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Synchrotron Radiation in use for cultural heritage studies

Monday, 4 July 2011 14:00 (35 minutes)

The study of Cultural Heritage materials requires advanced techniques to shed new lights on ancient technologies and help in their preservation. The implementation of new analytical tools, including large or medium scale facilities such as synchrotron radiation, charge particle accelerators, neutron sources, etc. permits a deep insight on the archaeological and artistic materials, from the millimeter to the nanometer scales. During this lecture, current applications and potential needs of multiscale imaging techniques will be presented to show the major role played by synchrotron analytical techniques to characterize the nature and the mode of preparation of different pigments, both used for paint or makeup (origin of the minerals, chemical synthesis of new compounds, crushing of crystals, mixing of matters, etc...).

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