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Manuscript title: *Angle selective backscattered electron contrast in the low-voltage scanning electron microscope: simulation & experiment for polymers*

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### Author contribution:

Q Wan has written the first draft of manuscripts, and worked on including the calculation of simulation inputs and the simulations based on Monte Carlo computing program for all materials applied in experiment. Q Wan calculated the parameter relationship between simulation and experimental microscope system with deceleration field. Q Wan calculated the parameter for SEM, and the data analysis of experimental data. Q Wan did the imaging of Cu, C, PNIPAM composite materials.

R C Master synthesized the P3HT sample applied in this work and did the SEM imaging of P3HT sample.

D Lidsey and C Rodenburg supervised R C Master.

K J Abrams worked with the organization of manuscript and improvement of manuscript writing.

M Dapor provided the Monte Carlo simulation program.

R A Plenderleith synthesized the PNIPAM composite sample used in the experiments.

S Rimmer and F Claeysens supervised R A Plenderleith.

C Rodenburg and F Claeysens supervised Q Wan.

Contribution detail of data/figure/sections is labeled accordingly in manuscript included in thesis.

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