

SEM exercise

You are given a set of 7 minerals (A-G) that have come from historical volcanic debris flow deposits. Grain B also has a high magnification image, B', as well as a whole grain view. Describe all of the features that you can recognize for each grain. Then try to identify the minerals. They all are different and represent common rock forming minerals.

For each grain image there is a corresponding EDAX scan. The sharp EDAX peaks represent specific elements. Most elements are labeled. Remember that the intensity of the peak is governed by both the abundance and atomic number of the element. Thus for equal amounts of iron and sodium, the iron peak would be much taller. Use the major elemental abundances for each grain to aid in your identification.





