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \right)^2 d\mathbf{r} = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n V_k(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j)$$

**expected value of PDI**

$$e(I[\hat{P}_c]) = \int e(\hat{P}_c(\mathbf{r})^2) d\mathbf{r} = \int e[\hat{P}_c(\mathbf{r})]^2 d\mathbf{r} + \int \text{var}(\hat{P}_c(\mathbf{r})) d\mathbf{r}$$

second term depends on no. of c-axes and spatial dependencies

$$g\text{var}(\hat{P}_c(\circ)) = \int \text{var}(\hat{P}_c(\mathbf{r})) d\mathbf{r} \propto n > 0$$

**Unbiased estimator of I [P<sub>c</sub>]**

$$\hat{I}[P_c] = I[\hat{P}_c] - g\text{var}(\hat{P}_c(\circ))$$

		max of CPO		pole density index (PDI)		different types of CPO
		def.	ann.	def.	ann.	
		3.86	3.84	5.042	3.771	•small circles
		13.87	6.99	10.53	6.282	•single maximum
		3.67	3.44	5.027	4.727	•small circles
		6.77	5.74	2.290	2.400	•single girdle

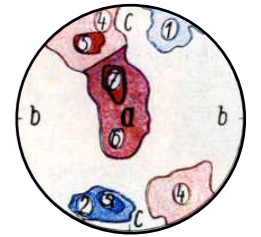
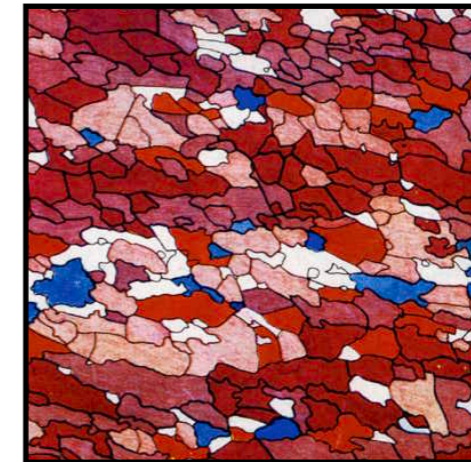
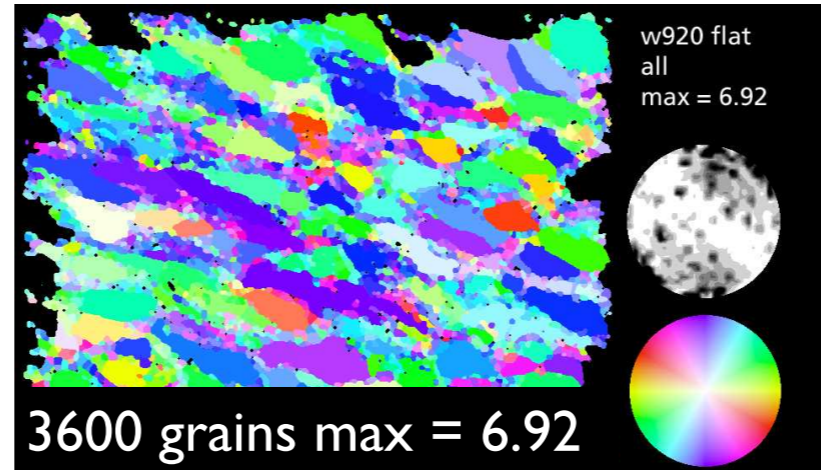
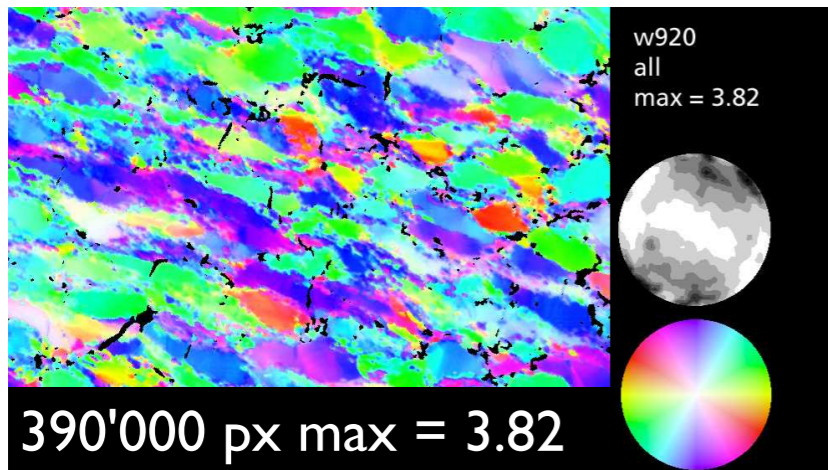
*Renée Heilbronner, K. Gerald van den Boogaart, H. Schaeben: Comparison of coarse- and fine-grained quartz textures using the pole density index (PDI)*



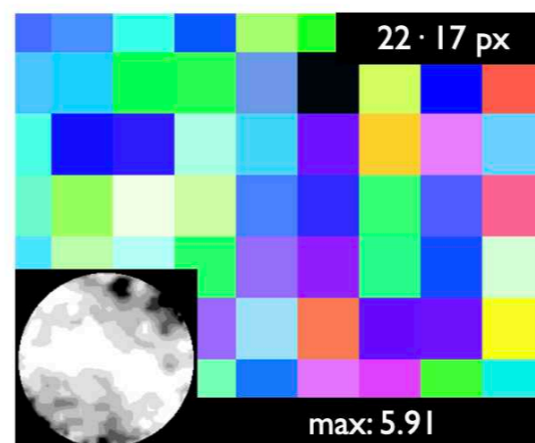
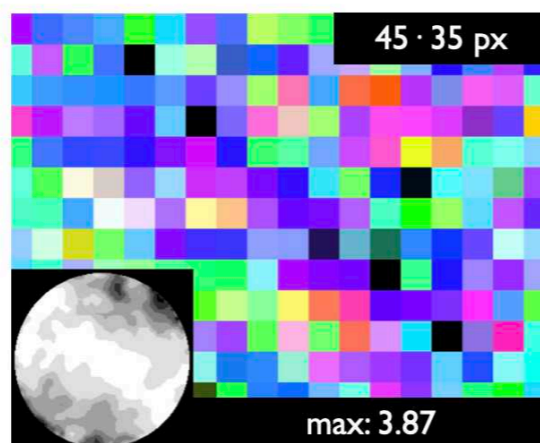
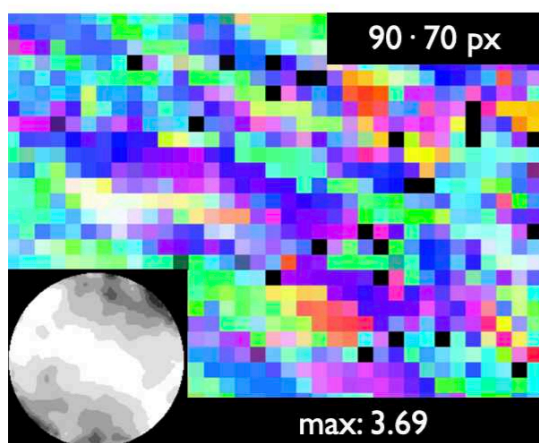
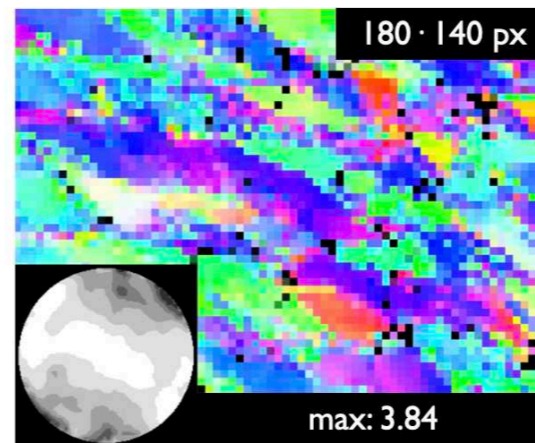
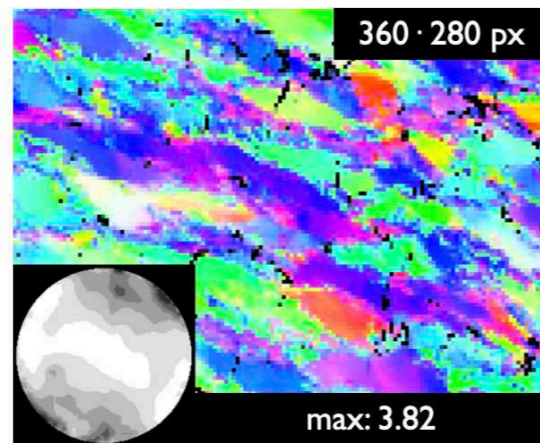
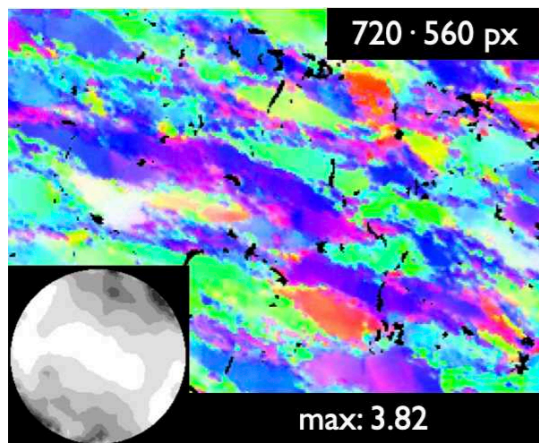
# 2002 – IAMG, Berlin

I axis-orientation / pixel

I axis-orientation / grain



pixels versus grains



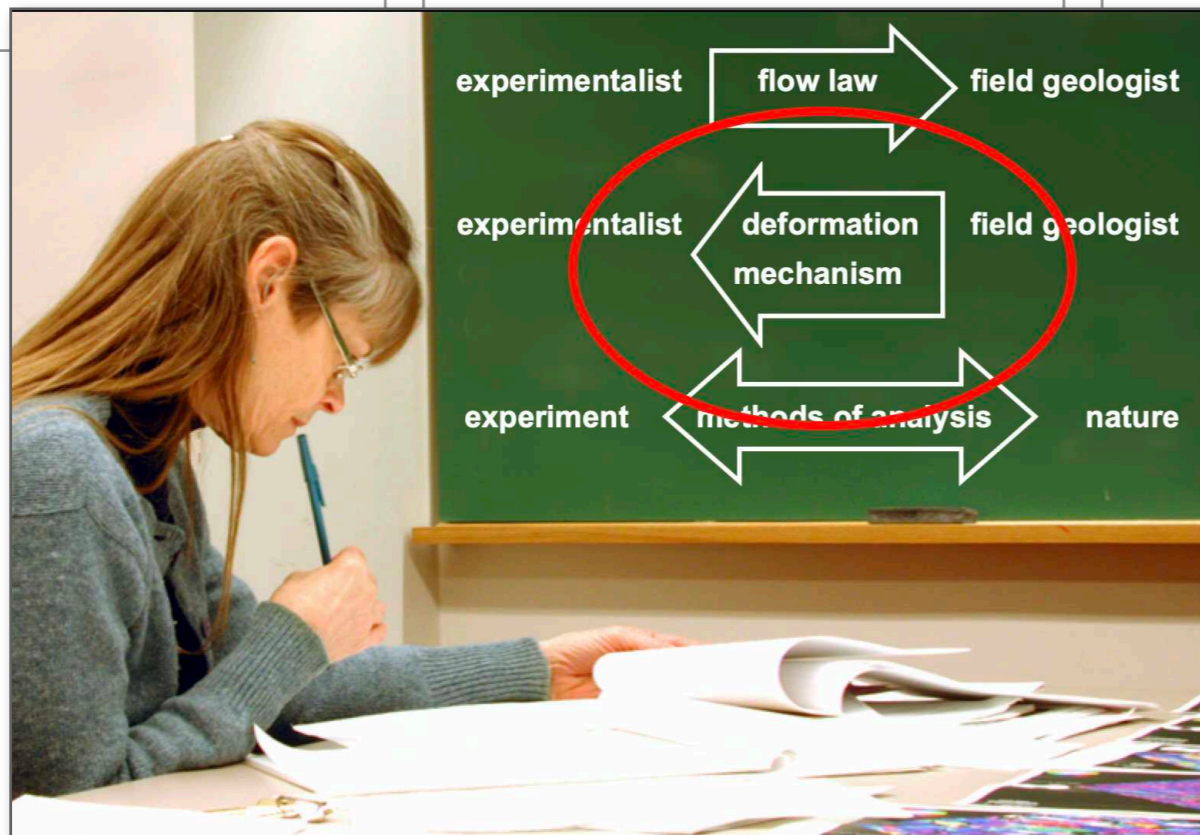
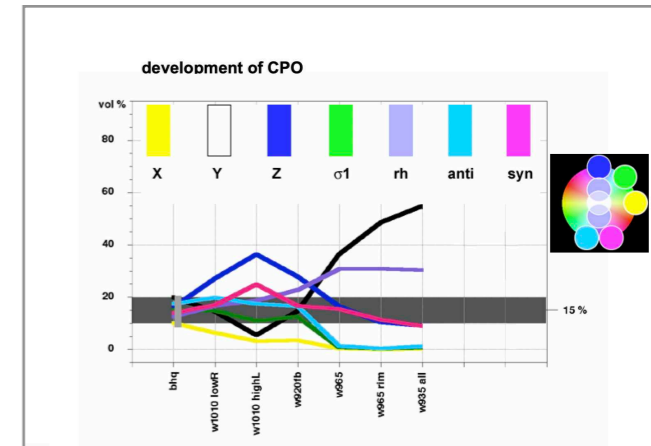
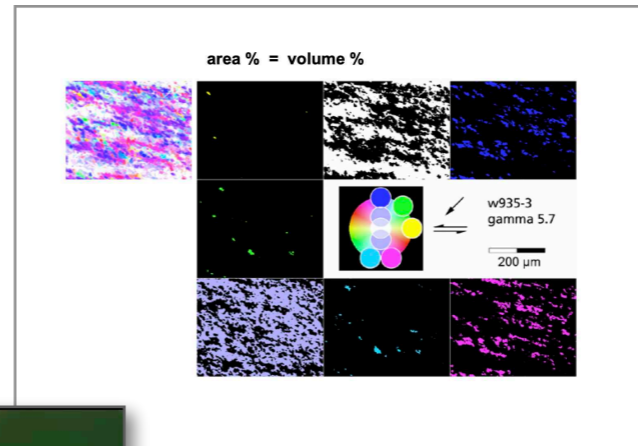
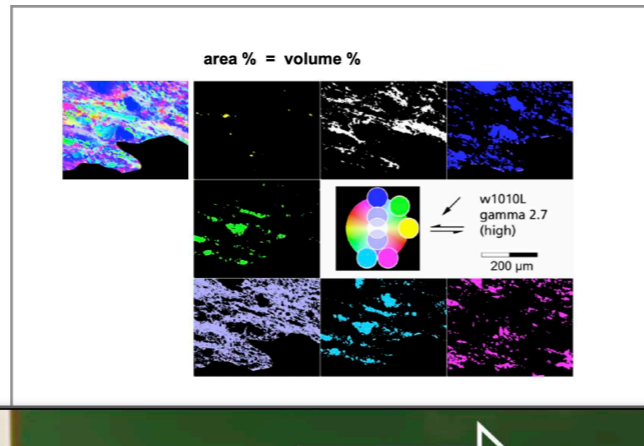
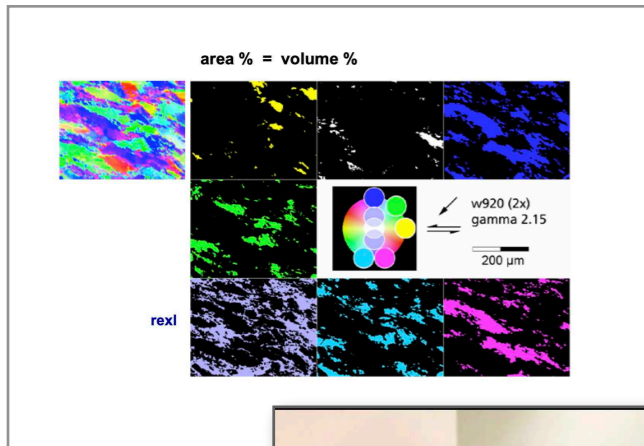
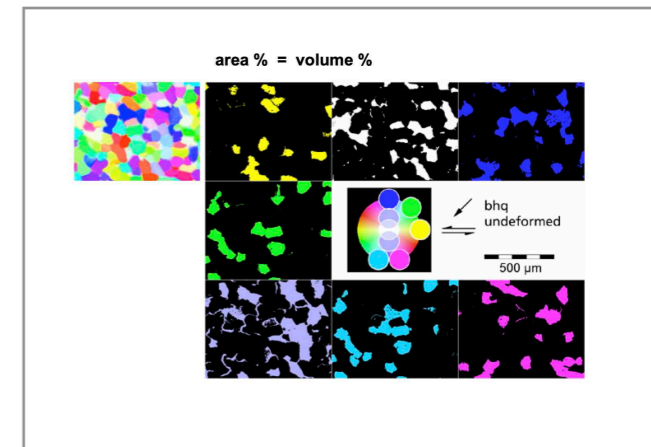
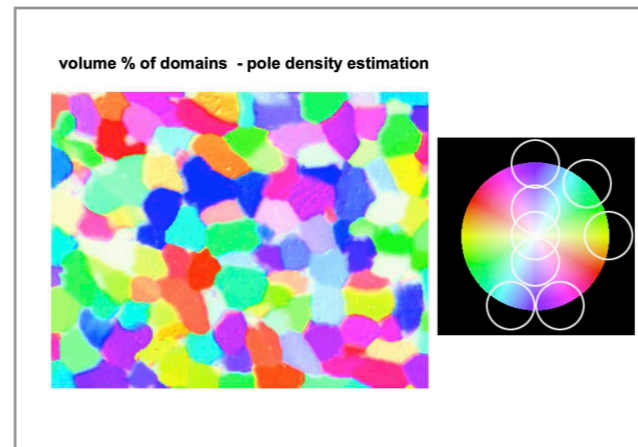
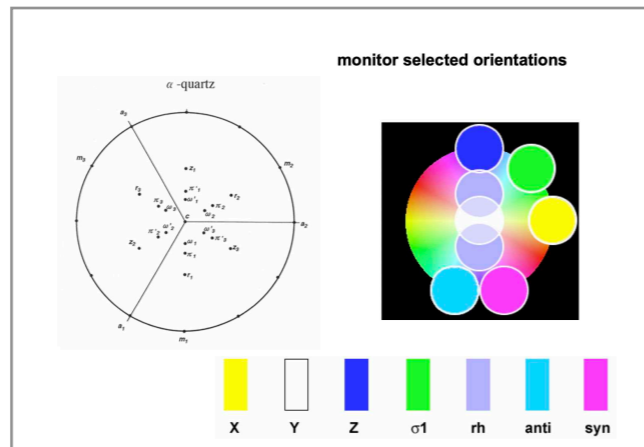
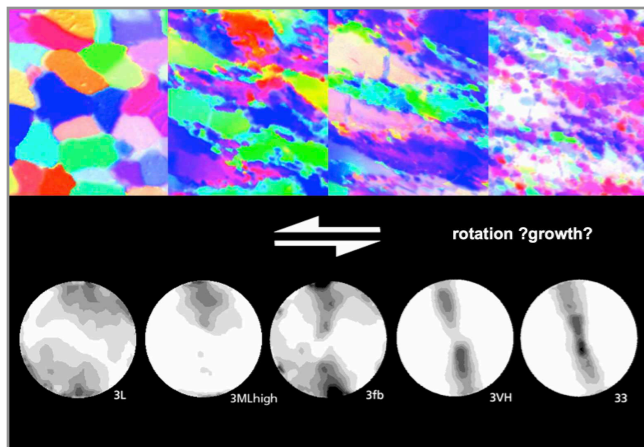
"enlarging the pixel" – increasing sampling steps

approaching the "infinite texture" of single crystals...

*Renée Heilbronner, K. Gerald van den Boogaart, H. Schaeben: Comparison of coarse- and fine-grained quartz textures using the pole density index (PDI)*



# 2002 – Penrose, Monte Verità

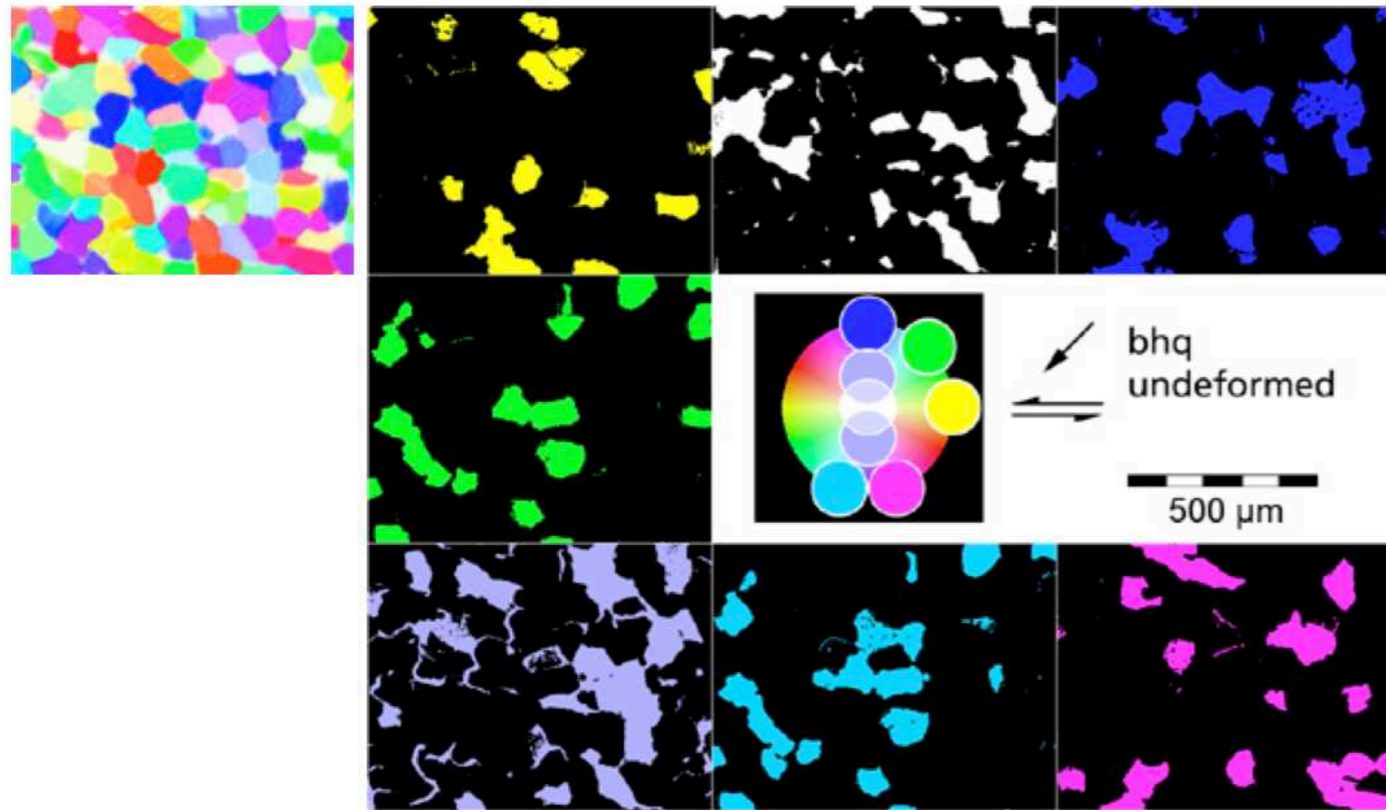


Renée Heilbronner (2002) Microfabric development in nature and experiment.



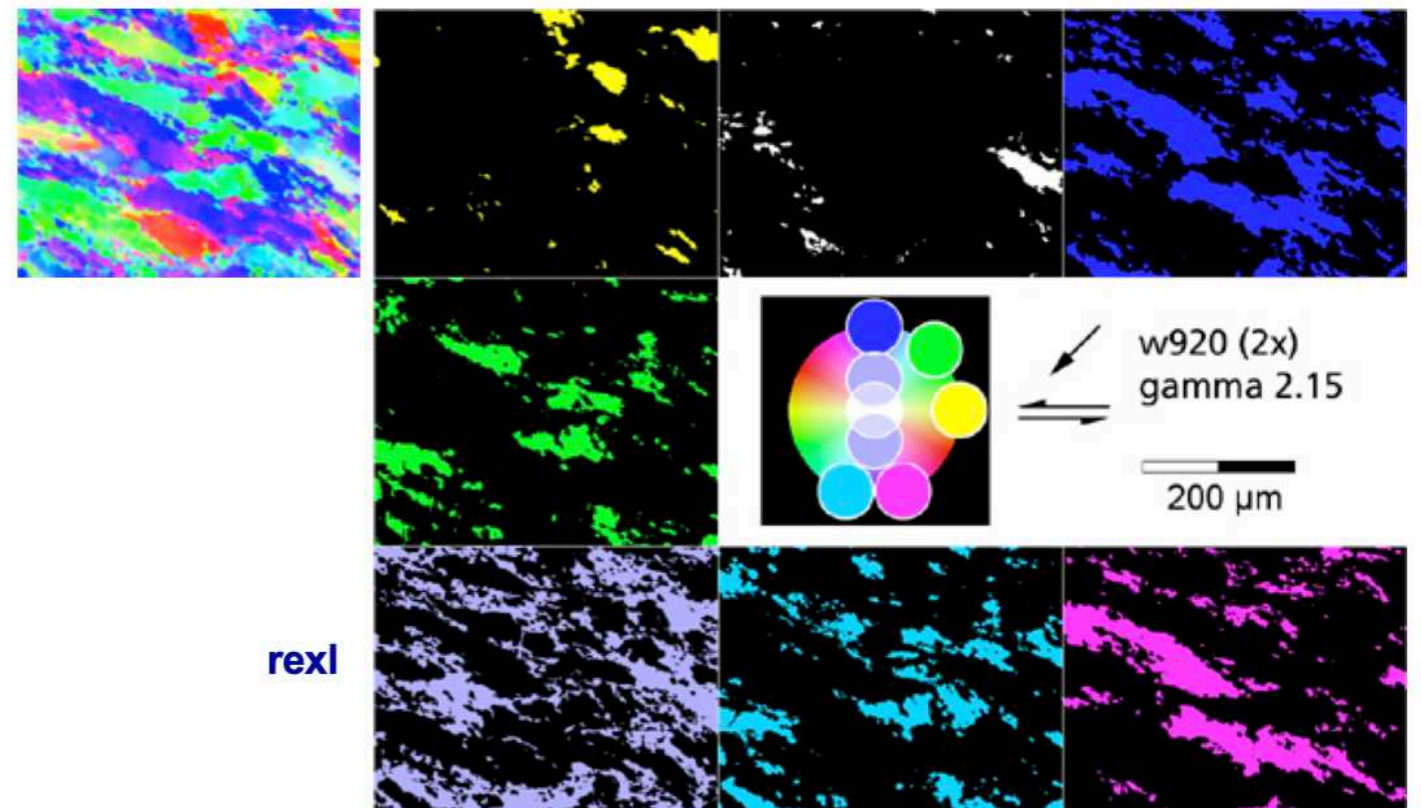
# 2002 – Penrose, Monte Verità

area % = volume %



volume fraction and  
shape of texture  
domains

area % = volume %



rexl



# 2003 – GSJ, Shizuoka

## misorientation images for segmentation Lazy Grain Boundaries



with respect to East

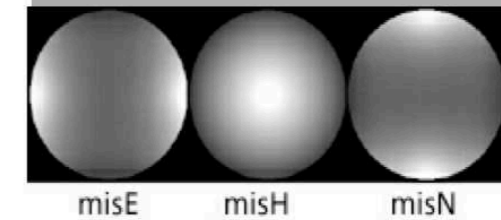


with respect to Heaven



with respect to North

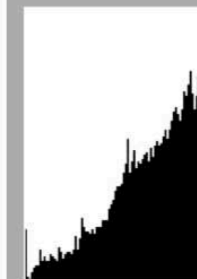
misorientation images  
w/r to reference direction:  
East, North, Heaven/Hell



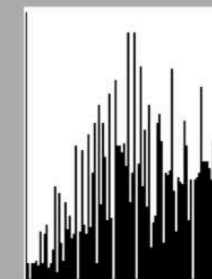
misE misH misN



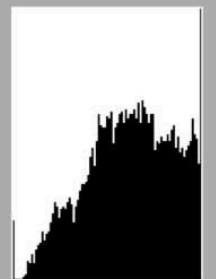
values from  $0^\circ$  to  $90^\circ$   
90 of 255 greyscale values



East



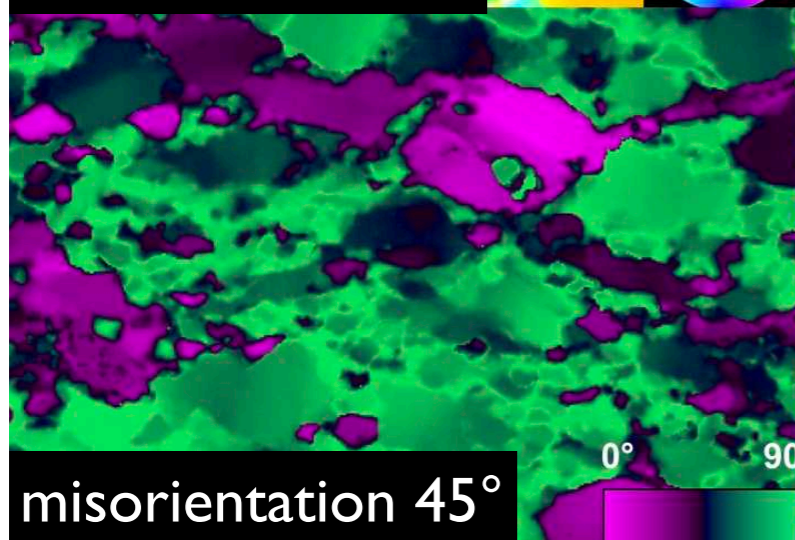
Heaven



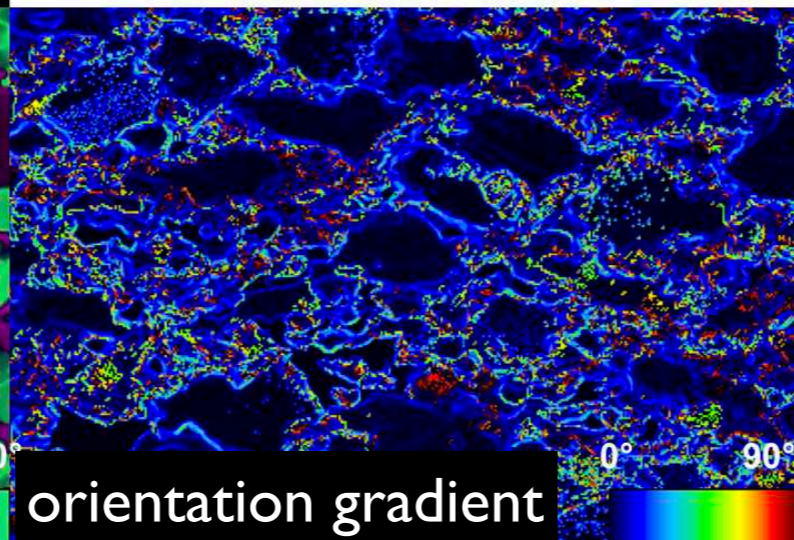
North



c-axis orientation



misorientation  $45^\circ$

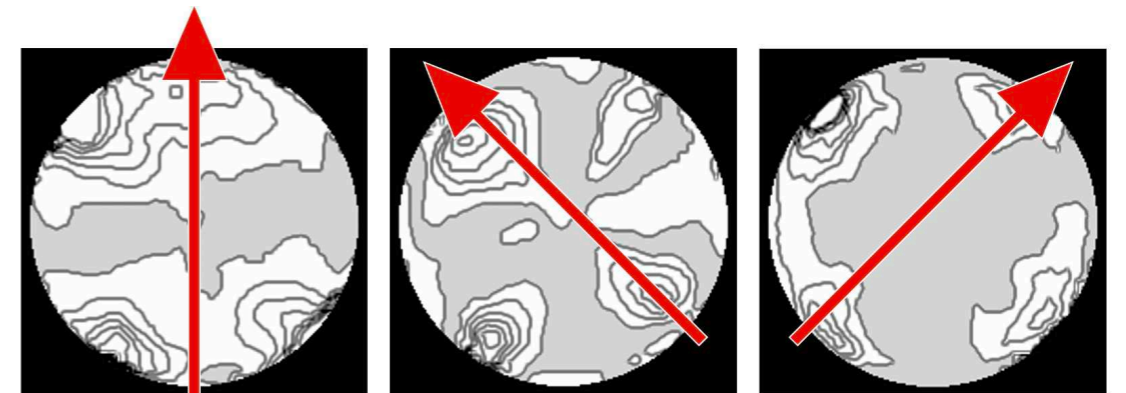
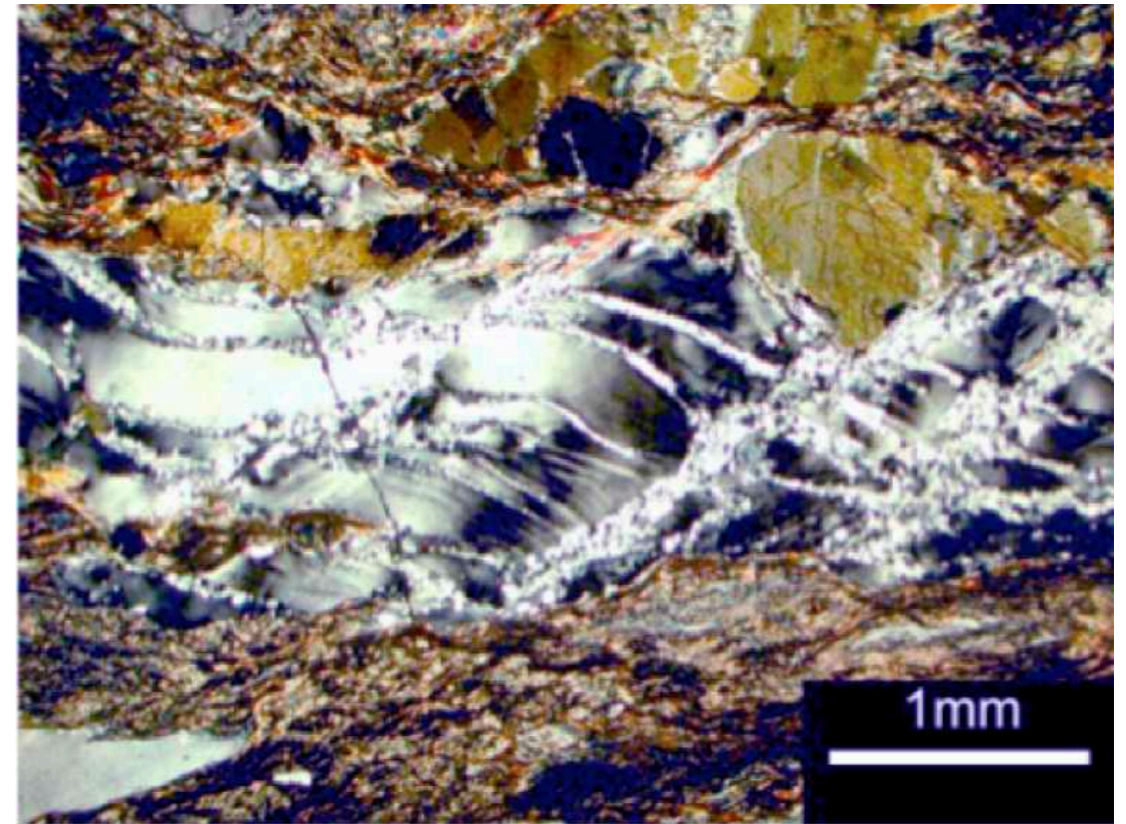
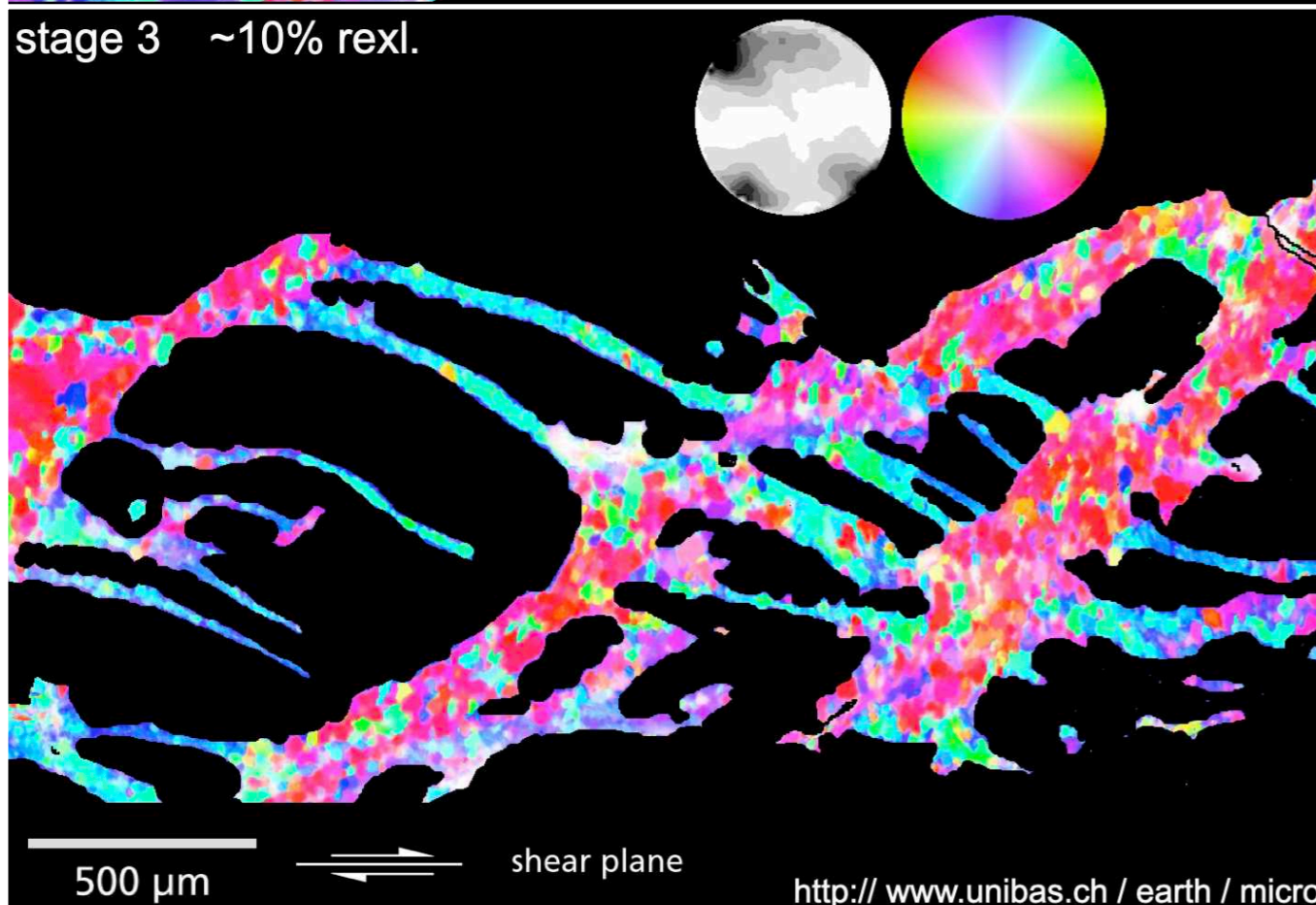
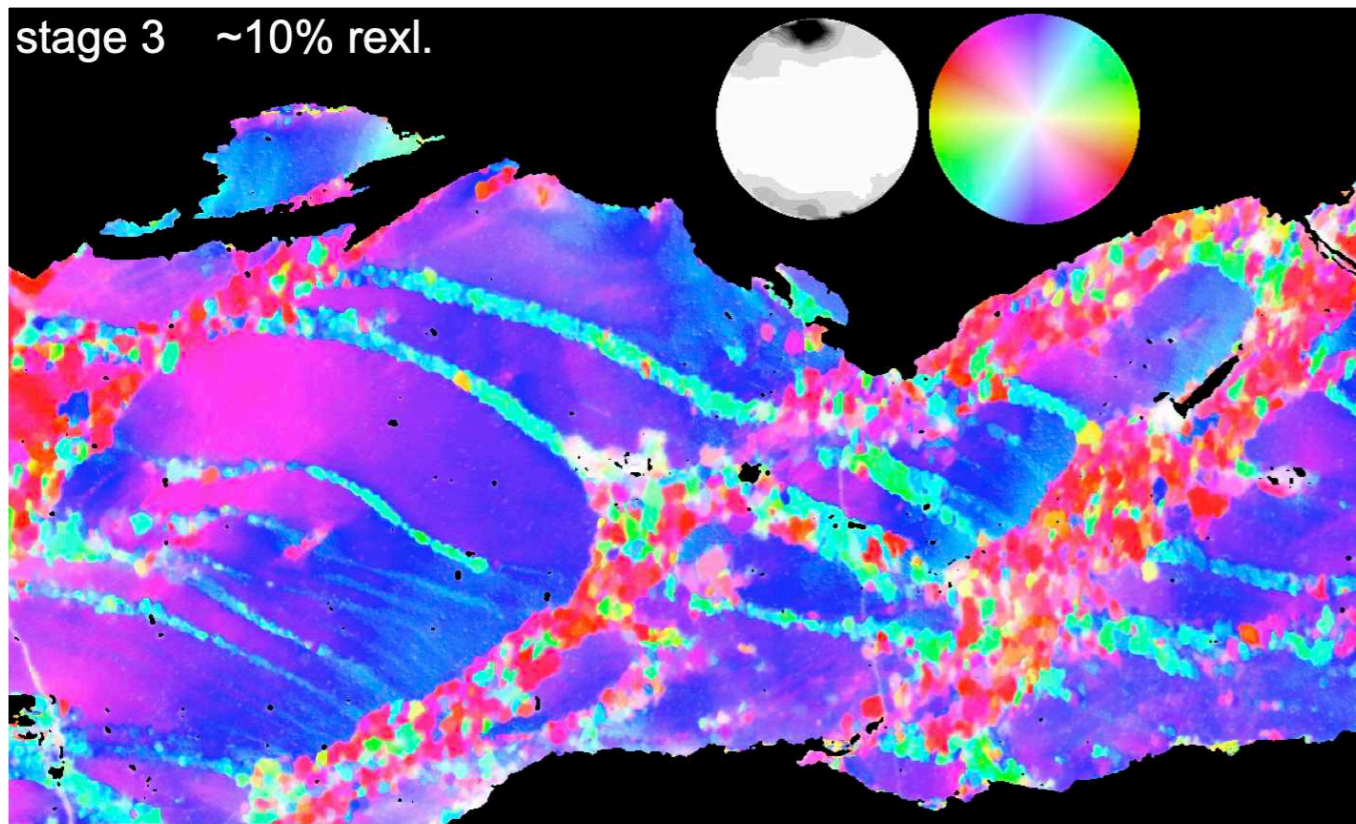


orientation gradient

*Renée Heilbronner (2003) Quantification of dislocation creep microstructures in quartz: comparison of experimental and natural deformation.*



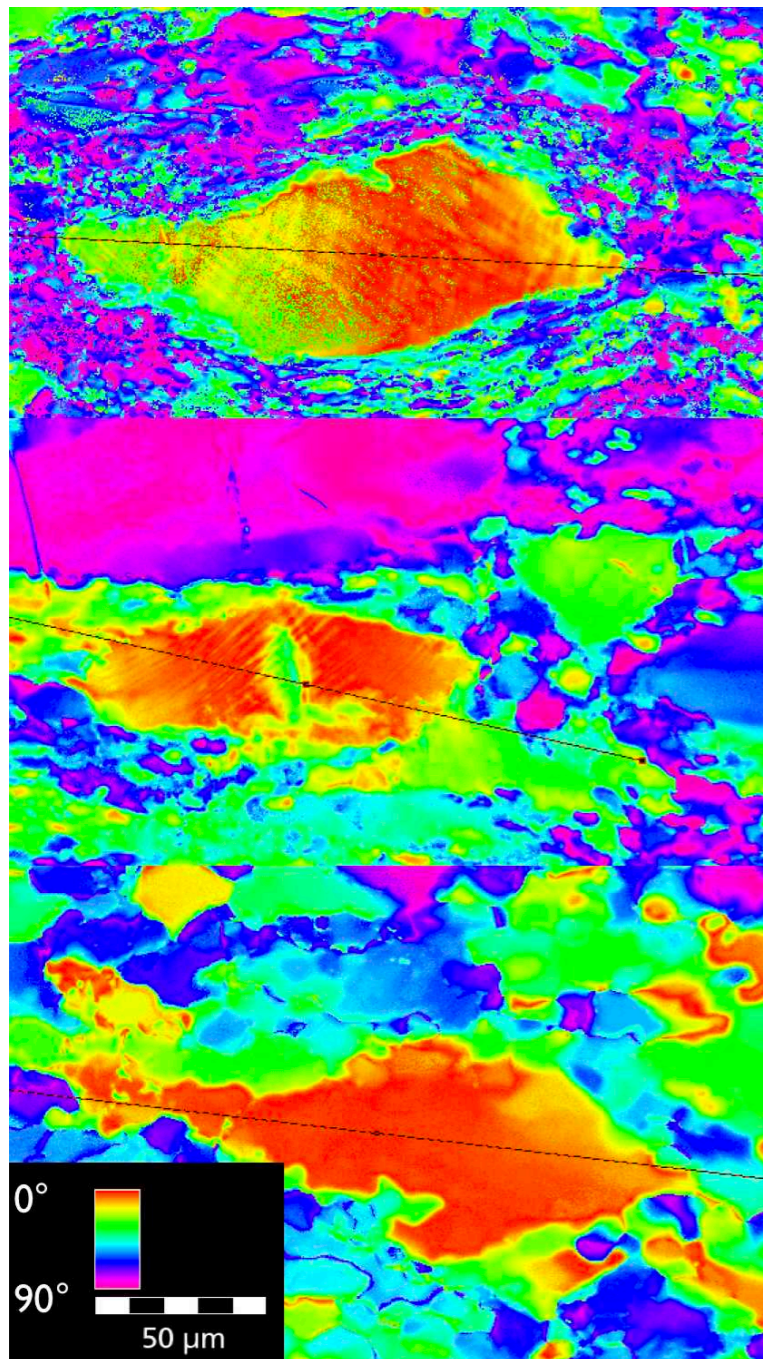
# 2005 – GSA, Salt Lake City



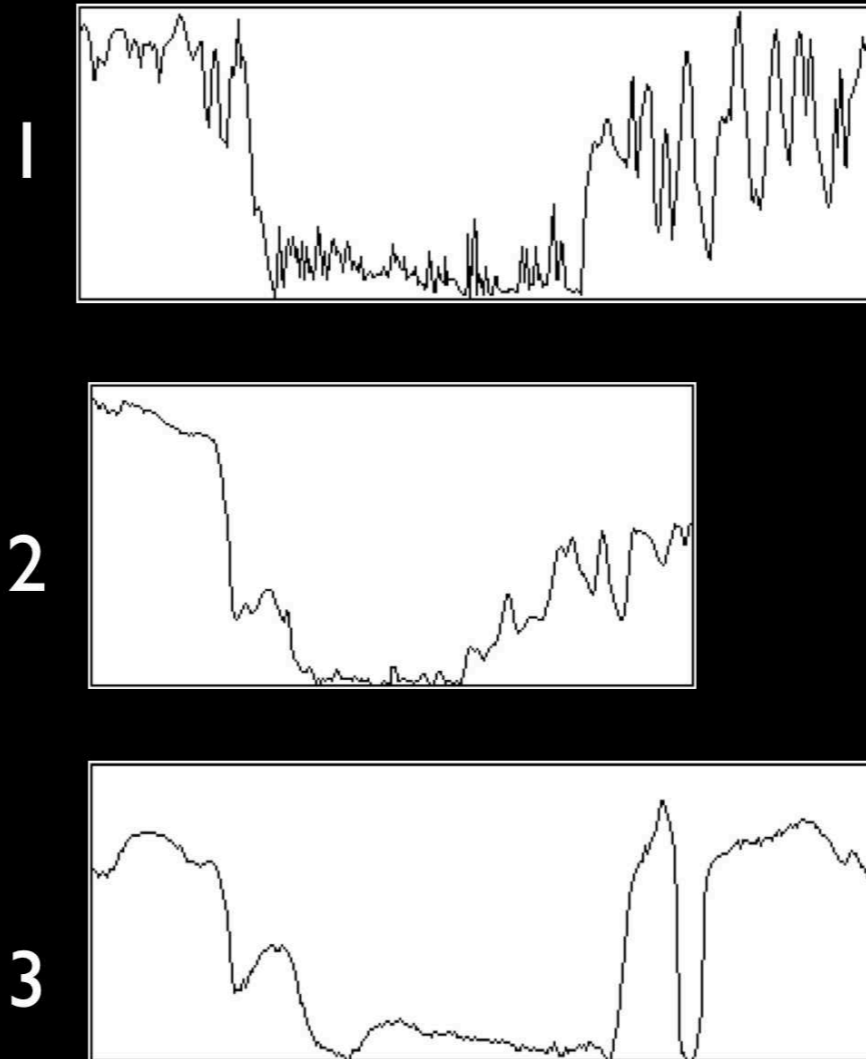
Renée Heilbronner, Luca Menegon (2003) *The problem of deriving bulk rock behaviour of heterogeneously deforming crystalline aggregates.*



# 2006 – IAFM, Liverpool



## misorientation profiles



### BULGING

inside: very high frequency  
boundary: high gradient  
outside: high frequency

### SUBGRAIN ROTATION

inside: medium frequency  
boundary: medium gradient  
outside: medium frequency

### GRAINBOUNDARY MIGRATION

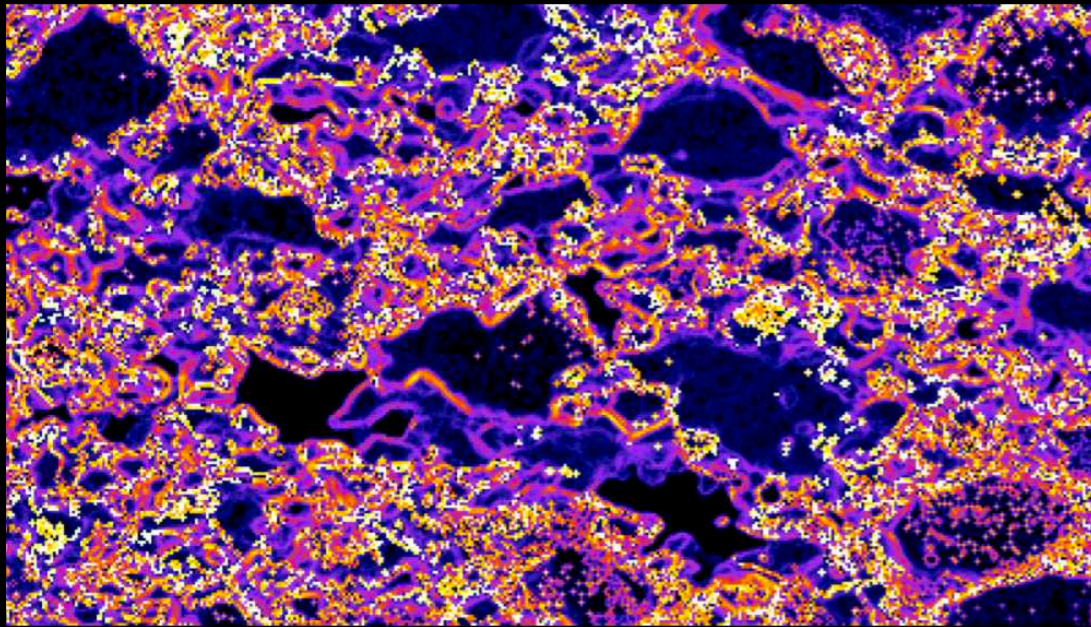
inside: low frequency  
boundary: high gradient  
outside: low frequency

Renée Heilbronner (2006) *ORIENTATION IMAGING: measuring and mapping crystallographic orientations*

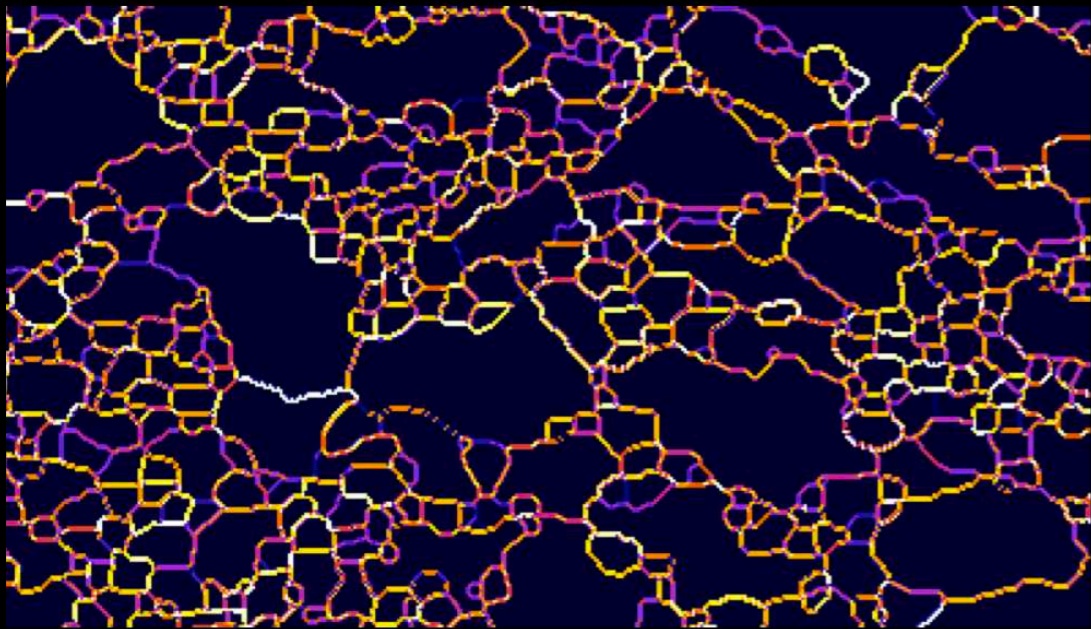


# 2006 – IAfM, Liverpool

continuous COI



flat COI



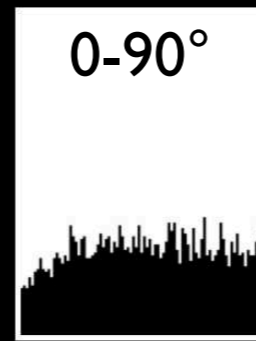
misorientation density

= density of  
orientation gradient



histogram (0-90°) of  
misorientation density  
in bulk rock

0-90°



histogram (0-90°) of  
misorientation density  
along grain boundaries  
(cf EBSD)

0-90°

organizer  
of IAfM

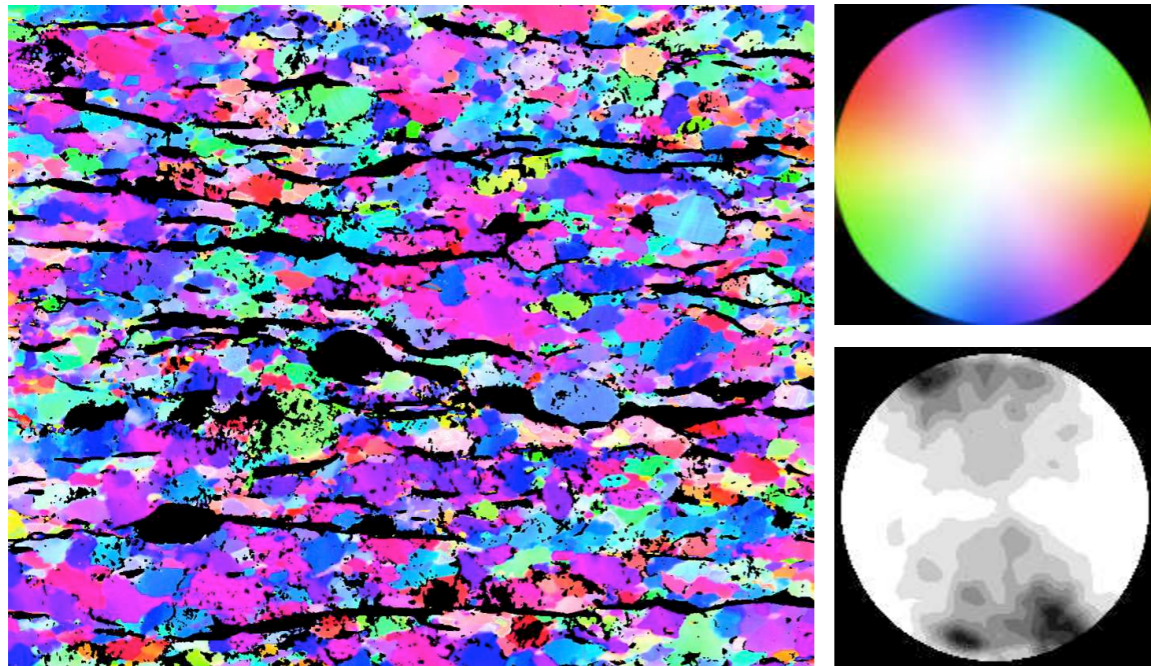


Steve Barrett

Renée Heilbronner (2006) ORIENTATION IMAGING:  
measuring and mapping crystallographic orientations



# 2010 – publication JGSI

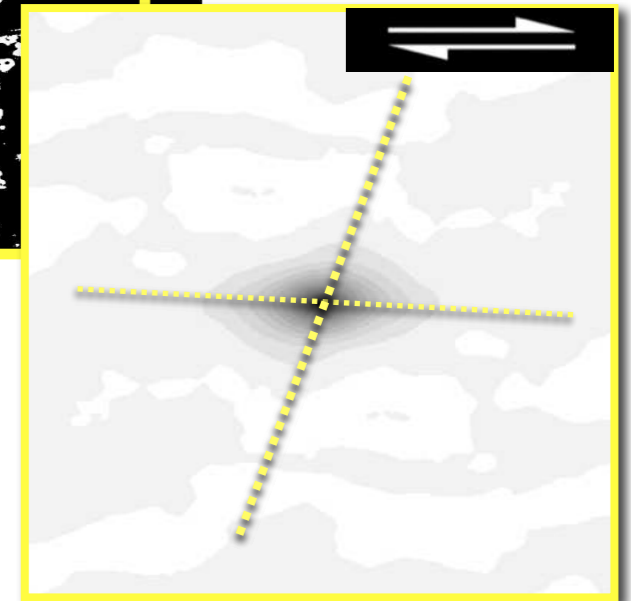
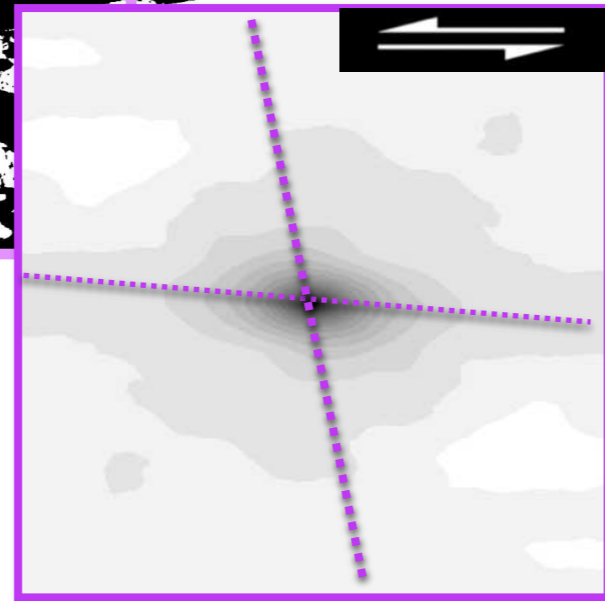
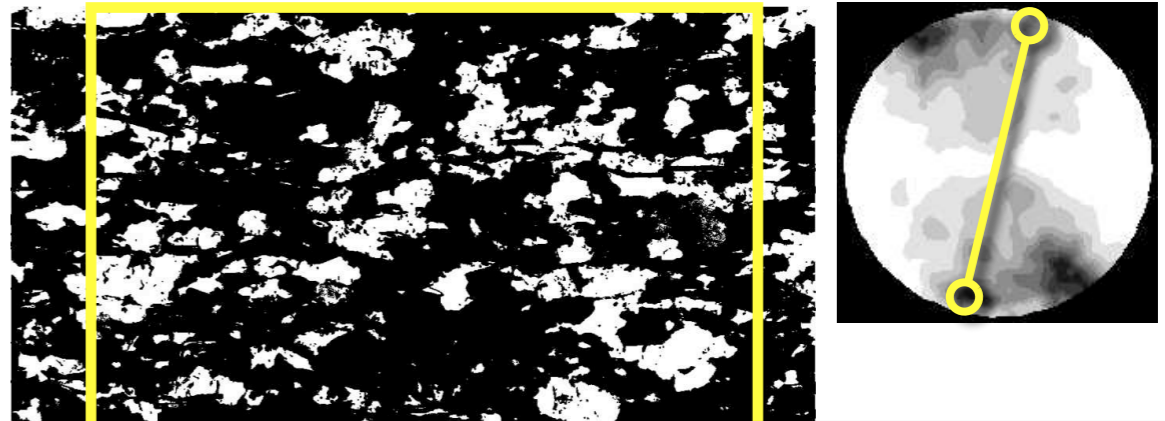
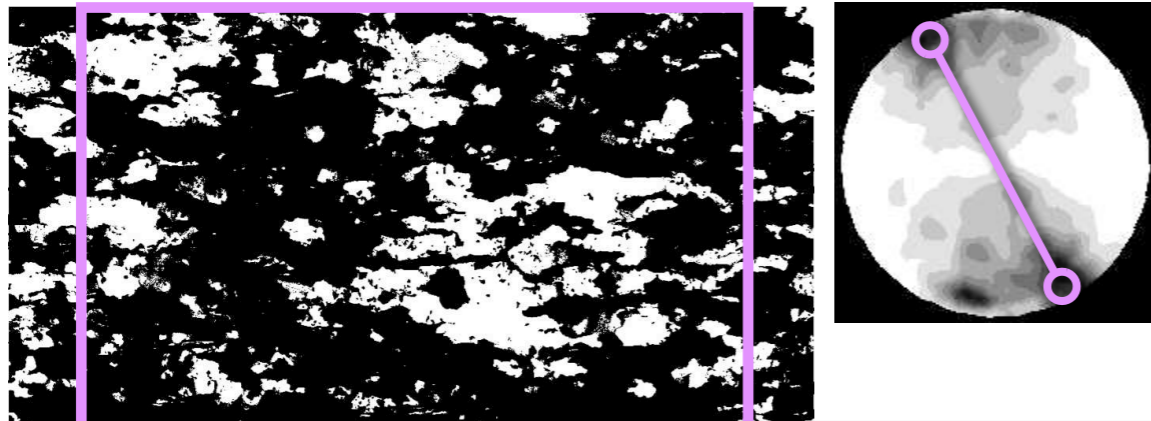


see IAES ...

*Renée Heilbronner, Steve Barrett (2014): Image Analysis in Earth Sciences – Microstructures and textures of Earth Materials, Springer Verlag*

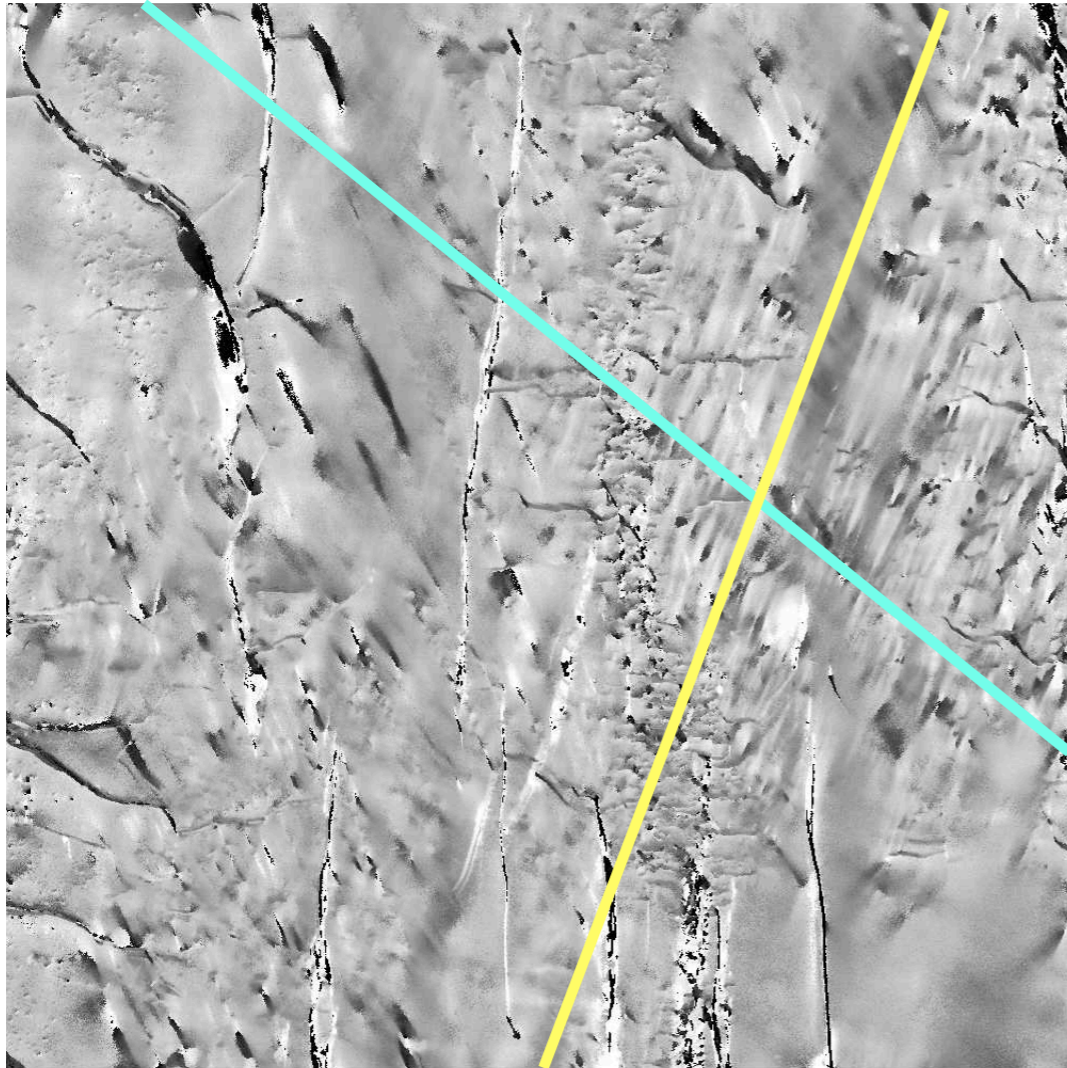
... and 2023 Torino workshop

*Renée Heilbronner (2023): Microtectonics of Fault Rocks, Day 2 – The Ductile regime*

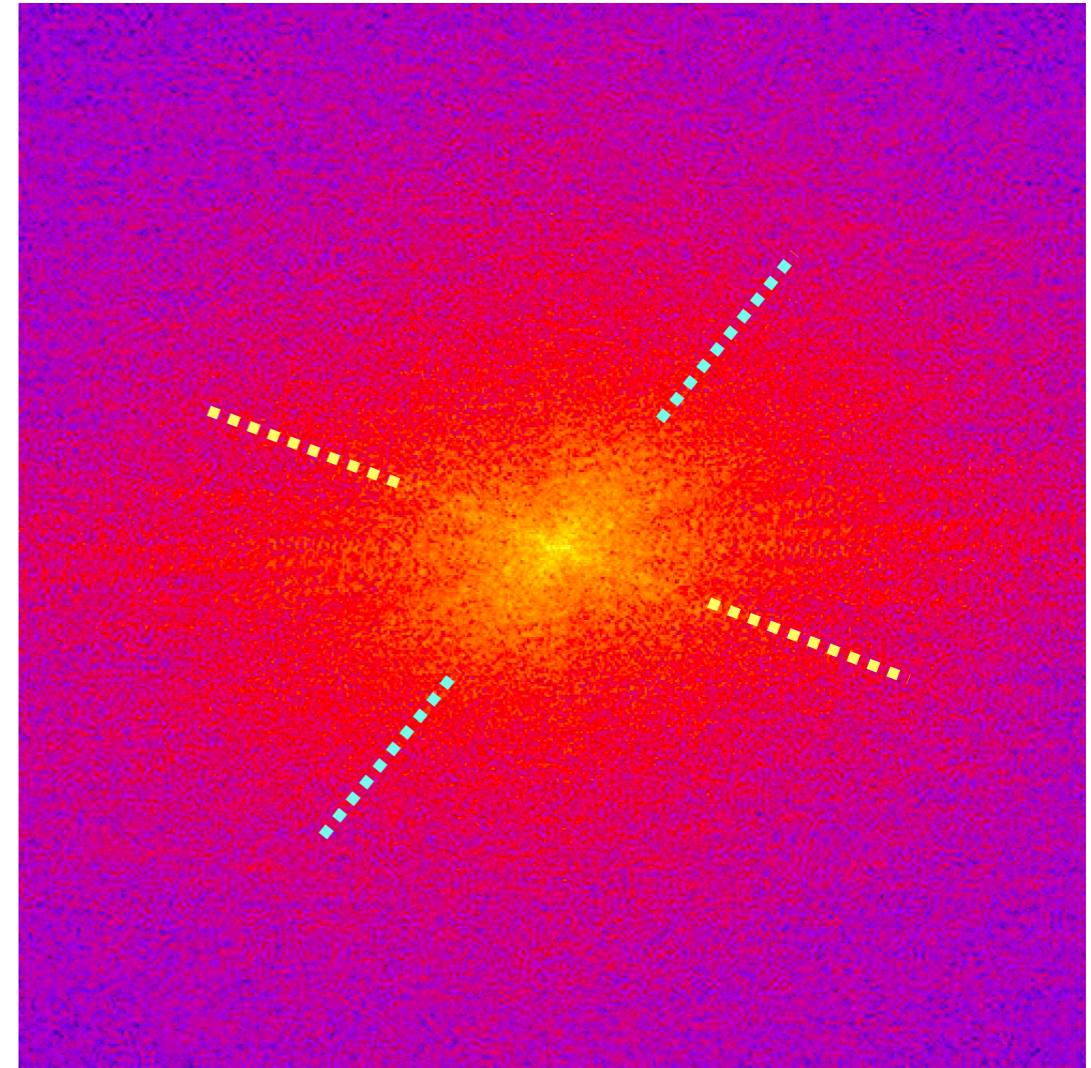




# 2011 – EGU, Vienna



azimuth image



FFT of azimuth image, colorcoded

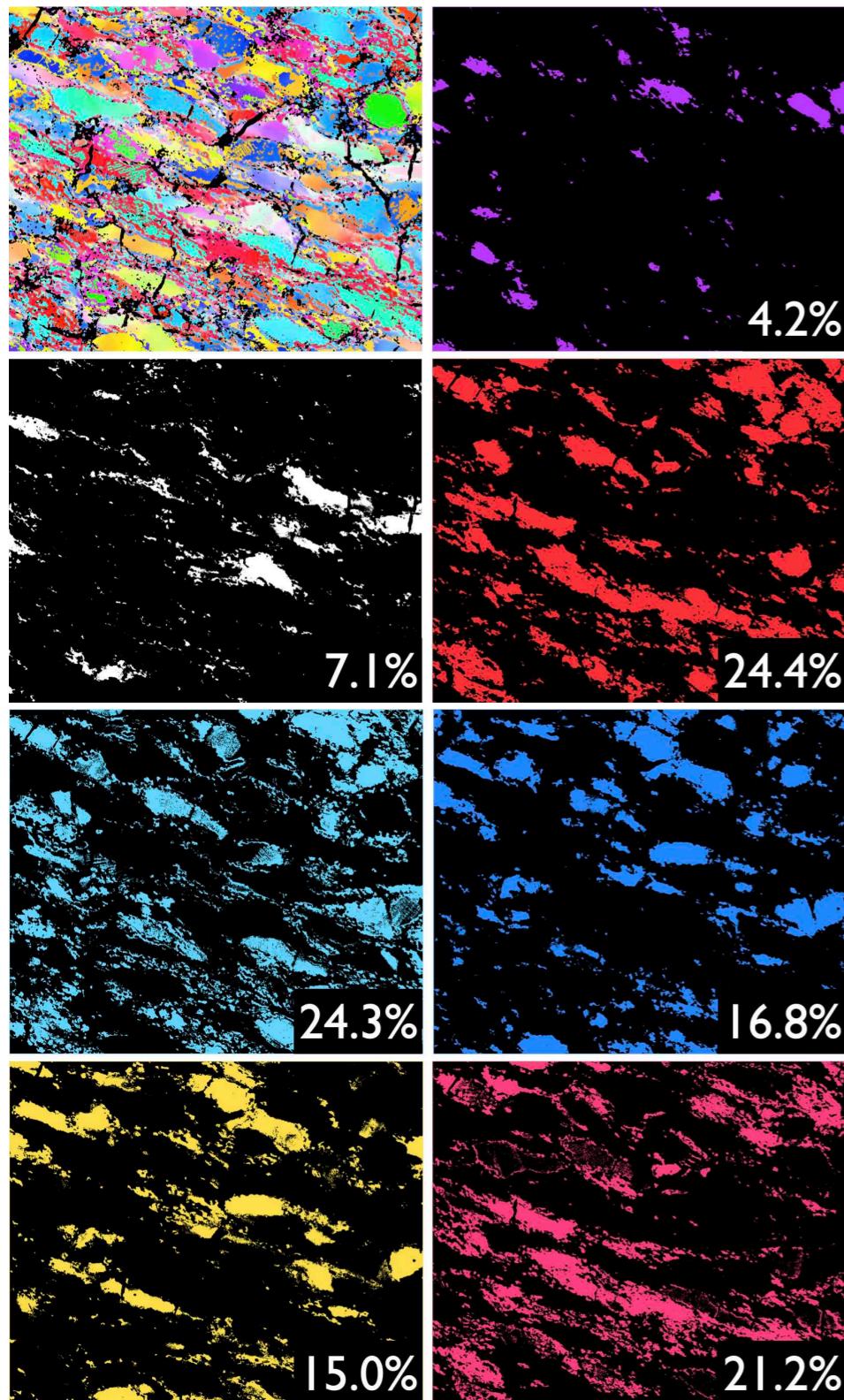
*Renée Heilbronner, Anja Thust, Holger Stünitz:  
Mapping Water and Misorientations in Experimentally Deformed Quartz*



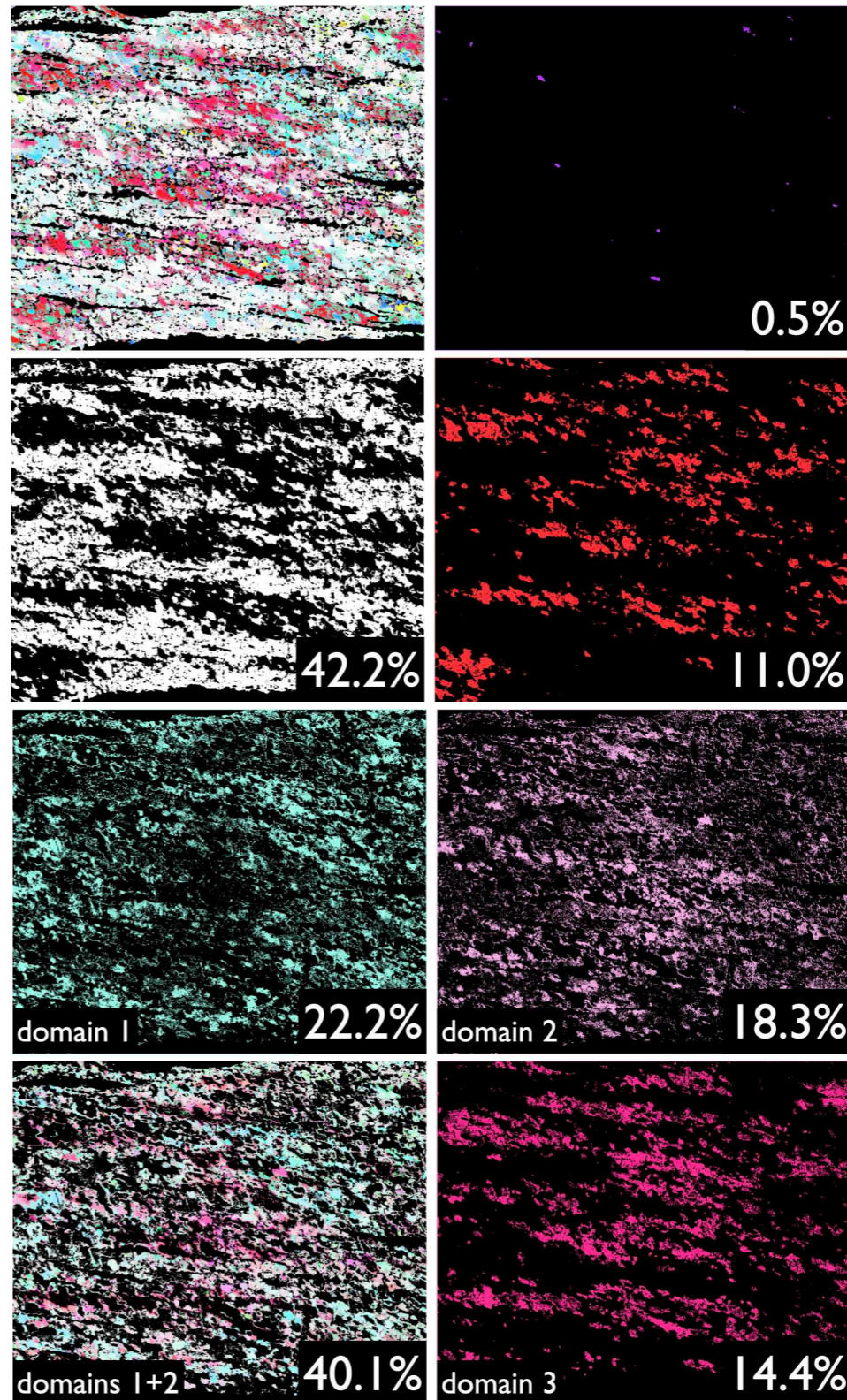
# 2014 – IAES

Renée Heilbronner, Steve Barrett (2014): *Image Analysis in Earth Sciences – Microstructures and textures of Earth Materials*, Springer Verlag

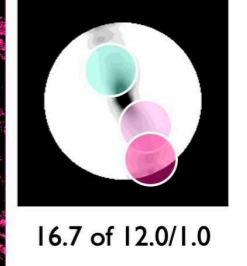
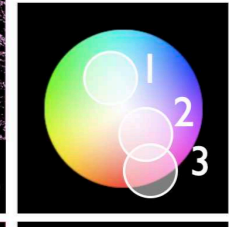
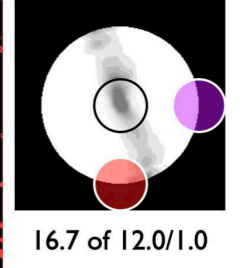
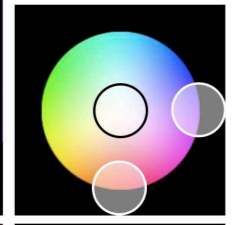
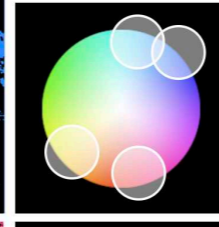
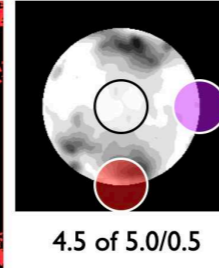
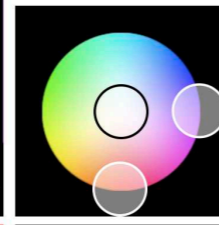
w920  $\gamma \sim 2$  30° circular cone



w935  $\gamma \sim 6$  30° circular cone



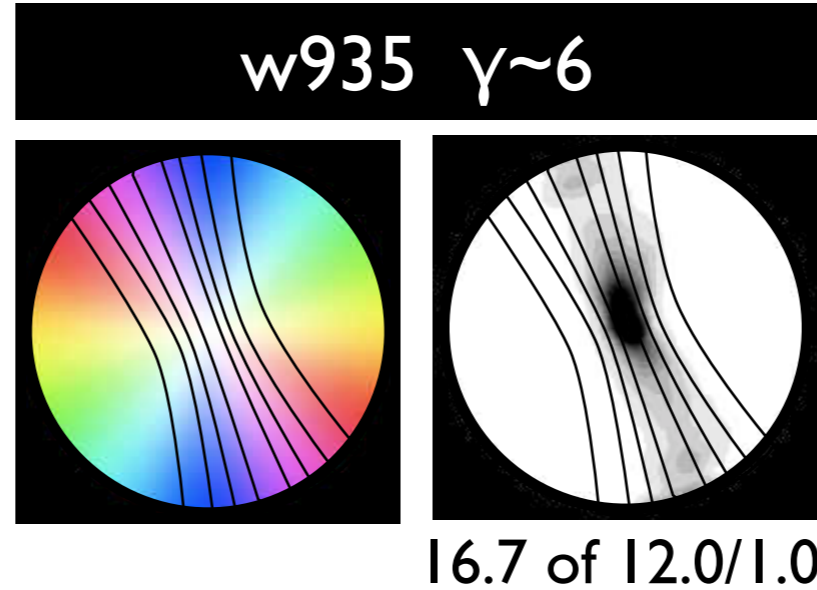
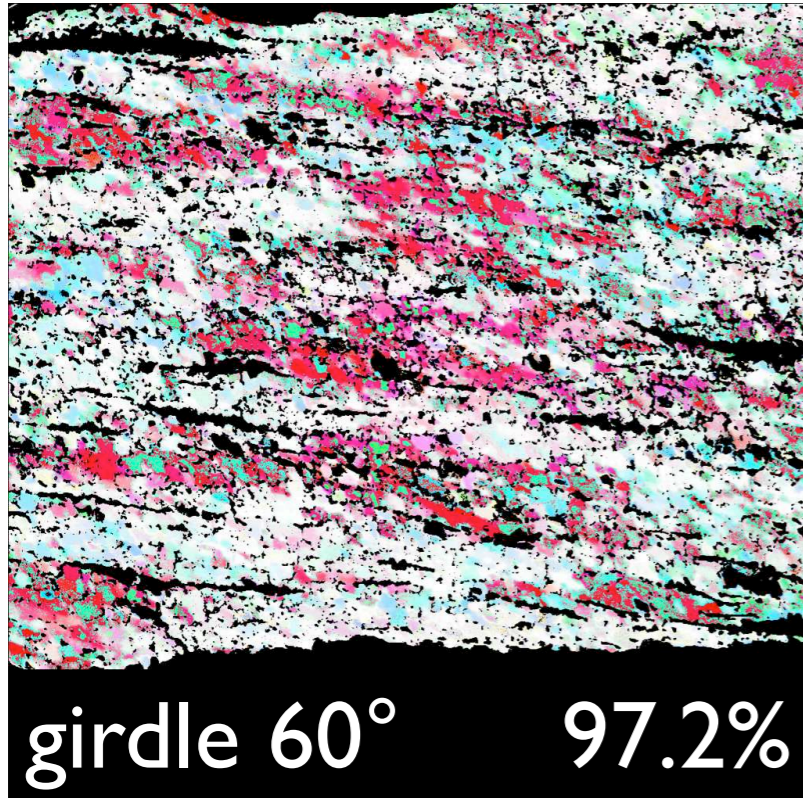
uniform density  
for 30° cone  
= 11.7%



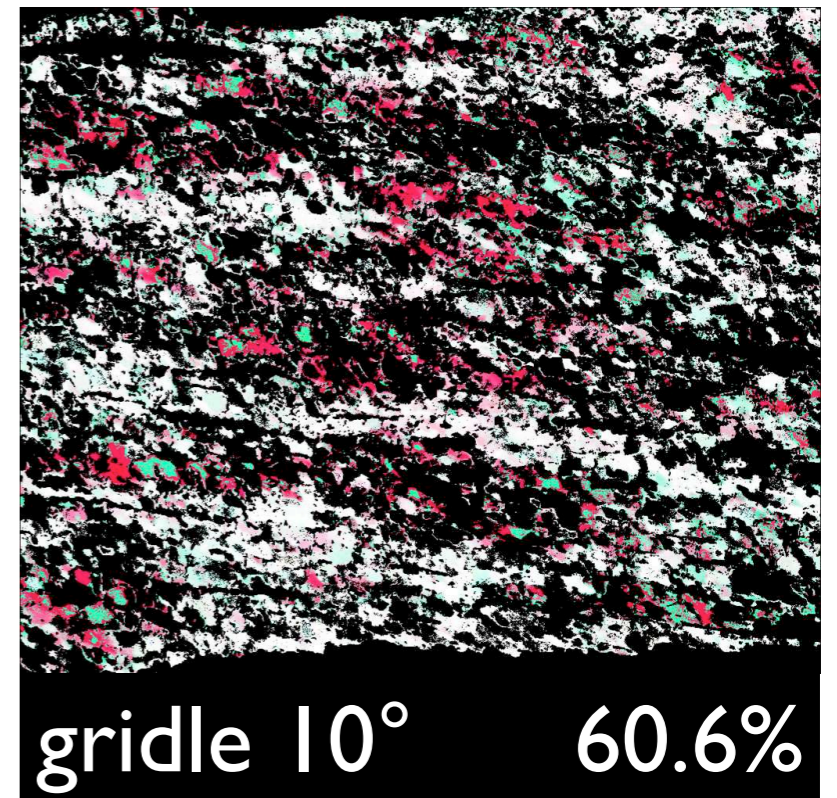
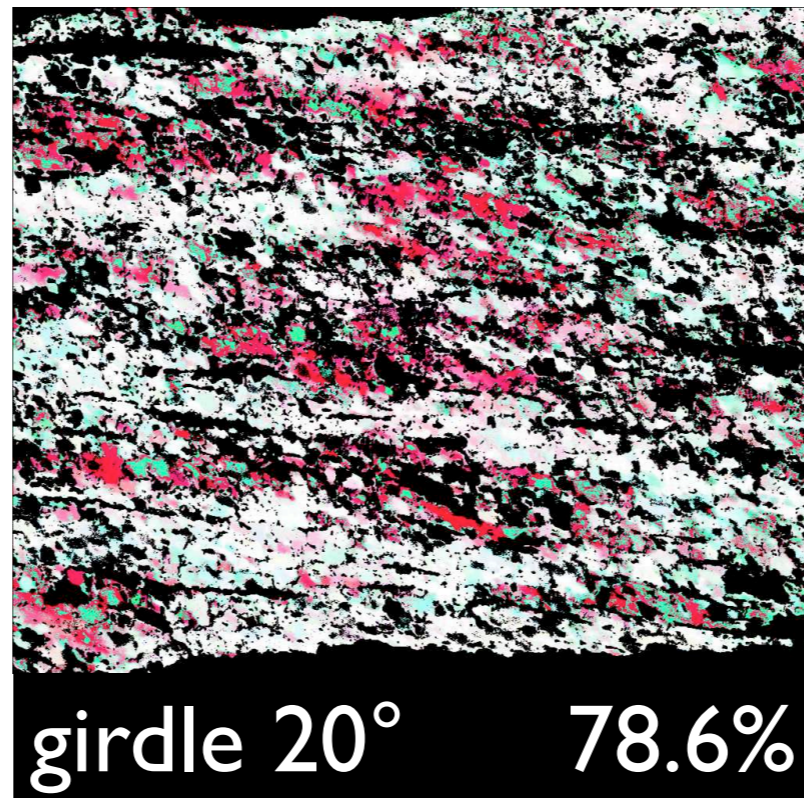
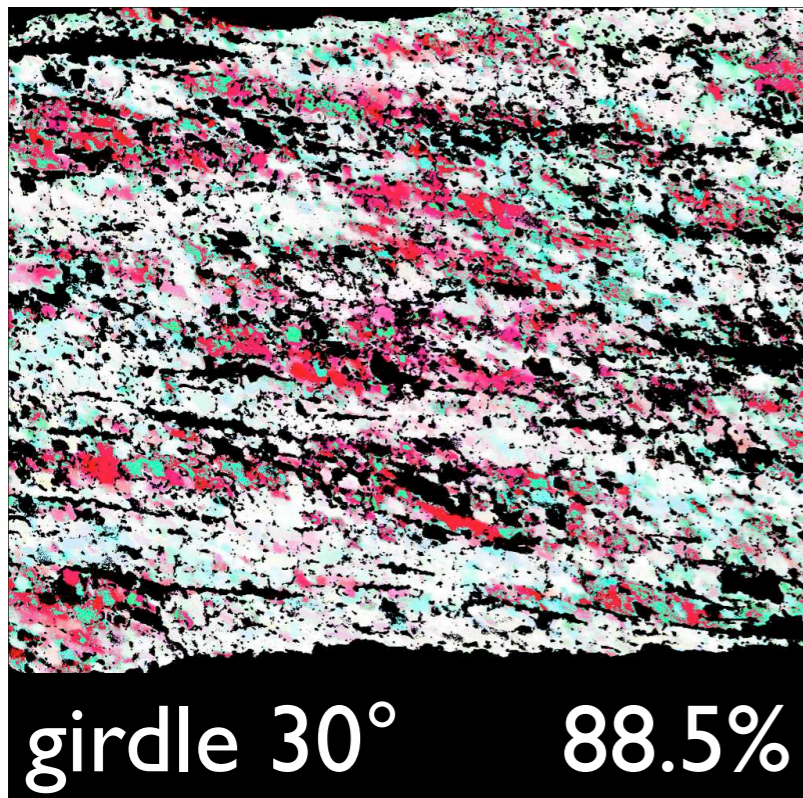


# 2014 – IAES

Renée Heilbronner, Steve Barrett (2014): Image Analysis in Earth Sciences  
– Microstructures and textures of Earth Materials, Springer Verlag



uniform density  
for girdle width  
60° = 54.3%  
30° = 29.5%  
20° = 20.1%  
10° = 10.3%

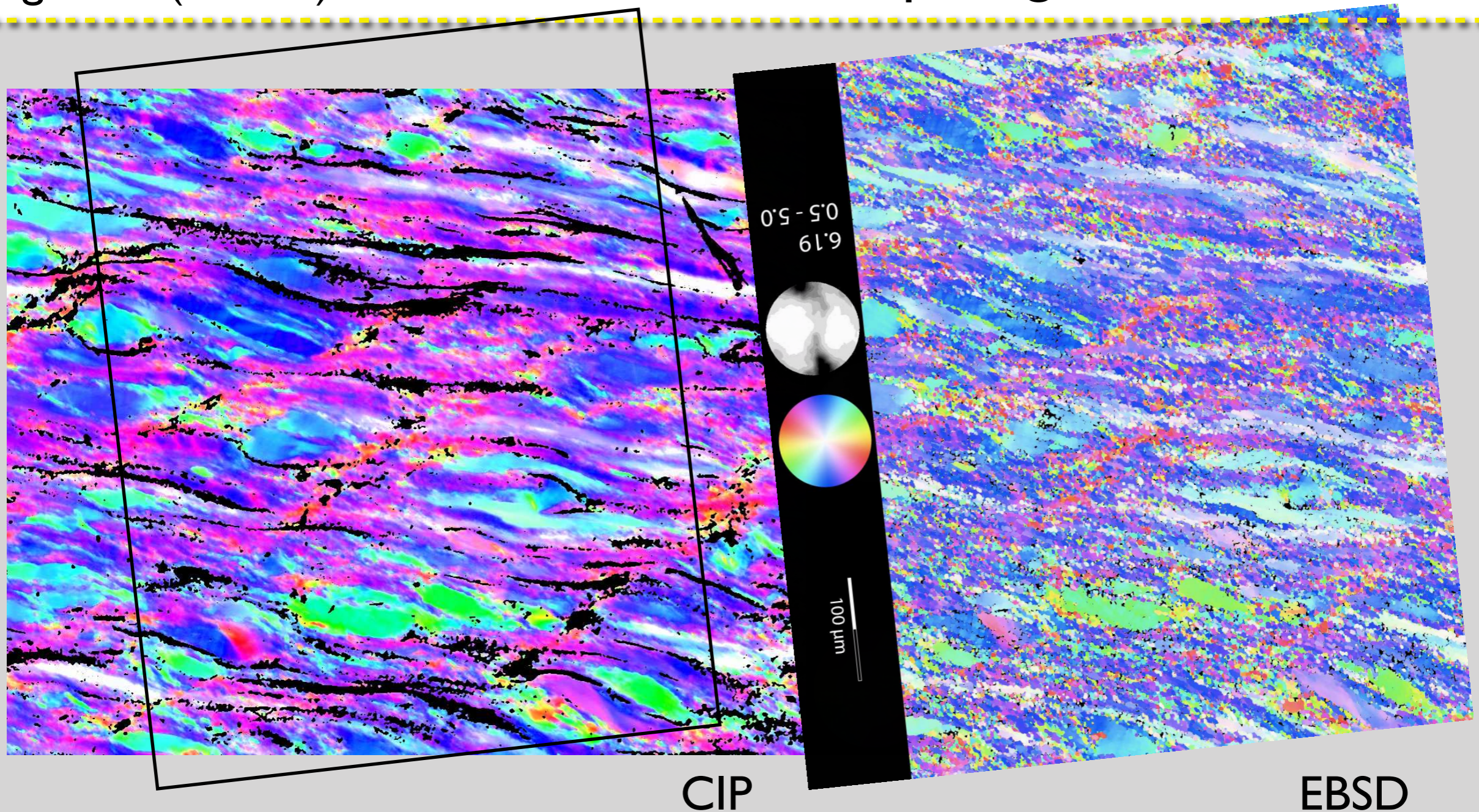




# 2016 – EGU, Vienna

regime I (w1092)

comparing CIP and EBSD

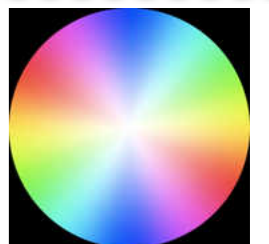


Renée Heilbronner (2016): Deformation of the lithosphere and what microstructures can tell you about it



100 μm

Spectrum CLUT

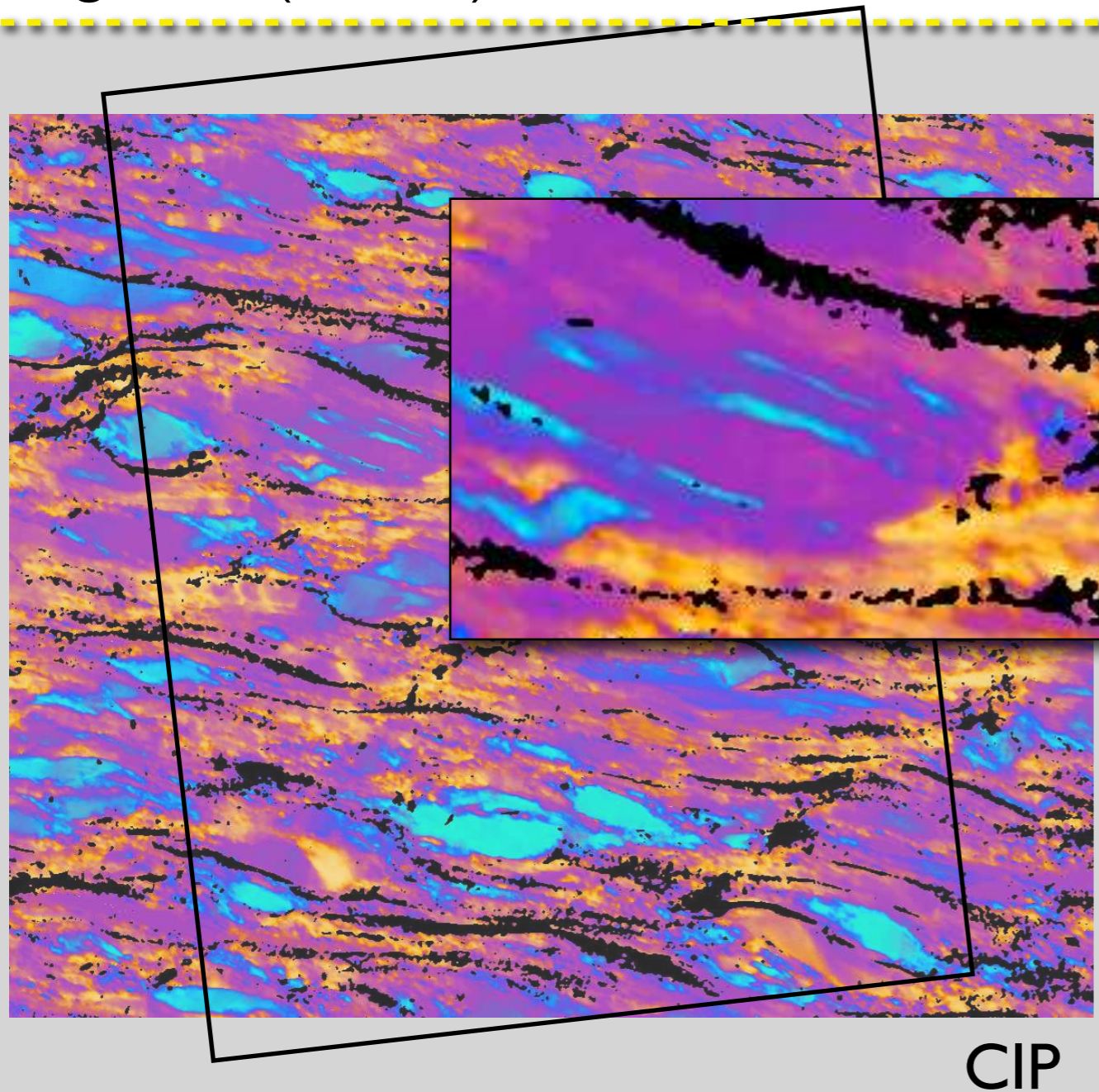




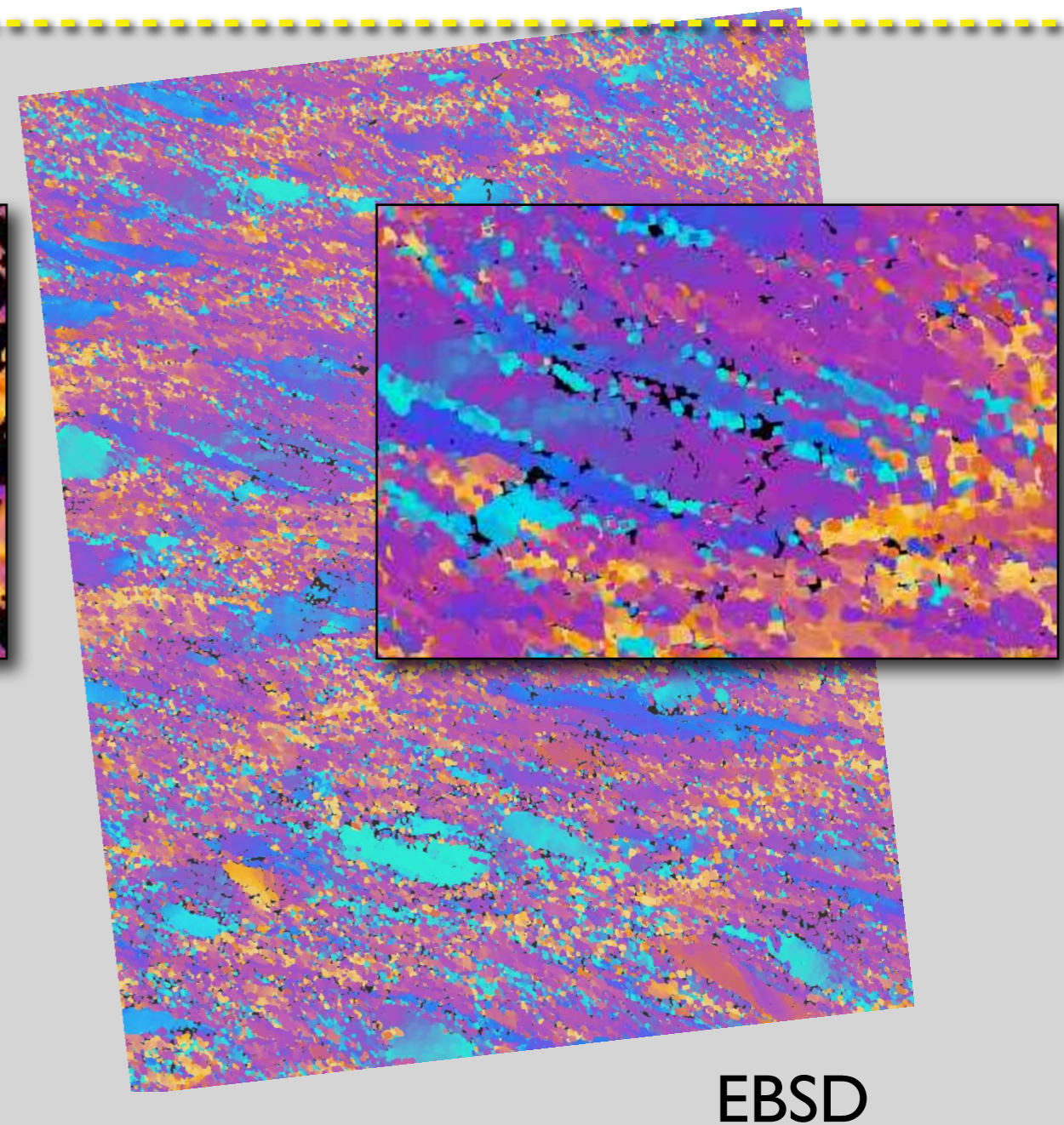
# 2016 – EGU, Vienna

regime I (w1092)

optical microscopy in the SEM



CIP



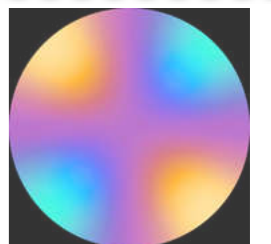
EBSD

Renée Heilbronner (2016): Deformation of the lithosphere and what microstructures can tell you about it



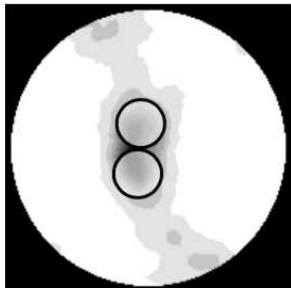
100  $\mu\text{m}$

positive CLUT

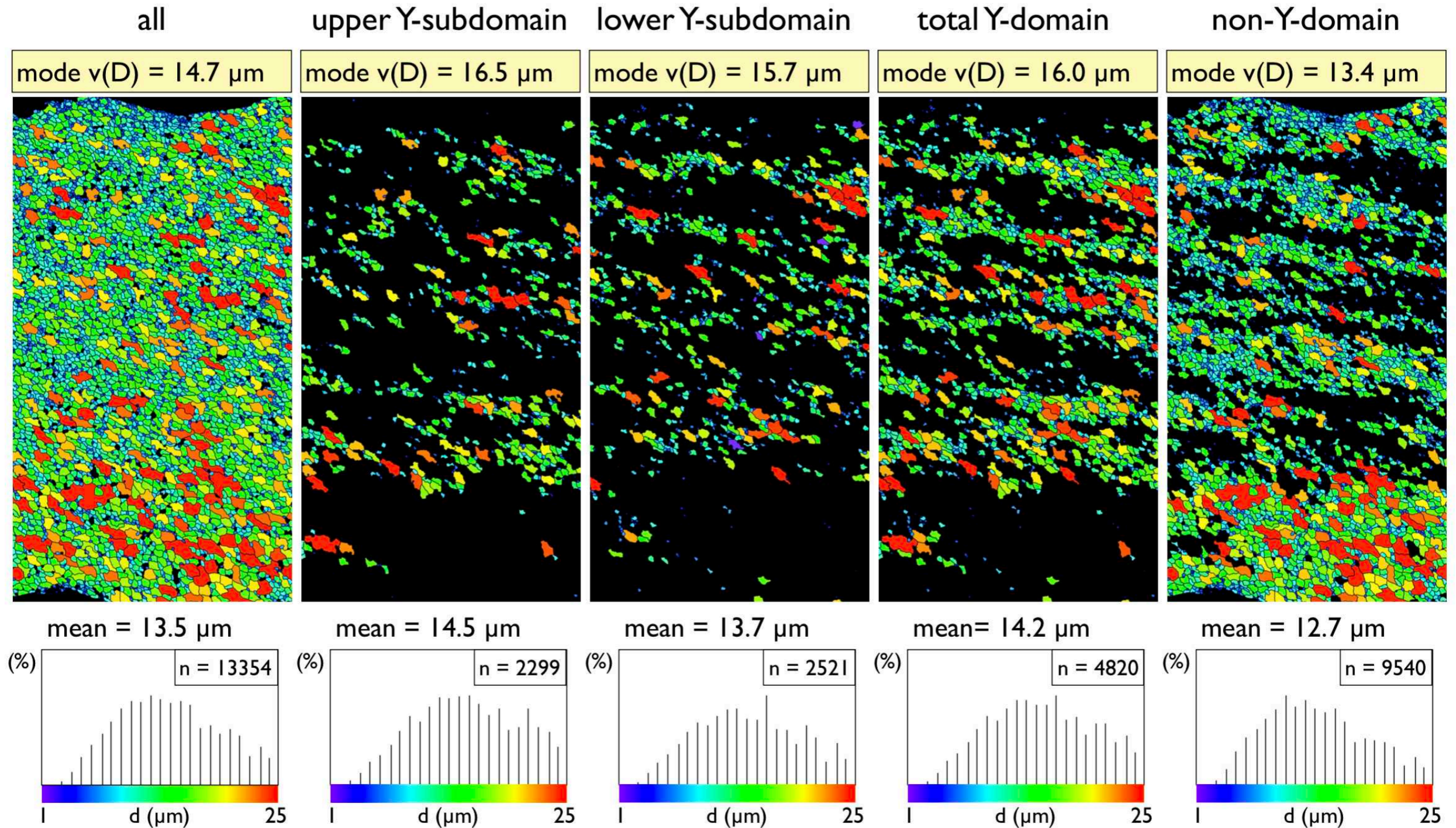




# 2017 – EGU, Vienna (PICO)



Renée Heilbronner and Rüdiger Kilian (2017): Complete grain boundaries from incomplete EBSD maps: the influence of segmentation on grain size determinations

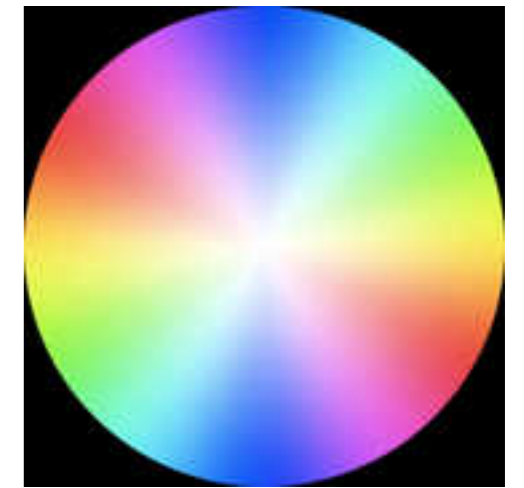




**step back**



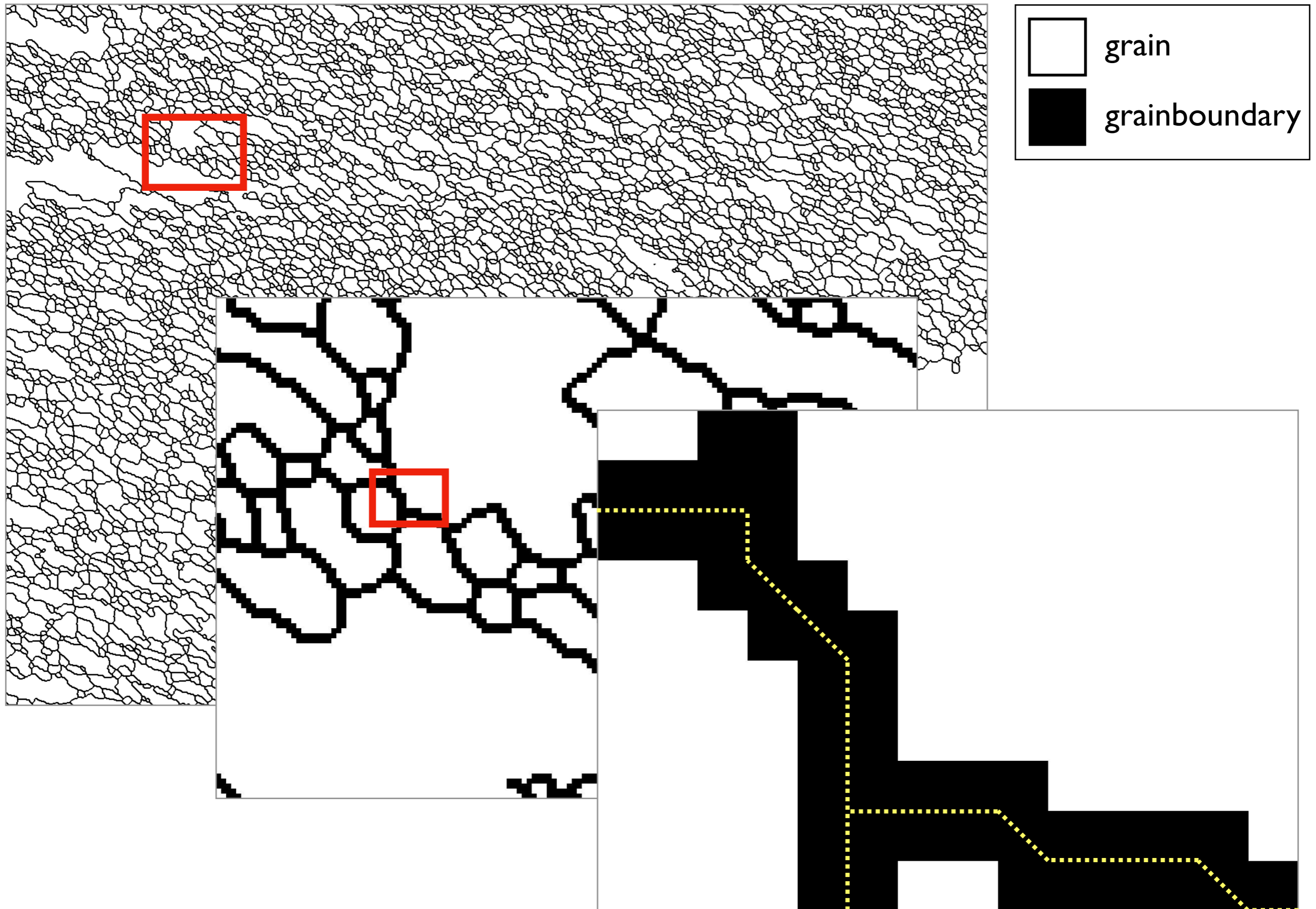
# the orientation image



c-axis orientation



# segmentation

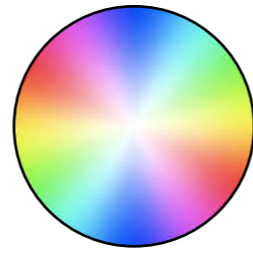
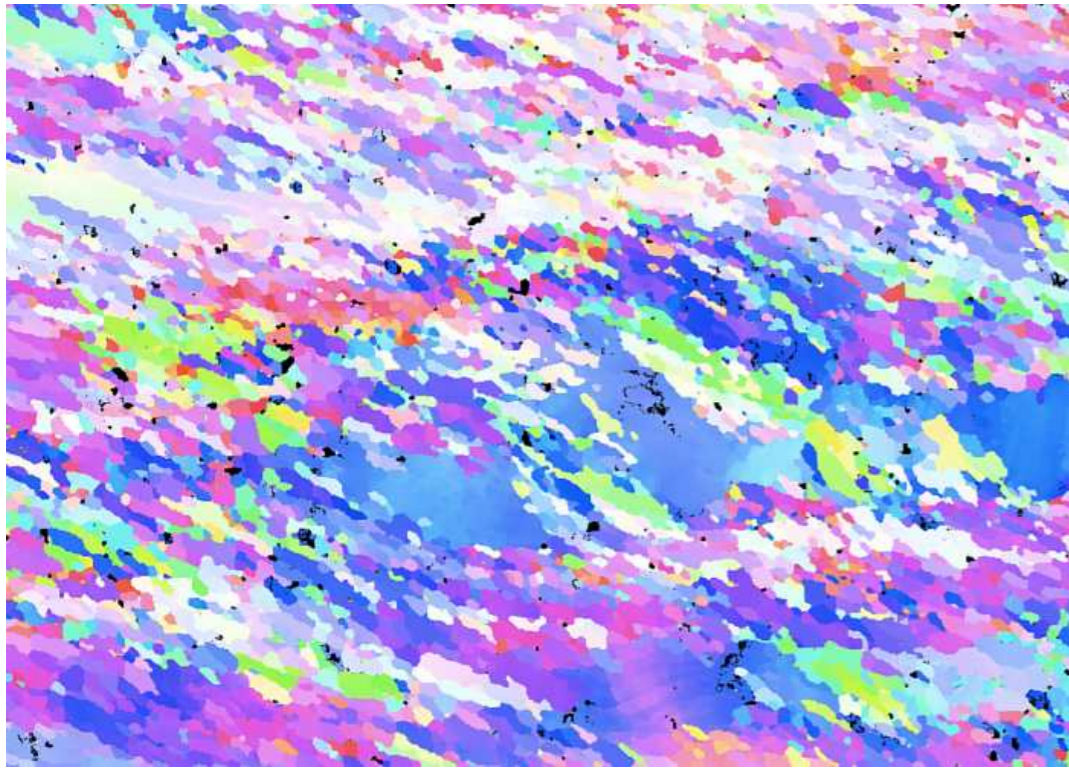




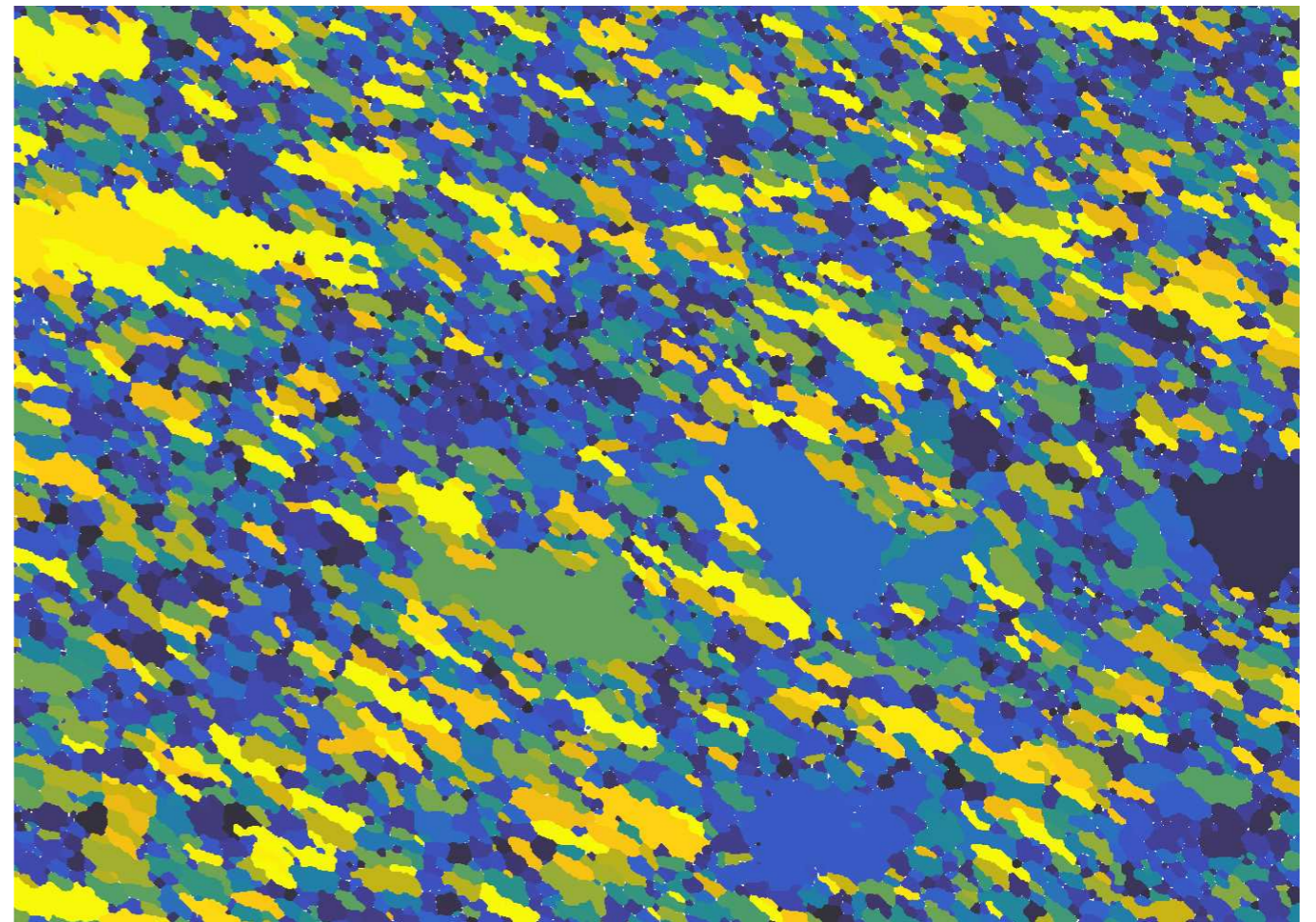
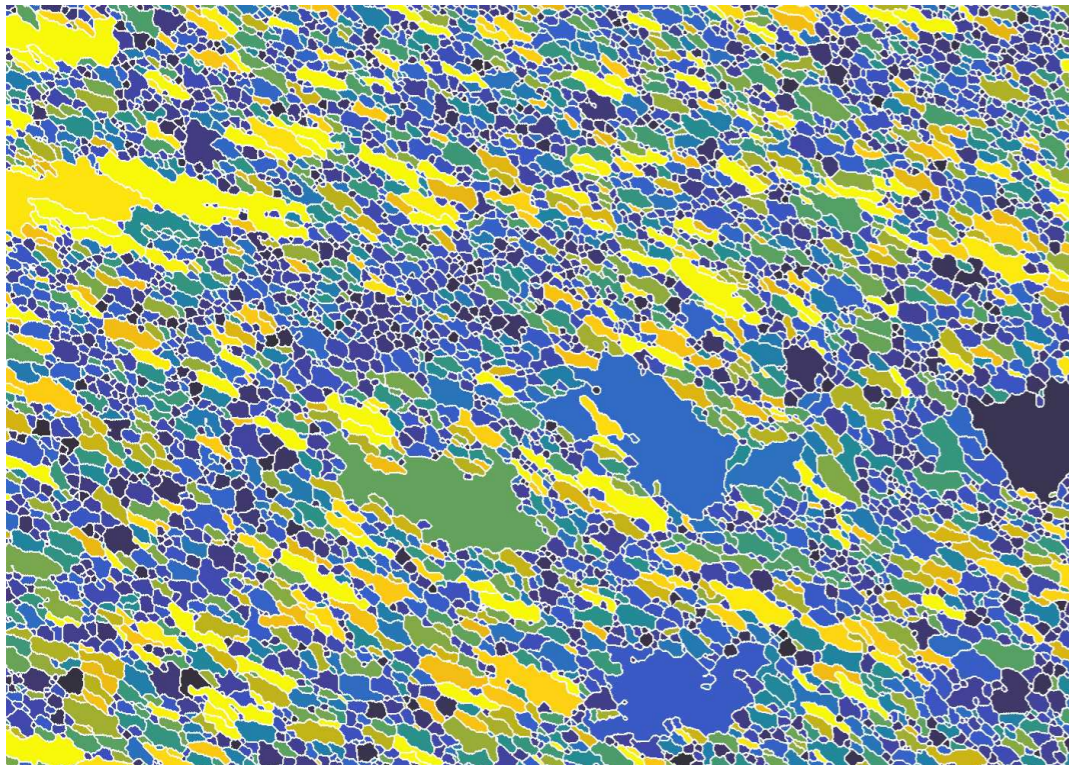
**property mapping**



# property mapping – aspect ratio



Spectrum  
CLUT



1.00

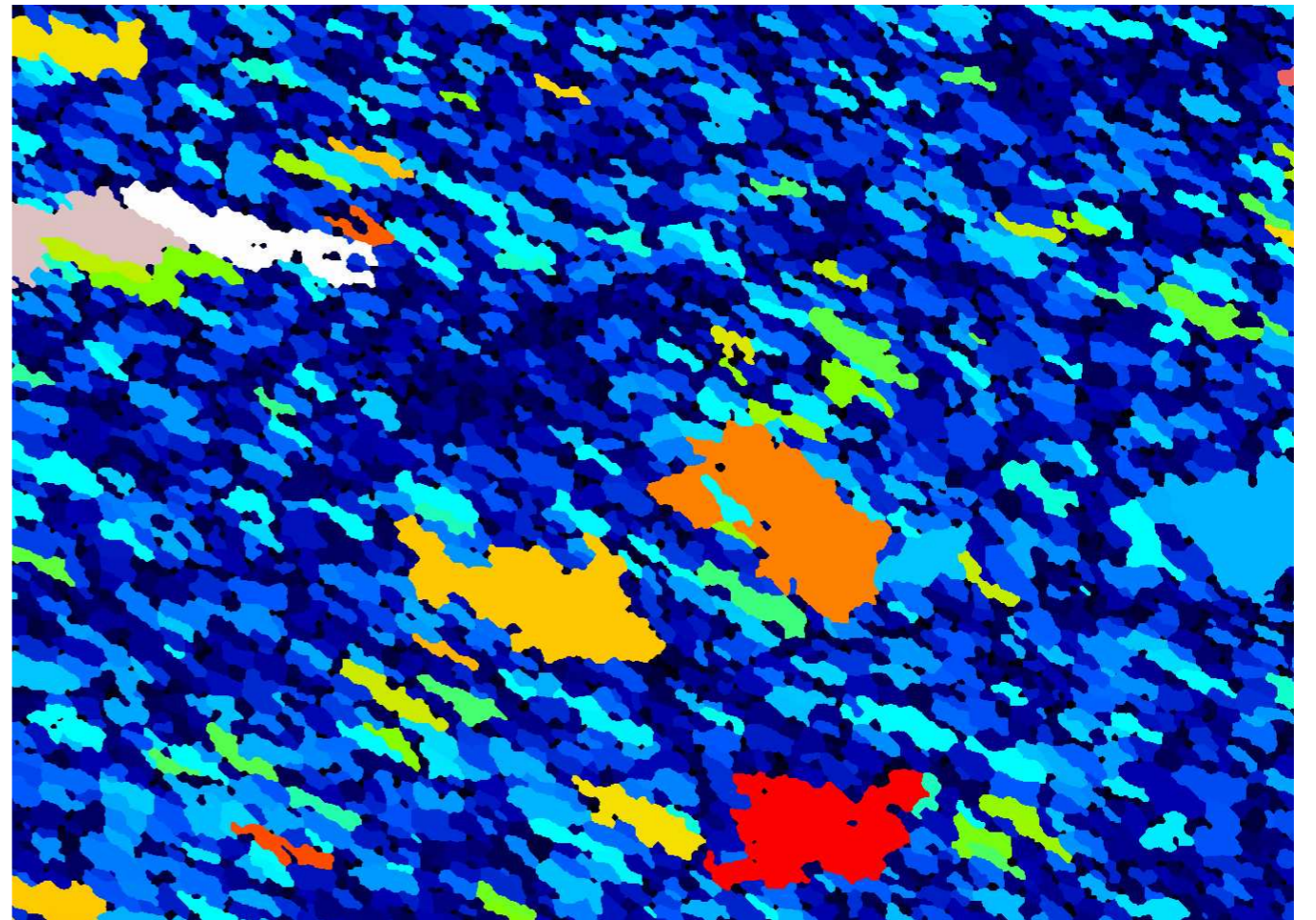
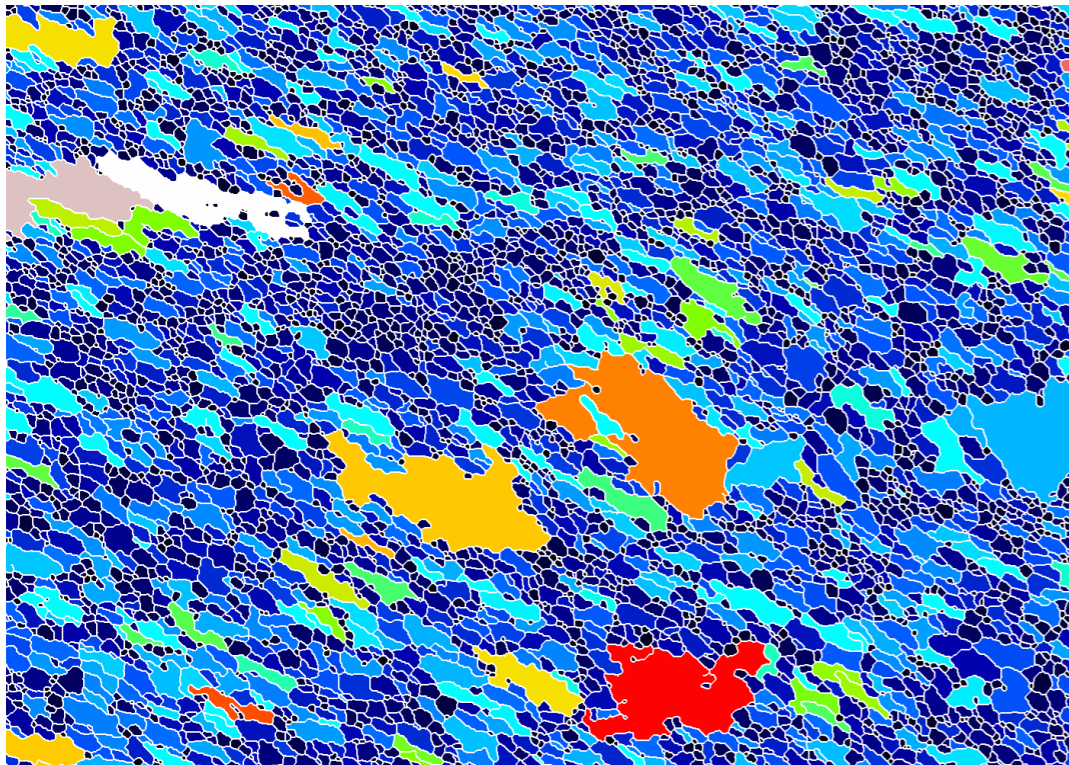
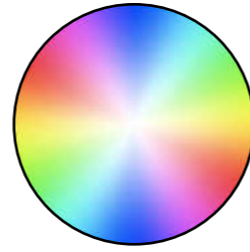
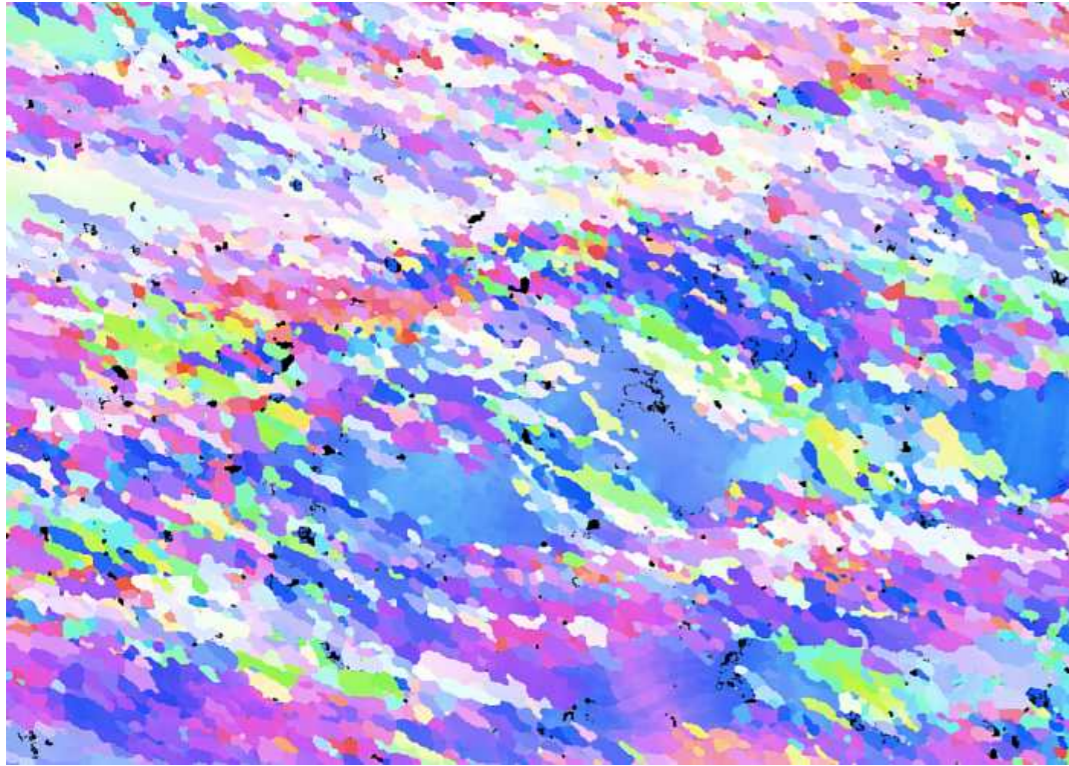


≥4.00

aspect ratio (a/b)



# property mapping – shape factor



1.00

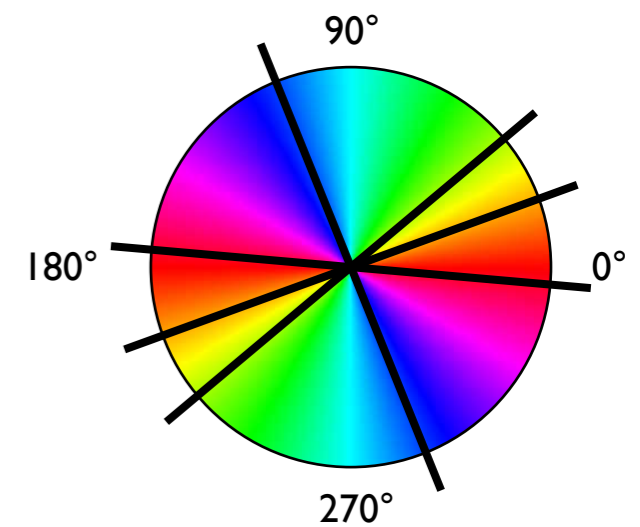
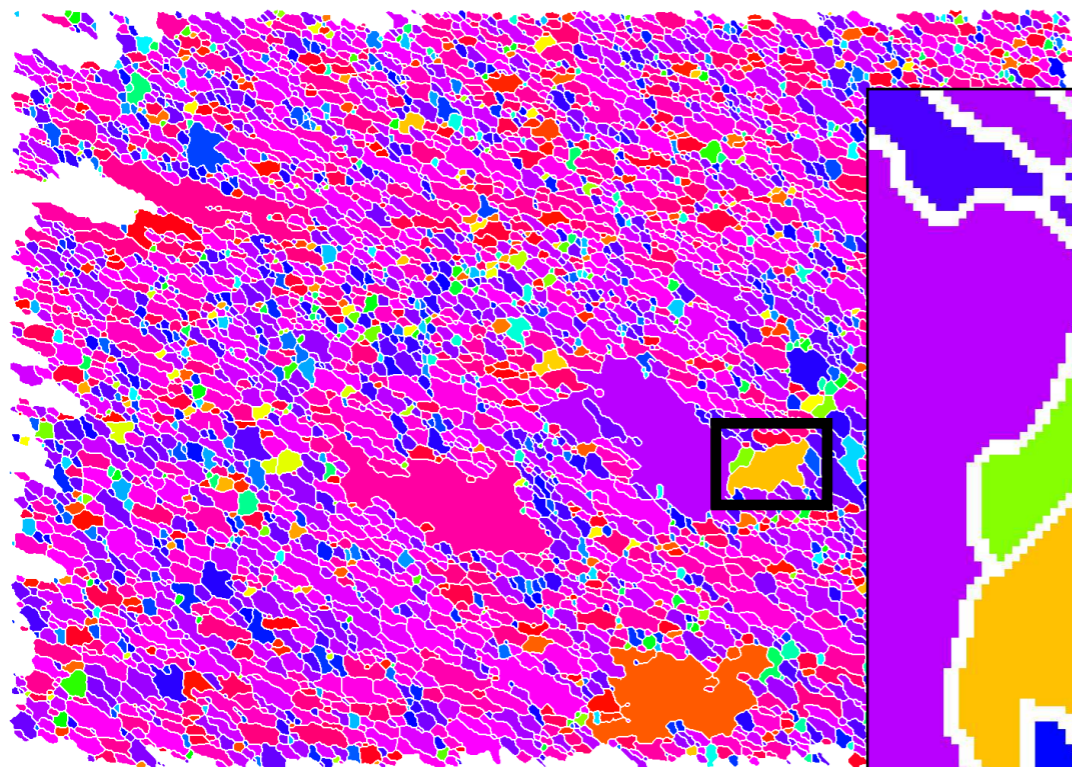
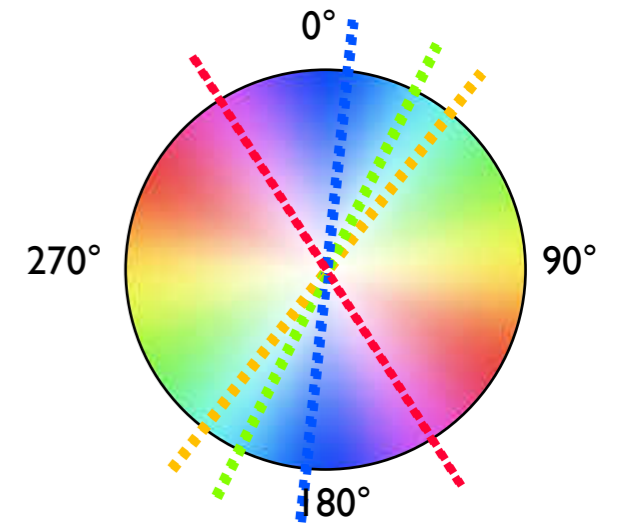
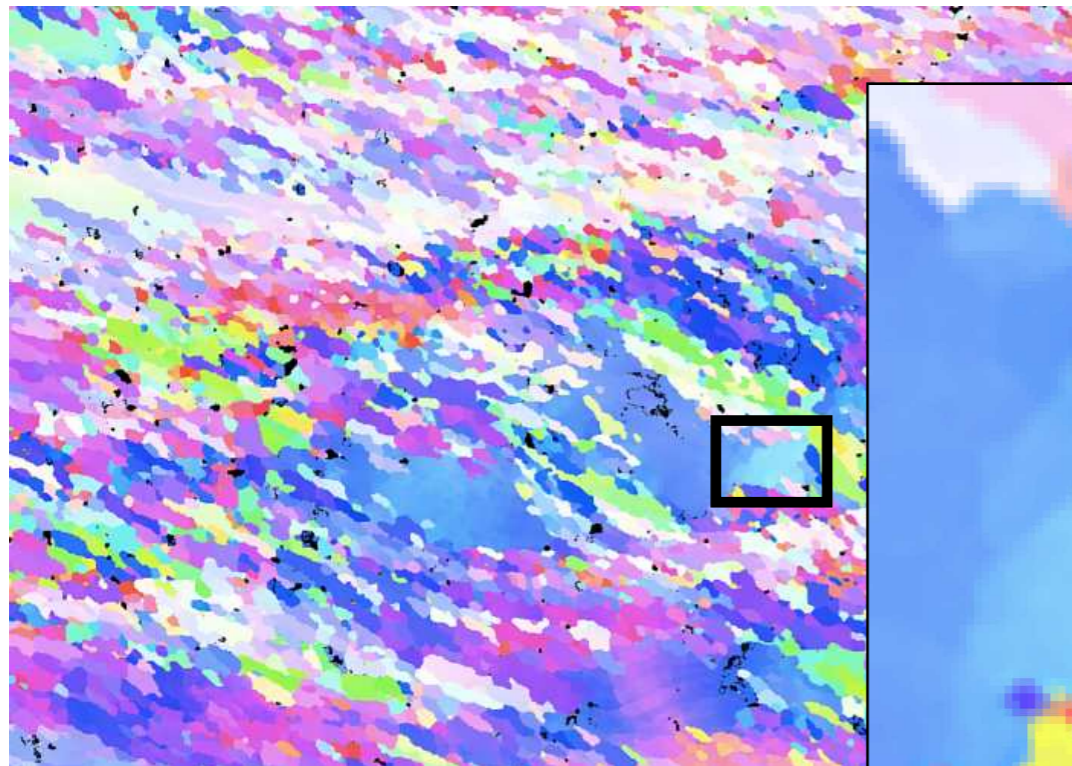


3.00

$$\text{SFI} = P/P_{\text{equ}}$$



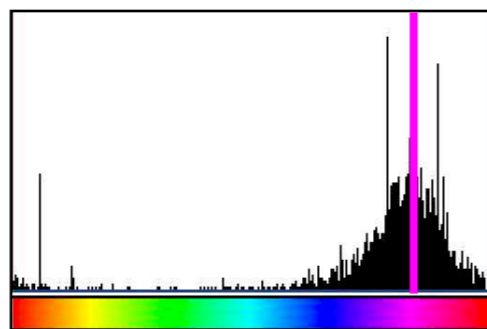
# property mapping – LA orientation



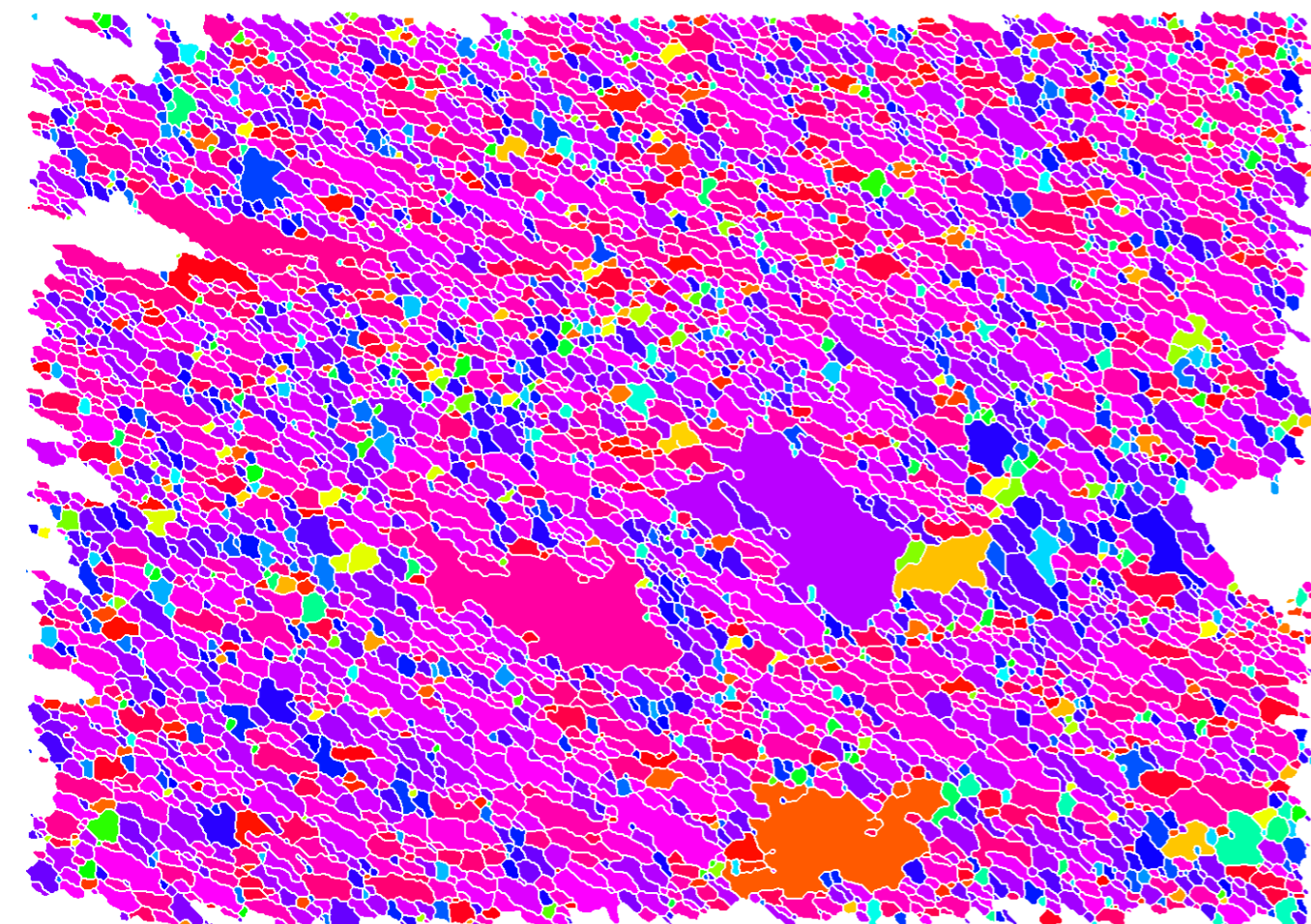
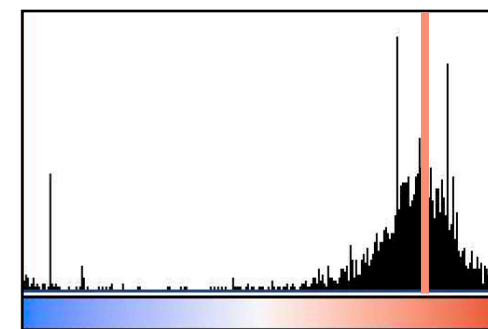


# choice of LUT

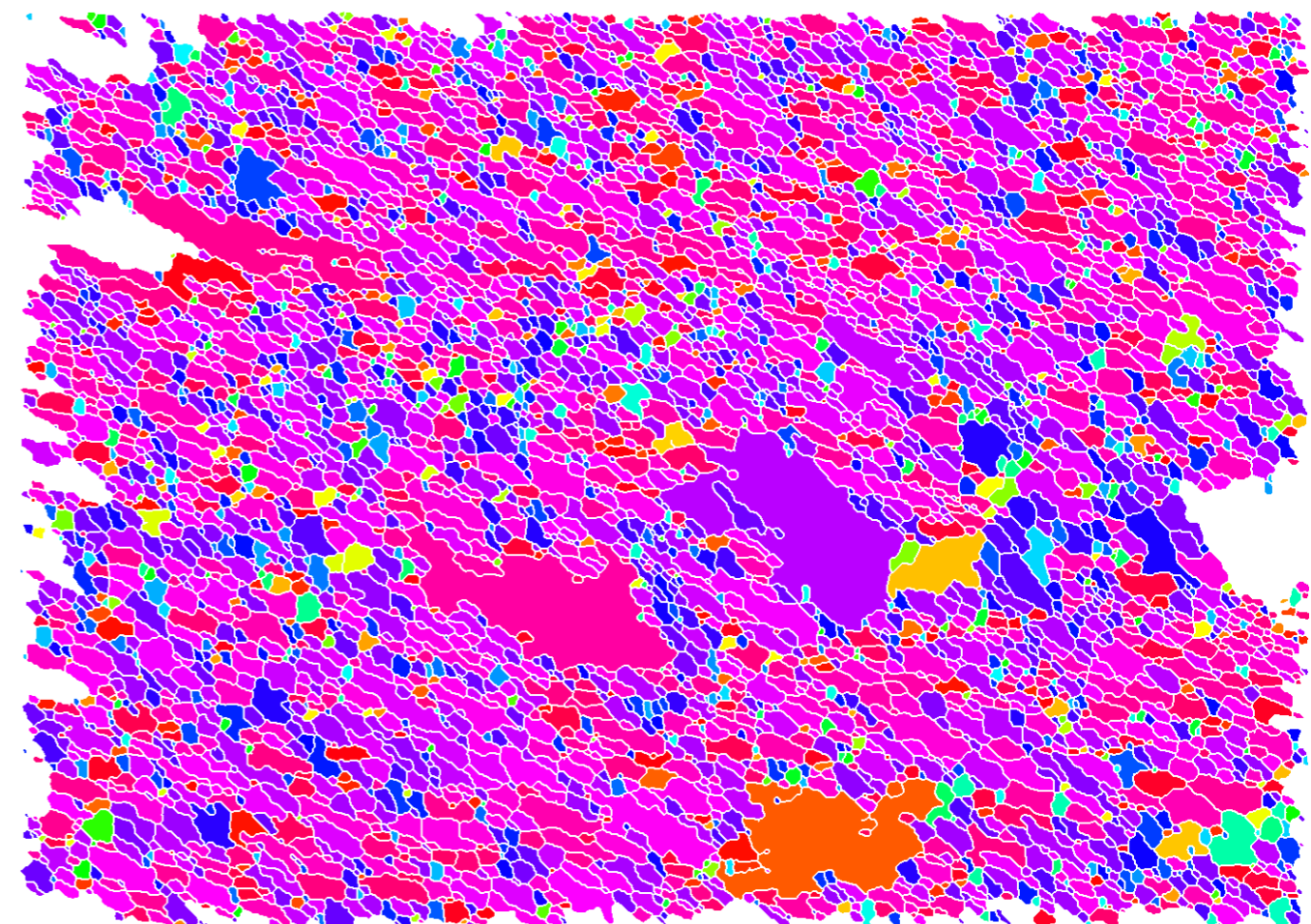
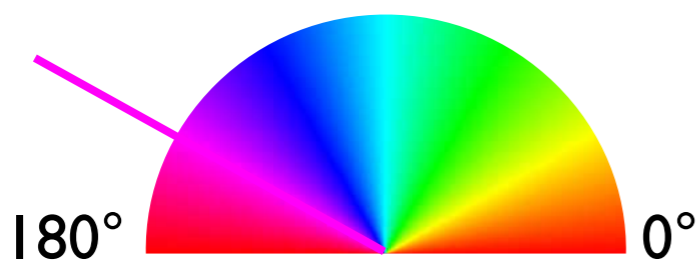
Spectrum  
(circular LUT)  
red = horizontal



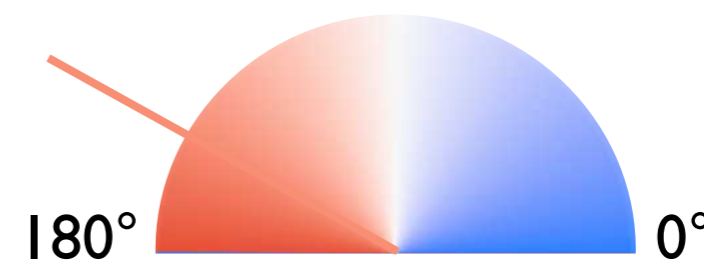
Blue-Red  
white = horizontal  
bluish = right-leaning  
reddish = left-leaning



90°



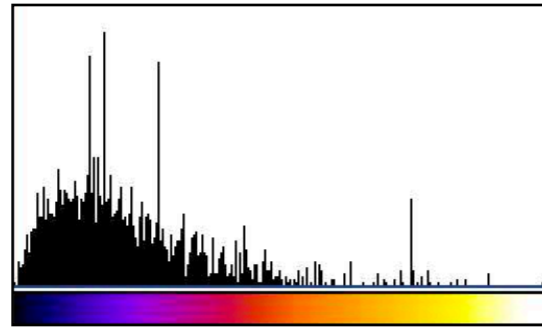
90°



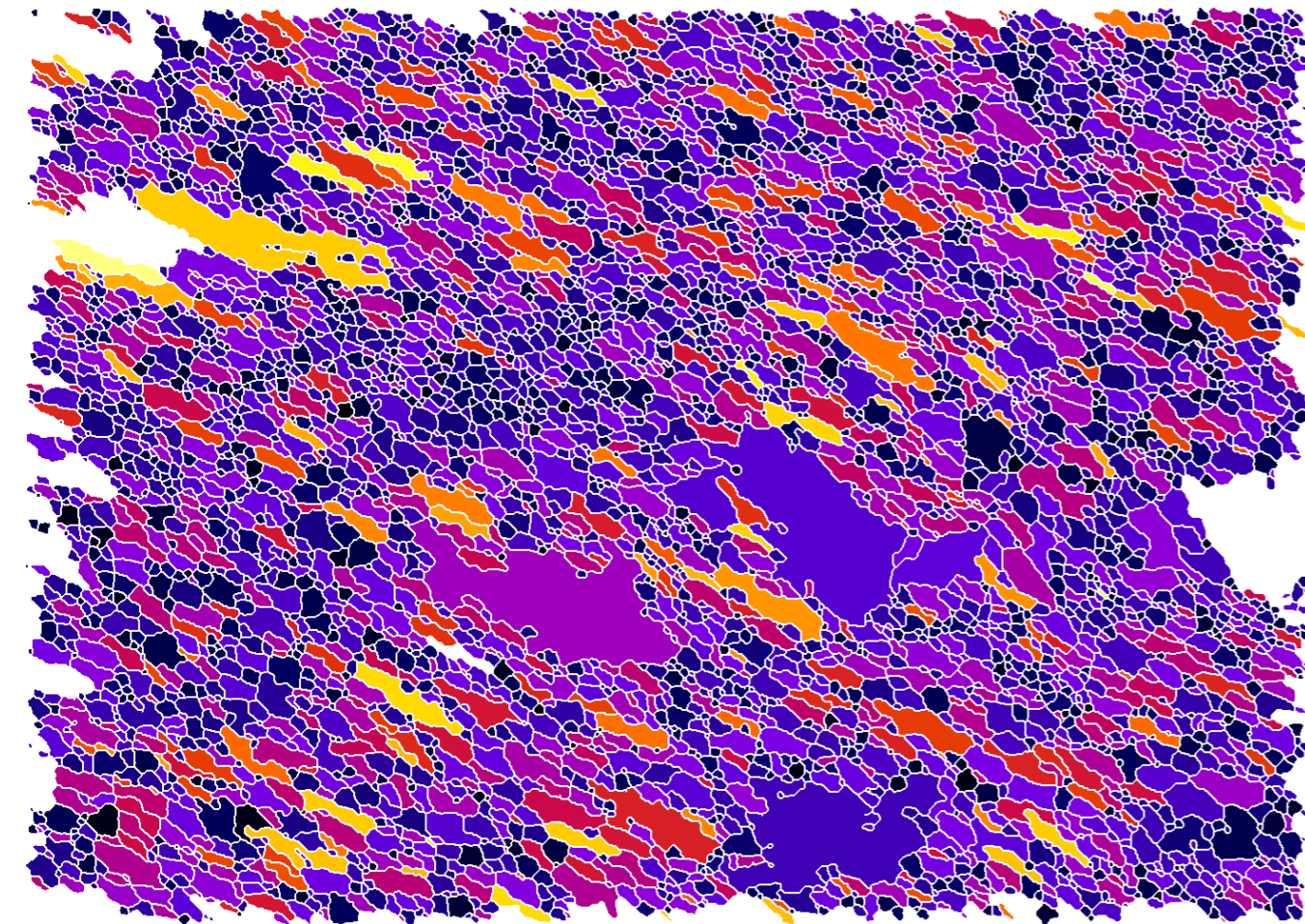
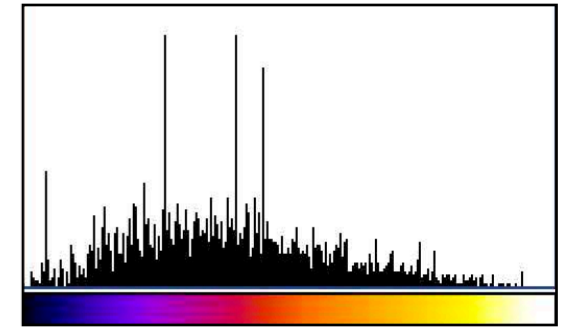


# choice of property a/b versus b/a

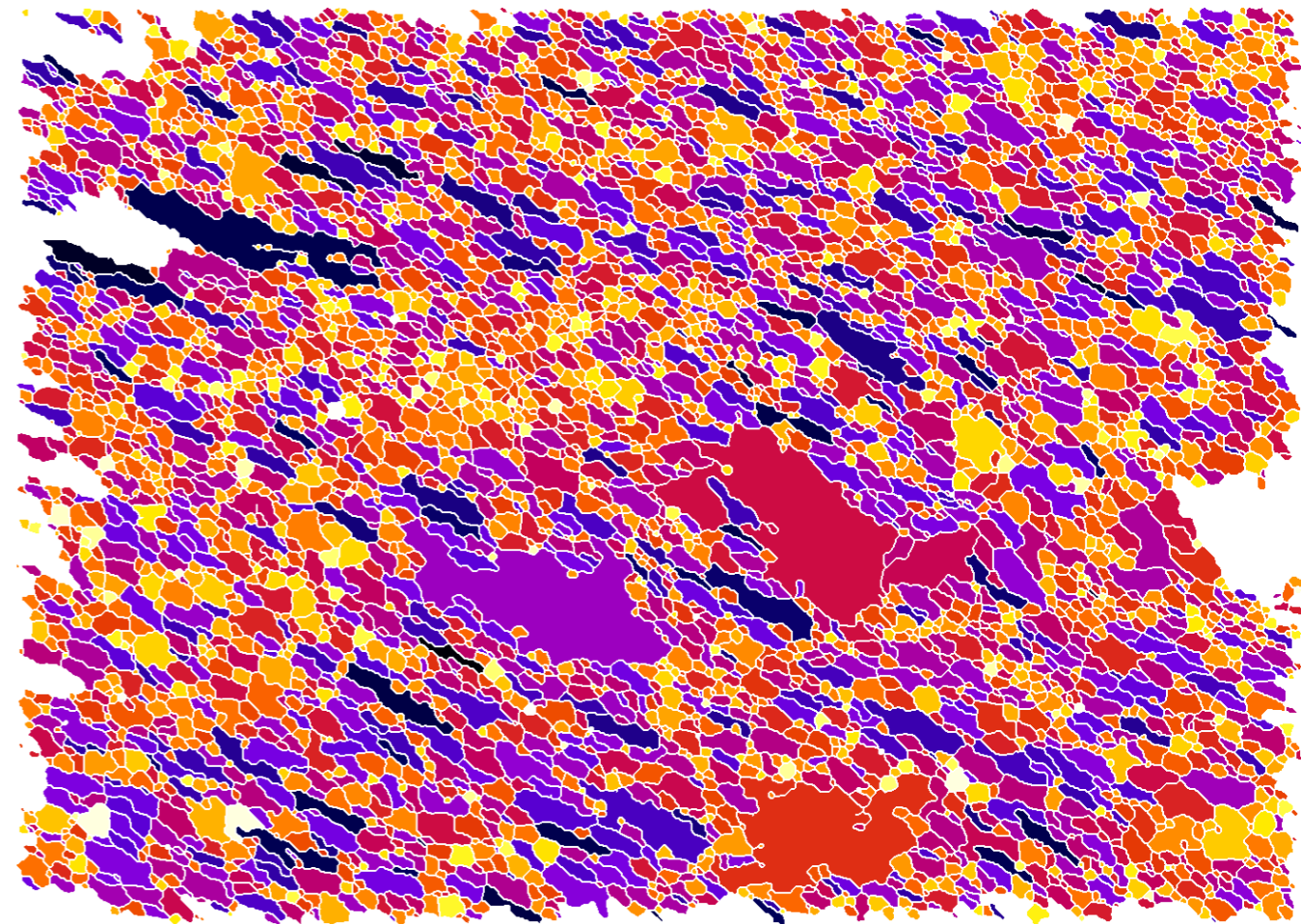
Fire  
purple = round  
yellow = elongate




Fire  
purple = elongate  
yellow = round



1.0  7.0  
aspect ratio = long / short



0.14  1.00  
axial ratio = short / long



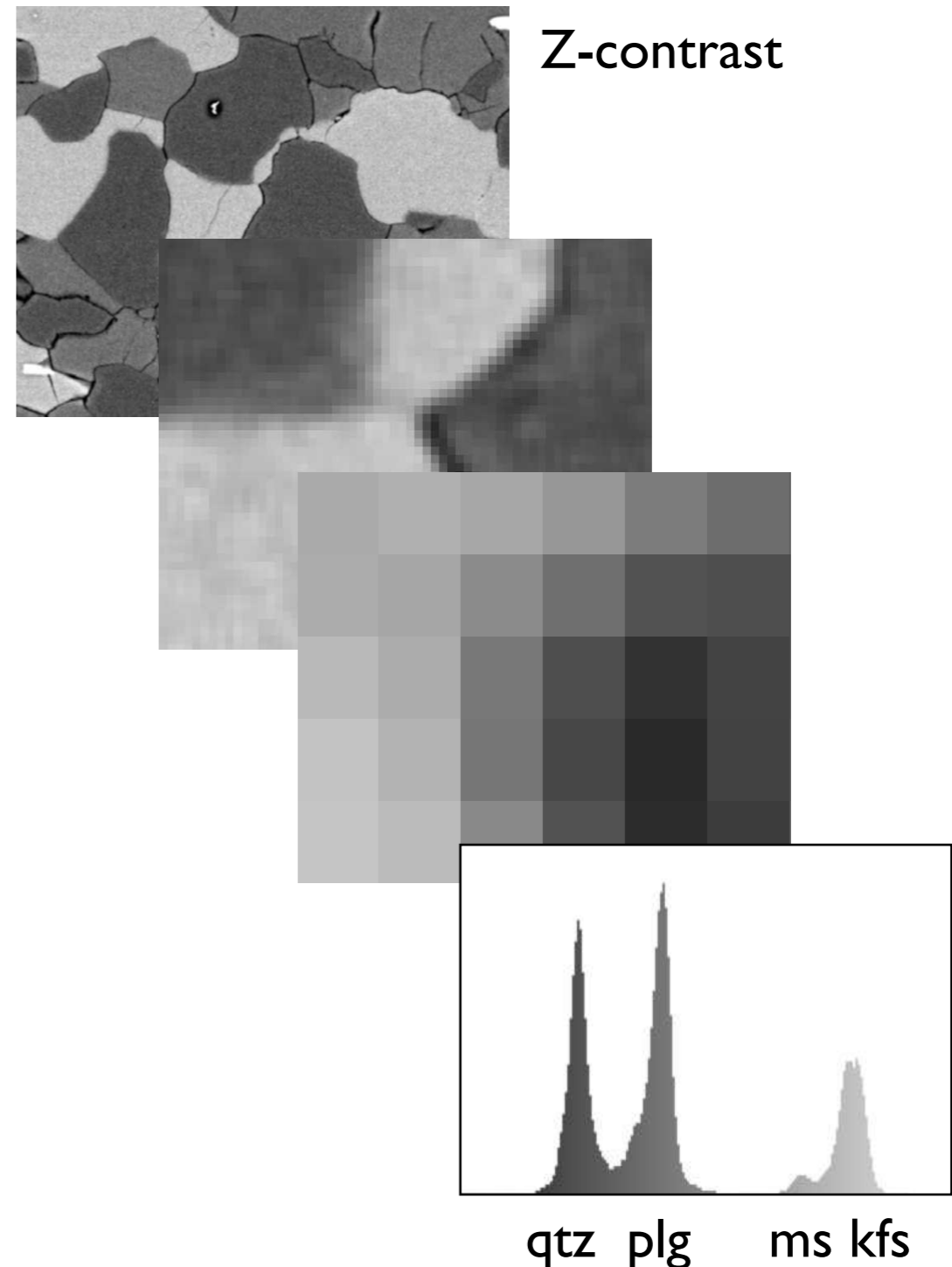
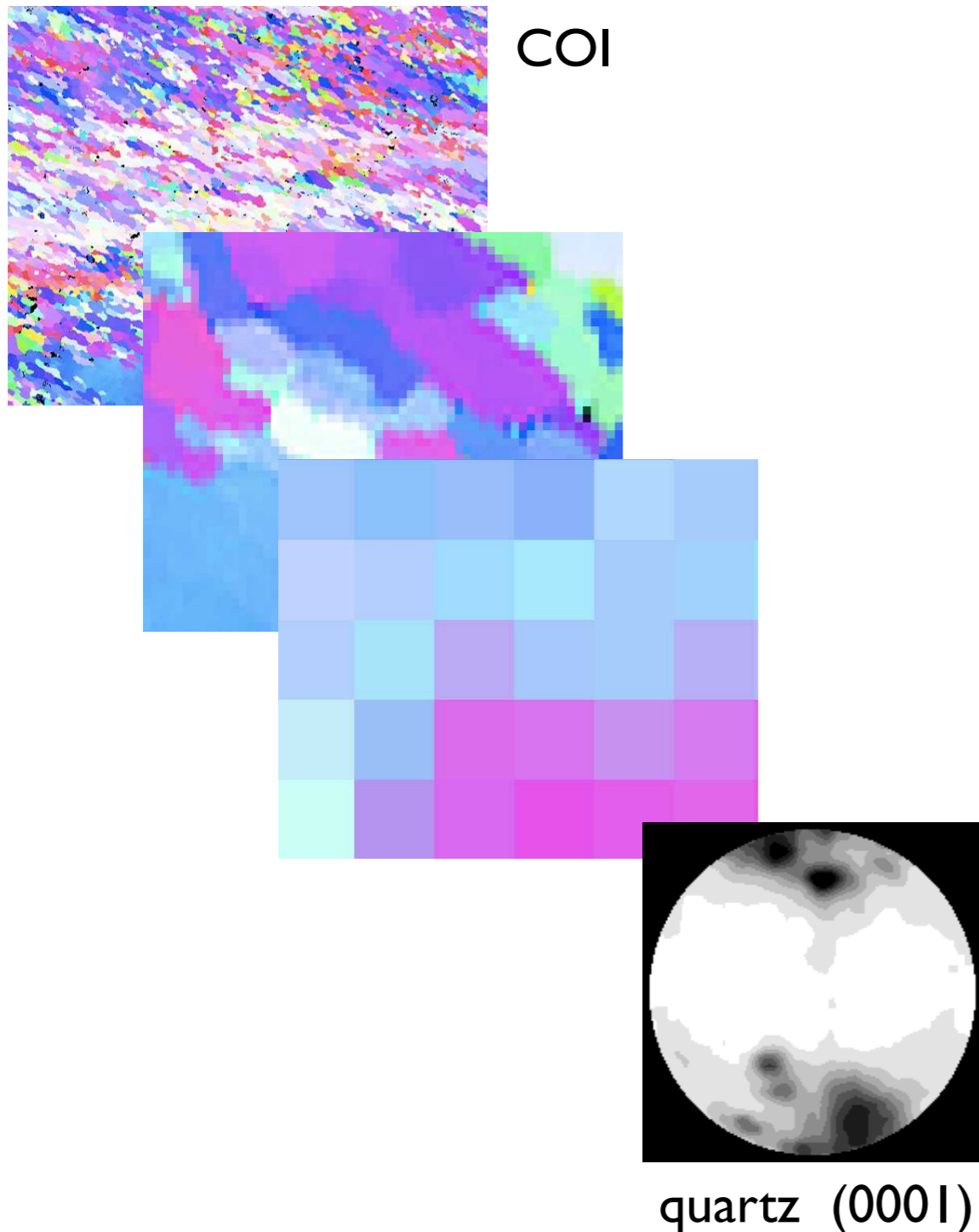
**extrapolating to 3D**



# properties – defined at each pixel

$$A_{\text{phase}}/A_{\text{total}} = V_{\text{phase}}/V_{\text{total}}$$

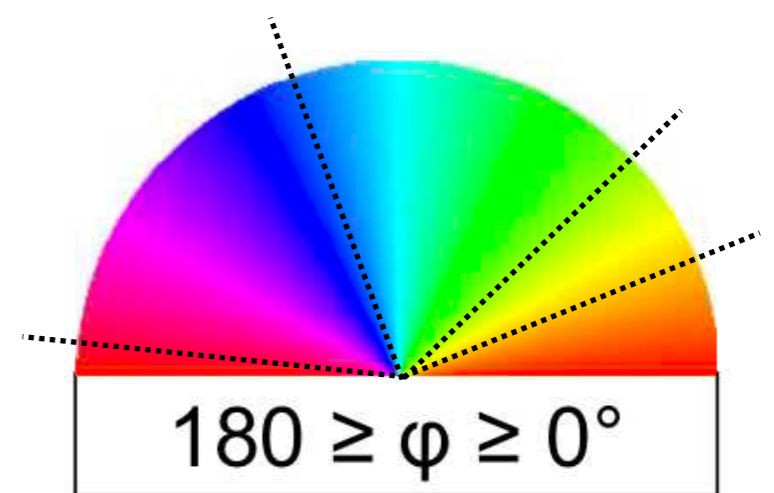
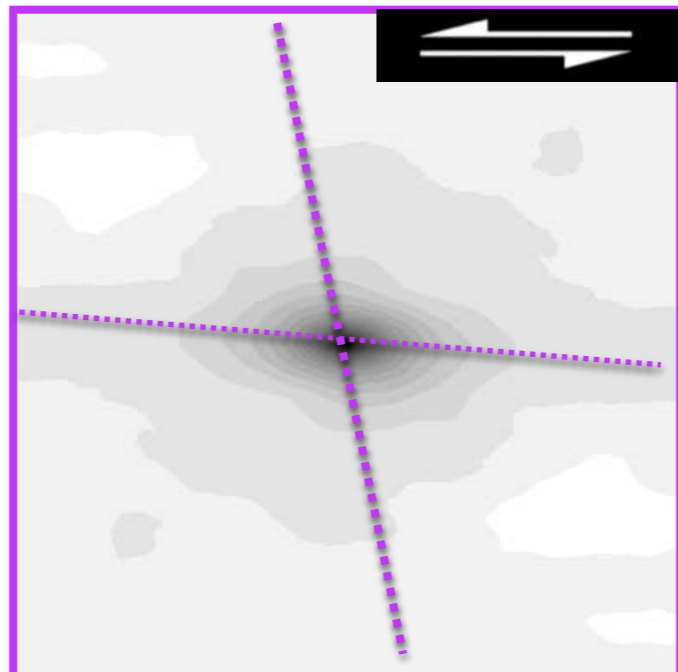
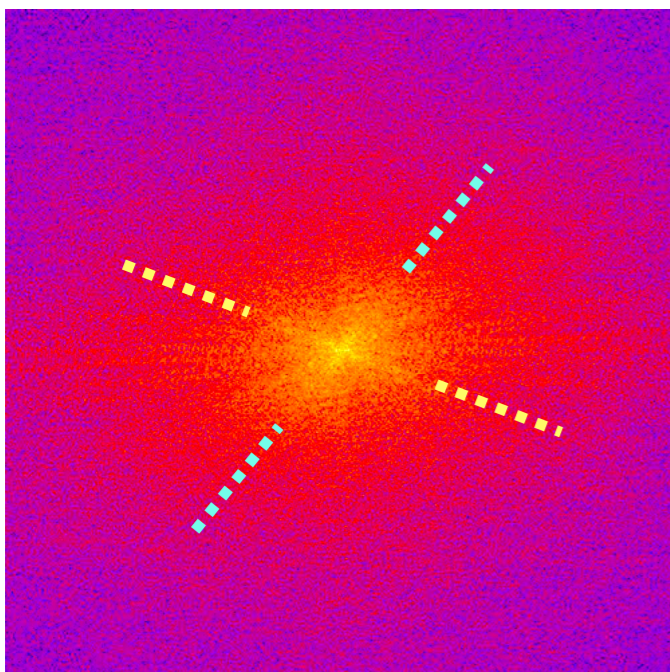
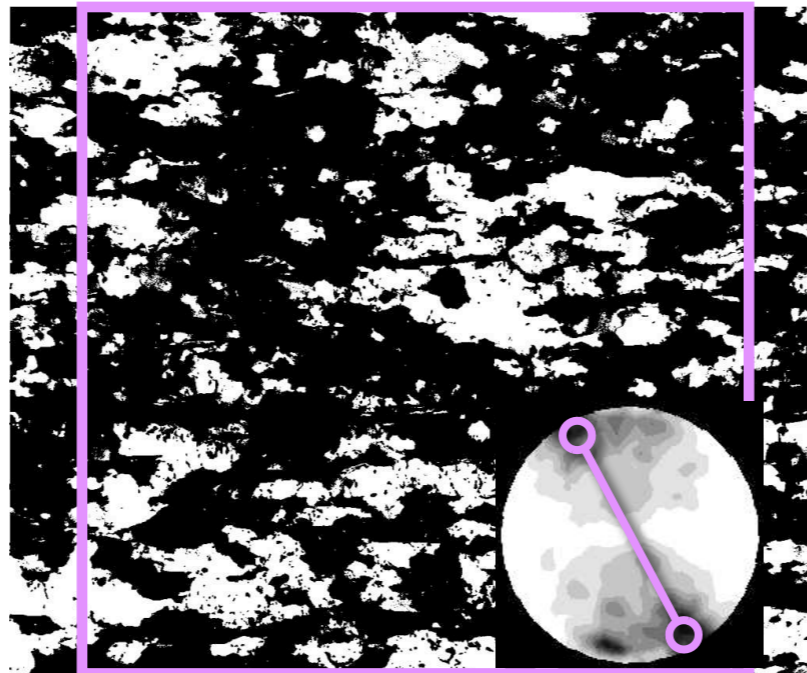
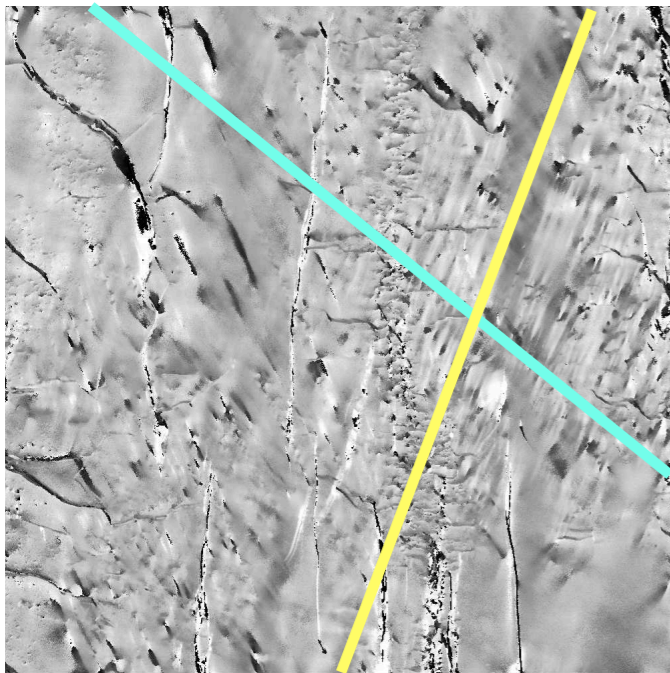
$$A_{\text{phase}}/A_{\text{total}} = V_{\text{phase}}/V_{\text{total}}$$





# properties – defined in 2D ...

orientation in 2D does not define orientation in 3D

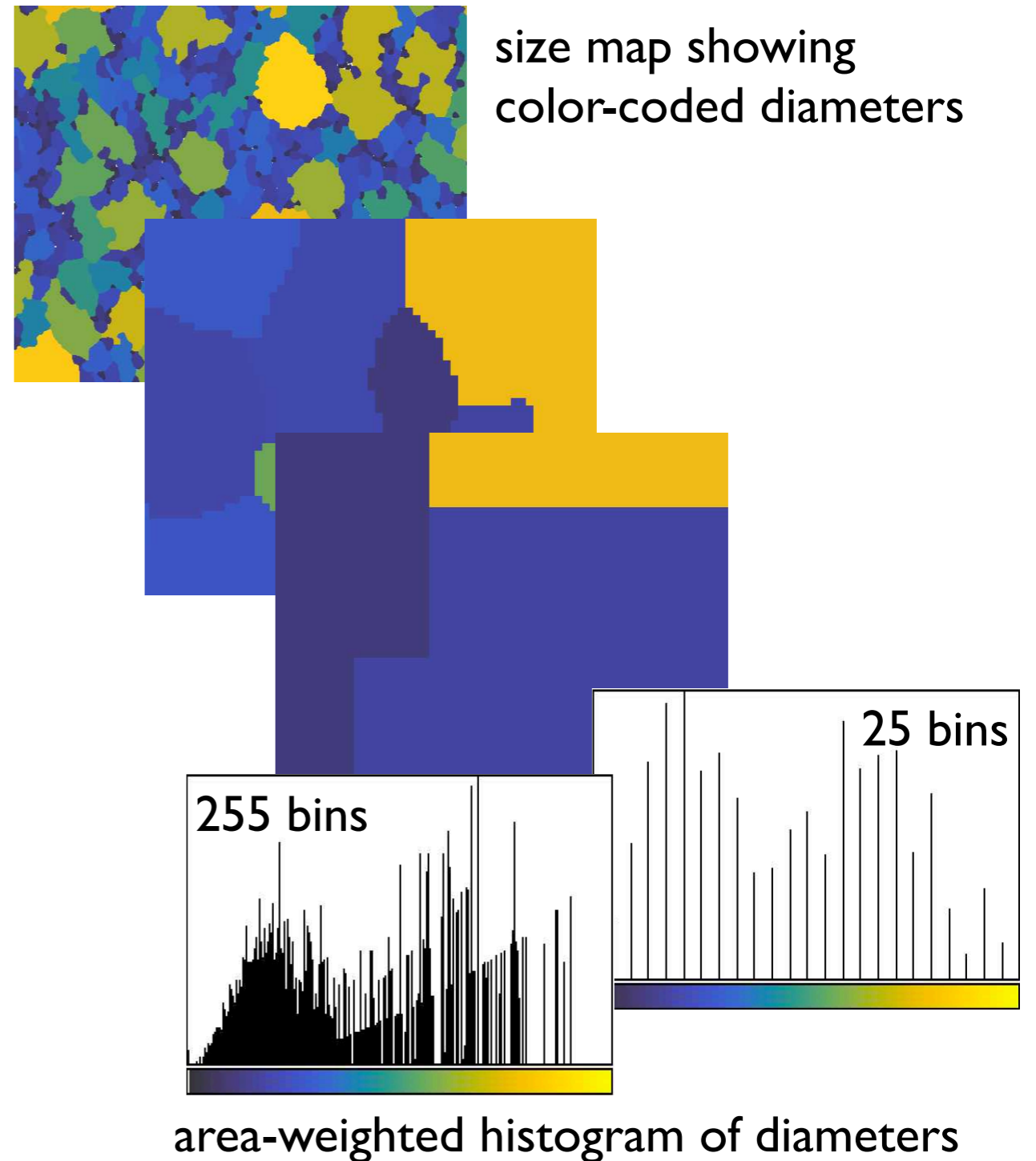
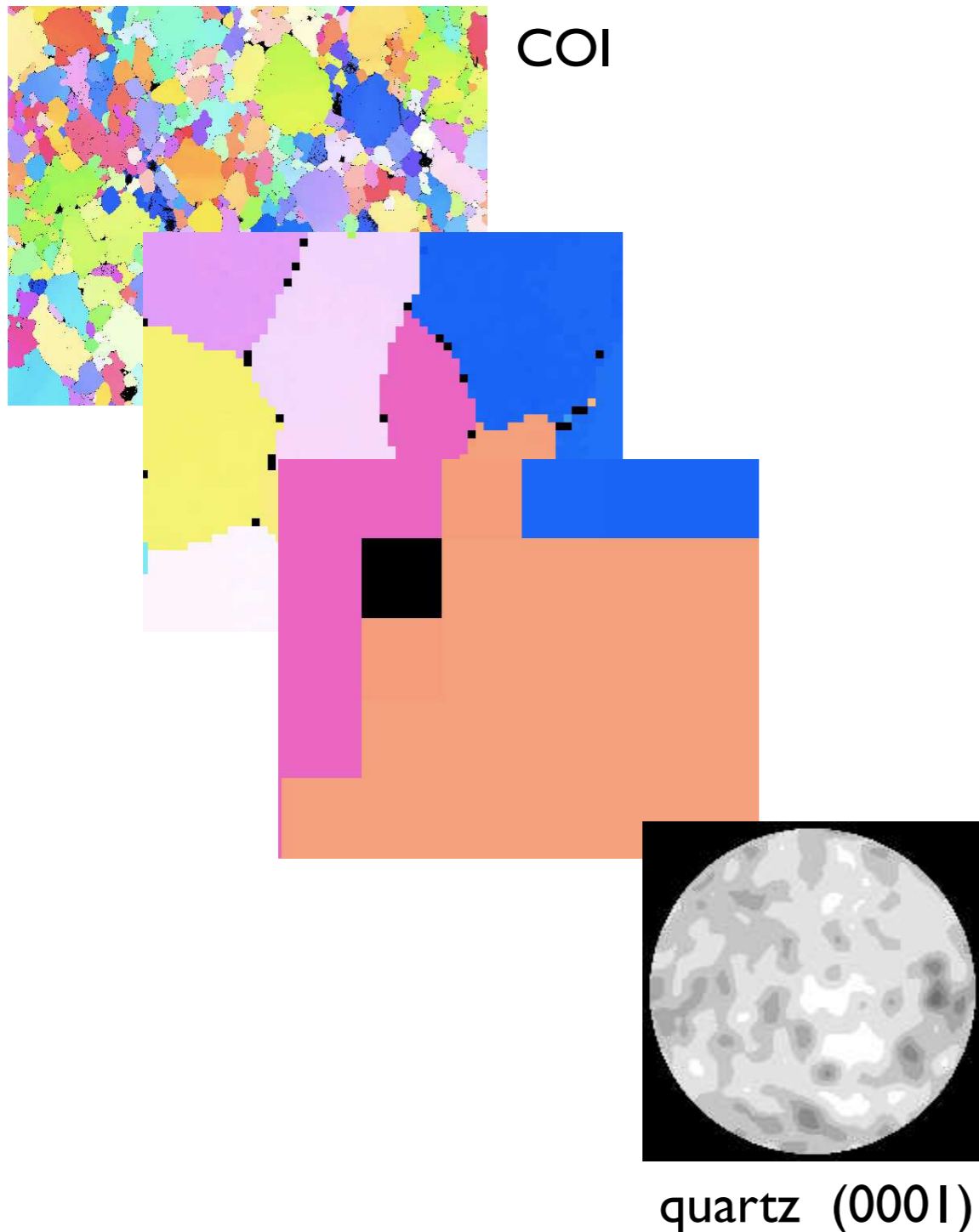




# properties – defined at each grain

$$A_{\text{phase}}/A_{\text{total}} = V_{\text{phase}}/V_{\text{total}}$$

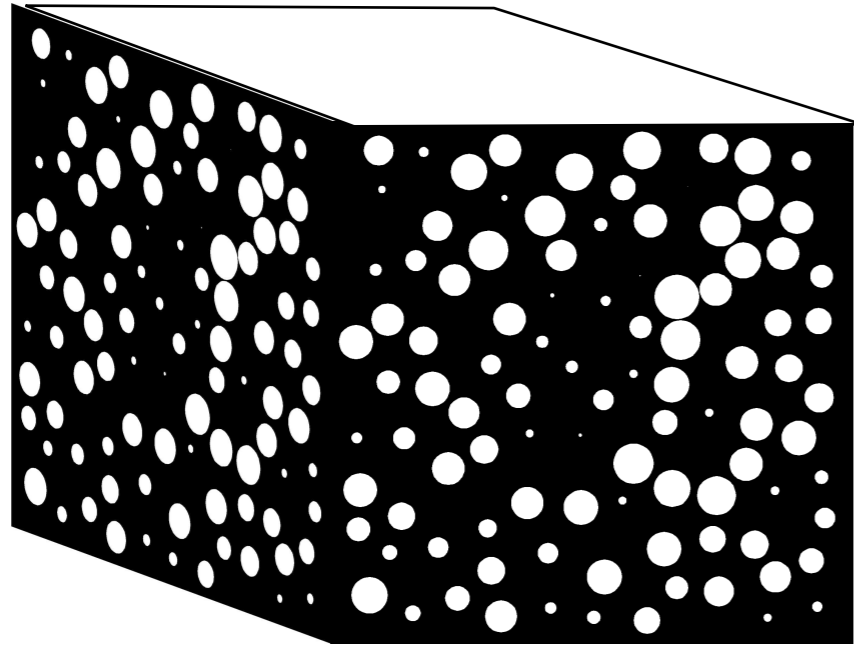
$$A_{\text{grainsize}}/A_{\text{total}} \neq V_{\text{grainsize}}/V_{\text{total}}$$



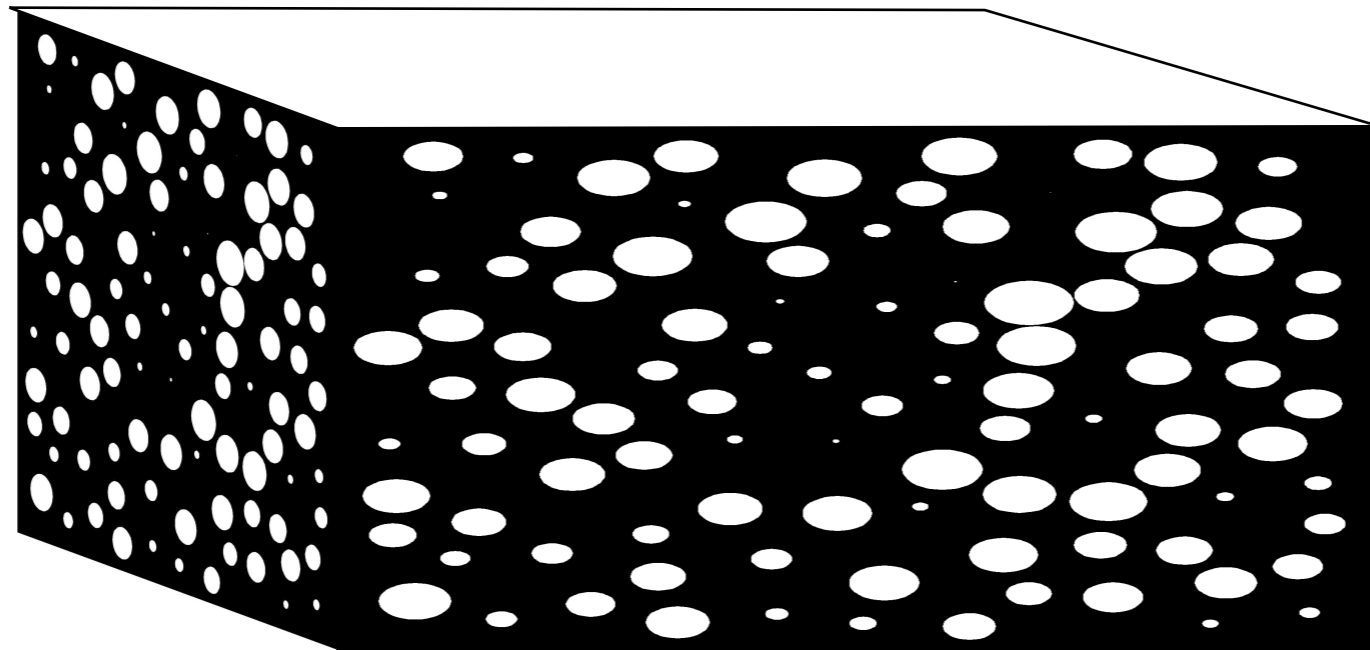


# problems of anisotropy ...

... when estimating  
... volume fractions  
... 3D grain size



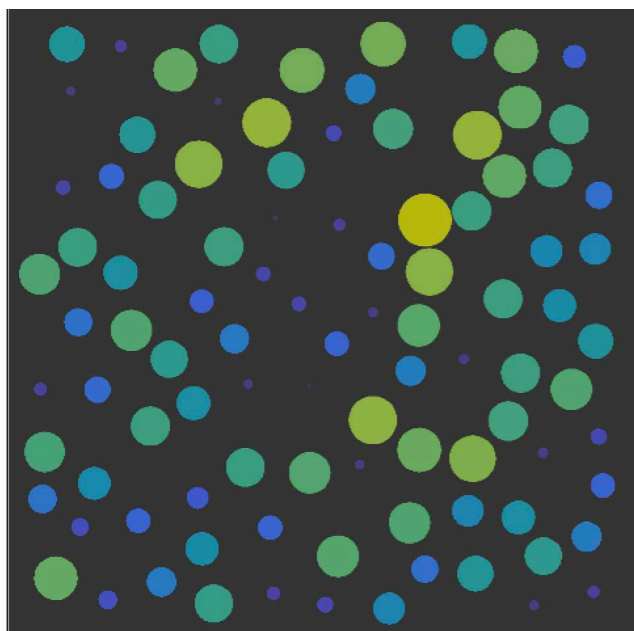
isotropic



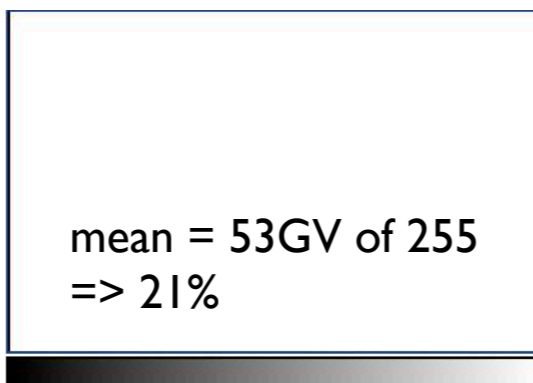
anisotropic



# problem ? vol(%) NO, grainsize YES

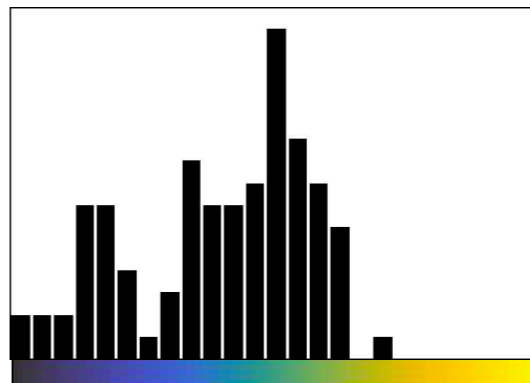


yz section

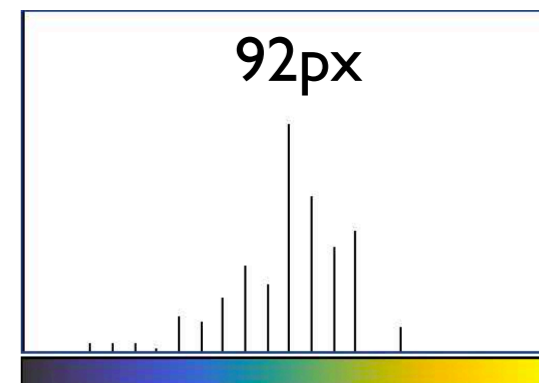


$A/A_{\text{tot}}$  of grains = 21%  
 $V/V_{\text{tot}}$  of grains = 21%

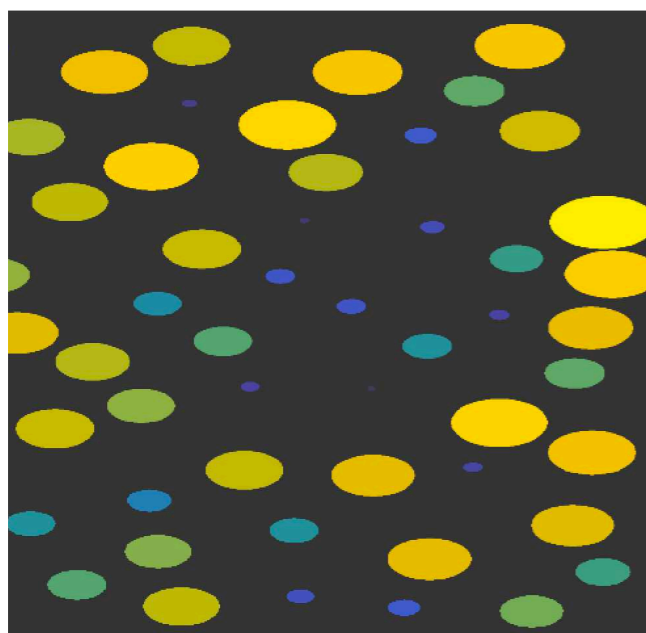
mean = 69



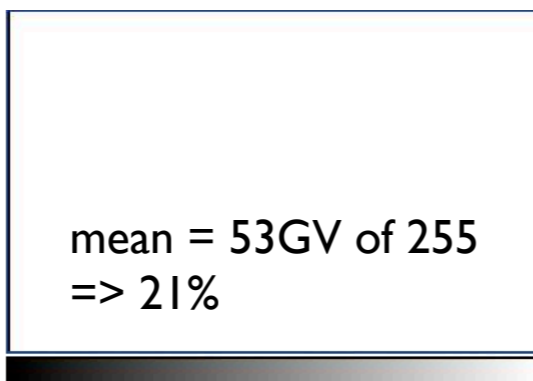
$h(d)$



area-weighted  $h(d)$

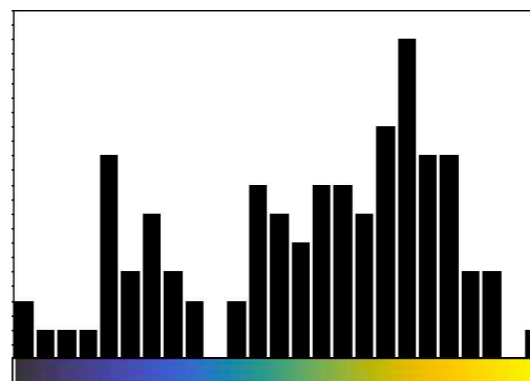


xz section

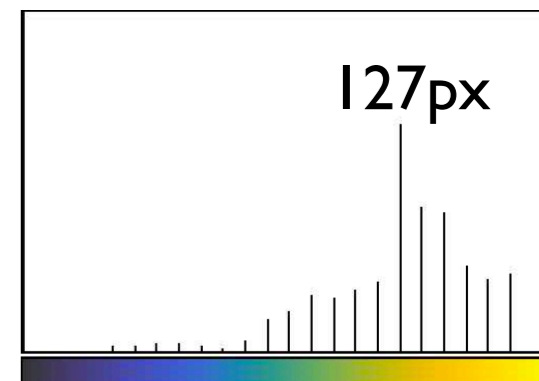


$A/A_{\text{tot}}$  of grains = 21%  
 $V/V_{\text{tot}}$  of grains = 21%

mean = 97



$h(d)$



area-weighted  $h(d)$

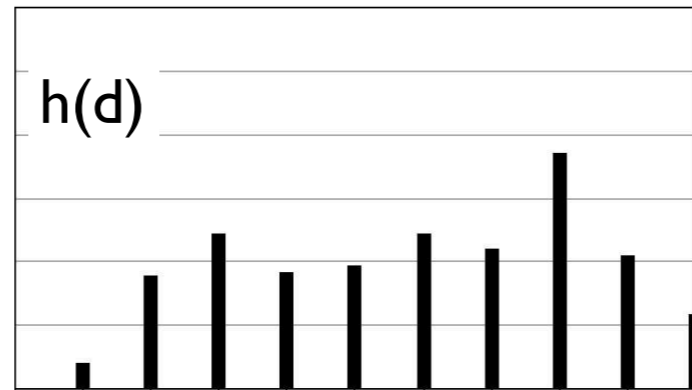
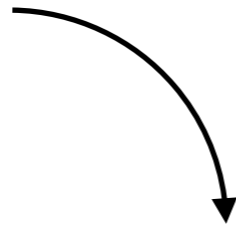
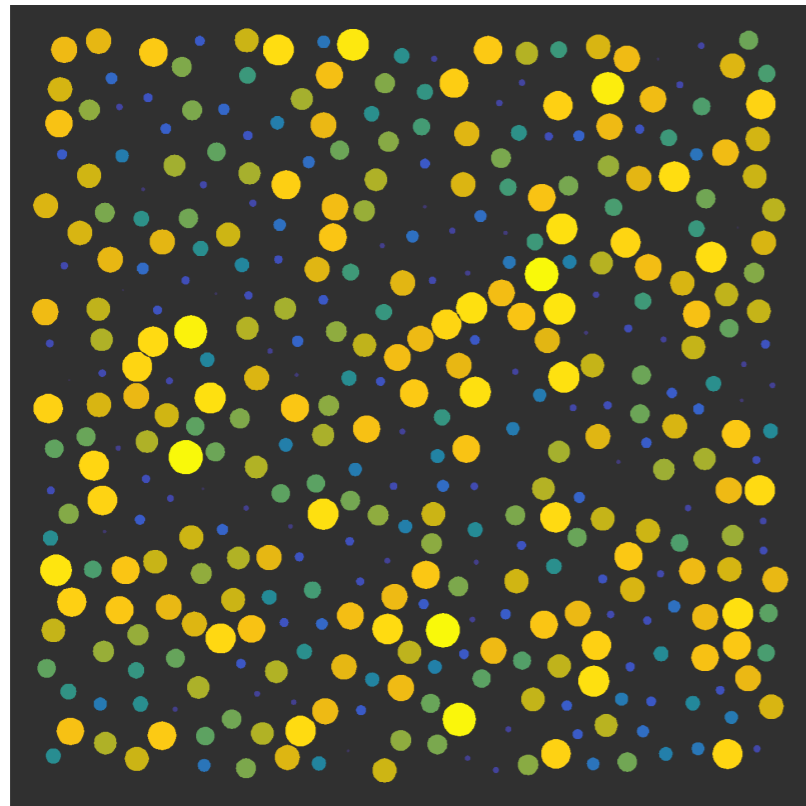


$$V(\%)_{\text{aniso}} = V(\%)_{\text{iso}}$$

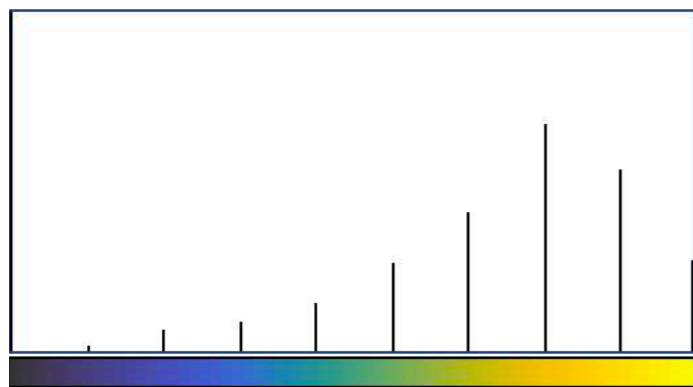
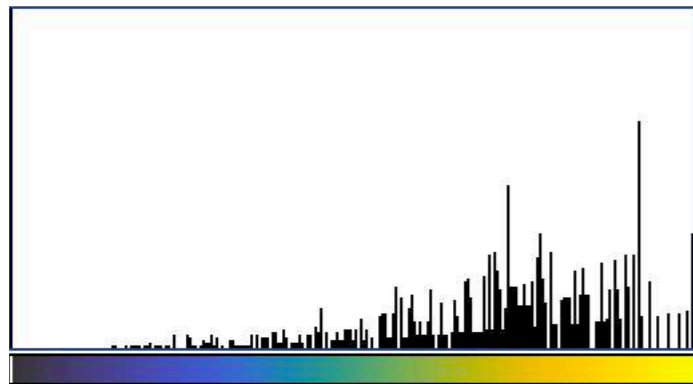
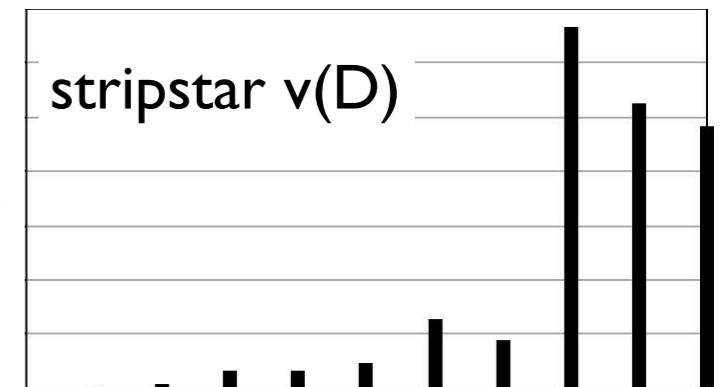
$$D_{\text{aniso}} : D_{\text{iso}} = \sqrt{2} : 1$$



# estimating 3D size from 2D sections

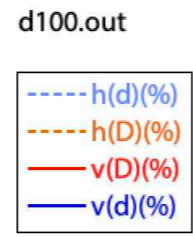
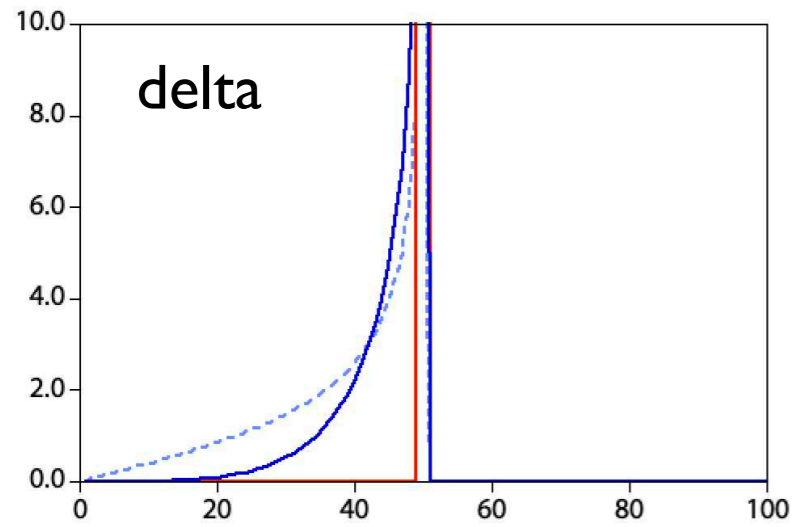


stripstar

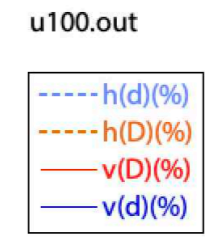
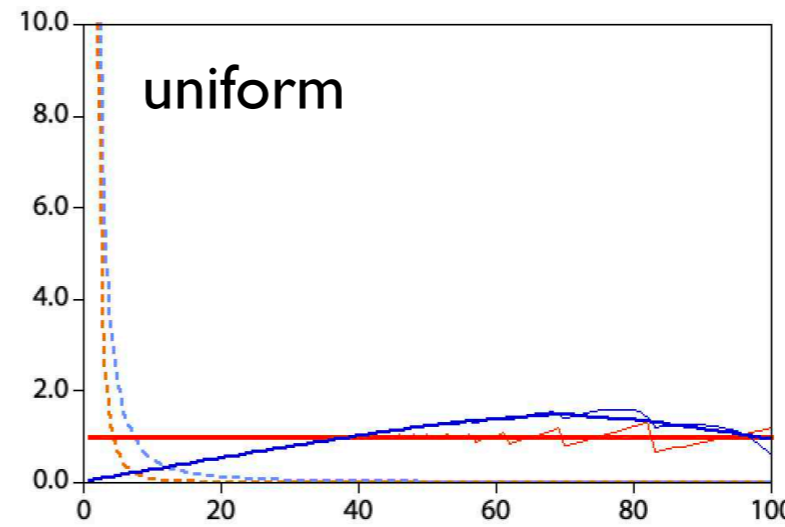




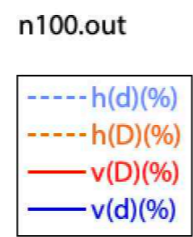
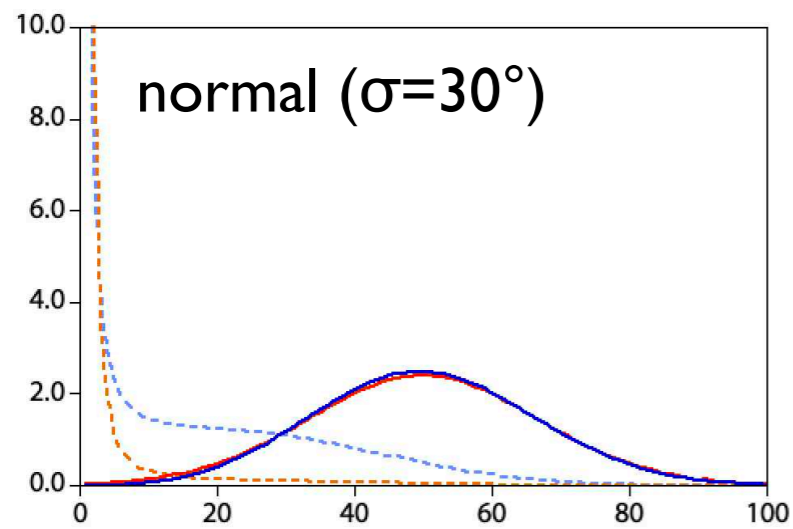
# vol(d) $\neq$ stripstar v(D)



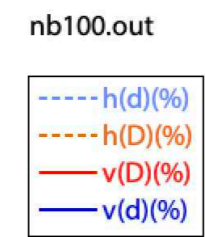
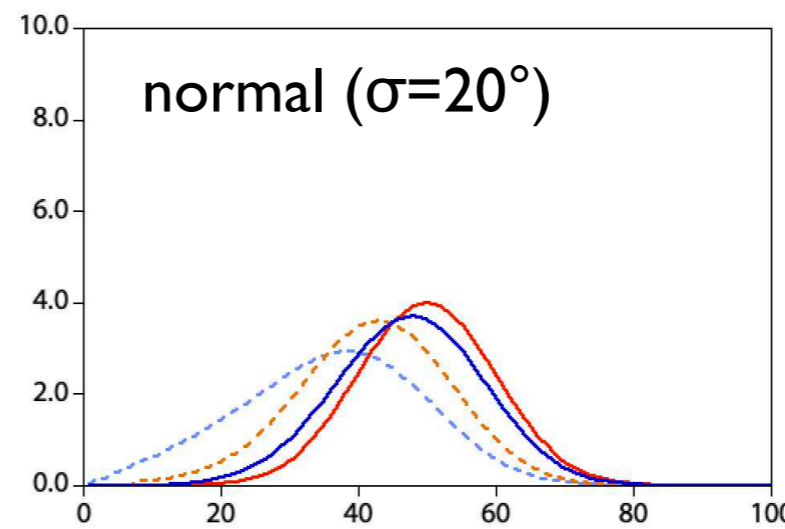
d\_RB



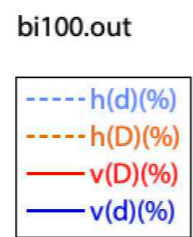
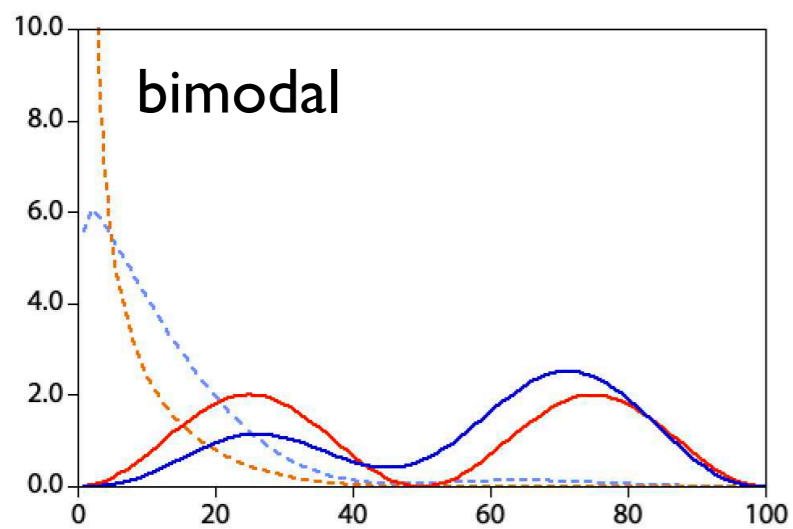
d\_RB



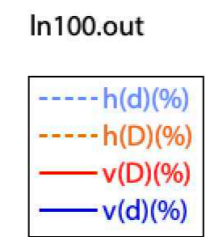
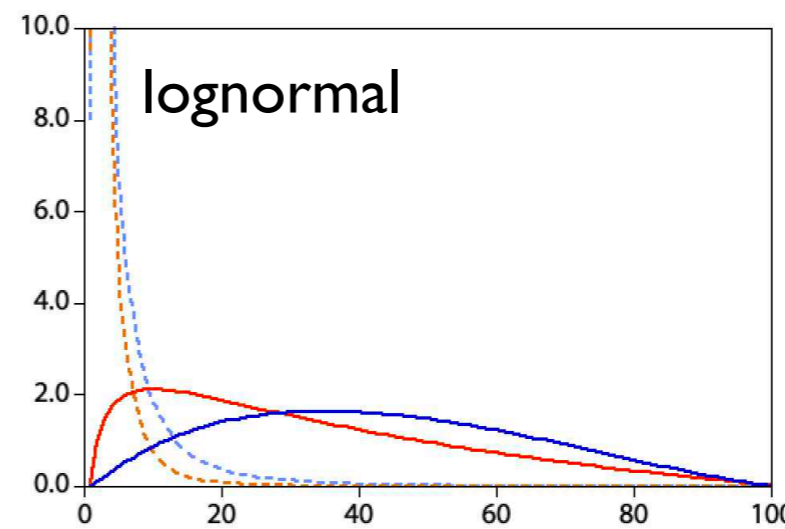
d\_RB



d\_RB



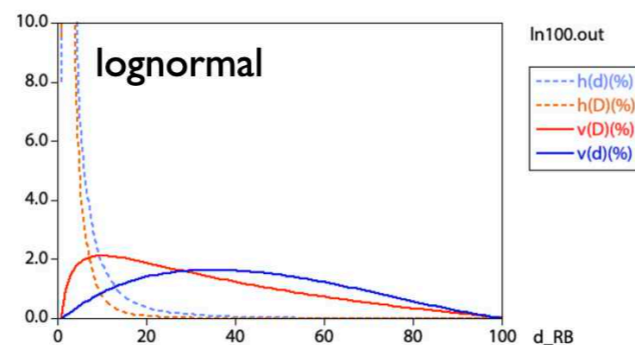
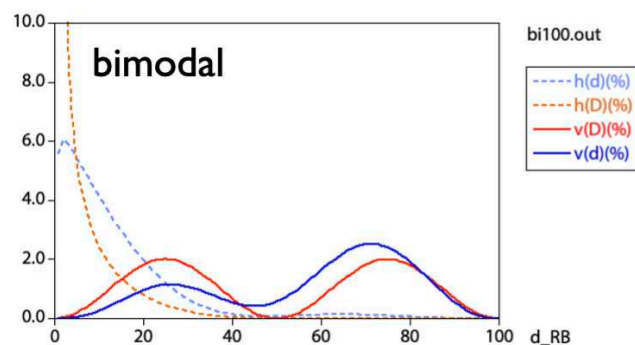
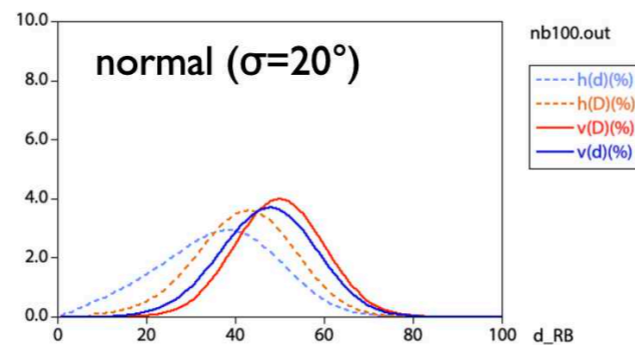
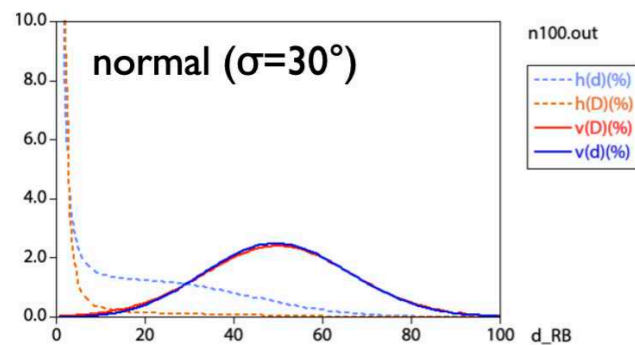
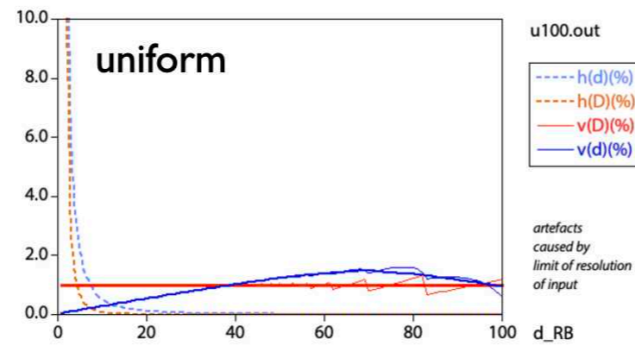
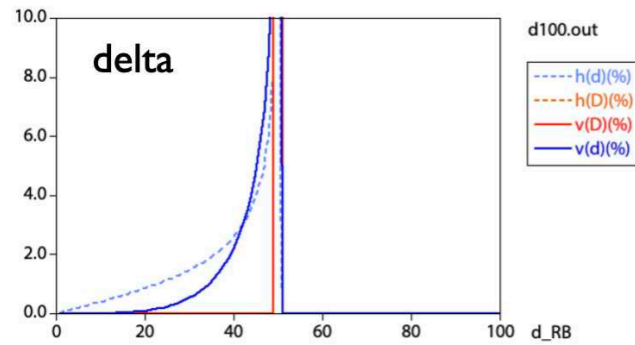
d\_RB



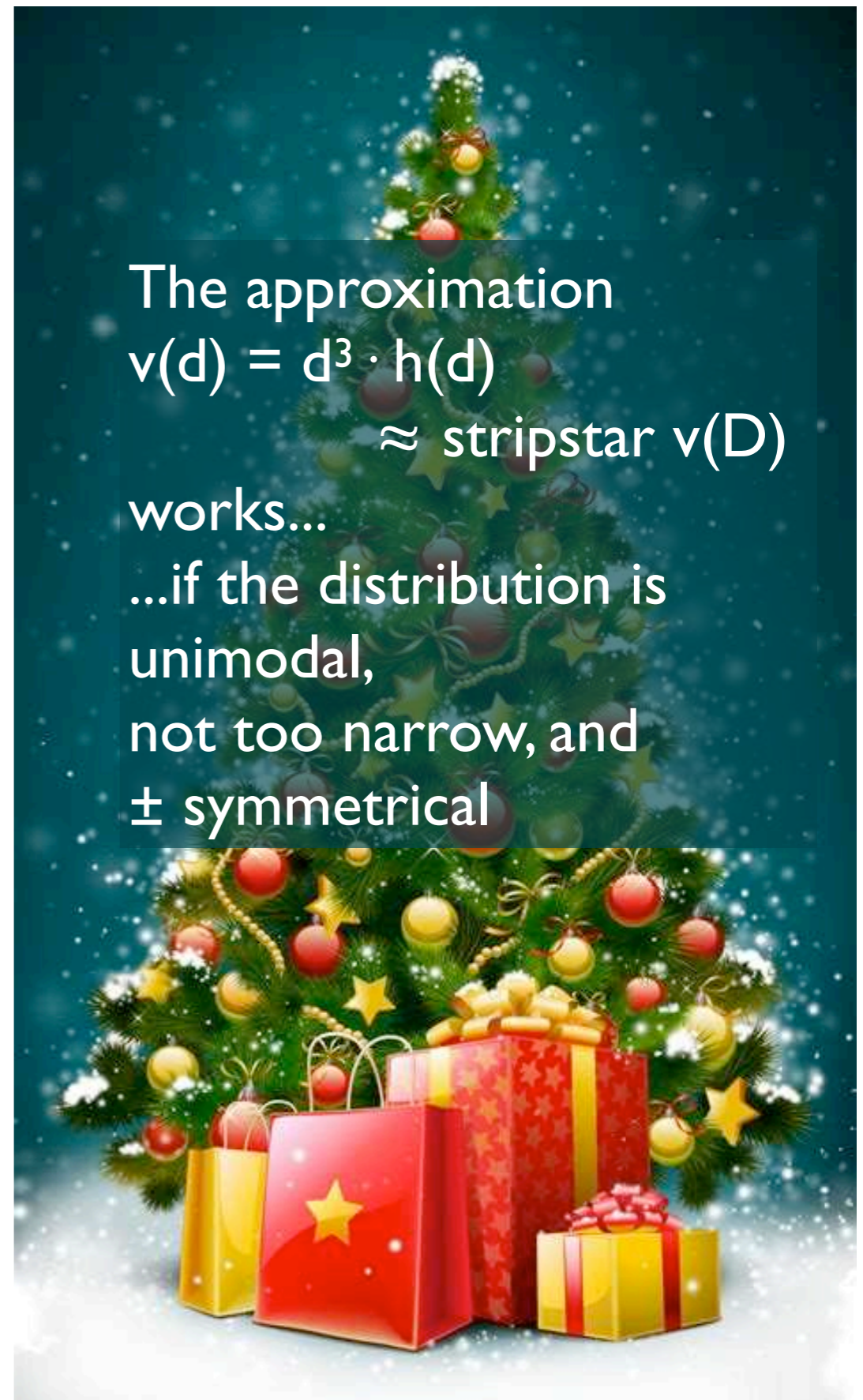
d\_RB



# a Christmas present ...



The approximation  
 $v(d) = d^3 \cdot h(d)$   
 $\approx$  stripstar  $v(D)$   
works...  
...if the distribution is  
unimodal,  
not too narrow, and  
 $\pm$  symmetrical





# summary

the CIP method...

- is useful for quartz, calcite, ice, especially if coarse grained
- is based on regular polarisation microscopy and open source imagej
- allows prototyping of analysis of orientation images
- provides insight in general concepts of orientation imaging
- is an ideal complement to EBSD
- is ... inspiring ...!