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## Surface chemical analysis — Data transfer format for scanning-probe microscopy

*Analyse chimique des surfaces — Format de transfert de données pour la microscopie à sonde à balayage*



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## Foreword

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ISO 28600 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 201, *Surface chemical analysis*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Data management and treatment*.

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## Introduction

In surface topographical and chemical analyses, many commercial instruments for scanning-probe microscopy (SPM) are operated under various environments. These SPM instruments provide the scientists and engineers with a wide range of analytical techniques and many operating parameters to vary. Since the whole of the data acquisition and processing of SPM can be digitally controlled by a computer with data storage devices, all the parameters and data can be recorded in digital files. However, since there has been no standard data format for SPM, the data taken by different manufacturers' instruments are difficult to transfer, exchange, share and archive. Besides, the complexity of the data processing required for the interpretation of the data makes it essential to keep a complete record of data acquisition and data pre-processing. Thus a standard format for the transfer of data is required to enhance communication, to interpret and treat the data taken by different instruments consistently and to reduce the uncertainty of data analysis.