







## Imaging Macromolecules with Xray laser pulses

Henry Chapman *Center for Free-Electron Laser Science* DESY and University of Hamburg

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Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung



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#### X-ray diffraction led to the discovery of the double helix



**Rosalind Franklin** 

#### James Watson & Francis Crick

Photograph 51, the X-ray image produced by Rosalind Franklin and her PhD student Raymond Gosling in 1952. The cross pattern visible on the Xray highlights the helical structure of DNA.

Wellcome Images

alaphys.org/list/watson-and-cricks-3d-model-of-dna/

http

## The first protein structure to be determined was haemoglobin, in 1959









# Over 100,000 macromolecular structures have been solved using synchrotron sources



# High radiation dose causes changes in molecular structure



Crystal of Bovine enterovirus 2 (BEV2) after subsequent exposures of 0.5 s, 6 x 10<sup>8</sup> ph/µm<sup>2</sup> 300 kGy dose Room temperature

Cryogenic cooling gives 30 MGy tolerance

Axford et al. Acta Cryst. D68 592 (2012) Diamond Light Source (courtesy Robin Owen & Elspeth Garman)



## X-ray free-electron lasers may enable atomic-resolution imaging of biological macromolecules



R. Neutze, R. Wouts, D. van der Spoel, E. Weckert, J. Hajdu, Nature 406 (2000)

#### The European XFEL is located in Hamburg



#### The European XFEL in Hamburg

#### Schenefeld site photo taken on 20 July 2014

European XFEL

injector

#### The European XFEL has just begun operations

#### XFEL tunnel photo taken on 11 June 2015

#### X-rays are produced by a process called SASE



## X-ray FELs are a billion times brighter than synchrotrons



## X-ray free-electron lasers may enable atomic-resolution imaging of biological macromolecules



















#### Single particles give continuous diffraction patterns



#### Over-constrained: more knowns than unknowns

#### Phasing is achieved using iterative algorithms



nitride membrane

Chapman et al. Nature Physics 2 839 (2006)

#### "Diffraction before destruction" was demonstrated with soft X-rays at DESY's FLASH FEL





## We have performed 3D X-ray imaging of Aerogel foam at 10 nm resolution

Analysis of the 3D image reveals anisotropy in the structure. Other characterization techniques (TEM, SAXS) could not reveal this





A. Barty, et al., PRL **IOI** 055501 (2008)

#### Atomic-resolution diffraction from single p requires focused intensities of more than



3 Å resolution

6000 MGy/fs x 10 fs

RMS displacement: 0.5Å half electrons ionized

#### Crystals give Bragg spots

 $I(\mathbf{q}) = \left|\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{q})\right|^2$  $\rho(\mathbf{x})$ 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 222222 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

#### Crystals give Bragg spots

 $I(\mathbf{q}) = \left|\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{q})\right|^2$  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{I(\mathbf{q})\} = \rho(\mathbf{x}) \otimes \rho^*(-\mathbf{x})$ 

Under-constrained: fewer knowns than unknowns

### Recent hard X-ray experiments show high-resolution diffraction

**Photosystem I** 9.3 keV Single shot pattern ~1 mJ (5 × 10<sup>11</sup> photons) 40 fs  $2 \times 10^{17} \text{ W/cm}^2$ 

25 GW X-ray pulse







crystals by Petra

Fromme





























## Serial crystallography is made possible by four key technologies



## Micrometer-diameter jets are formed by fluid and gas focusing



# We can sum patterns to create a virtual powder pattern Lysozyme crystals 1.9 Å resolution



#### Intensities are merged into a "3D powder" pattern



#### Structures have been obtained by in vivo grown crystals



*Trypanosoma brucei* cathepsin B obtained from in vivo grown crystals



Redecke, Nass et al. Science (2013)

#### **Over 100 XFEL structures have been solved**



## Solution scattering gives single-molecule diffraction, but orientationally averaged



#### Aligned molecules yield a single-molecule pattern



#### Crystals provide a very high degree of alignment

したをとたとと しとととととと . . . . . ししししとしと . とととととと . しししたもしし . とととととと ししししししし  $\langle I(\mathbf{q}) \rangle = \left| \sum_{i} \hat{\rho}_{i}(\mathbf{q}) \right|^{2} \exp(-q^{2}\sigma^{2}) + \sum_{i} |\hat{\rho}_{i}(\mathbf{q})|^{2} (1 - \exp(-q^{2}\sigma^{2}))$  $\sigma^{2} = \langle D^{2} \rangle$ 

#### You can see a lot just by looking





## By averaging thousands of patterns a strong single molecule diffraction pattern emerges



#### The orientational symmetry of the crystal is preserved, but not the translational symmetry





#### Electron density map from Bragg peaks alone (4.5 Å)



#### The low-resolution support constrains the phases

Obtained by convolving 4.5 Å MR map with Gaussian of width 4.4 Å (i.e. 8.9 Å resolution)

#### Electron density map including continuous diffraction



#### The extended-resolution structure is superior



Higher diffraction sampling — model free phasing — more reliable structure determination

Resolution not limited by the crystal, just detector extent and shots

Number of molecules per shot:  $1 \mu m^3 \times 4 / (9.2 \times 10^6 \text{ Å}^3) = 4 \times 10^5$ 

#### The extended-resolution structure is superior



We observe continuous diffraction in other systems, and have extended observation of PS II to 1.9 Å



## The continuous diffraction agrees with the simulated diffraction from the atomic model

![](_page_54_Figure_1.jpeg)

Cross Correlation = 75%

![](_page_54_Figure_3.jpeg)

## There are many opportunities for extending imaging concepts to X-ray diffraction at the atomic scale

![](_page_55_Picture_1.jpeg)

Measurements require care to eliminate background and record weak continuous diffraction

Poorly diffracting crystals are better!

- More information than required to describe the object
- model free phasing
- more reliable structure determination
- first new phasing since MAD
- resolution better than you think

#### Atomic-resolution diffraction from single p requires focused intensities of more than

![](_page_56_Picture_1.jpeg)

A. Classen *et al* arXiv.org:abs/1705.08677 Measure interference of fluorescence during the coherence time

10<sup>14</sup> ph/µm<sup>2</sup> 60 GGy 6000 MGy/fs x 10 fs

RMS displacement: 0.5Å half electrons ionized

#### Coherent X-ray Imaging at CFEL

![](_page_57_Picture_1.jpeg)

## LCLS experiments and analyses are carried out as a large collaboration

CFEL-DESY/UHH	A. Barty, T. White, S. Stern, C. Caleman, K. Beyerlein, R. Bean, R. Kirian, F. Wang, H. Fleckenstein, L. Gumprecht, L. Galli, S. Bajt, M. Barthelmess, O. Yefanov, D. Oberthür, C. Gati, M. Heymann, C. Seuring, M. Metz, A. Morgan, V. Mariani, A. Tolstikova, J. Knoska, X. L. Pauraj, K. Ayyer
ASU	J. Spence, P. Fromme, U. Weierstall, B. Doak, X. Wang, I. Grotjohann, R. Fromme, N. Zatsepin, D. Wang, D. James, S. Basu, C. Kupitz, J. Coe, C. Conrad, K. Dörner, D. James, G. Nelson
MPG Med. Res.	I. Schlichting, R. Shoeman, L. Lomb, S. Kassemeyer, K. Nass, T. Barends, S. Botha
SLAC	S. Boutet, M. Liang, A. Aquila, G. Williams, C. Bostedt, J. Koglin, M. Messerschmidt, and many others
Uppsala	J. Hajdu, N. Timneanu, J. Andreasson, M. Seibert, F. Maia, M. Svenda, T. Ekeberg, J. Andreasson, A. Rocker, O. Jonsson, D. Westphal
Gotheburg	R. Neutze, L. Johansson, D. Arnlund
LLNL	S. Hau-Reige, M. Frank
U. Hamburg	C. Betzel, D. Redhers, D. Oberthür, M. Perbandt
U. Lübeck	L. Redecke
CFEL DESY Theory	R. Santra, SK. Son
U. Milwalkee Wisconsin	M. Schmidt, J. Tenboer, K. Pande
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## New sources and detectors are producing an explosion in experimental data volumes

I kHz = 3.6M frames per hour

![](_page_59_Figure_2.jpeg)

I MPix at I kHz = 2000 MB/sec (16 bit) ~ 6.8 TB per hour

![](_page_59_Figure_4.jpeg)

LCLS-II estimates a cost of over \$250M to save all data, \$35M to save two weeks' worth

#### Data processing is an exercise in data management and reduction

![](_page_60_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Picture_2.jpeg)

Automated high throughput data processing is essential