

Single Crystal Diffraction: The Definitive Structural Technique

Christine M. Beavers 18th National School on Neutron & X-ray Scattering August 2nd, 2016



the branch of science dealing with the formation and properties of crystals





What is a Crystal?

A crystal is a periodic arrangement of matter





What is a Crystal?

- A Crystal is a three-dimensional repeating array of atoms or molecules.
- In this example, our molecule is going to be in a shoebox, for simplicity.















ALS From Shoeboxes to Unit Cells



The dimensions of the Unit Cell are an identifying feature for a specific crystal!Advanced Light Source
An Office of Science User FacilityThis slide courtesy of Mark Warren, Diamond Light SourceImage: Constraint of Science User Facility

Crystal Selection #LifeGoals





Nice crystals are more likely to have nice diffraction











ALS

Indexing

a=12.31Å, α =90.00°, V=1863Å³ b=12.31Å, β =90.00°, Cubic I c=12.31Å, γ =90.00°

✓	Unit cell			
	a [Å]	12.3052	±	0.0008
	Ь [Å]	12.3052		
	c [Å]	12.3052		
	α[*]	90.00		
	β[*]	90.00		
	ү [*]	90.00		
l	V [ų]	1863.2	±	0.4
	Domain translation			
	x [mm]	0.04		
	y [mm]	-0.02		

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Data Integration

ALS **Absorption Correction** Overall scale and R(int) variations for Test Normalized Scale Factor 1.4 .2 MM 0.8-0.6 40-Smoothed R(int)% 35**-**30-25-20-15-10-

5-0-

ALS Space Group Determination

3.1. SPACE-GROUP DETERMINATION AND DIFFRACTION SYMBOLS

Table 3.1.4.1. Reflection conditions, diffraction symbols and possible space groups (cont.)

ORTHORHOMBIC, Laue class mmm (2/m 2/m 2/m) (cont.)

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and a second	k+l	1	h+k	h	k	1	Pncn		No.	Pncn (52)
and and	k+l	h+l	Mar all all all all	h	k	1	Pnn –		Pnn2 (34)	Pnnm (58)
A CANTORNAL	k+l	h+l	h	h	k	1	Pnna	1.23 4.		Pnna (52)
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	man Kr.								Carl	
- k	k	h, l	h, k	h	k	11	C-c(ab)))	C2Ce (4	

(59) (53) (62) 58)

ALS Electron Density from Diffraction

More Resources!!!

Books

ALS

- Werner Massa

 ISBN-13: 978-3
 540206446
- Stout & Jensen
 - ISBN-13: 978-047160711 3

Internet

- X-ray Forum
 - www.xrayforum.co.uk/
- IUCr Forum
 - forums.iucr.org
- CCP4
 - http://www.ccp4.ac.uk

Small Molecule Crystallography at a Synchrotron or

What can you do with more flux?

What can you do with more flux?

Contents

- Why do crystals diffract poorly?
- What can we do to them to make them diffract poorly?
- What can we learn from poorly diffracting crystals?
- What do synchrotrons have to do with all this?

ALS The Spectrum of Crystallinity

ALS The Spectrum of Crystallinity

- Good Crystals
 - Diffract kinematically(Bragg), due to mosaicity, but still have good long range order

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ALS The Spectrum of Crystallinity

- Poor crystals
 - Diffract kinematically(Bragg), but diffraction limited due to poor long range order.
 - Can show powder Laue rings/spot smearing due to mosiaicity becoming microcrystallinity
 - Can also display non-Bragg scatter due to TDS

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$\begin{array}{ll} \text{ALS} & \text{Scattering Efficiency} \\ \text{Intensity of Diffraction} \approx \lambda^3 = \frac{LI_{incident} \langle |F_{hkl}^2| \rangle V_{crystal}}{V_{cell}^2} \end{array}$

- where:-
- F = number of electrons per atom
- V_{crystal} = volume of the crystal
- V_{cell} = volume of the unit cell

M.M.Harding J. Synchrotron Radiation, 250-259 1996

ALS Intensity vs. Displacement

AS Higher Angle Reflections Affected by Larger ADPs

Wavelength

- The material and the wavelength need to be compatible
 - Short wavelengths better for heavy absorbers
 - Long wavelengths better for light atoms (weakly diffracting elements)
 - Be aware of absorption edges and potential fluorescence from sample

Bigger isn't always better

- Large crystals aren't guaranteed to diffract better
- Crystal should match beam size
 - But if there is a choice, smaller than the beam is usually better
- Rocking width can be worse with large crystals due to poor mosaicity

Structures from change:

IN SITU EXPERIMENTS

In-situ Crystallography

- The application of a stimuli to produce structural change
 - Temperature
 - Pressure
 - Gas or Vacuum
 - Light
 - Electric or Magnetic Fields

Desolvation

Three-Way Crystal-to-Crystal Reversible Transformation and Controlled Spin Switching by a Nonporous Molecular Material Sanchez Costa et al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2014**, *136* (10), pp 3869–3874 DOI: 10.1021/ja411595y

Experimental Procedure

Procedure

- High quality ground state data collection
 - Irradiation (LEDs) LED ring
 - Metastable state data collection
 - Inspection of the density map
 - Temperature variation experiments

J. Appl. Cryst. 2010, 43, 337-340

Gas Cell

High Pressure with Diamond Anvil Cells

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ALS Diamond Anvil Cell (DAC)

Moggach, S. A. et al. J. Appl. Crystallogr. 2008, 41, 249-251.

A High Pressure Sample

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ALS The Zinc-Alkyl Gate (ZAG) Family

Figure 4. Comparison of ZAG-4 (left) and ZAG-6 (right) as viewed down their *c*-axes.

1037

dx.doi.org/10.1021/cr2002257 |Chem. Rev. 2012, 112, 1034-1054

Chem. Rev. 2012, 112, 1034–1054

ZAG-4, under pressure

Why Synchrotrons?

- In situ experiments usually produce the degredation of a crystal, and most are more successful with small crystals.
- Poorly diffracting crystals need as much intensity as they can take.
- In both cases, a synchrotron offers orders of magnitude more flux, which means a better chance of success.

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