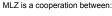




Drug development using information from Neutron protein crystallography

Tobias E. Schrader













Why do we need experimental studies on proteins?

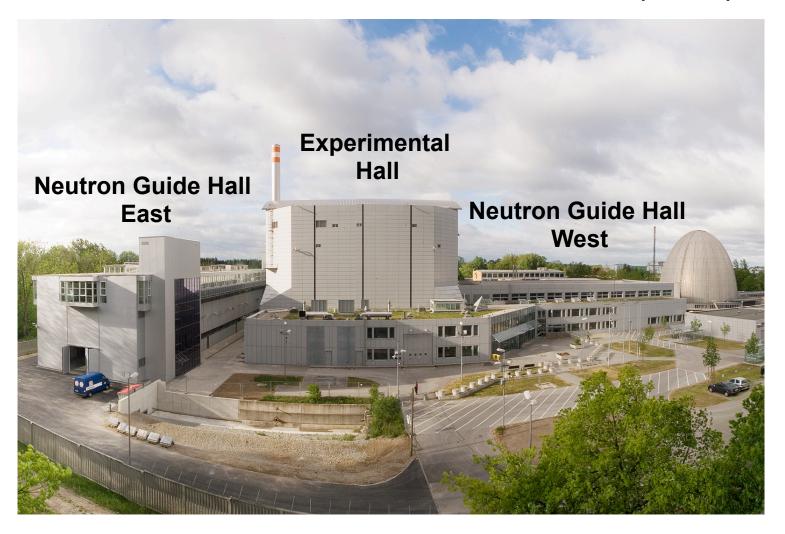
- MD-Simulations suffer from non-perfect force fields: Especially the long range electrostatics is not reproduced very well. But proteins use defined and structure related electrostatics to move the acidity constants of side chains in order to make them fullfill their tasks. MD-simulations cannot model bond breaking and forming very well since the quantum chemistry nature of this process is not included in the theoretical foundation of MD.
- Ab initio quantum chemical calculations are still too demanding to model the complete active centre of a protein (including its substrate)







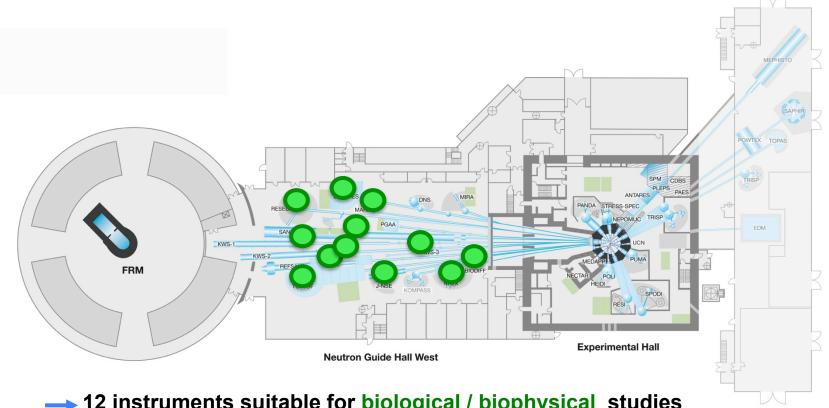
Research Neutron Source Heinz Maier-Leibnitz (FRM II)







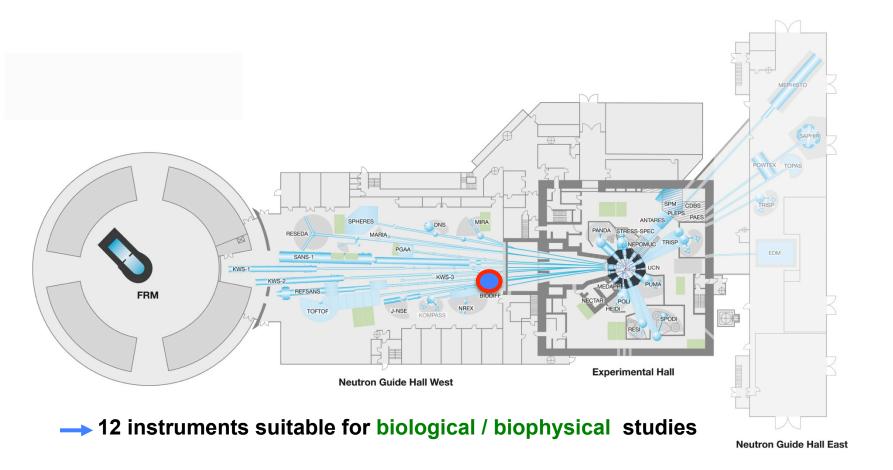
Neutron Guide Hall East



- → 12 instruments suitable for biological / biophysical studies
 - 4 spectrometer: TOF, backscattering, spin echo (2);
 - → 3 reflectometers;
 - 4 small angle scattering machines;
 - 1 diffractometer for macromolecular diffraction
 - + irradiation and tomography facilities...







→ 1 diffractometer for macromolecular diffraction





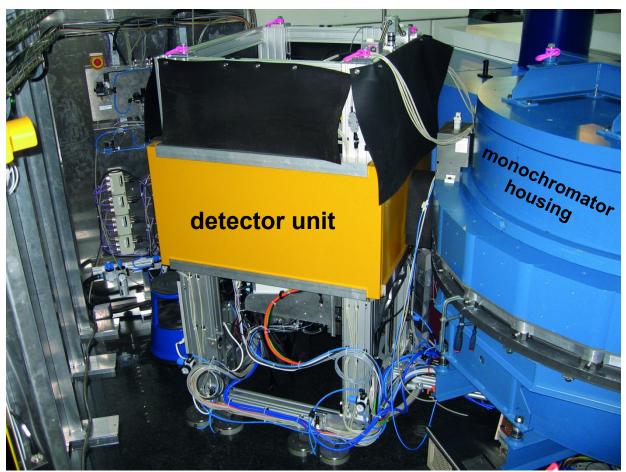
BIODIFF: Diffractometer for macromolecular neutron crystallography

operated by





in operation since April 2012



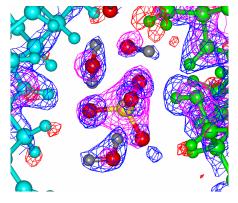




Scientific questions to be adressed:

With Neutrons, Hydrogen/deuterium atoms can be resolved even at a resolution of $d_{min} \approx 2.5 \text{ Å}$ (for ²H). Therefore one can determine:

- protonation states of amino acid side chains and ligands
- deuterium exchange as a measure of flexibility and accessibility (discrimination between **H** / **D**)
- solvent structure including hydrogen atoms



Water network in the contact region between two myoglobin molecules in the crystal.

x-ray map (magenta): contour level of $+2.7\sigma$ nuclear map (red): contour level of -1.75σ nuclear map (blue): contour level of $+2.3\sigma$

Much less radiation damage as compared to x-rays: Metallo-proteins can be measured without reducing the metal centres



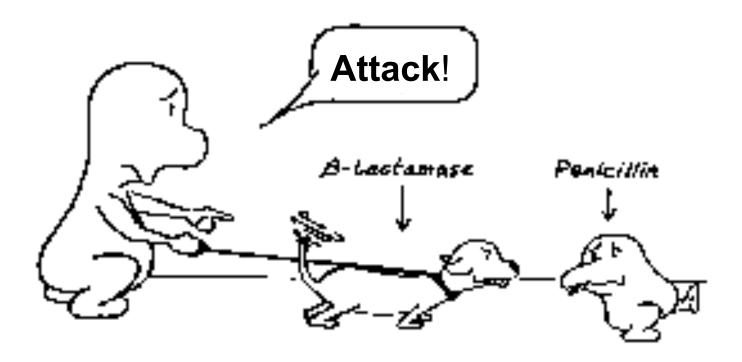


Application examples: Protonation state of amino acid residues





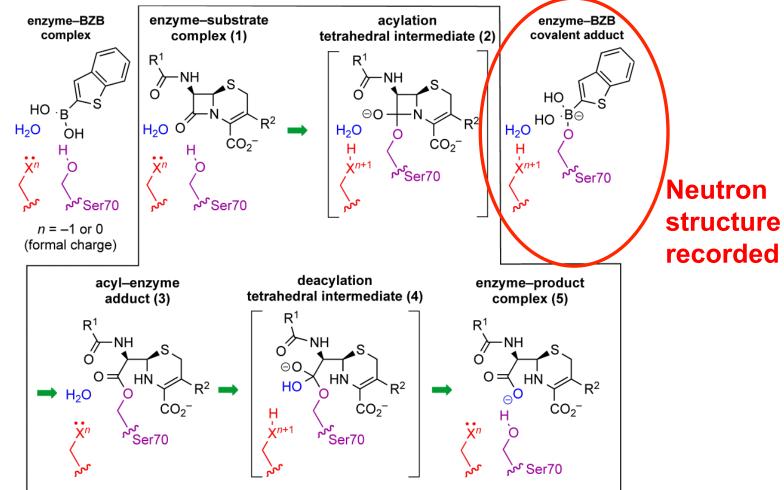
The protein β -lactamase







β -lactamase: hydrolyses β -lactam antibiotics

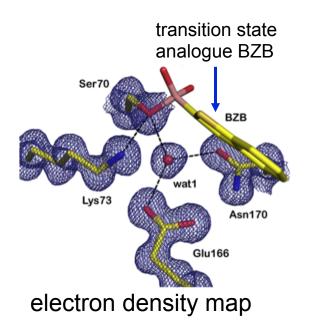


The catalytic cycle of a class A β -lactamase illustrated for a cephalosporin substrate (inside box) and the mode of inhibition by BZB (outside box). The general base employed is not necessarily the same for acylation and deacylation. The overall reaction pathway for β -lactam hydrolysis of a cephalosporin-like substrate by the class A β -lactamase enzymes.





Catalytic Proton Network of the Toho-1 β-Lactamase



Ser70

BZB

Wat1

Lys73

Asn170

Glu166

Glu166

nuclear density map from BioDiff

Glu166 acts as the general base during the catalytic action of the enzyme.

Stephen J. Tomanicek, Robert F. Standaert, Kevin L. Weiss, Andreas Ostermann, Tobias E. Schrader, Joseph D. Ng, and Leighton Coates J. Biol. Chem. 2013, 288:4715-4722





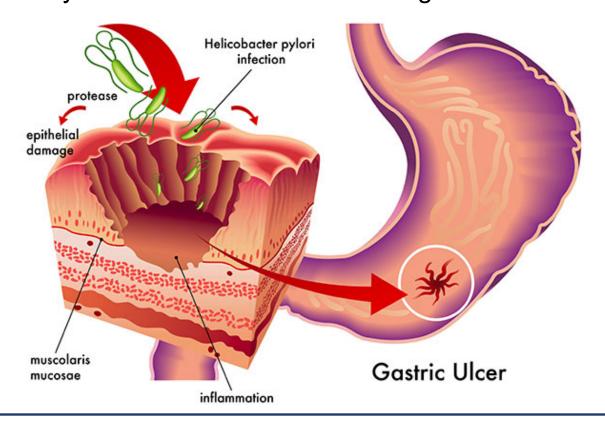
Yet another drug target example





Helicobacter Pylori Infection Makes Your Stomach Wall Thinner:

Too much drinking and eating can easily stress the stomach's wall and irritate it. In this case, the bacterium **Helicobacter Pylori** is capable of breaking the surface cells of the stomach and making the mucous membrane even thinner. This may lead to stomach cancer and gastric ulcer.







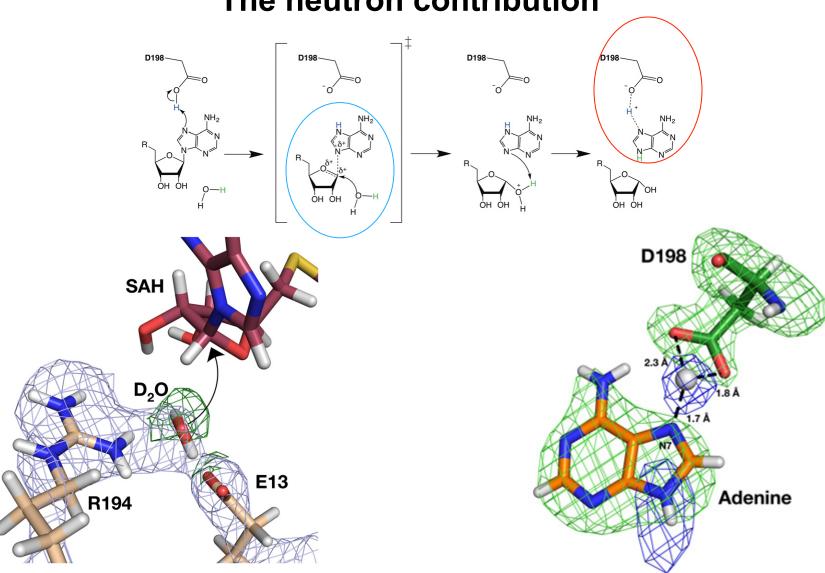
Proteins as drug target: Example of MTAN

H. pylori 5'-methylthioadenosine nucleosidase (HpMTAN) is an interesting drug target because of its vital role in the production of menaquinone (vitamin K) for the bacterium Helicobacter pylori. It does not play a role in homen beeings.









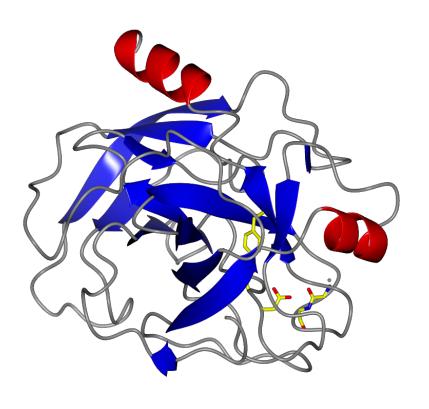




Inhibitor binding to Trypsin





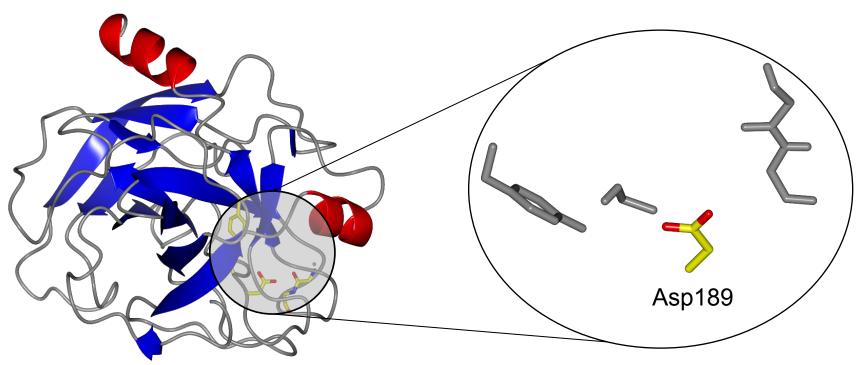


- trypsin as model system for the family of serine proteases
- cleaves peptidic substrates that contain basic amino acids such as arginine or lysine

Group of Prof. G. Klebe (Univ. Marburg)





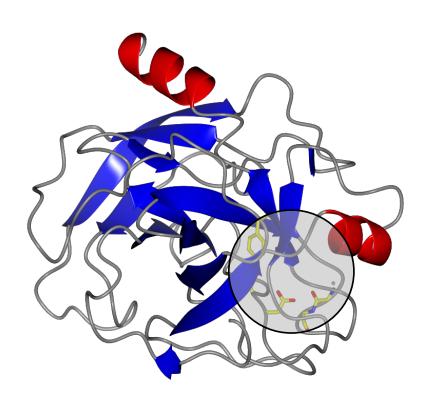


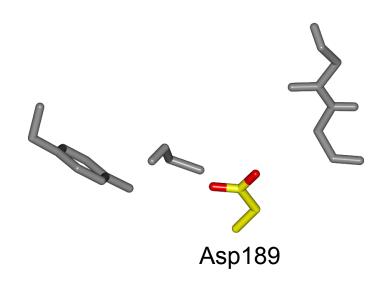
→ Asp189 is responsible for the substrate specificity

Group of Prof. G. Klebe (Univ. Marburg)







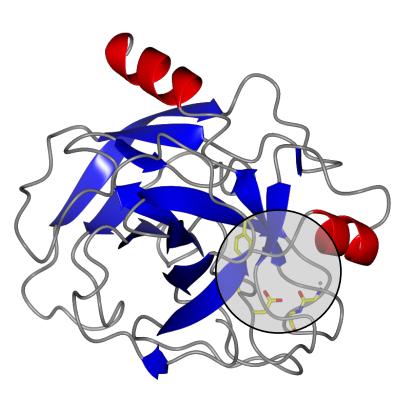


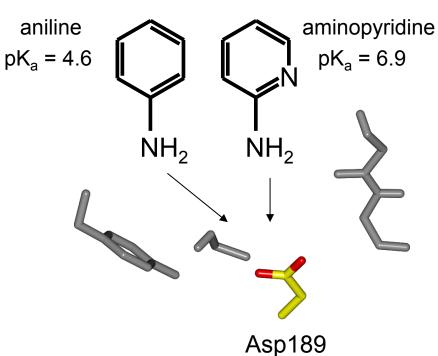
question: Do inhibitors with less basic properties become protonated upon binding?

Group of Prof. G. Klebe (Univ. Marburg)







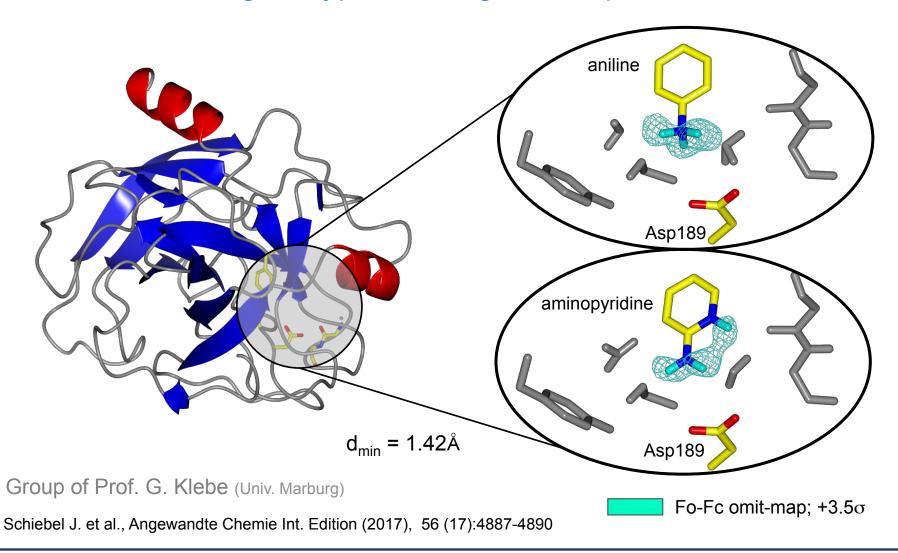


question: Do inhibitors with less basic properties become protonated upon binding?

Group of Prof. G. Klebe (Univ. Marburg)







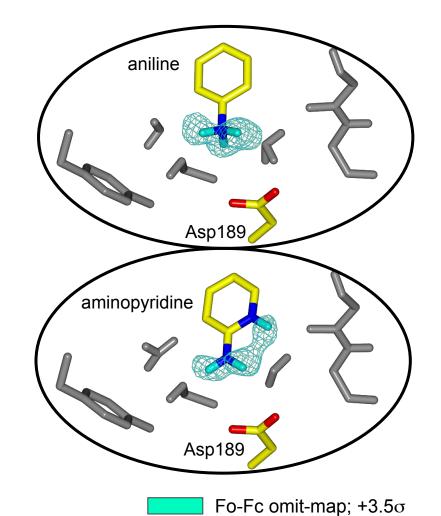




- despite its low pK_a of 4.6 the amino group of aniline becomes protonated
- → Asp189 induce a K_a shift of four orders of magnitude in the amino group of aniline

whereas in aminopyridine, the pyridine nitrogen picks up the proton although its amino group is 1.6Å closer to Asp189

Group of Prof. G. Klebe (Univ. Marburg)

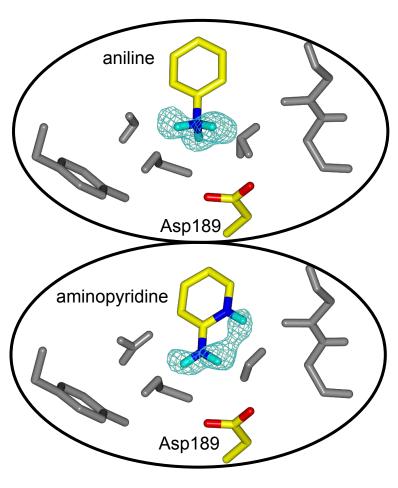






Therefore, apart from charge–charge distances, tautomer stability is essential for the resulting protonation pattern

correct prediction of such properties is key in drug development!



Group of Prof. G. Klebe (Univ. Marburg)

Schiebel J. et al., Angewandte Chemie Int. Edition (2017), 56 (17):4887-4890

Fo-Fc omit-map; +3.5σ





User data:

Example β -lactamase @ $d_{min} = 1.42$ Å:

Dr. Leighton Coates Prof. Dr. Joe Ng

Oak Ridge National Laboratory Stephen J. Tomanicek Oak Ridge National Laboratory Dr. Robert F. Standaert University of Tennessee University of Alabama

Example Trypsin @ $d_{min} = 1.42$ Å:

Prof. Dr. G. Klebe University Marburg

Dr. J. Schiebel **University Marburg**

University Marburg Prof. Dr. A. Heine

Example MTAN @ $d_{min} = 2.5$ Å:

Prof. Dr. D.R. Ronning University of Toledo

University of Toledo Dr. M.T. Banco

Dr. A. Kovalevsky Oak Ridge National Laboratory





Typical user data sets collected

protein	unit cell (Å) space group	cell volume (ų)	crystal size (mm³)	time (d)	d _{min} (Å)	compl. (%)	R _{merge} (%)
β-lactamase (no ligand) L. Coates et al.	73.3, 73.3, 98.7 P3 ₂ 21 λ=2.7Å	453,000	4.0	8	2.0	89.0 (82.7)	9.8 (22.3)
β-lactamase-BZB-inhibitor L. Coates et al.	73.4, 73.4, 99.1 P3 ₂ 21 λ=2.7Å	453,000	2,7	9	2.0	90.2 (81.2)	14.7 (27.9)
Inorganic pyrophosphatase J. Ng et al.	101.0 101.0 100.5 R32 λ=3.4Å, 4.0Å	887,700	1	24	2.0	97.9 (90.5)	13.6 (52.6)
Xylanase II A. Kovalevsky et al.	49.5 59.9 70.4 P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁ λ=2.7Å	208,000	2.8	17	2.0	96.2 (91.0)	9.7 (32.7)
KDN9P phosphatase Z. Fischer et al.	83.1 108.9 75.8 P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 λ=2.7Å	685,000	1.0	18	2.5	94.8 (88.7)	11.7 (40.0)
apo human carbonic anhydrase II Z. Fischer et al.	42.8 41.7 72.8 P2 ₁ λ=2.7Å	125,000	2,5	8	1.8	89.9 (76.8)	11.9 (33.0)
Nucleosidase (MTAN) A. Kovalevsky et al.	83.0 83.0 67.4 P3 ₂ 21 λ=2.7Å	392,000	2.8	25	2.7	97.1 (94.9)	9.8 (47.8)
Cytochrome c peroxidase P. Moody, M. Blakeley, C. Casadei et al.	51.2 75.8 107.6 P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁ λ=3.4Å, 4.0Å	417,000	0.65	23	2.5	90.7 (71.8)	17.3 (42.8)
Farnesyl pyrophosphate synthase T. Yokoyama et al.	111.9 111.9 72.6 P4 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 λ=4.0Å	909,000	3.5	25 (11)	2.4	98.4 (98.0)	10.7 (61.2)
DNA drug complex S. Arai, R. Kuroki et al.	27.9 27.9 52.0 P4 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 λ=2.7Å	40,500	3.0	3	1.7	92.7 (83.3)	10.8 (21.5)

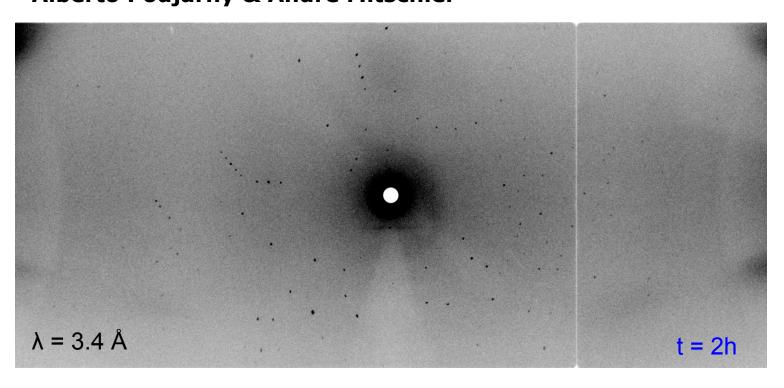
Wavelength can be adapted to unit cell size.





Fatty acid binding protein:

per-deuterated, high diffraction power <u>but</u> small crystals Alberto Podjarny & Andre Mitschler



unit cell: 33.8Å x 55.0Å x 70.8Å P2₁2₁2

crystal size: 0.08 mm³





Conclusions

- Neutron Protein Crystallography can contribute to drug development and drug binding studies.
- It is the ratio of crystal volume to unit cell volume which makes an experiment at a neutron protein crysallography beam line feasible or not







Upcoming deadline for proposals: September 9th, 2017

all users are welcome!

user.frm2.tum.de

fzj.frm2.tum.de

"rapid access" program for BIODIFF: July 28th, 2017

- 12h test beam time for testing crystals
- up to 3 rapid access proposals per cycle accepted





Thank you for your attentenion!





Advantages of structure determination with neutrons:

Comparison of form factors (X-ray) and scattering lengths (neutrons):

Nucle us	atomi c numb er	scatterin g length [10 ⁻¹² cm]
¹H	1	-0.378
² H	1	0.667
¹² C	6	0.665
¹⁵ N	7	0.921
¹⁶ O	8	0.581

X-ray neutron ^{1}H $^{2}H=D$ Н 0 Ν O

 σ_{coh} of ^{1}H is 1.8x10⁻²⁸ m² but σ_{incoh} of ^{1}H is 80.2x10⁻²⁸ m² Large background from hydrogen atoms!

diameters correspond to: form factor / scattering length (scaled for C-atom)



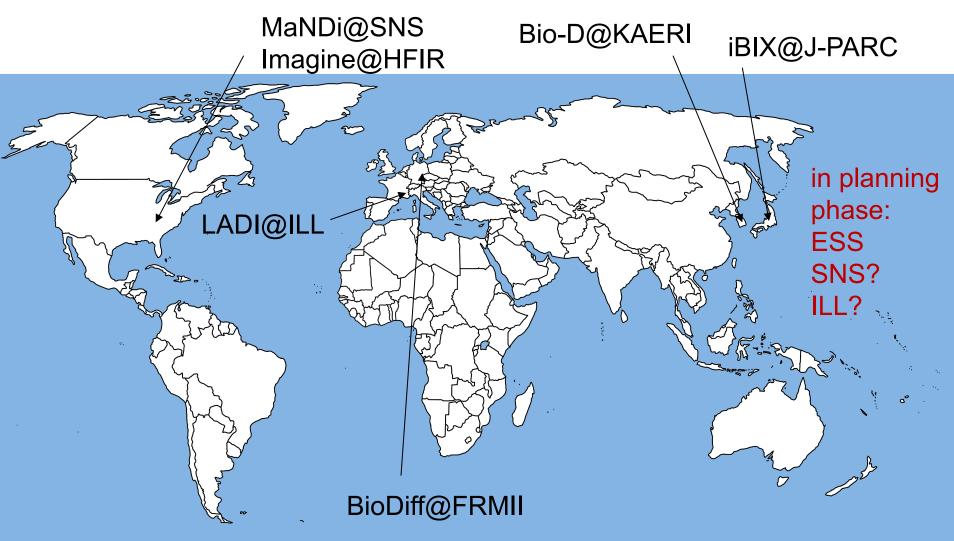


The Neutron Protein Crystallography beamlines in the world





World map of neutron diffractometers optimized for protein crystals







Neutron protein diffractometers in the world:

Diffracto- meter	Method used	Flux at sample n/cm ² /s	Typical crystal size mm3	max. cell dimension Å	best resolution Å
BioDiff (FRMII)	mono, variable	9.0.106	> 0.1	< 180	>1.4
Imagine (HIFR)	quasi- Laue	3.0·10 ⁷	> 0.1	?	>1.4
Ladi-III (ILL)	quasi- Laue	3.0·10 ⁷	> 0.1	< 160	>1.4
Mandi	TOF- Laue	6.9·10 ⁷	> 0.1	< 150	>1.5
iBIX	TOF- Laue	2.1.108	> 0.1	< 150	>1.2

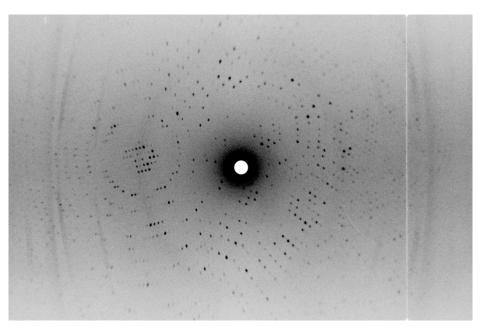
For Bio-D no data is available.





First "user data set": β-lactamase with bound inhibitor

S.J. Tomanicek, R.F. Standaert, K.L. Weiss, J.D. Ng, **L. Coates** (Group of P. Langan)



d _{min}	l/σ(l)	N _{meas}	mult.	compl.	R _{merge} %	
4.31	27.8	12685	5.6	97.6	4.9	
3.42	19.0	11941	5.5	98.0	8.0	
2.99	10.3	10378	4.9	96.9	14.6	
2.71	7.6	8757	4.3	95.5	18.7	
2.52	5.9	7820	3.9	92.8	21.2	
2.37	5.4	7099	3.8	89.2	21.6	
2.25	5.0	6095	3.5	84.6	23.0	
2.15	4.5	5906	3.4	82.9	24.7	
2.07	4.1	5673	3.2	82.0	27.2	
2.0	3.7	5059	2.9	81.2	27.9	
overall	7.4	81413	4.0	90.2	14.7	

- unit cell: 73.4Å, 73.4Å, 99.1Å P3₂21

- fully deuterated protein

crystal size: 2.7mm³
 Collection time: 9d

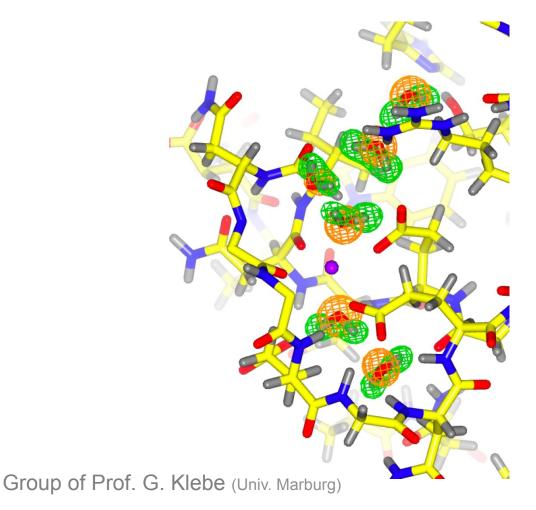
 $R_{pim} = 7.9\% (17.9\%)$

Tomanicek et al., J. Biol. Chem., 288, 4715 (2013).





Ca binding site of trypsin: water molecules



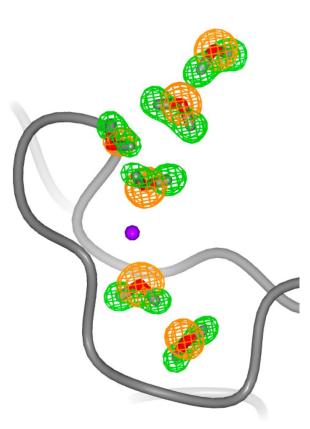
Fo-Fc neutron omit-map; +6 σ

Fo-Fc xray omit-map; +6σ





Ca binding site of trypsin: water molecules



Fo-Fc neutron omit-map; +6 σ

Fo-Fc xray omit-map; +6σ

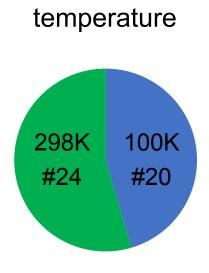
Group of Prof. G. Klebe (Univ. Marburg)

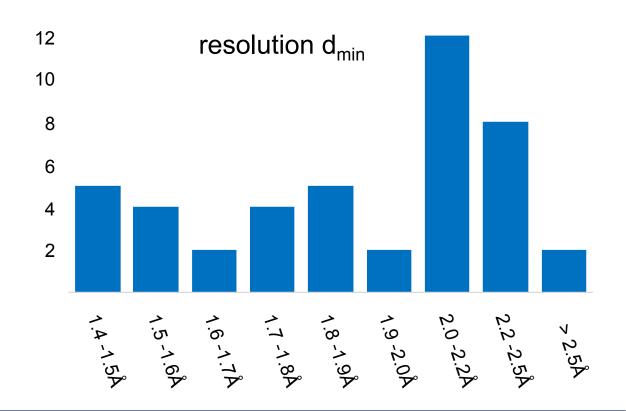




Some statistics from BioDiff:

- → 44 protein structures
- → 4 magnetic superstructure proposals
- → 3 multilamellar membrane proposals





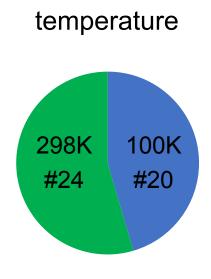
07.06.17 NISB 2017 Grenoble

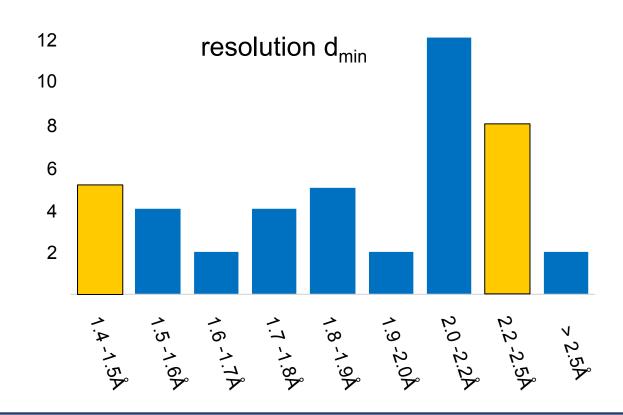




Some statistics from BioDiff:

- → 44 protein structures
- → 4 magnetic superstructure proposals
- → 3 multilamellar membrane proposals





07.06.17 NISB 2017 Grenoble









Inhibitor binding to trypsin: charges shift protonation

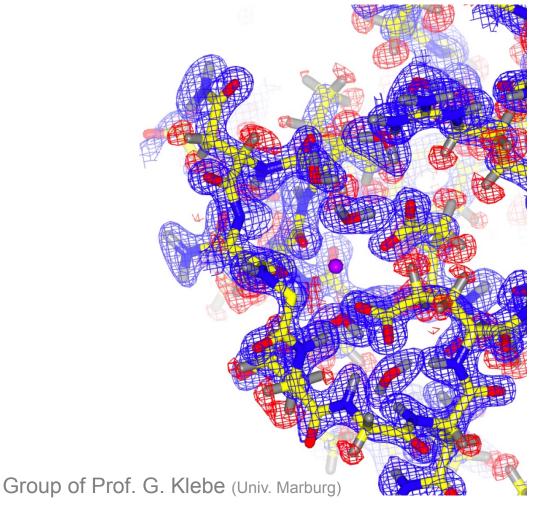
Trypsin ligand	Aniline	2-Aminopyridine	
Data-collection temperature (K)	295	295	
PDB code	5MNY	5MNX	
Data collection and processing b			
Wavelength (Å)	2.667	2.675	
Beamline	FRM II, BIODIFF	FRM II, BIODIFF	
Detector	Maatel neutron image plate	Maatel neutron image plate	
Space group	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	
Cell dimensions			
a, b, c (Å)	54.9, 58.5, 67.5	55.1, 58.7, 67.6	
α, β, γ (°)	90.0, 90.0, 90.0	90.0, 90.0, 90.0	
Resolution range (Å)	50.0-1.43 (1.45-1.43)	25.0-1.42 (1.45-1.42)	
No. of unique reflections	38342 (1627)	38142 (1908)	
Average redundancy	2.5 (1.6)	2.6 (2.0)	
R _{merge} (%)	9.8 (38.7)	9.4 (41.4)	
Completeness (%)	93.8 (82.1)	90.7 (69.9)	
<i σ(i)=""></i>	7.3 (1.9)	8.5 (2.1)	
Refinement			
Resolution range (Å)	22.1 - 1.43	22.2 - 1.42	
No. of reflections (total / free)	38317 / 1911	38107 / 1913	
R _{cryst} (%)	16.4	16.6	
Rfree (%)	19.3	20.6	

Schiebel J. et al., Angewandte Chemie Int. Edition (2017), 56 (17):4887-4890





Ca binding site of trypsin: water molecules



2Fo-Fc neutron map; +1.5σ

2Fo-Fc neutron map; -2σ

Schiebel J. et al., Angewandte Chemie Int. Edition (2017), 56 (17):4887-4890

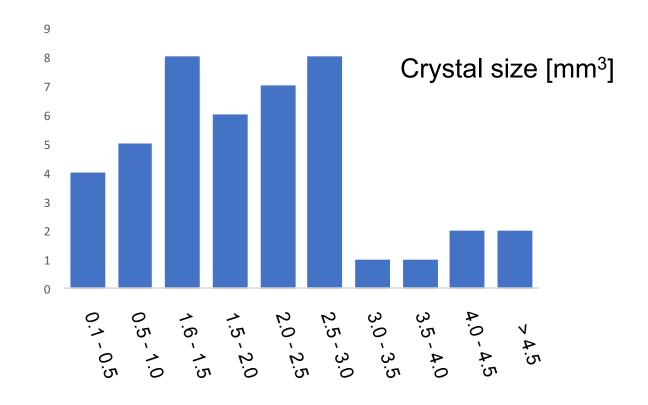
07.06.17 NISB 2017 Grenoble





Some statistics from BioDiff:

- → 44 protein structures
- → 4 magnetic superstructure proposals
- → 3 multilamellar membrane proposals





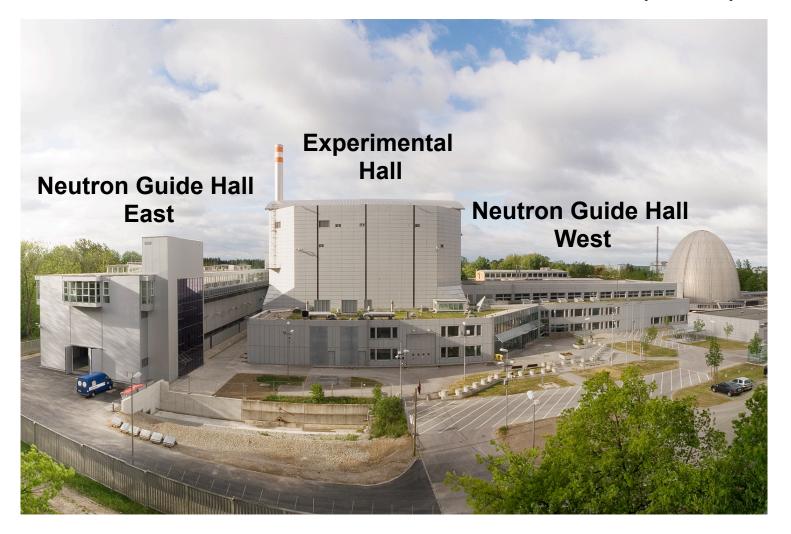


The instrument BioDiff at MLZ in Garching, Germany





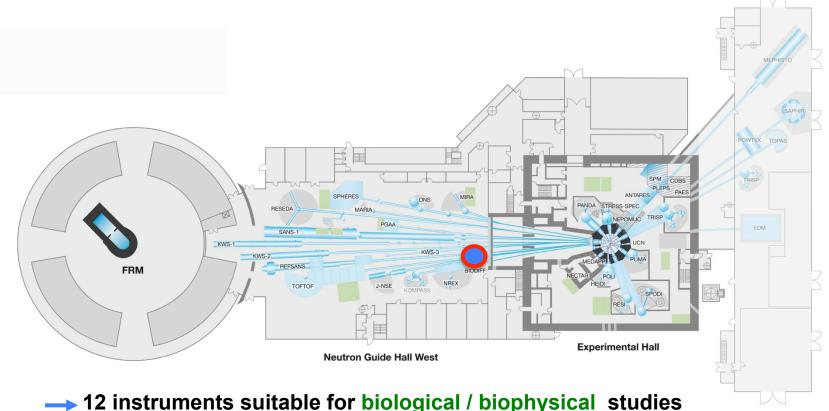
Research Neutron Source Heinz Maier-Leibnitz (FRM II)







Neutron Guide Hall East



- → 12 instruments suitable for biological / biophysical studies
 - 4 spectrometer: TOF, backscattering, spin echo;
 - 3 reflectometers;
 - 4 small angle scattering machines;
 - 1 diffractometer for macromolecular diffraction





Neutron Guide Hall West:







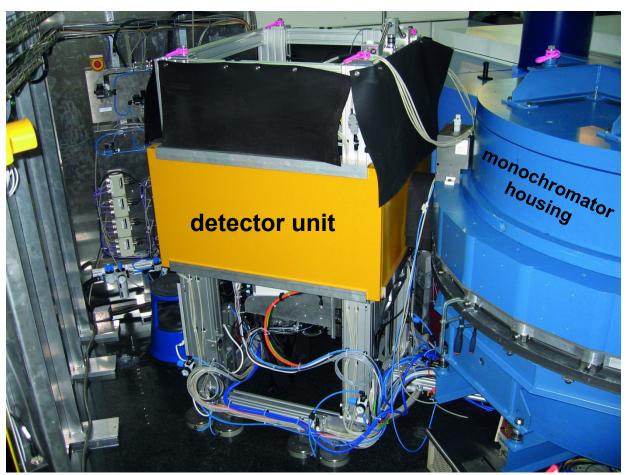
BIODIFF: Diffractometer for macromolecular neutron crystallography

operated by





in operation since April 2012







BIODIFF: Diffractometer for macromolecular neutron crystallography

Beam condition:

wavelength range: 2.4Å - 5.6Å

sample position (2 x 2 mm²) (@2.4Å; slits open;

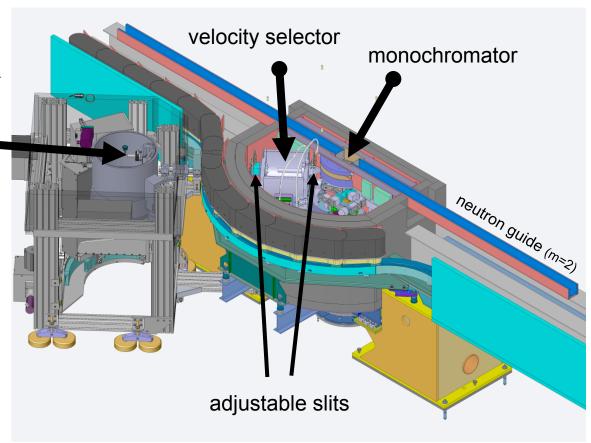
hor. divergence: 0.8° (FWHM)

vert. divergence: 0.7° (FWHM)

 $\Delta \lambda / \lambda = 2.5\%$ (FWHM)

Flux: $9 \times 10^6 \text{ n cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ @2.7Å

7 x 10⁶ n cm⁻² s⁻¹ @4.7Å



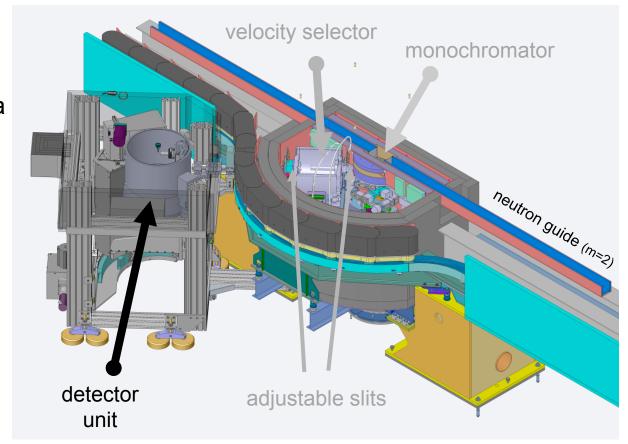




BIODIFF: Diffractometer for macromolecular neutron crystallography

detector unit:

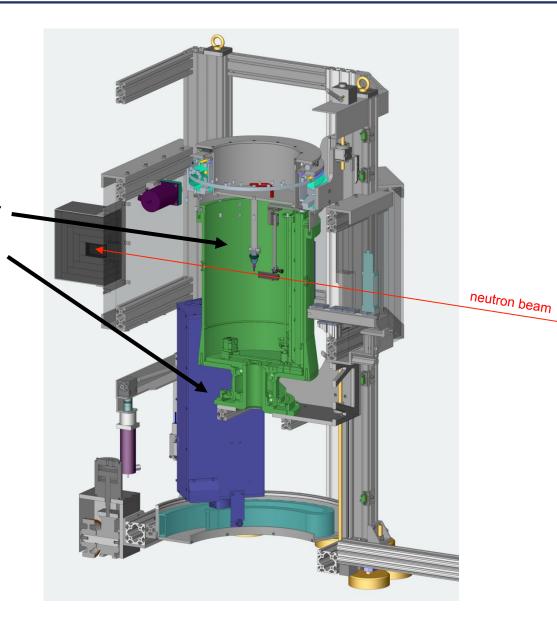
- image plate detector
- scintillator CCD-camera







cylindrical image plate detector scintillator based CCD-camera







neutron image plate

- Gd₂O₃ / BaFBr:Eu²⁺ (white Niimura-type)

- cylindrical shape: r = 200mm; h = 450mm

- covered hor. solid angle: ±155° vert. solid angle: ±48°

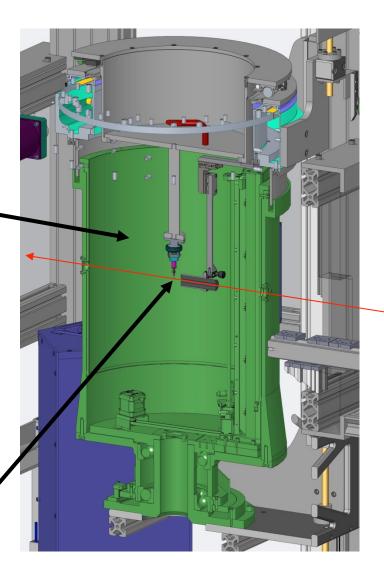
- scanner resolution: 125, 250, 500 μm

- readout time + erasing: \approx 4min (500 μ m)

same scanner type as LADI-III@ILL and IMAGINE@ORNL

Company: Maatel /France

sample position

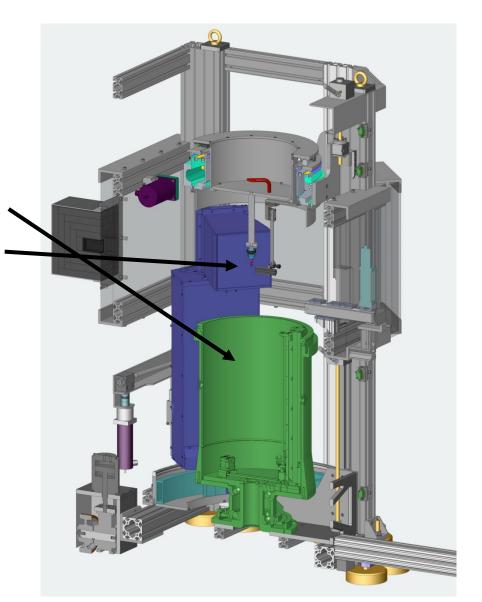


neutron beam





cylindrical image plate detector scintillator based CCD-camera

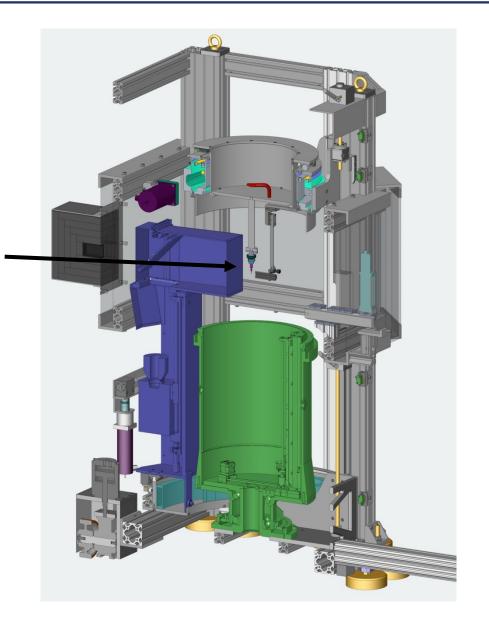






scintillator based CCD-camera

2Θ-range: 0° - 112°







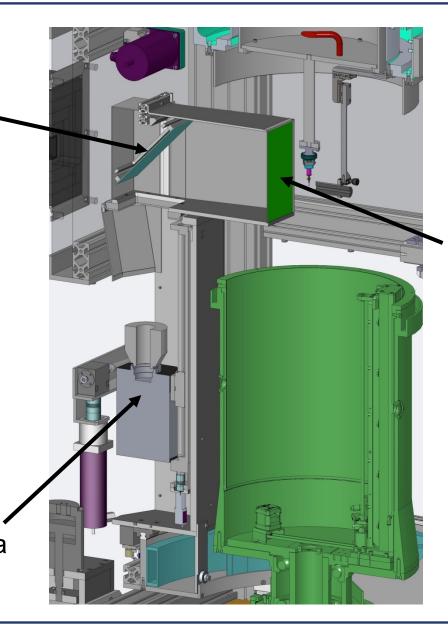
mirror.

Scintillator based CCD-camera

- ⁶LiF/ZnS scintillator

- flat shape: 200 x 200mm

- overall resolution: ≈300 μm



⁶LiF/ZnS scintillator

CCD , camera





mirror.

Scintillator based CCD-camera

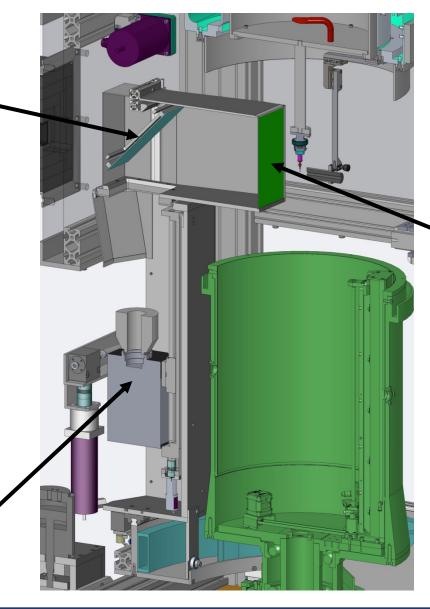
- Andor iKon-L CCD camera

CCD-chip cooled to -90°C

 very low dark current and readout noise

readout time: ≥1sec

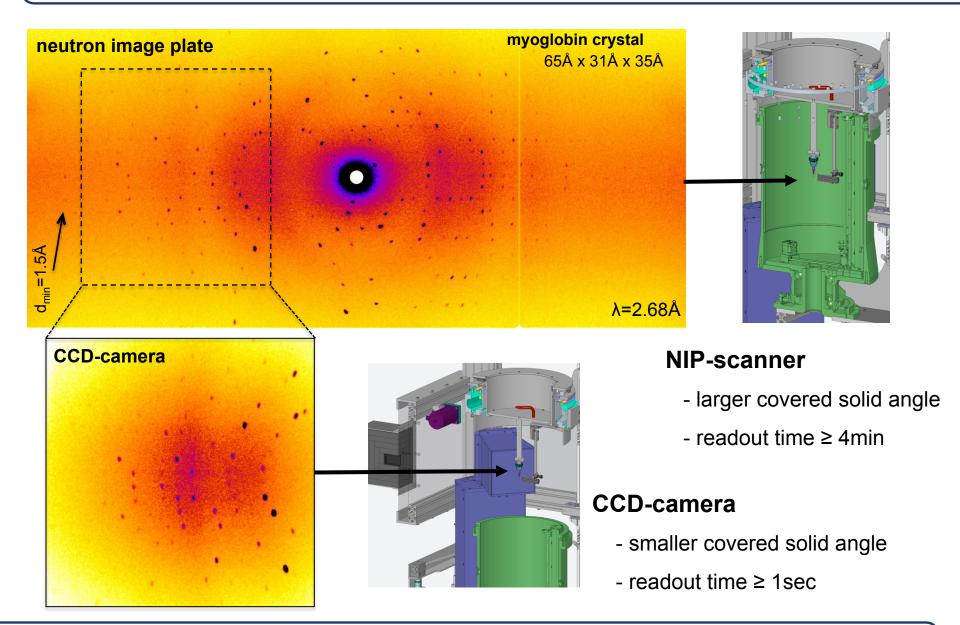
CCD ,

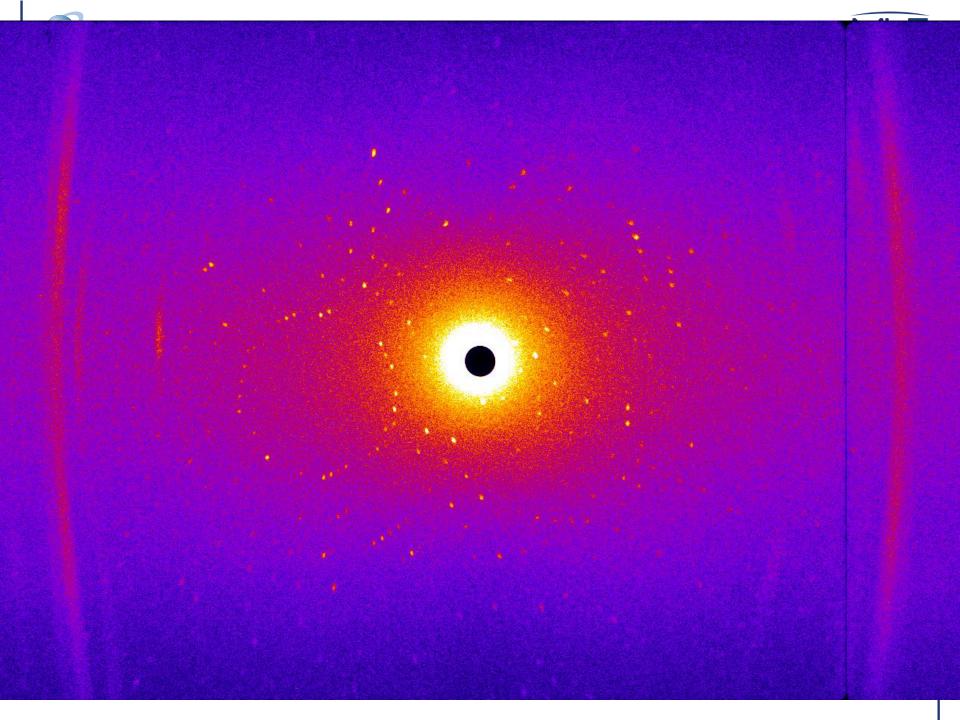


⁶LiF/ZnS scintillator





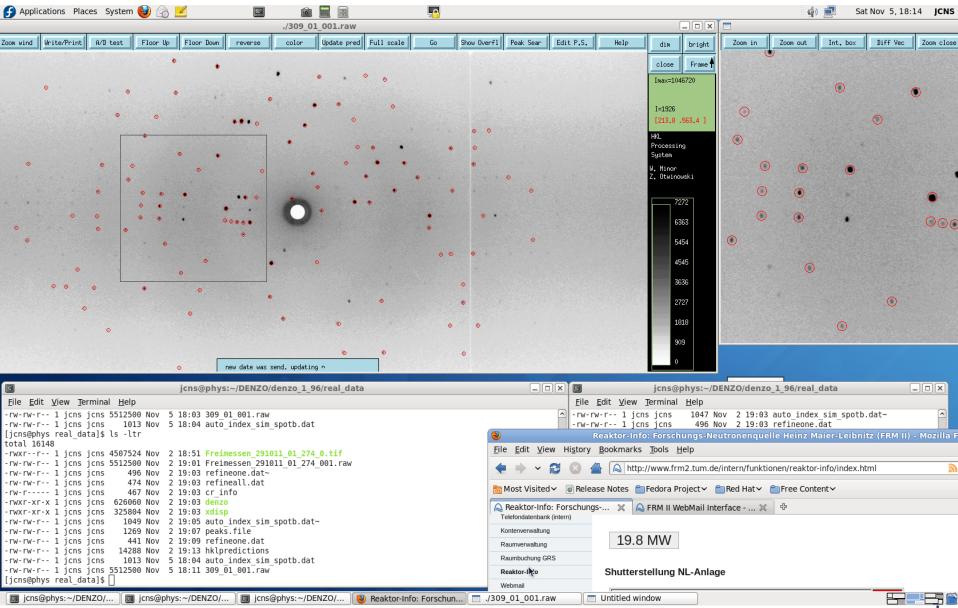








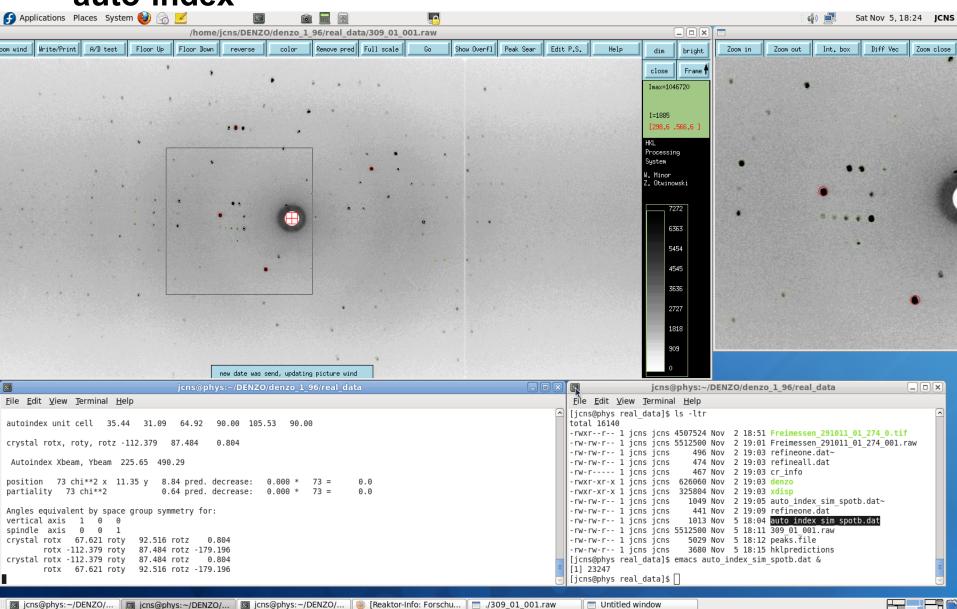
peak search with hkl DENZO







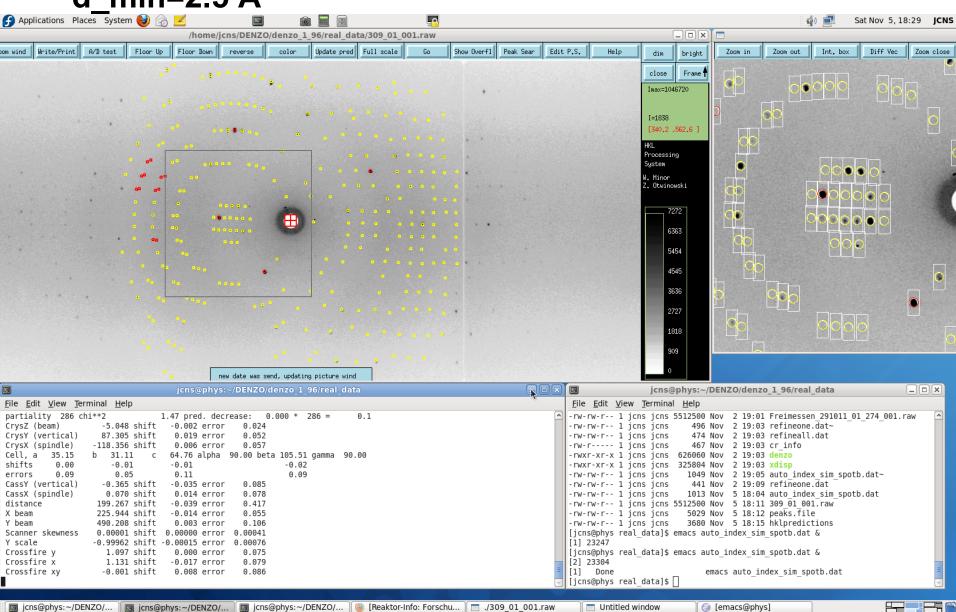
auto-index







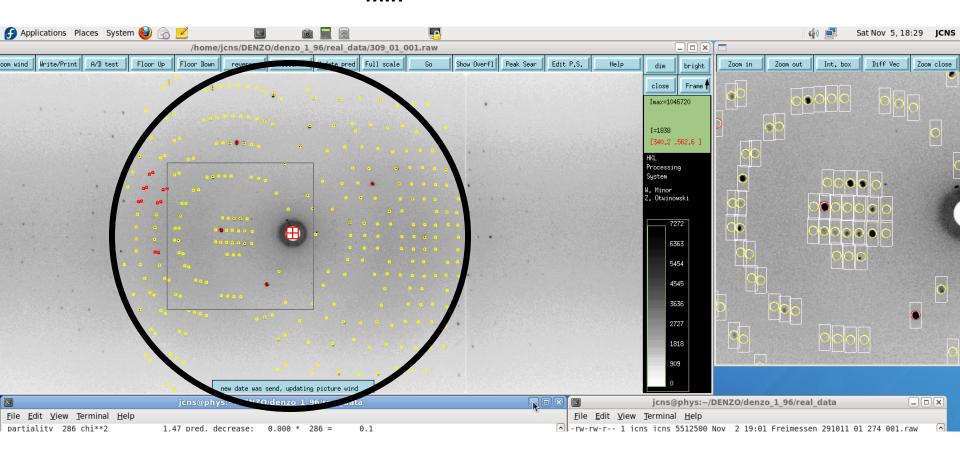
d min=2.5 A







$d_{min}=2.5 A$

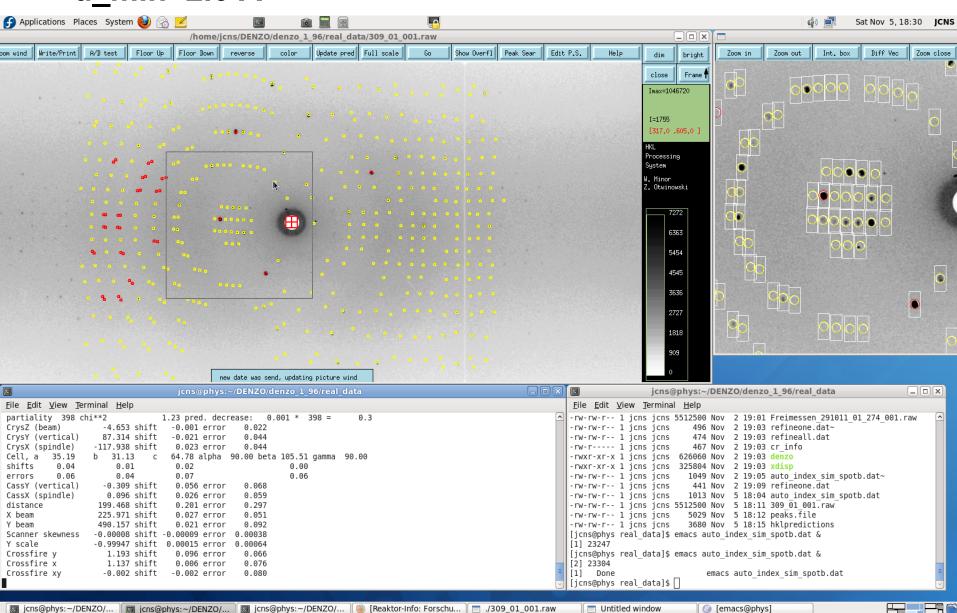


Resolution shell of 2.5 Å





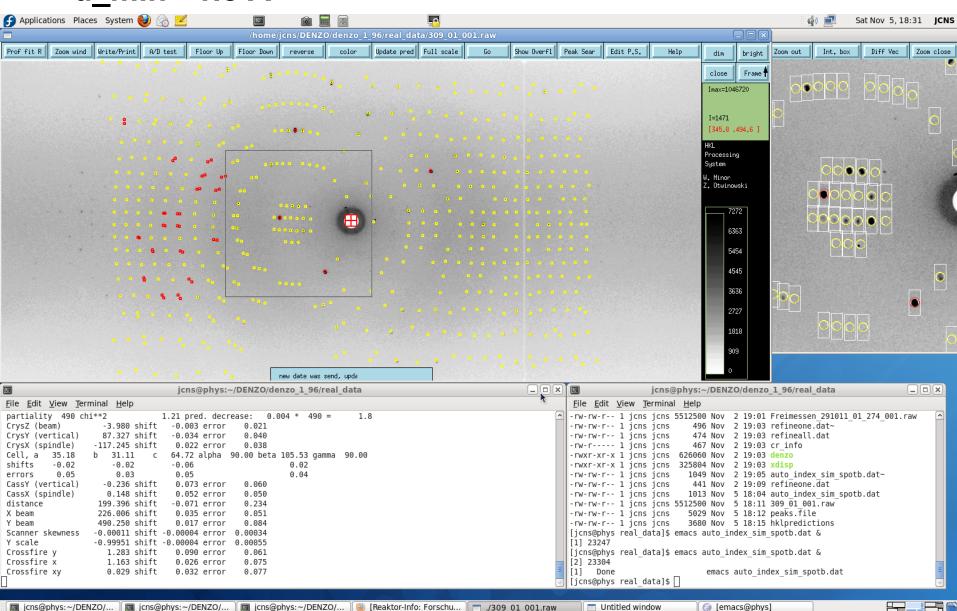
d_min=2.0 A







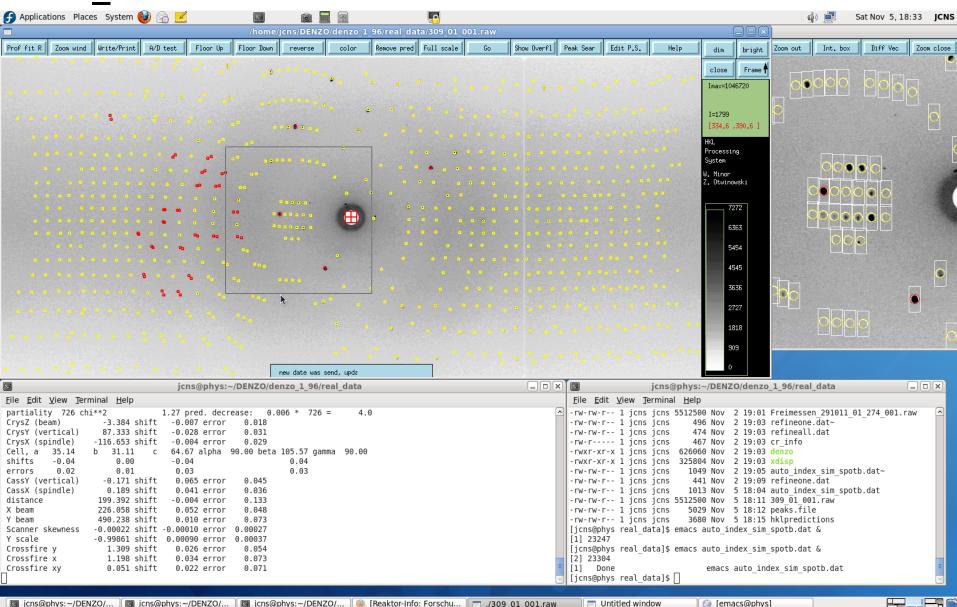
d_min= 1.8 A







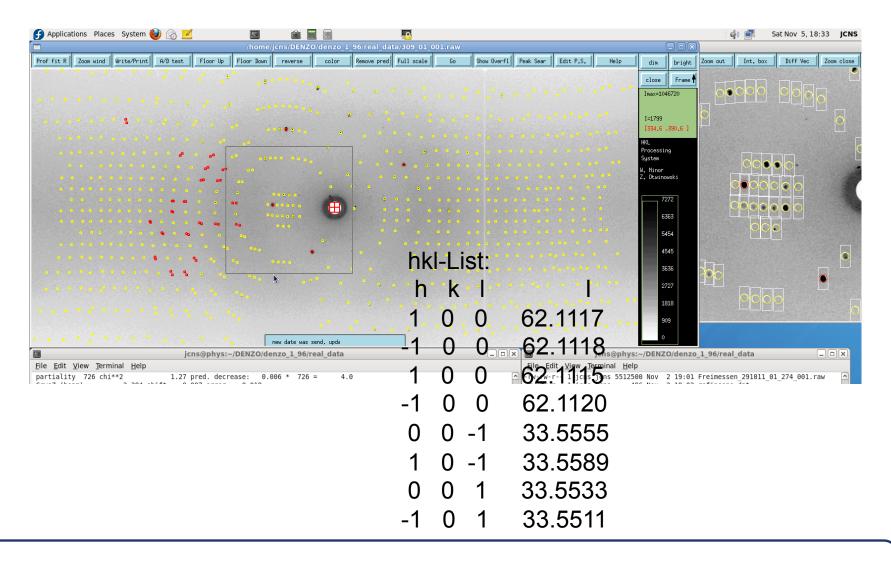
d_min=1.5 A







Integration of partial Bragg peaks with the commercial software hkl-denzo up to d_{min}=1.5 Å

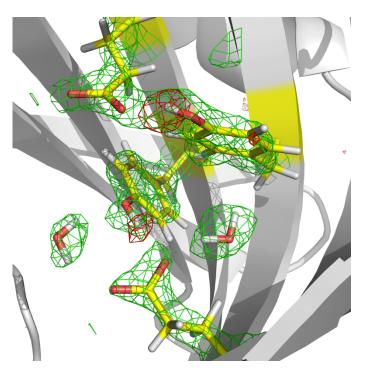






Xylanase II (pH 5.8):

A. Kovalevsky, Q. Wan, L. Coates, D.Graham, Q. Zhang (Group of P. Langan)



d _{min}	l/σ(l)	N _{meas}	mult.	compl.	R _{merge} %
4.31	52.9	9709	6.2	98.0	3.1
3.42	34.6	9306	6.2	99.6	5.0
2.99	21.0	8456	5.8	99.4	7.9
2.71	11.9	7400	5.1	98.9	12.9
2.52	8.2	6806	4.8	97.1	17.2
2.37	6.0	6142	4.4	96.3	20.6
2.25	4.8	4935	3.7	92.8	23.4
2.15	4.5	5061	3.7	94.9	25.6
2.07	3.6	4998	3.7	93.2	30.8
2.0	3.0	4313	3.3	91.0	32.7
overall	11.2	67126	4.7	96.2	9.7

- unit cell: 49.5Å, 59.9Å, 70.41Å P2₁2₁2

crystal size: 2.8mm³
 Collection time: 17d



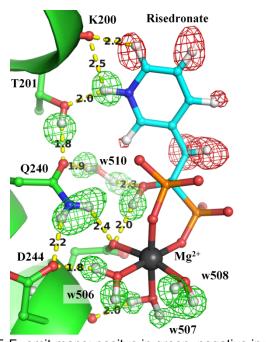


Human farnesyl pyrophosphate synthase with risedronate:

imited resolution but high completeness

T. Yokoyama, M. Mizuguchi, N. Niimura, I. Tanaka

$$d_{min} = 2.4$$
Å



 F_oF_c -omit-maps: positve in green, negative in red;

- unit cell: 111.9Å, 111.9Å, 72.6Å P4₁2₁2

- crystal size: 3.5mm³

- collection time: (5d, 6d, 14d)

d _{min}	l/σ(l)	N _{meas}	mult.	compl. in shell %	R _{merge} %
140.0 – 5.17	29.1	12784	6.6	94.9	4.3
5.17 – 4.10	14.5	9490	5.0	99.3	9.8
4.10 – 3.59	10.6	8045	4.3	99.5	12.3
3.59 – 3.26	7.0	5833	3.2	98.5	15.5
3.26 – 3.02	6.1	6443	3.5	99.3	19.5
3.02 – 2.85	4.5	6181	3.4	98.6	24.9
2.85 – 2.70	3.3	5772	3.2	98.6	31.2
2.70 – 2.59	2.5	5442	3.0	98.5	39.8
2.59 – 2.49	2.1	5260	2.9	99.0	46.2
2.49 – 2.40	1.8	4846	2.7	98.0	61.2
overall	8.2	69977	3.8	98.4	10.7

$$R_{pim} = 5.8\% (37.1\%)$$





Sample enviroment @ BioDiff



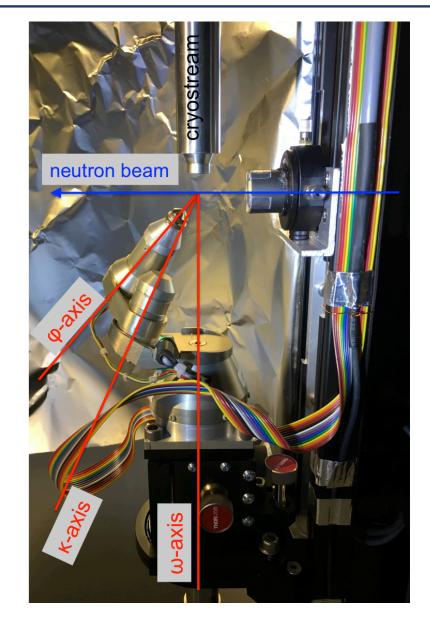


BioDiff Upgrade:

mini-kappa-goniometer

Standard Oxford cryostream 700_{plus}: T = 90 - 500K

- optimizing data collection strategy
 - save precious beam time / increase data set complete
- no manual crystal re-mounting necessary for changing the crystal orientation under cryo conditions







Why are proteins interesting?

Due to their important roles in all processes of life:

Enzymatic: Enzymatic proteins accelerate metabolic processes in your cells.

Structural: Structural proteins are necessary components of your body.

Defensive: Antibodies, or immunoglobulins, are a core part of your immune

system.

Storage: Storage proteins mainly store mineral ions in your body.

Transport: Transport proteins carry vital materials to the cells.

Receptor: Located on the outer part of the cells, receptor proteins control

the substances that enter and leave the cells.

Contractile: Also known as motor proteins, contractile proteins regulate the

strength and speed of heart and muscle contractions.

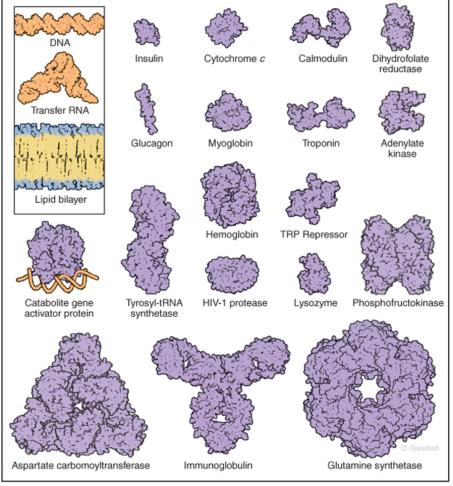
This is why misfolded or genetically altered proteins lead to serious diseases...

22.06.18





Proteins come in different shapes and sizes



© Elsevier. Pollard et al: Cell Biology 2e - www.studentconsult.com

This is where the crystallography comes in...



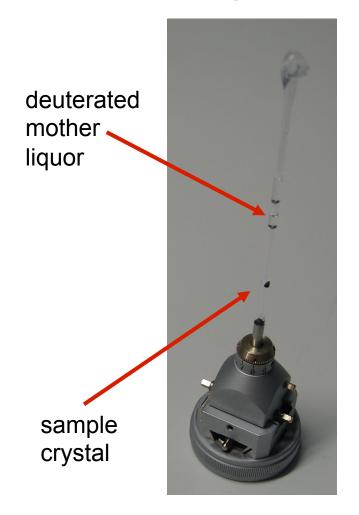


Some general remarks on crystal mounting





Room temperature packaging of crystals





- Avoid boron glas, since boron absorbs neutrons, use quartz glas instead
- Leave as little mother liquor around the crystal as possible, put a droplet of mother liquor at one end of the capillary instead.

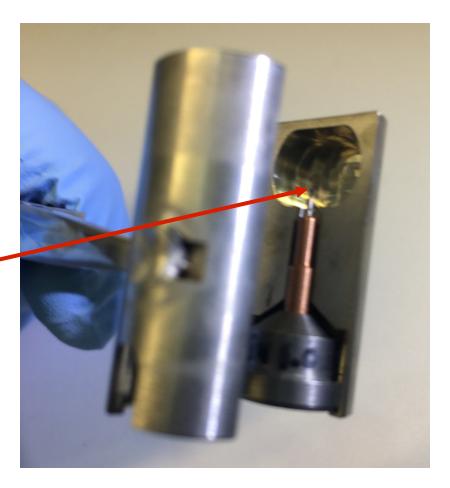
Outer diameter of the glas tube: 5 mm

Outer diameter of the glas tube: 2 mm





Cryo-mounting large crystals



sample crystal

- Avoid hydrogenated polymers in the loop, use capton (Mitigen) or carbon meshes instead (especially when you have a fully deuterated protein)
- Make sure that your crystal fits into the cryoTong: We prefer the 18 mm one.





If your crystal is still too small: Consider a proposal to the D-Lab



http://www.ill.eu/sites/deuteration/

- Fill in a two page word form as an application
- receive decision on it within a few weeks
- Send a post-Doc or a PhD student to the D-Lab in Grenoble, France
- Use the expertise of the D-Lab to grow cells on minimal fully deuterated media
- make the cells express your protein
- purify the protein from the cells
- grow the fully deuterated crystals at your home lab





Short summary:

- Neutrons can contribute to the understanding of the catalytic processes of proteins
- → BIODIFF is a monochromatic instrument possible wavelength range 2.4 5.6Å
- Standard cryostream system in operation, with mini-kappa gioniometer head
- Users are welcome!





Upcoming deadline for proposals: July 21st, 2017

all users are welcome!

user.frm2.tum.de

fzj.frm2.tum.de

We are open for suggestions on sample environments and support labs for BioDiff!





Collaborators:

Project leaders:

Prof. Dr. W. Petry FRM II

Prof. Dr. D. Richter JCNS

Prof. Dr. F. Parak TUM (started project)

Instrument co-responsible:

Dr. A. Ostermann TUM

Beamline Post-doc:

Dr. M. Longo JCNS

Engineers:

B. Laatsch FZ-Jülich

P. Jüttner FRM II





Thank You!