Finding Solutions for Materials Science



Synchrotron Diffraction and X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy

Joel Reid, Industrial Scientist, Canadian Light Source

> Wednesday, May 1, 2019



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Outline

- 1. Some examples of X-ray diffraction (XRD) techniques available for materials research at the Canadian Light Source, including:
 - Powder X-ray Diffraction (PXRD),
 - Single Crystal X-ray Diffraction (SC-XRD),
 - Laue microdiffraction with the VESPERS beamline,
 - Thin film analysis with the IBM endstation.
- 2. Some examples of X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS) and spectromicroscopy (SM) for materials research.



Overview of Synchrotron Techniques

Synchrotron techniques can be divided into four major areas:

- 1. Diffraction:
 - Crystal structure and microstructure determination.
 - Quantitative phase analysis.
- 2. Spectroscopy (X-ray and IR):
 - Oxidation states.
 - Chemical species.
- 3. Spectromicroscopy (X-ray and IR):
 - Combination of imaging and spectroscopy.
 - Mapping of species and chemical states.
- 4. Imaging:
 - Synchrotron version of medical xrays/CT.
 - High contrast and large field of view.





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Why Synchrotron Powder X-ray Diffraction (PXRD)?

- Synchrotron sources provide a number of distinct advantages for powder diffraction:
 - **High resolution** (thinner peaks than a laboratory diffractometer).
 - High intensity (short data collection times, improves application of diffraction to time-resolved studies and small sample volumes).
 - Excellent signal-to-noise and intensity estimates from large 2D detectors.
 - Tunable energy over a wide range, facilitating anomalous dispersion & pair distribution function (PDF) techniques:
 - CMCF: E = 4 to 18 keV (λ = 3.1 to 0.69 Å).
 - Brockhouse: E = 7 to 90 keV (λ = 1.8 to 0.14 Å)





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Reid, J., et al.





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Dachraoui, W., et al.

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Powder X-ray Diffraction (PXRD) on CMCF-BM



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Source

PXRD Applications: Very Small Samples





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PXRD Applications: Trace Phase Analysis



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PXRD Applications: Trace Phase Analysis (cont.)





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PXRD Applications: Crystal Structure Solution



PXRD Applications: Structure Solution (HOFs)



 $[Cr(H_2O)_6] [O_3P-C_6H_4-PO_3H] \cdot CH_3COCH_3$

 $[Cr(H_2O)_6][O_3P-C_6H_4-PO_3H]$

Taylor, J.M., *et al. Chem* 4 (2018) 868-878.



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PXRD Applications: Structure Solution (HOFs)

Closed pore (PXRD)



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Small Molecule Single Crystal XRD

The behavior of metal-organic polyhedra (MOPs) in solution depends on the distribution of surface ligands, allowing the surface chemistry to be tailored to specific applications.





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Powder and Single Crystal XRD Mail-In Programs

- We have mail-in programs! Rapid access PXRD and single crystal XRD forms can be accessed at:
 - https://www.lightsource.ca/industry
- Easy: Simple form, no contract.
- Affordable: Data starting at \$65 per data set.
- Quick turnaround: Typically 1 to 2 weeks.

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Contact Name:						Joel Reid	Erik	Erika Bergen	
Phone:					306-657-3854		306-657-3867		
Email:					joel.reid@ligh		erika.bergen@lightsource.ca		
Address:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				44 Innovation Blvd, Sask		atoon, SK S7N 2V3, Canada		
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Microprobe XRD with XRF: The VESPERS Beamline



Twinning in La_{2-x}Sr_xCrO₄ Under Applied Stress



Imaging twin domains in La_{2-x}Sr_xCuO₄ - Experimental setup.

Zheng, X.Y, *et al. Appl. Phys. Lett.* 113 (2018) 071906.



Canadian Centre canadien Light de rayonnement Source synchrotron (**a**) Partial diffraction pattern under no strain, with views at −20 V, 0 V, and +30 V.

(**b**) The reciprocal space perpendicular to c-axis for the two twin domains. Circles - Bragg peak positions for (200) and (020) peaks.

(c) Real-space schematics illustrating the response of CuO_2 planes in LSCO under compressive strain. The buckled rectangles represent CuO_6 octahedra. Note the elongation along the compression direction.





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XRD on Thin Films: *In Situ* Phase Transformations

a

Temperature dependent phase transformations and growth processes in thin films can be monitored using the IBM endstation on our **IDEAS** beamline.



0.6

0.2

0.0

0

100

Ί

Motamedi, P., et al.

200 300 7.5 nn

180.0 nm

(III)





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500

Temperature (°C)

600

Adv. Mater. Interfaces (2018) 1800957

400

 (\mathbf{II})

700

800 900 1000

X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XAS)

- An XAS spectrum is the result core-shell energy transitions.
- These transitions occur at different energies for different elements, so XAS is an **element-specific** technique.
- XAS is sensitive to bulk oxidation state and local coordination geometry.
- XAS can be used to carry out quantitative analysis of chemical species.





XAS Applications: Charge Compensation in Batteries

- When Li-ion batteries are charged and discharged, the electrode materials are oxidized and reduced.
- Which is the active element?
- XAS can be used *in-situ* to look at each element in the material.



IDEAS beamline



XAS Applications: Developing New Catalysts

- Iron/iron oxide (Fe@Fe_xO_y, core@shell) nanoparticles (NPs) make attractive candidates for new catalysts:
 - Iron is abundant, relatively inexpensive and can be magnetically recovered.
 - Fe@Fe_xO_y NPs can be used as catalytic supports, or hollowed out and used to seed the reduction of other metals to form bimetallic NPs.



• XAS is well suited to study both (1) the synthesis of new NPs and (2) their catalytic performance. Recent work has demonstrated this can be performed *in situ*.

Yao, Y., Hu, Y. & Scott, R.W.J. *J. Phys. Chem. C* 118 (2014) 22317-22324. Yao, Y., Patzig, C., Hu, Y. & Scott, R.W.J. *J. Phys. Chem. C* 119 (2015) 21209-21218. Yao, Y., Patzig, C., Hu, Y. & Scott, R.W.J. *J. Phys. Chem. C* 121 (2017) 19735-19742.



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Synthesizing Fe@Fe_xO_v Nanoparticles

0.05

0.04

0.03

0.02

0.01

Fe(0) (mmol)

1:1 MeOH/water 4:1 MeOH/water

9:1 MeOH/water

- Controlled oxidation synthesis of Fe@Fe_xO_y NPs can be obtained by tailoring the solvent ratio.
- The kinetics of the Fe NP oxidation reaction can be monitored *in situ* with XANES.



Fe@Fe_xO_y Supported Pd & Cu Nanoparticles

- The performance of Fe@Fe_xO_y NPs for reduction of metals like palladium (shown) and copper from salts in solution can also be studied.
- Pd(NO₃)₂ and CuSO₄ salts can be fully reduced to Pd⁰ and Cu⁰ in ~ 20 minutes.





J. Phys. Chem. C 119 (2015) 21209-21218.

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Fe@Fe_xO_v Supported Pd & Cu Nanoparticles

- The performance of $Fe@Fe_xO_vNPs$ for reduction of metals like palladium (shown) and copper from salts in solution can also be studied.
- EXAFS can be used to look at the local structure of the Pd, including the first shell coordination number (CN) and nearest neighbor distances.



Table 1. Values for the EXAFS Fit of $Fe@Fe_xO_v/Pd$ NPs with Different Molar Ratios of $Fe@Fe_xO_v$ NPs to Pd^{2+}

Fe:Pd ratio	shell	CN ^a	<i>R</i> (Å)	σ^2 (Å)	ΔE_0 (eV)
50:1	Pd-Pd	10.3 (9)	2.755 (4)	0.010(1)	3.3 (6)
20:1	Pd-Pd	10.0 (9)	2.74 (1)	0.008(1)	3.5 (5)
5:1	Pd-Pd	9.3 (0.8)	2.752 (1)	0.009(1)	5.1 (5)

^{*a*}First shell coordination number.

Yao, Y., Patzig, C., Hu, Y. & Scott, R.W.J. J. Phys. Chem. C 119 (2015) 21209-21218.

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Synthesizing Hollow Fe@Fe_xO_y Nanoparticles

 Synthesis of Fe@Fe_xO_y core-voidshell NPs via the Kirkendall effect can be monitored *in situ* at 180°C using a high temperature liquid cell.





X-ray Spectromicroscopy

- A synchrotron beam can be focused down to a very small spot size (anywhere from 2 mm down to ~30 nm).
- This can be used for elemental mapping.
- It can also be used for chemical mapping.
- The technique illustrated upper right is called scanning tunneling X-ray microscopy (STXM).

Zhou, J. *et al. J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* 1 (2010) 1709-1713.



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STXM Applications: Charge State in a Battery

- STXM can be used to image localized **Fe**²⁺ iron oxidation states regions in olivine/ graphene composite cathodes.
- STXM generates an image "stack" where each pixel contains a spectrum.
- This can be used to separate components using spectral features.



Wang, H. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 50 (2011) 7364-7368.



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Zhou, J. et al. Chem. Commun. 49 (2013) 1765-1767.

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730

296

STXM Applications: Interface Studies in Composites



STXM Applications: Interface Studies in Composites

- For **Sample A**, the linear combination of the fiber and resin spectra reproduces the spectrum of the interface region very accurately, indicating that there are **no detectable chemical changes at the interface.**
- For Sample B, the best fit of the combined spectrum does not perfectly reproduce the spectrum of the interface region, indicating that there are chemical interactions involving carbon at the interface.



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Summary

- The synchrotron is a powerful, multi-purpose tool for materials analysis.
- Synchrotron techniques offers major advantages for:
 - Multi-component and heterogeneous materials.
 - Small sample volumes.
 - In-situ and in-operando studies.
 - Dilute elements and compounds of interest.



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