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Book of Abstracts

THE IMPACT OF NEW MICROSCOPES IN CULTURAL HERITAGE STUDIES

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ABSTRACT

We will review recent advances of cultural heritage research with microscopes based on synchrotron radiation, neutrons, ion beams and other radiations or particles that can reveal non-destructively the structure of art objects and archaeological remains. The morphological, elemental and isotopic composition inferred from the analysis is of paramount importance in art history, archaeology, palaeanthropology and other relevant areas. This in-depth characterisation can be used to develop appropriate strategies for the conservation of cultural heritage sites and objects. The scientific community involved in cultural heritage studies is producing a growing amount of information that can be shared globally using virtual networks, databases and all the tools made available by the ICT revolution.