

Radiation Damage, Micro-crystals and the Cornell ERL

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- Calculations of optimum photon energy
- Use of pulsed x-ray sources
- Beam emittance required

Assumption – Many protein crystallography projects are compromised because crystals of sufficient size are not available



Arndt J. Appl. Cryst. 1984





Henderson, 1990

- Predicted "X-rays of about 2×10⁷ Gy will always destroy the crystalline diffraction from protein crystals"
- Less than a minute on the most intense sources.



Assumptions

- Photo-electron absorption is High
- Ignore Compton Scattering

What happens to the photo-electron for very thin specimen?

Colin Nave and Mark Hill Journal of Synchrotron Radiation, 2005, 12, 299-303.



Simulation of Electron Tracks



4 mm from Surface. 30keV





Spectrum $4\mu m$ from source of 30keV electrons





Escaped energy

Distance from	Transmitted energy (%) at given initial energy			
surface (µm)	10 keV	20 keV	30 keV	40 keV
0.5	79	95		
1	23	89		
2	0	74	90	94
4		34	76	87
8		0	37	57
16			0	23
32				0

Gains of up to 10 theoretically attainable



Inclusion of Compton Scattering

Compton and Photoelectric cross sections approximately equal at 25keV.

Average energy deposition by Compton effect approx 1.5keV at 30 keV photon energy



Possible reduction in radiation damage











Possible modifications to "Rule of Thumb"

One high-resolution diffraction pattern, 1° of rotation), can be obtained from a protein crystal if the crystal size (in micrometers) is 1/10 the unit cell size (in Angstroms).

Robert Glaeser, Marc Facciotti, Peter Walian, Shahab Rouhani, James Holton, Alastair MacDowell, Richard Celestre, Daniela Cambie, and Howard Padmore Biophys J, June 2000, p. 3178-3185, Vol. 78, No. 6

Could obtain 7 patterns from 2.5 micron crystal, 25Å cell at 25keV energy

4 patterns from 5 micron crystal, 50Å cell at 30keV energy.

1 pattern from 5 micron crystal, 200Å cell at 30keV





Crystals Mounted on Micromesh



MiTeGen Micromesh Mounts

700 microns across,25 micron holes.





Crystals on ID23-2 ESRF











Diffraction Patterns from ID23



Em Grid



Nitrogen v Helium from CHESS newsletter





Fig 4: Comparison of diffraction images produced from a rhodaminedyed lysozyme crystal in an enclosure filled with different gases. A. Nitrogen-filled enclosure. B. Helium-filled enclosure.

 $10\mu m$ water ~10mm air



Application of X-ray FEL?

R. Neutze, et al., Nature, 406, 752-757, January 17, 2000



Timescales longer if spread incident beam larger area (e.g. 5 μ m crystal)



Necessary flux for a pulsed photon source

Neutze et. al., 3x10¹¹ photons in 100nm diameter spot gives 3.9Å resolution from lysozyme crystal 5X5X5 unit cells

10¹⁰ photons incident on 15nm X 15nm area – path length 15nm.

For 1 μ m sample would need 1.5 x 10⁸ photons For 10 μ m sample would need 1.5 x 10⁷ photons

Cornell ERL-IIa, high flux gives 1.36 10⁷ photons/0.1% per pulse.

XFEL, LCLS, SCSS give over 10¹² photons/pulse

Note that can get single image from 3 µm sample anyway.



X-ray FEL Temporal and Spectral Pulse Structure



Ideally would like a pulsed x-ray source with 10¹¹ photons/ pulse and 1-5% bandwidth ?



Spectrum of the mono-harmonic undulator U17





Size and divergence of beam

Beam size matched to size of crystal

- Low divergence for diffracted beam to give sharp spots on detector
- Divergence for a perfect crystal given by crystal size - implies highly coherent incident beam.



Coherent Diffraction from Crystals

From Ian Robinson, University College London









Formation of Radicals during data collection



John McGeehan, Raimond Ravelli, Florent Cipriani, Franck Felisaz, Raphael Moya EMBL and ESRF Grenoble

Evidence of dose rate effect?



Detectors

- Need detectors optimised for photon energies around 30keV.
- Should have large number of pixels to match small, parallel beams from micro-crystals.
- Modifications to present CCD or pixel (hybrid or monolithic) based systems required.





Could get much more data if chose appropriate wavelength (prediction).

Must lower x-ray background from system.

Mounting methods have to be optimised.

An appropriate x-ray source for microcrystal work

- 30keV continuous
- Or 8 keV pulsed with 3% bandwidth,
- *High degree of coherence*

As always detectors also have to be addressed





