Replies to the editors comment, describing the changes we have made, are shown below in italics.

1. Please adjust the formatting of your protocol section so that all text is aligned to the left margin with no indentations.   
*Altered as requested - see updated text.*

2. Please add a one line space between each step and sub-steps of your protocol section.   
*Altered as requested - see updated text.*

3. Please re-write steps of your protocol section in imperative tense, as if you are telling someone how to do the technique (i.e. "Do this", "Measure that" etc.), “Use a sublimation source consisting of ….”, etc. “  
*Altered as requested - see updated text.*

4. In step 1.1 please describe or give details of what electrical connections are made? What is the sample used? please provide specific description.   
*Altered as requested - see updated text.*

5. Is the sample dried in between the acetone and isopropyl alcohol washes? What strength of organic solvents are used?   
*Altered as requested - see updated text.*

6. In step 2.4 “EuTFC powder should be protected from water vapor and light while it is being stored. Even when this precaution is taken, it may still crystallize into large lumps of 100 microns diameter or more. These must be removed as they will result in a grossly non-uniform film when sublimated, causing artifacts in the thermal images” can be mentioned as a NOTE. Please mention step 2.4 as “Thoroughly grind EuTFC powder using an agate mortar and pestle to remove any visible lumps.”.

*Sections requested to be mentioned as NOTEs have been identified as such in the revised protocol text. If these need to be relocated to some other section of the protocol then please do so as appropriate.*

7. In step 2.4, how much of EuTFC powder is used?

*About 0.2 grams (although the exact amount is not critical) - see updated text.*

8. In step 2.5 how is the vacuum coating system configured? What are the settings used?

*'Configuration' as used here referred to the positioning of the sample holder and source boat. This sentence has been altered to make the wording clearer.*

9. In step 2.6 is the EuTFC powder just added in the boat?

*Yes. Do we also need to specify the use of a suitably sized spatula?*

10. In step 2.7 what is mounted upside-down? How is this mounted?

*The word "sample" had been mistakenly deleted from the sentence. This error has now been corrected.*

11. In step 2.8 how is the deposition chamber as evacuated?

*This has been clarified in the text.*

12. In step 3.1 how is the deposition chamber pumped? Using what?

*Use of a turbomolecular pump (in our case the pumps are an integral part of the vacuum deposition system) has been clarified in the text.*

13. In step 3.2 how is the crystal thickness monitor set?

*Details of how to set this are highly specific to each individual vacuum deposition system, so we are unable to provide any further information beyond specifying which knob to turn on our particular system. Such information is of limited use to the reader.*

14. In step 3.4, please mention “Boat temperatures…thermal sensitivity of its fluorescence.”, as a NOTE.  
*Altered as requested.*

15. In step 3.5 how does one know if the deposited film thickness reaches 200 nm?

*Text has been clarified to describe measuring this using the crystal thickness monitor.*

16. In step 3.6, how is the chamber vented? How is the sample protected from light and water vapor?

*See clarifications in updated text.*

17. In step 4.1, what are the dimensions of the cryostat sample stage? Please do not mention “sufficient size” please provide all the details and specifics.

*Specific dimensions have been added.*

18. In step 4.1, please mention “The authors find …sample and contaminate its EuTFC coating” as a NOTE.   
*Altered as requested.*

19. Please split step 4.1 into two steps.

*Altered as requested.*

20. In step 4.2 how is the sample pressed down? Using what?

*Use of tweezers for this step has been specified - see updated text.*

21. In step 4.3, what electrical connections are made? Please specify.

*Specification for current and voltage leads has been added.*

22. How is step 4.4. carried out?

*Details for our particular cryostat mounting arrangement have been added.*

23. In step 4.6 please specify the temperature. Please mention “Do not allow…” as a NOTE.

*Temperatures added as requested, but this will in general depend on the requirements of the individual experiment.*

24. Using the comments above as a reference, please add details to section 5, 6 and 7. Please ask yourself the “how” question to obtain more details.

*Details beyond those which we have now added are entirely specific to the particular microscope and optical cryostat system being used, and are thus of little use to readers.*

25. JoVE is unable to publish manuscripts containing commercial sounding language, including trademark or registered trademark symbols (TM/R) and the mention of company brand names before an instrument or reagent. Please remove all commercial sounding language from your manuscript and replace it with a more generic term as much as possible throughout the entire manuscript. All commercial products should be sufficiently referenced in the table of materials/reagents. Examples of commercial sounding language in your manuscript are Dow Corning, etc.

*This reference has been removed from the protocol, and the materials list has been updated to include the vacuum grease used, as well as the details of the current source and digital voltmeter used for this experiment.*

26. After you have made all of the recommended changes to your protocol (listed above), please re-evaluate the length of your protocol section. There is a 10 page limit for the protocol text, but there is a 3 pages limit for filmable content. If your protocol is longer than 3 pages, please highlight (in yellow) 2.75 pages (or less) of text to identify which portions of the protocol are most important to include in the video; i.e. which steps should be visualized to tell the most cohesive story of your protocol steps. Please see JoVEs instructions for authors for more clarification. Remember that the non-highlighted protocol steps will remain in the manuscript and therefore will still be available to the reader.

*Highlighted sections have been updated in our modified text.*

27. If your figures and tables are original and not published previously, please ignore this comment. For figures and tables that have been published before, please include phrases such as “Re-print with permission from (reference#)” or “Modified from..” etc. And please send a copy of the re-print permission for JoVE’s record keeping purposes.   
*We are still waiting to receive approval for re-use of parts of Figures 1 and 2 from the journals in which they were originally published, and will forward this to JoVE as soon as we receive it.*

28. Please make sure that the “Discussion” section covers the following points.   
a. Critical steps within the protocol.  
b. Modifications and troubleshooting.  
c. Limitations of the technique.  
d. Significance of the technique with respect to existing/alternative methods.  
e. Future applications or directions after mastering this technique.

*Existing/alternative methods have been discussed in detail in the introduction, and critical steps and appropriate troubleshooting have been explained at the relevant steps in the protocol. Please let us know if this material should be moved to or duplicated in the discussion section.*

29. DOI’s missing in some references. Please make sure that your references comply with JoVE instructions for authors. In-text formatting: corresponding reference numbers should appear as superscripts after the appropriate statement(s) in the text of the manuscript. Citation formatting should appear as follows: (For 6 authors or less list all authors. For more than 6 authors, list only the first author then *et al.*): [Lastname, F.I., LastName, F.I., LastName, F.I. Article Title. *Source*. **Volume** (Issue), FirstPage – LastPage, doi:DOI, (YEAR).]

*Reference 2 has no DOI, as it was published in 1935, and is unavailable online since it is in a journal which ceased publication in 1945.*

30. Please take this opportunity to thoroughly proofread the manuscript to ensure that there are no spelling or grammar issues. The JoVE editor will not copy-edit your manuscript and any errors in the submitted revision may be present in the published version.