

Analysis Is Easier With APEX™

EDAX APEX™ is a new microanalysis software package with a fresh and well organized workflow geared towards the novice technician or the advanced microanalyst performing routine functions. At first glance, the flexible screen layouts and customizable color schemes are the most appealing aspects of the software. The screen layouts, with resizable floating, tabbed and docked windows, can be adjusted and saved to any user's preference for spectrum, imaging and data views. With more extensive use, the analyst will notice more substantial and advanced features, such as the addition of right mouse clicks and live-time, fully corrected quantitative analysis.

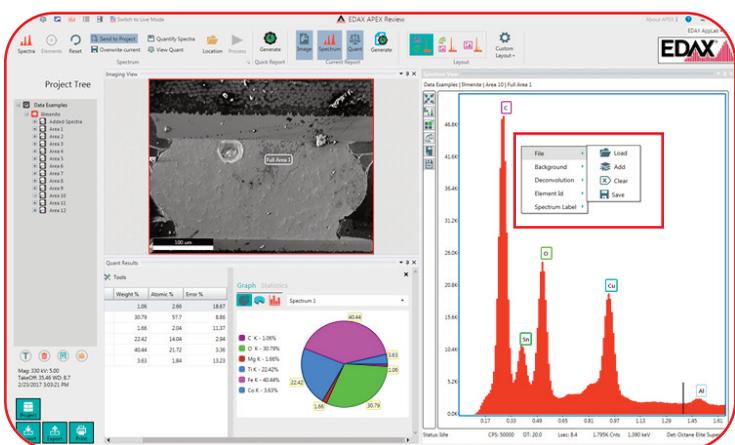


Figure 1. A menu of quick file options is accessed by right clicking on a spectra (highlighted in the red box).

Right mouse clicks are a common Microsoft OS function, which speeds up the ability of the user to view or process displayed information. For active Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS) data in APEX™, the user can now do a right mouse click on any of the images, maps or spectra. Right clicking on an image quickly sends the image to a custom folder in a compatible image format. A right click on a spectrum opens an additional menu of useful functional options. Figure 1 shows a spectrum menu of quick file options such

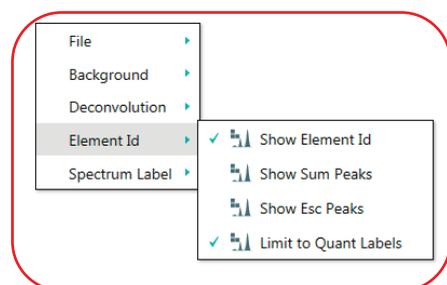


Figure 2. A menu showing fine tuning functions for Element ID accessed by right clicking on a spectra.

as Save, Load, Clear or Add (overlay) spectra with just one additional click. Any of these options will open a Windows file box to perform these file storage functions directly.

In APEX™ a right click on a spectrum will also give analysts fine tuning functions for Element ID, such as showing artifact peaks, and reducing display labels to primary quant peaks only (Figure 2). Finally, convenience functions, such as changing the background or deconvolution colors, or changing the spectrum label size and box, can now be done with just a single right click (Figure 3).

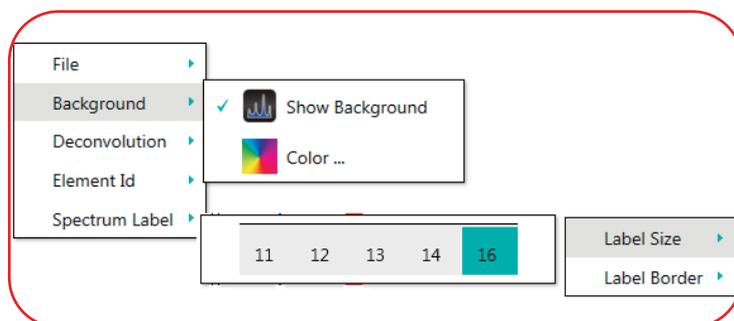


Figure 3. A menu of convenience functions accessed through a single right click.

A major change to the EDS capability with APEX™ is the live-time data interpretation with fully ZAF corrected quantitative analysis. Now, quantitative analysis can be performed during spectral data collection with no delay to the acquisition. Full matrix corrected results are displayed in real time, which shows the analyst the true chemical composition of the sample being processed. Appealing graphical display options facilitate data interpretation with pie charts, 3D pie charts and bar graphs (Figure 4).

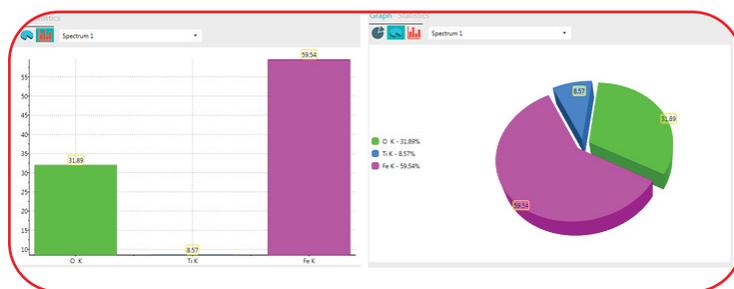


Figure 4. Graphical display options available in the EDAX APEX™ software.

EDAX APEX™ software offers an uncomplicated and practical user interface, which makes it easier for novice and advanced users alike to accomplish their EDS analysis goals. Data quality is maintained while increasing productivity with the addition of common user interface tools in an appealing and flexible software display.