

## Minescope: microscope mineral identifier for iOS and Android

ARASANZ, R.<sup>1</sup>, ROQUET, M.<sup>1</sup>, CORBELLA, M.<sup>2</sup>,  
CARDELLACH, E.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Projecte Minescope. [contacto@minscopeapp.com](mailto:contacto@minscopeapp.com)

<sup>2</sup>Departament de Geologia, Universitat Autònoma de  
Barcelona (UAB). [Merce.Corbella@uab.cat](mailto:Merce.Corbella@uab.cat)

### Minescope App

Minescope is a digital mineralogical application that simulates the functioning of a petrographic microscope (Fig. 1a). It allows the user to observe digitalised thin sections of minerals (Fig. 1b) as movies through a 360° rotation of the microscopy plate. The sets of images show both, the non-analysed polarized light (NAPL) and analysed polarized light (APL) optical properties. The application includes the principal properties of each mineral species and explanations of these properties. Furthermore, there is an option to look up for minerals that present certain optical properties, which the user may be observing in real time on a microscope.

All the images are stored in the Digital Deposit of Documents of the UAB. The app calls upon the images, which can be used online or downloaded into the device. Minescope was developed by geology graduates and the Department of Geology of the UAB.

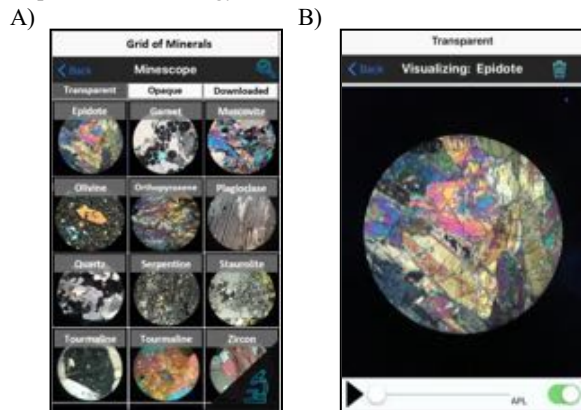


Figure 1. Images of the Minescope digital app (V. 2.0).  
A) Transparent minerals list with properties and movies included in the app. B) Image capture of epidote with APL.

Currently the app contains 15 opaque and 40 transparent minerals, the most significant in terms of ore deposits and rock forming, and therefore it is mainly used by students. The objective is to increase the photographic database with less abundant minerals so that it may become of interest also to experienced researchers.