

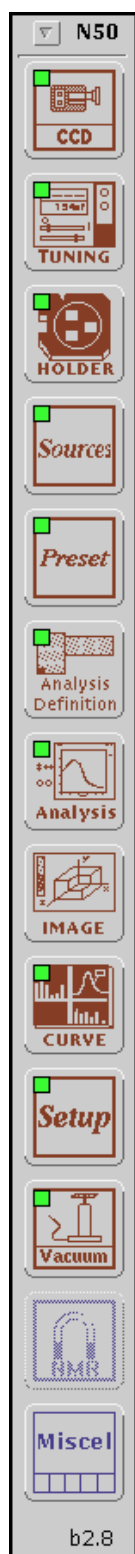
Chapter 1: Tool Bar

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A. Description of Tool Bar

The Tool Bar is the main panel for the NanoSIMS instrument. It allows the user to open the control panels that address different aspects of the operation of the instrument. Multiple panels can be open at the same time. A green square in the icon indicates that the sub menu is already open.

The following menus will be discussed with their sub-menus in the following chapters:



CCD: This button opens a window on one of the displays of the MIMS SPARC that shows the image from the CCD camera at the sample stage. This image can be used to select new regions on a chip for analysis, or to move between chips if the lay-out of the sample holder has not been saved..



Tuning: Allows the user to adjust the **focus**, **mass selection**, detector parameters and other variable settings and gives access to sub windows that are needed to monitor the effects of these adjustment, such as real time imaging and count rates.



Holder: Controls the positioning of the sample holder. This includes the positioning in the **x- and y- axis** necessary for centering of the sample, but also the movement of the entire sample stage into the positions for inspection by the **CCD camera** and for measurements of the primary ion current at the sample plane (**FCO**).



Sources: Selects and controls the primary ion source. This button accesses a menu that allows for the selection of different primary ion sources (if installed), as well as maintenance.



Preset: Accesses a list of saved **parameter files** for the settings of the instrument. It also allows the editing and the creation of new parameter sets.



Analysis Definition: Sets up various analytical methods, such as imaging spectrometry, depth profiling, but also the batch mode of the instrument that allows for automatic acquisition of a series of experiments.



Analysis: Sets the parameters for a given experiment, such as file names, etc. Also starts the data acquisition



Curve: Determines layout for multiple curves from multiple sub-programs. This part of the program suite is not yet fully implemented.



Setup. Controls instrument parameters such as slit widths, etc.



Vacuum. Monitors and controls the function of the vacuum system.



Miscellaneous. Periodic table with isotope lists and other small programs. This part of the program suite is not yet fully implemented.

B. General Tips for Using NanoSIMS Software

- Whenever you enter input, i.e. a string, a numerical value, etc., always hit the enter key to ensure the value has been stored
- For certain windows, you can only type in them if the top bar is blue. To activate a window in this way, click on the top of the frame at the edge.
- For other windows, click on the edge.