



Opinion

History of the Universe

Alwyn Eades

Professor of Materials Science and Engineering Emeritus, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA 18015

jae5@lehigh.edu

Some time ago, at M&M, I gave a tutorial on electron diffraction. This turned out to be a more foolish enterprise than I had initially imagined. When it came time to prepare it, I found that there was just far too much to say. At the start of the tutorial I asserted that it would be easier to give a complete history of mankind in 30 seconds than to give a tutorial on electron diffraction in one hour. At the end of the tutorial, to prove my point, I gave a history of mankind in thirty seconds. I have expanded this idea recently to be more comprehensive. Now I have a history of the universe, which takes me forty-five seconds to read (I am a slow reader).

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10 ¹⁰ years ago	The Universe started
109 years ago	Life began
108 years ago	Mammals
10 ⁷ years ago	The first apes
106 years ago	Humanoids
10 ⁵ years ago	Mankind and language
10 ⁴ years ago	Cities and writing
10 ³ years ago	Manufacturing
10 ² years ago	Modern science
101 years ago	Man on the moon
100 years ago	The Kardashians

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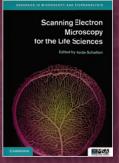
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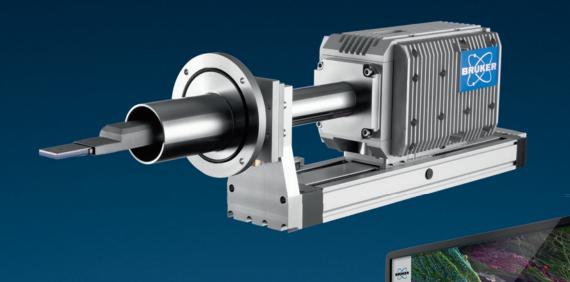


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