Jülich Centre for Neutron Science

JÜLICH FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM

Neutron Protein Crystallography

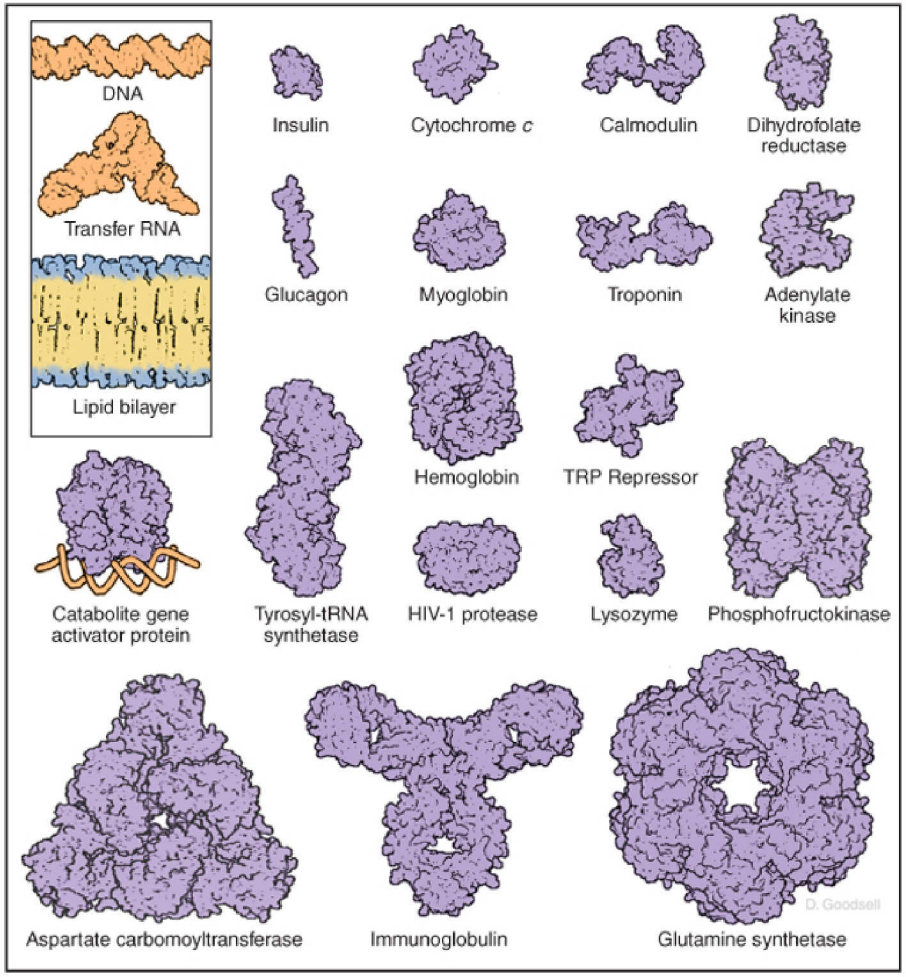
Bioschool, St. Petersburg, Russia

February 27th 2019 | Tobias E. Schrader

Outline

- Motivation: Why do we need protein structures at atomic resolution?
- x-ray protein crystallography
- neutron protein crystallography
- Theory of scattering from crystals
- One or two application examples: From Structure to function…

Proteins or structured macromolecules come in different shapes and sizes

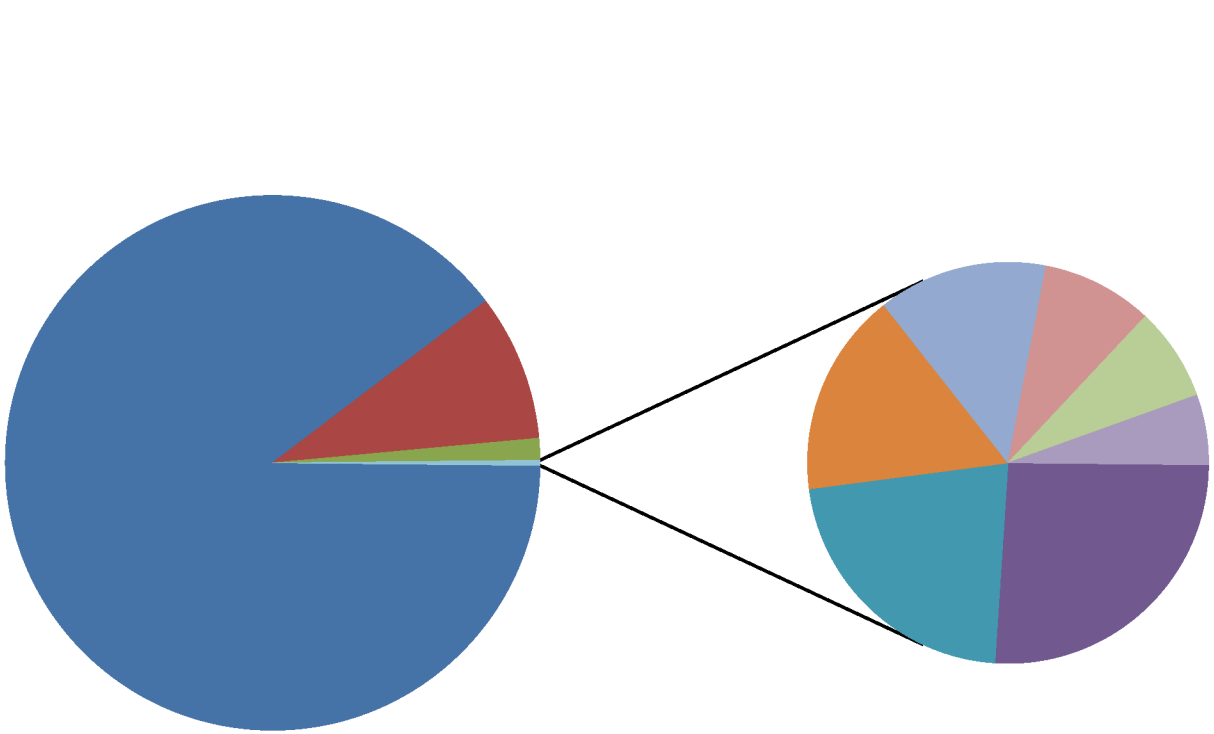


How do we find out about protein structures?

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)

Most structures are obtained by x-ray crystallography, available neutron structures in protein data bank: ca. 100

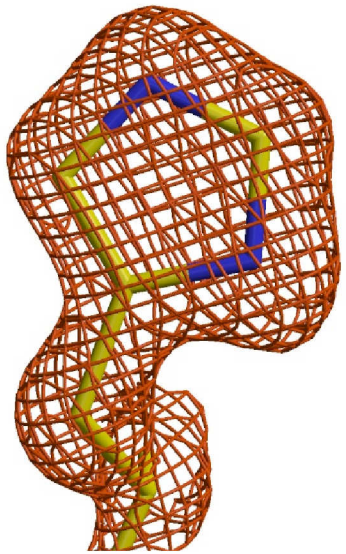


http://www.rcsb.org/

Total number of structures: 134656

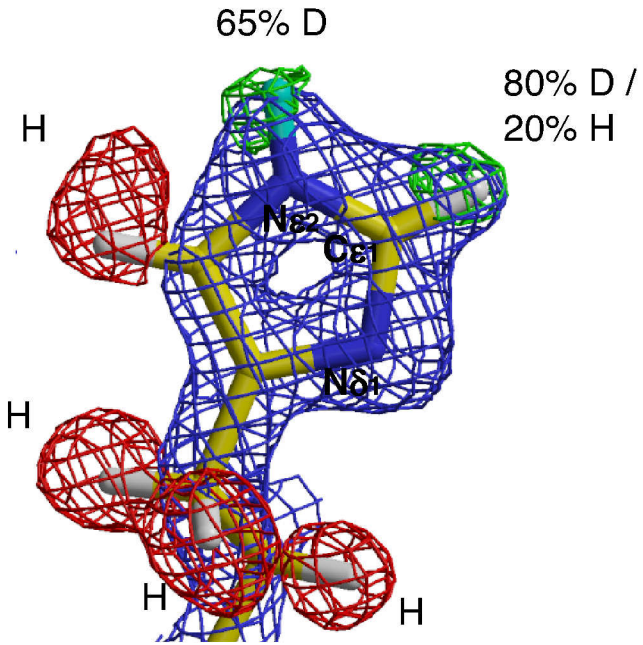
Protonation states of amino acids:

X-ray d_{min}= 1.5Å:



2Fo-Fc map; +1.5σ

neutrons d_{min}= 1.5Å:



2Fo-Fc map; +1.5σ

Fo-Fc omit-map; -3.0σ

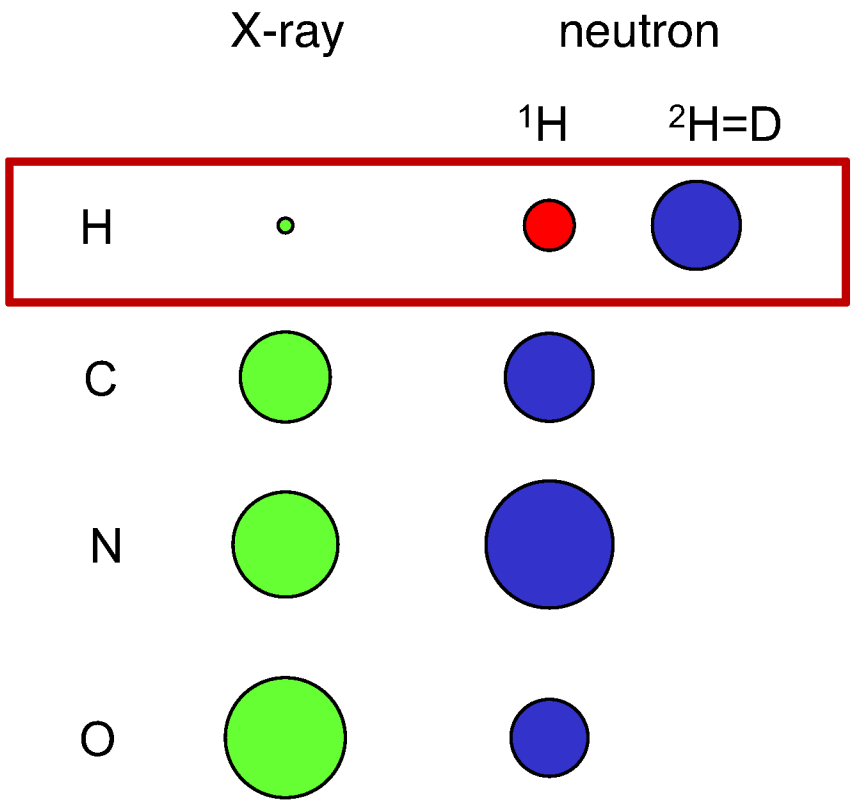
Fo-Fc omit-map; +3.0σ

Niimura N, Chatake T, Ostermann A, Kurihara K, Tanaka T. (2003) Z. Kristallogr. 218:96

Advantages of structure determination with neutrons:

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

Nucleus	atomic number	scattering length [10^{-12} cm]
^{1}H	1	**-0.378**
^{2}H	1	**0.667**
^{12}C	6	**0.665**
^{15}N	7	**0.921**
^{16}O	8	**0.581**



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

σ_{coh} of ^{1}H is 1.8×10^{-28} m^2 but
σ_{incoh} of ^{1}H is 80.2×10^{-28} m^2
Large background from hydrogen atoms!

A crystal structure according to the protein data bank (PDB)

x,y,z coordinates (Å)

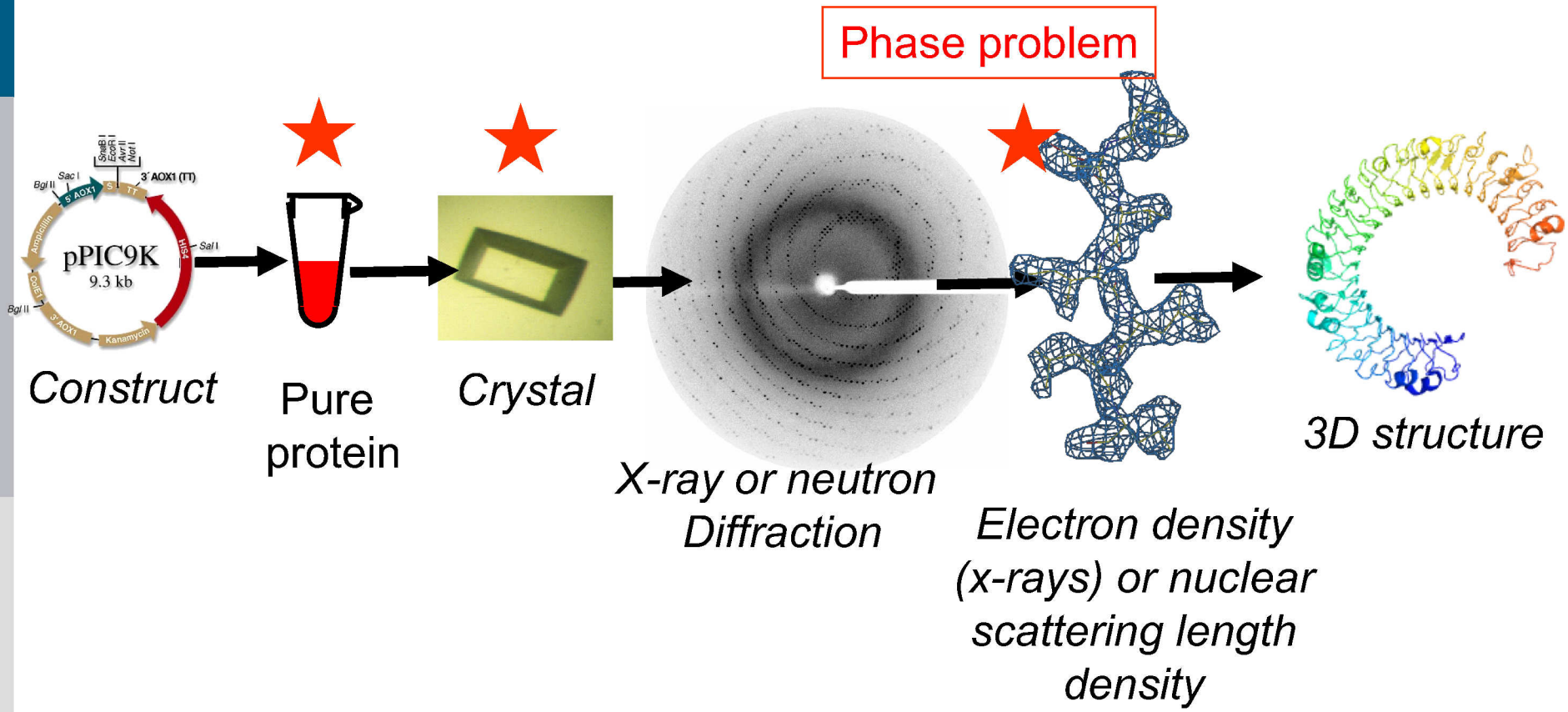
```
ATOM     25  N   ASP A 928      19.062   9.157  35.067  1.00  4.73           N
ATOM     26  CA  ASP A 928      19.770  10.123  34.232  1.00  4.58           C
ATOM     27  C   ASP A 928      19.075   9.938  32.899  1.00  4.56           C
ATOM     28  O   ASP A 928      19.074   8.824  32.351  1.00  5.39           O
ATOM     29  CB  ASP A 928      21.259   9.776  34.071  1.00  3.13           C
ATOM     30  CG  ASP A 928      22.112  10.245  35.233  1.00  5.52           C
ATOM     31  OD1 ASP A 928      21.693  11.114  36.025  1.00  5.42           O
ATOM     32  OD2 ASP A 928      23.239   9.742  35.349  1.00  7.93           O
ATOM     33  N   VAL A 929      18.417  10.985  32.405  1.00  3.68           N
ATOM     34  CA  VAL A 929      17.726  10.864  31.125  1.00  4.63           C
```

Isotropic B-factor or temperature factor is a measure of the mobility of an atom

B ($Å^2$) = $8\pi^2\langle u^2\rangle$, where $\langle u^2\rangle$ is the mean square atomic displacement

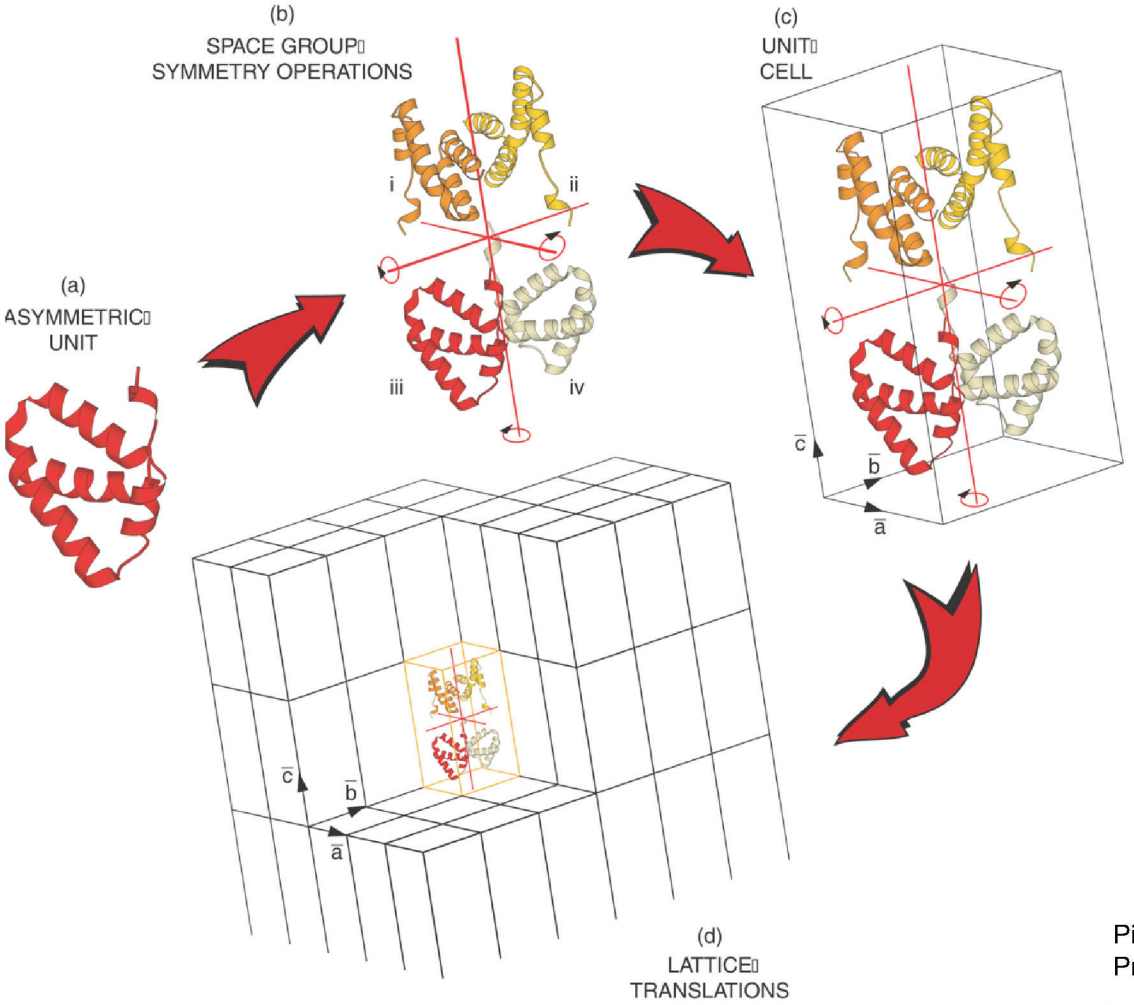
Protein crystallography in general, valid for both x-rays and neutrons as probes

Crystallography: Overiew over the process



Harma Brondijk, Crystal and Structural chemistry, Utrecht University

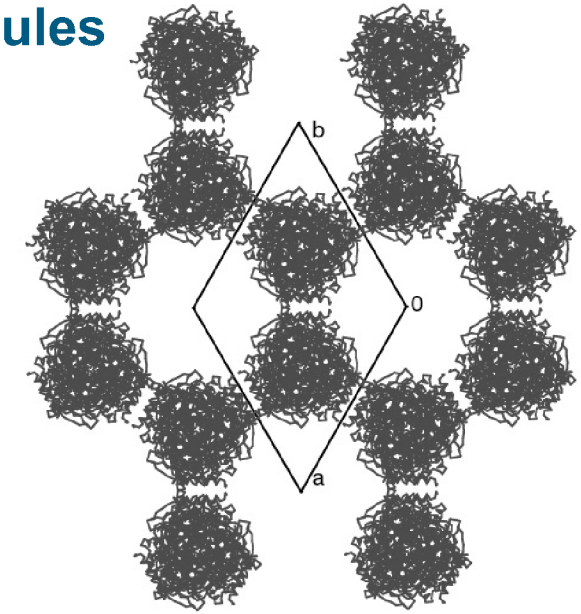
How a typical protein crystal looks like…

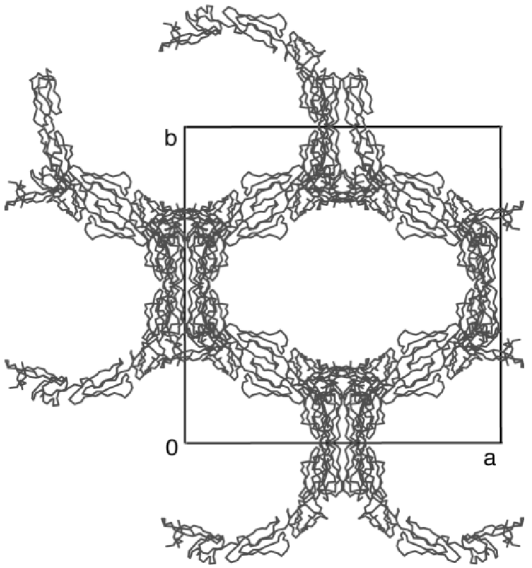


Picture taken from Lecture of Prof. Locher at ETH Zürich

fig 2.2

Protein crystals contain a lot of solvent and are held together by a limited number of weak contacts between protein molecules



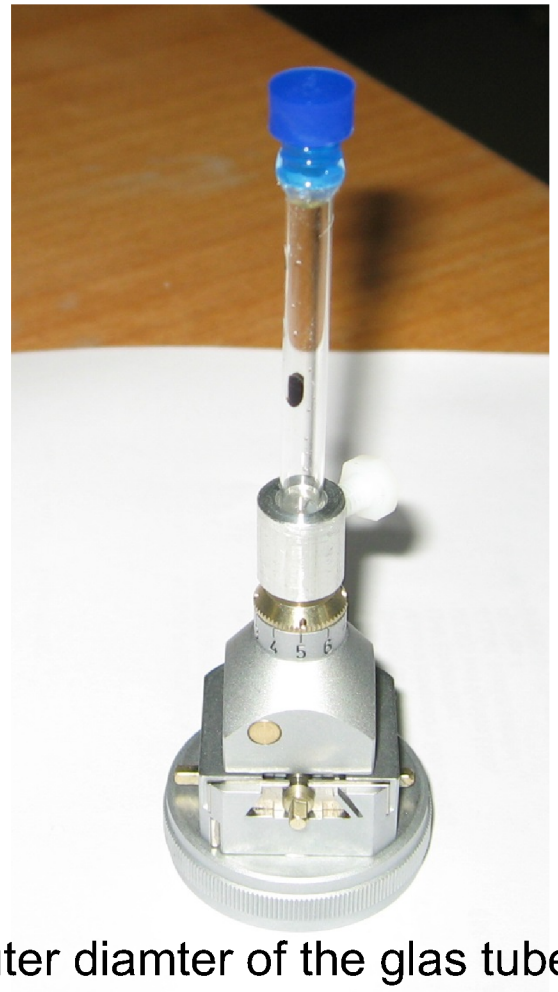


Acetylcholinesterase
~68% solvent

β2 Glycoprotein I
~90% solvent
(extremely high!)

Typical solvent content 40-60%
Solvent channels allow diffusion of compounds into crystal
Often these compounds can reach the active or binding site
Often enzymes are active in crystalline state

Size considerations of protein crystals

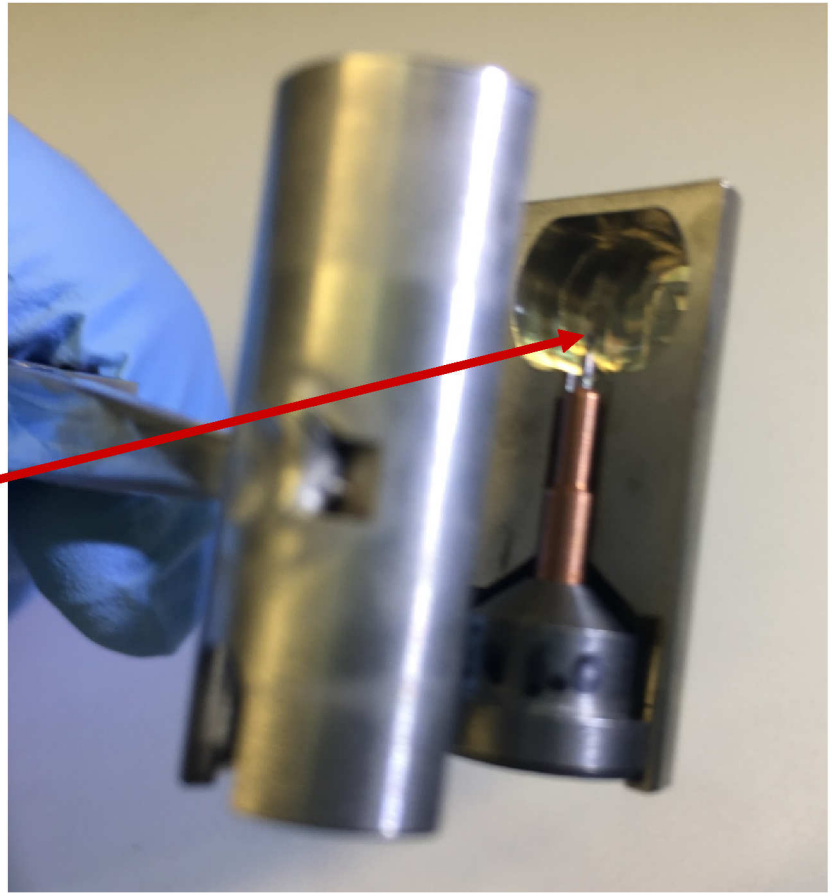


size:
x-ray-crystallography:
ca. 10 µm x 10 µm x 10 µm
typically cryoprotectants needed to facilitate measurements at low (80 K) temperatures

neutron protein crystalography:
The desirable size should be around 1 mm x 1 mm x 1 mm (depending on the protein/space group)

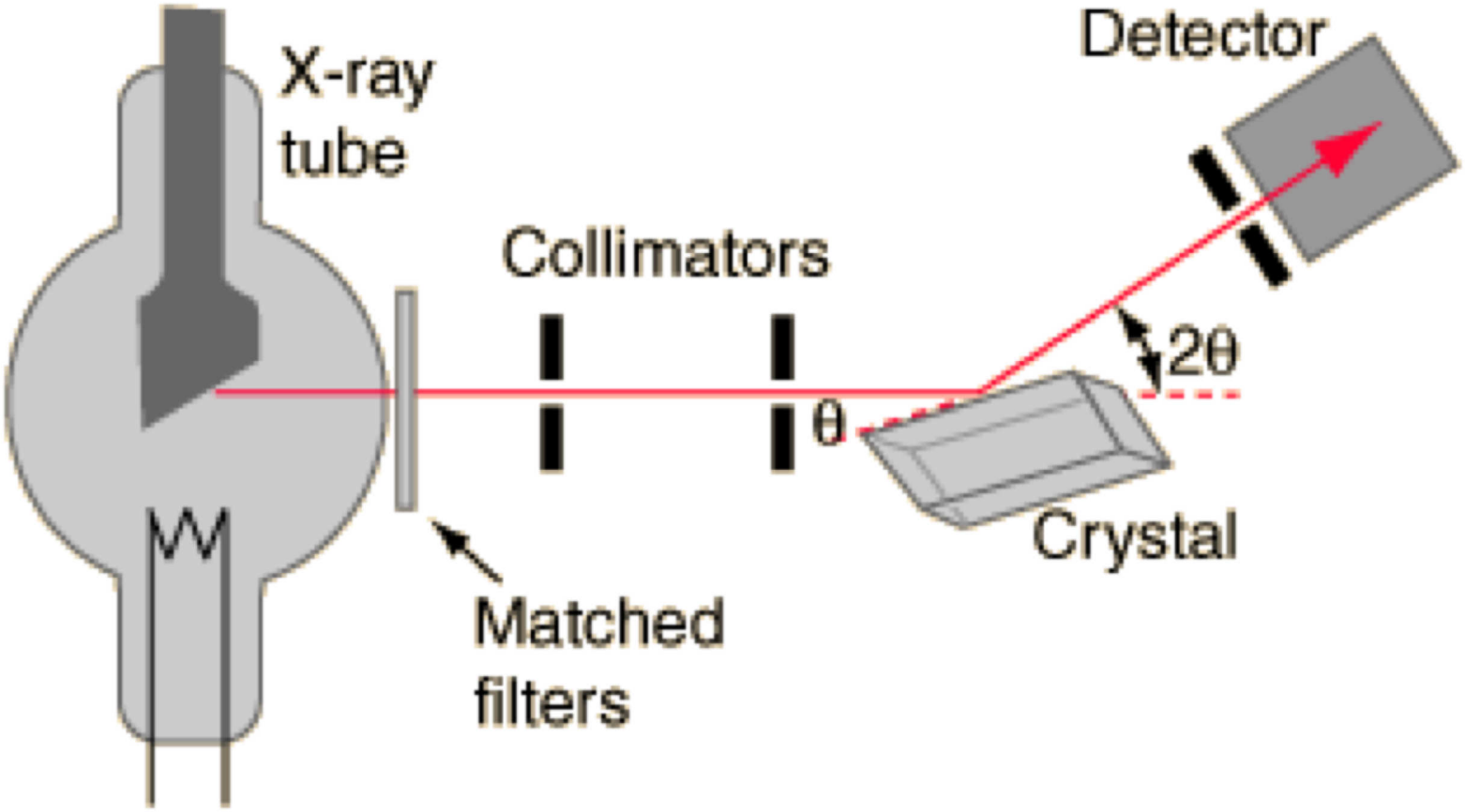
Outer diamter of the glas tube: 5 mm

Cryo-mounting of large crystals

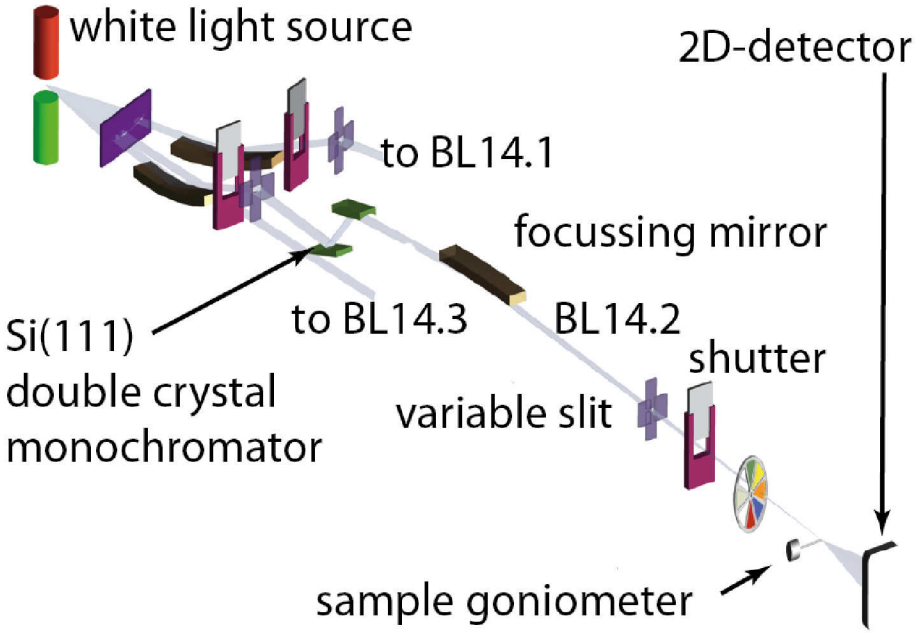


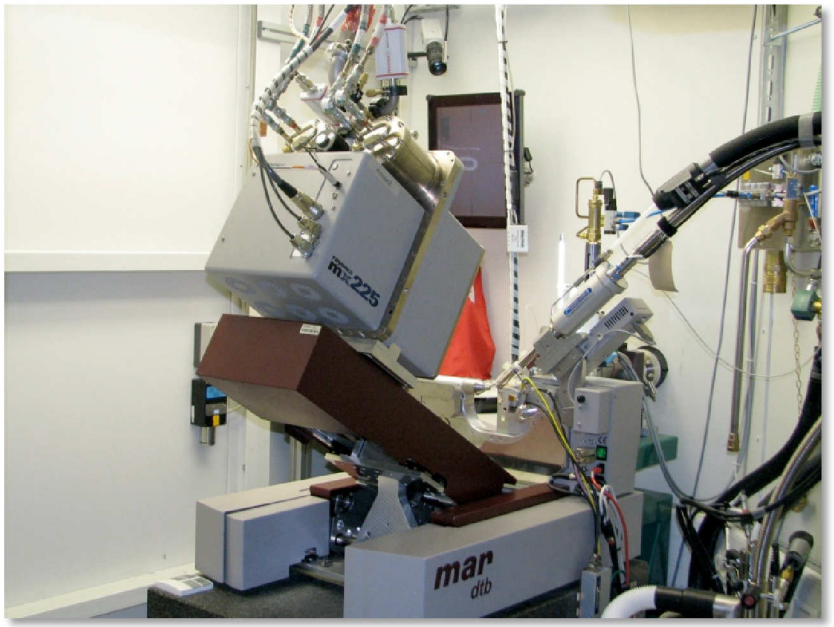
- Avoid hydrogenated polymers in the loop, use capton (Mitigen) or carbon meshes instead (especially when you have a fully deuterated protein)
- Make sure that your crystal fits into the cryoTong: We prefer the 18 mm one.

Experimental set up (in case of x-rays but similar in the case of neutrons):



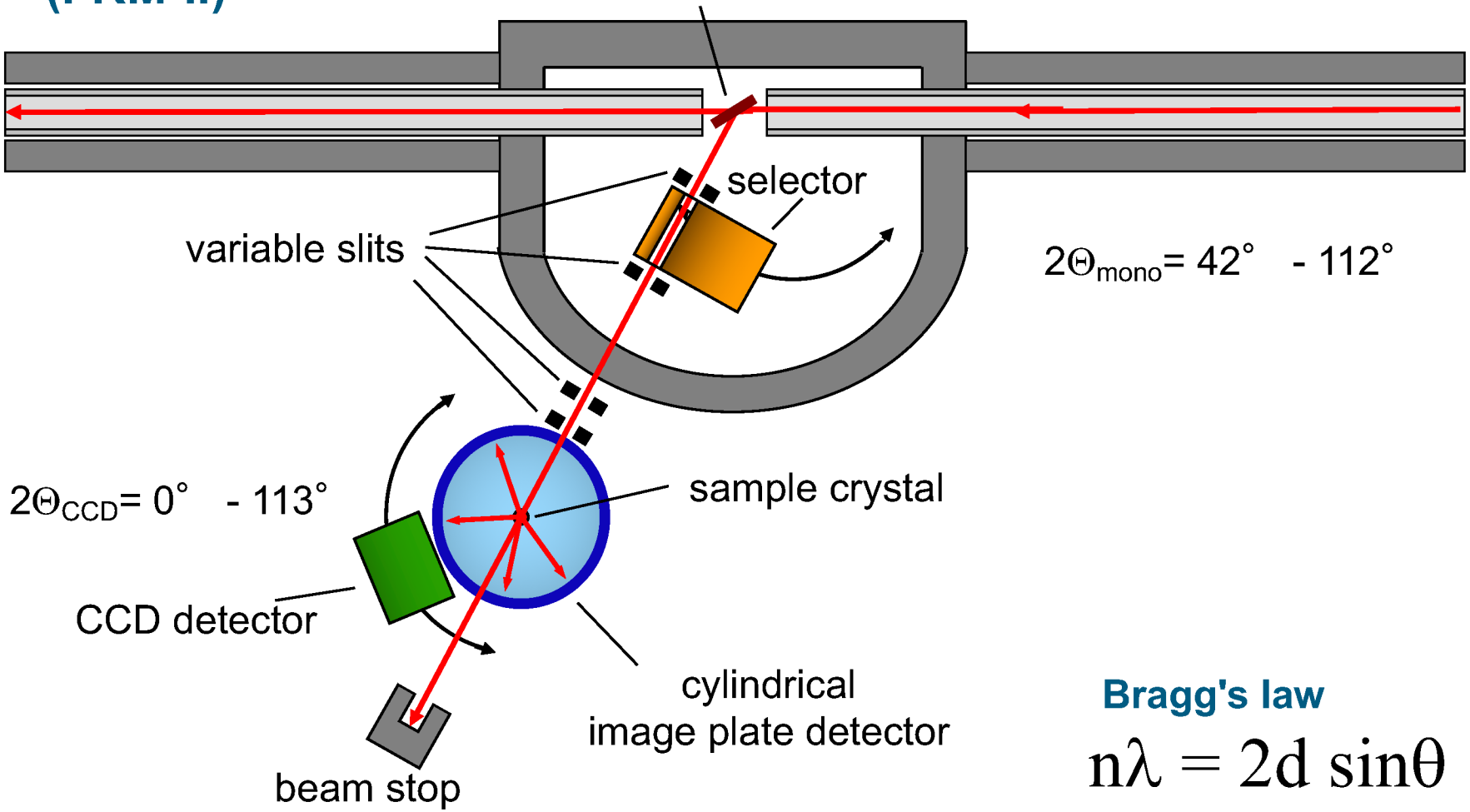
Typical x-ray protein crystallography beamline: BL 14.2 at Bessy (Berlin) run by Manfred Weiss





length scale ca. 0.5 m

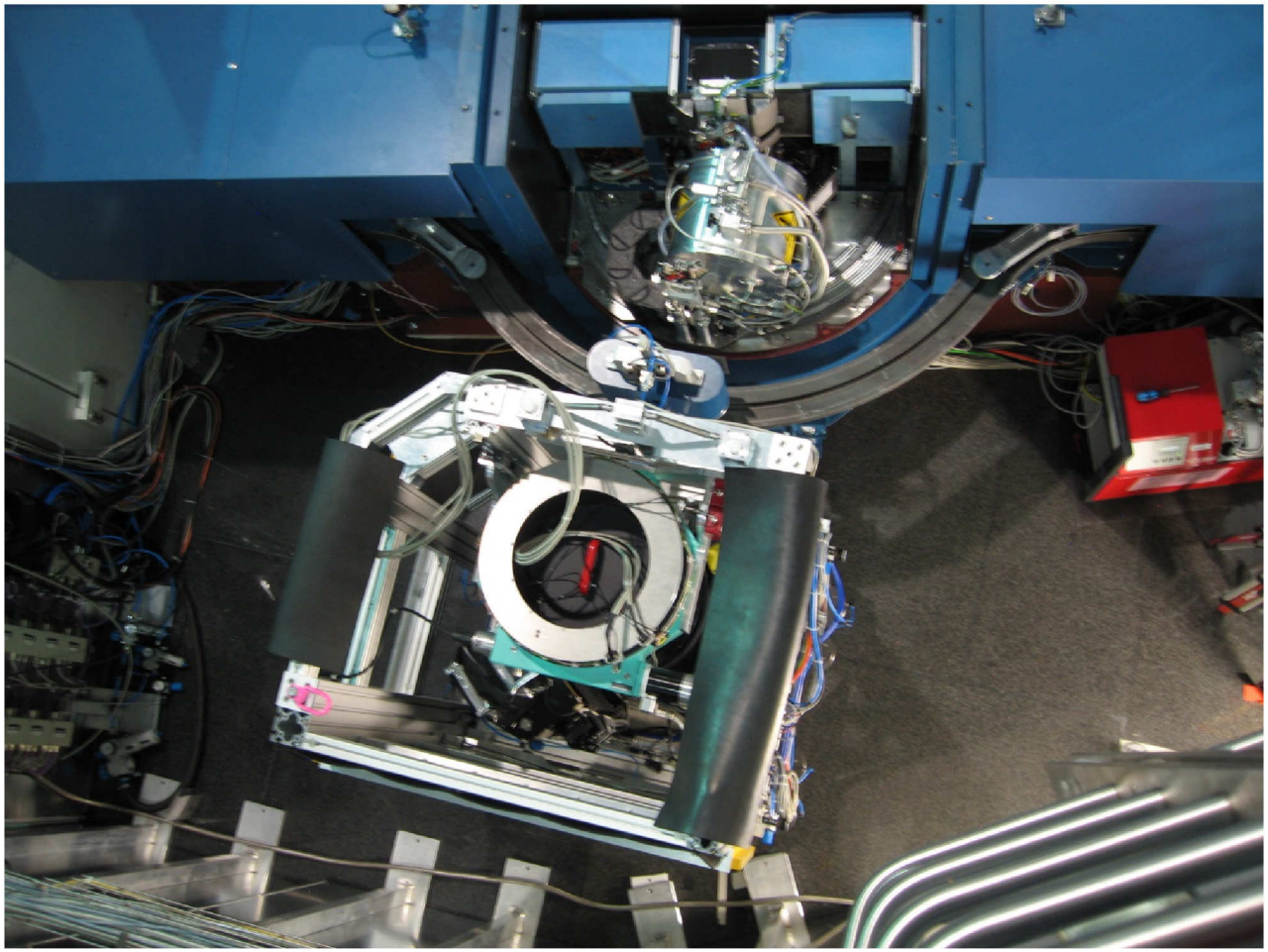
Schematic overview over BioDiff: A neutron protein diffractometer: collaboration between JCNS and TUM (FRM-II)



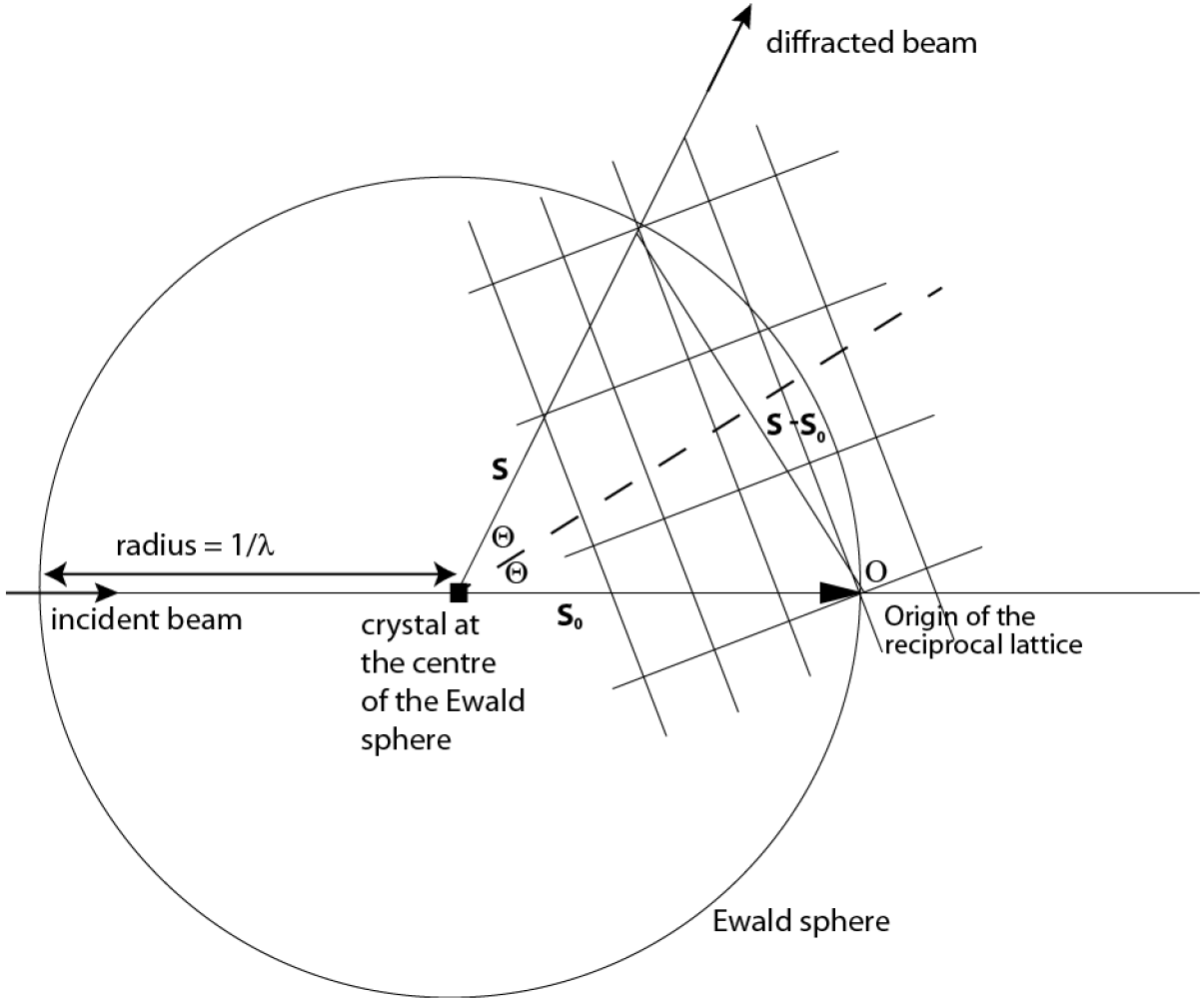
Bragg's law

$$n\lambda = 2d \sin\theta$$

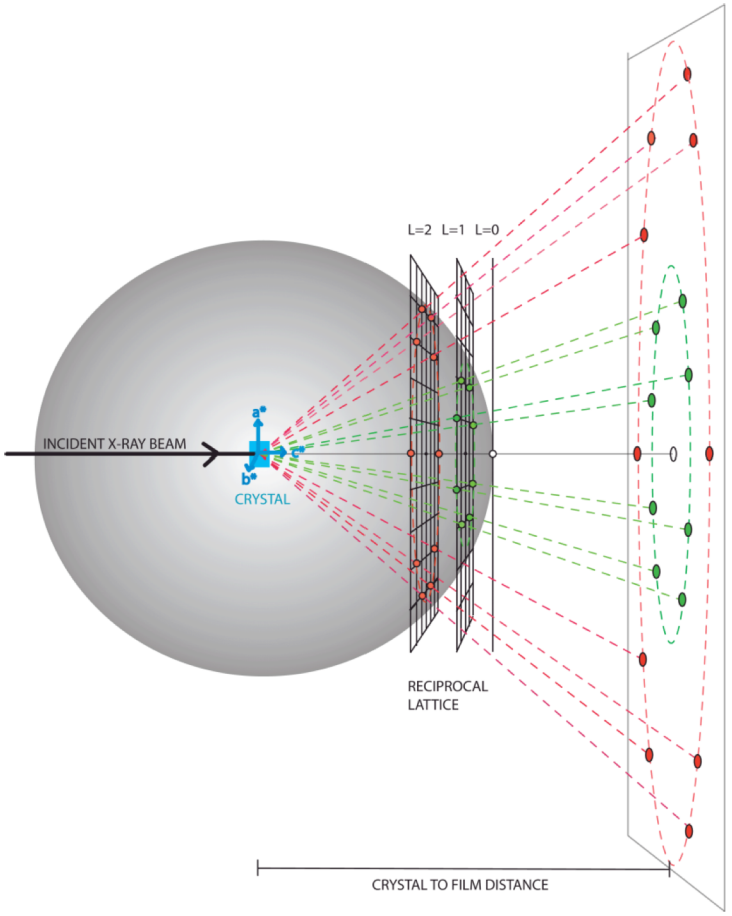
BioDiff, the corresponding view in reality:

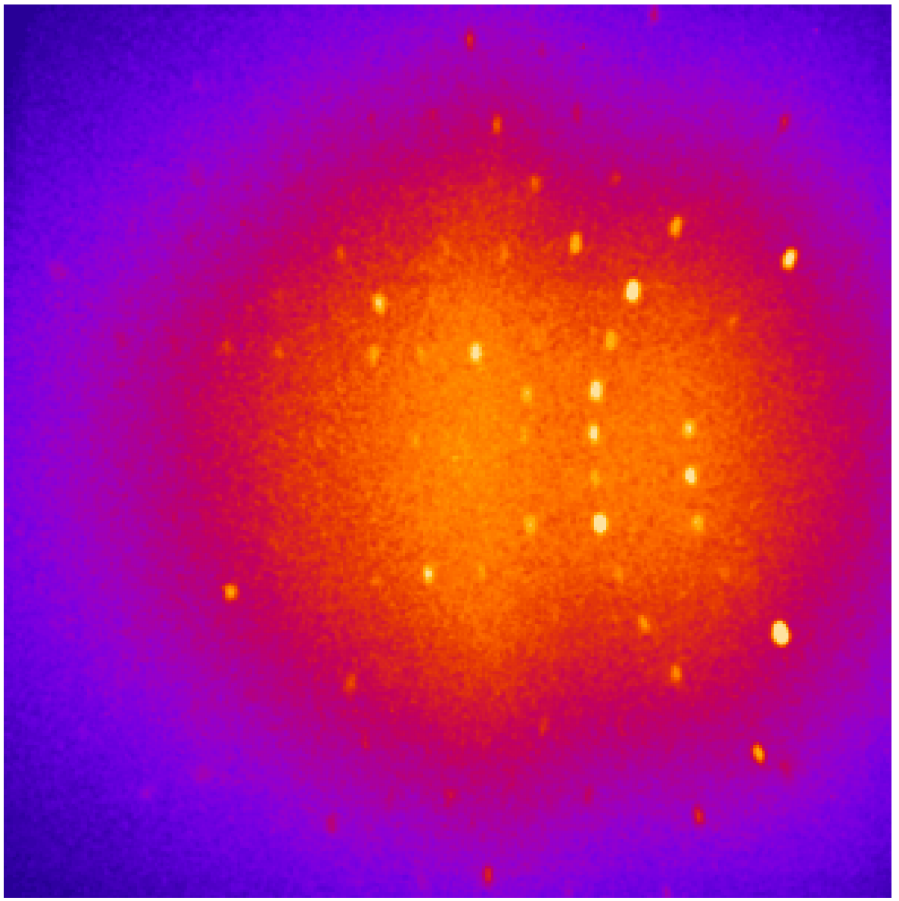


Ewald construction and Bragg's Law



Myoglobin protein crystal (deuterated mother liquor) full data set recorded with CCD

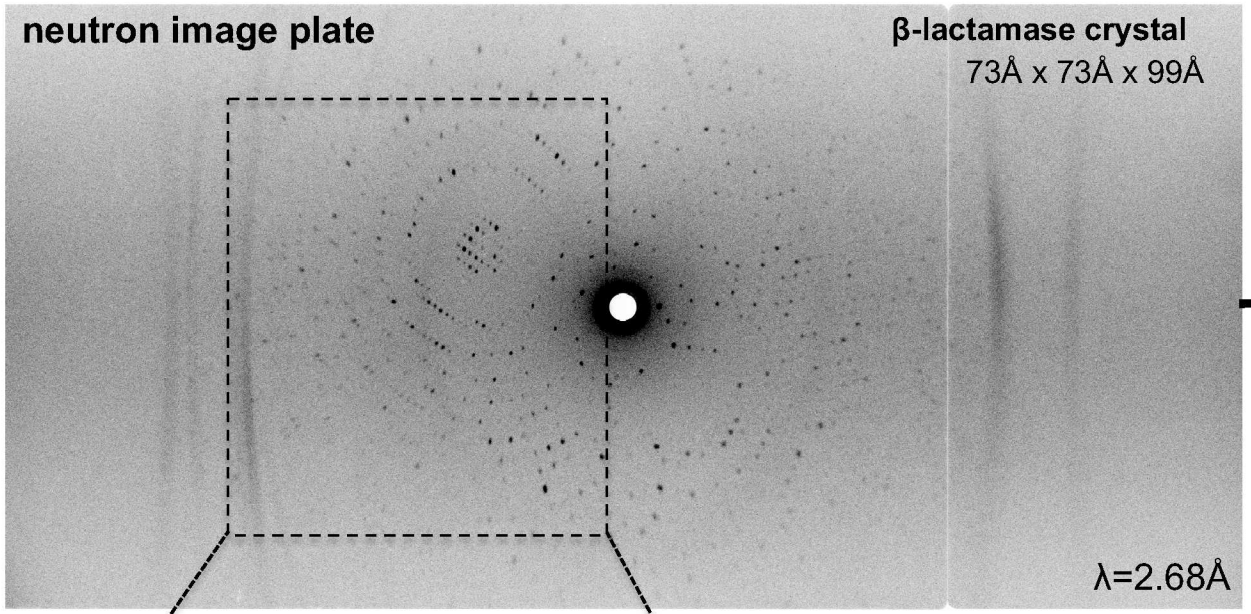


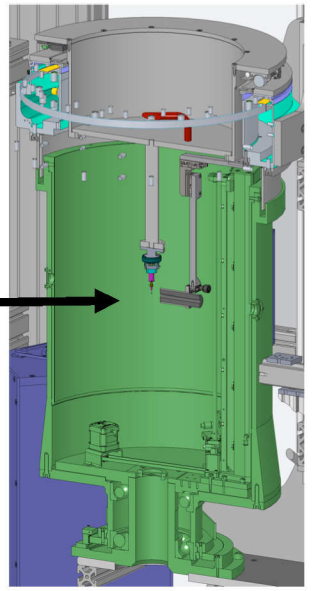


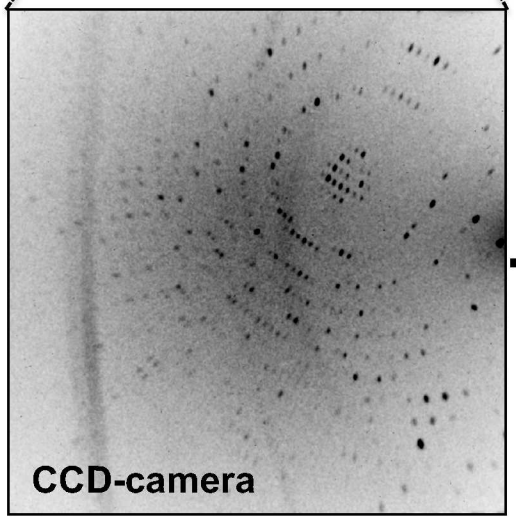
prim. beam

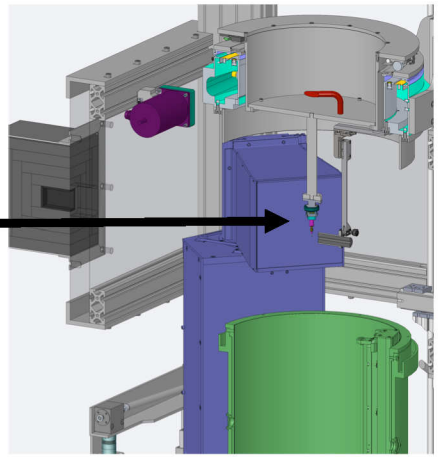
BioDiff: exposure time per frame: 20 minutes, sample: Myoglobin in deuterated mother liquor

The Two Detectors of BIODIFF









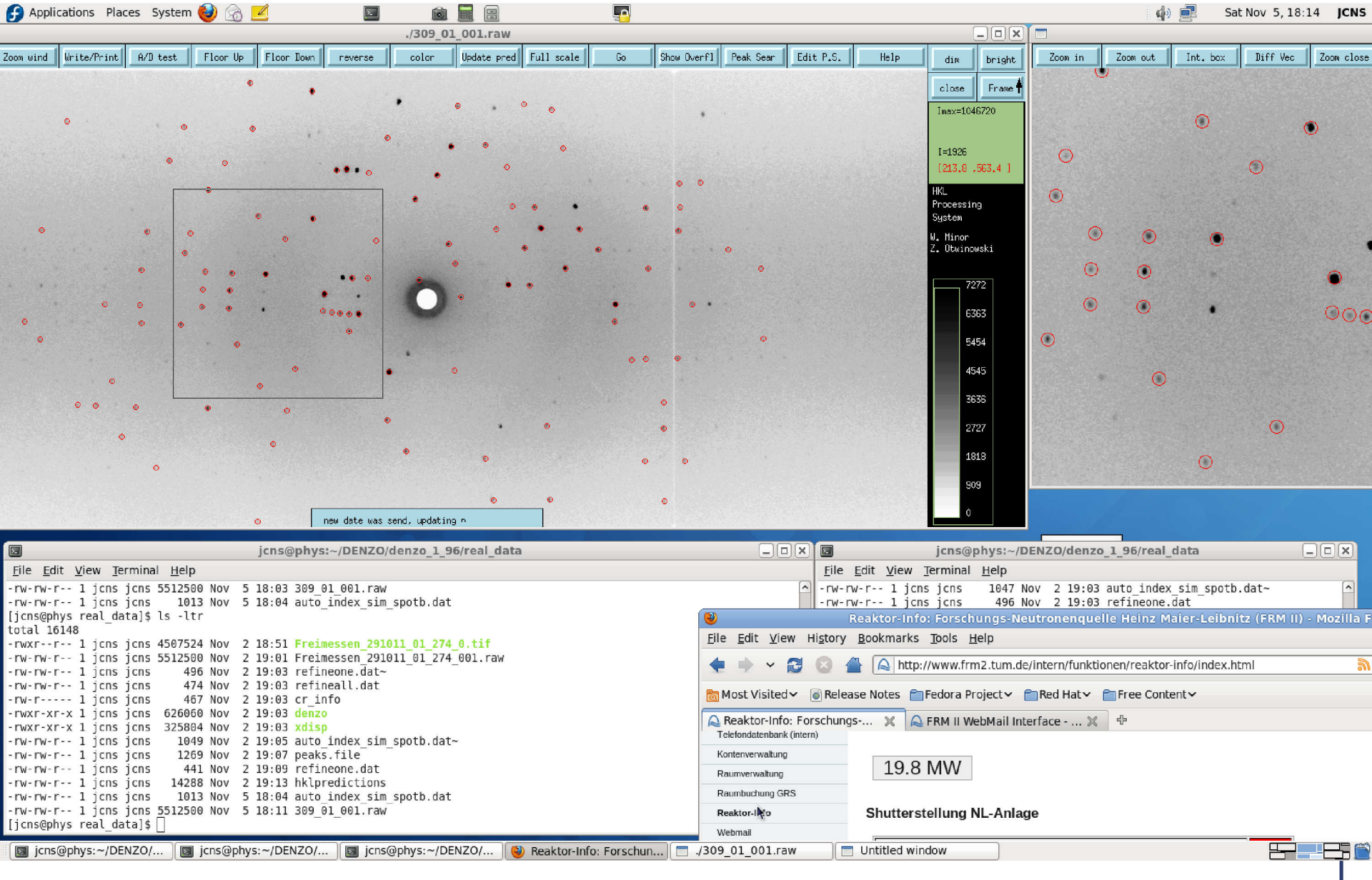
NIP-scanner

- larger solid angle
- readout time ≥ 4 min

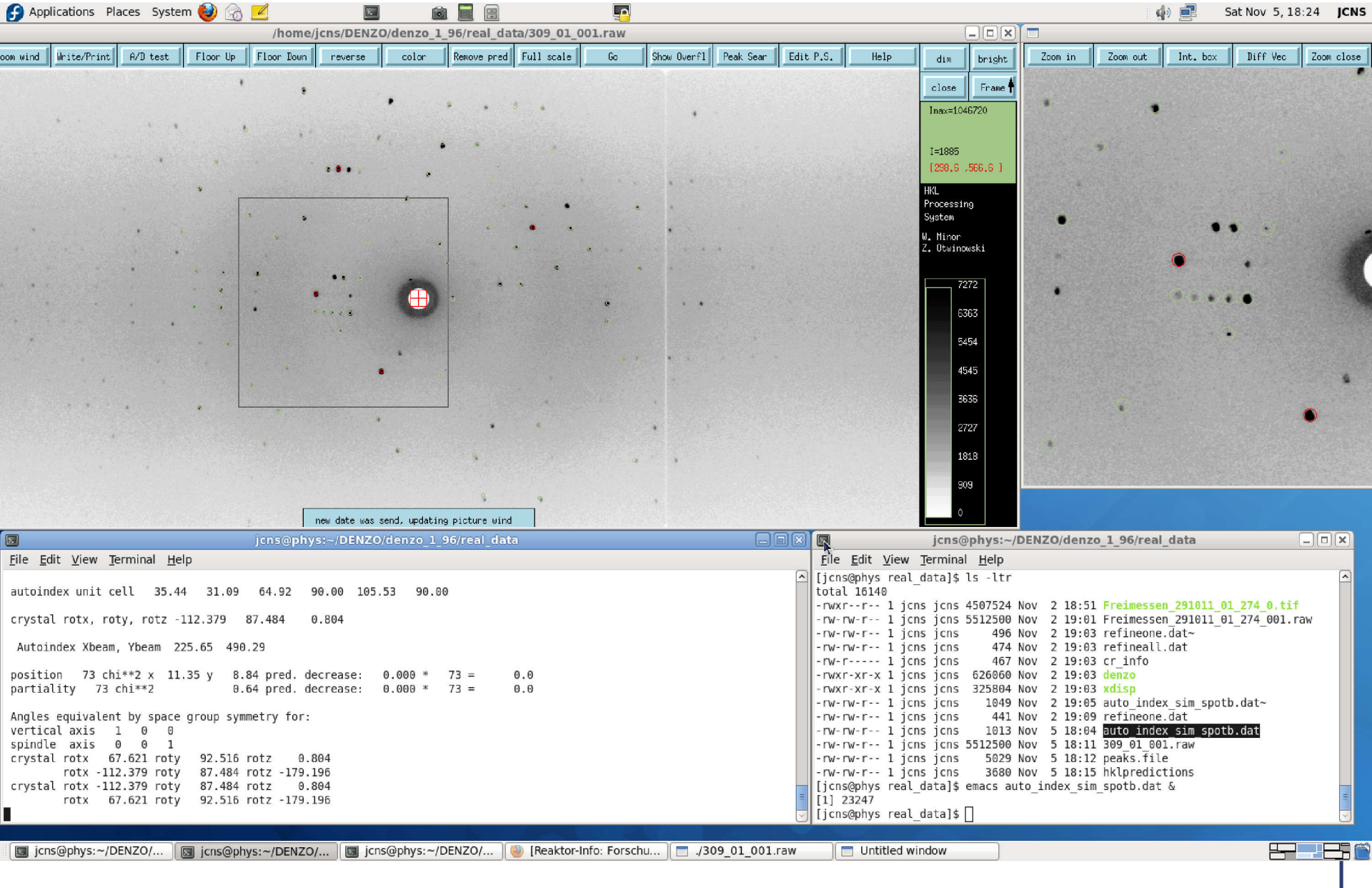
CCD-camera

- smaller solid angle
- readout time ≥ 1 sec

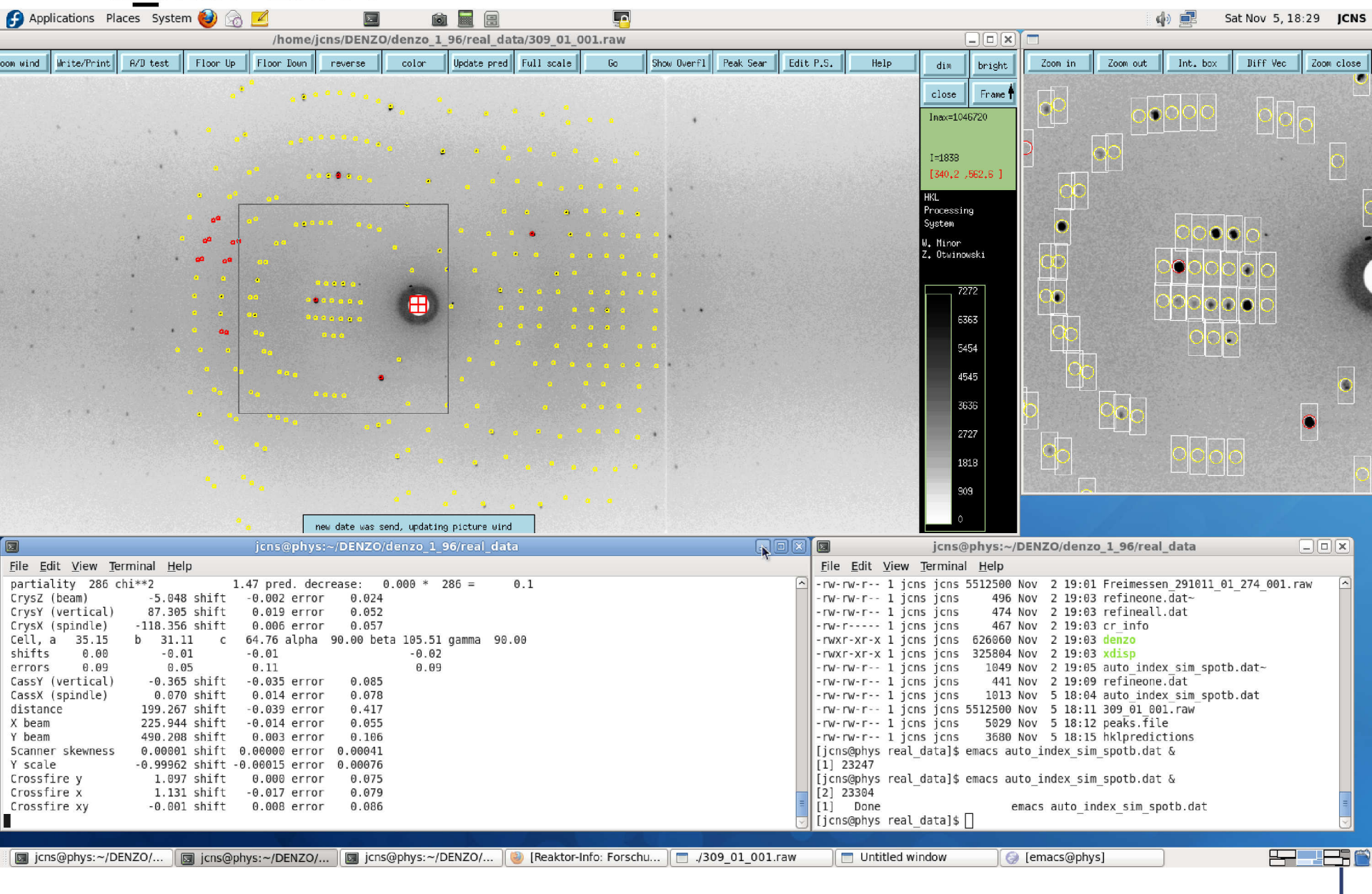
Peak search with hkl DENZO



auto-index


Applications Places System
Sat Nov 5, 18:24 JCNS
/home/jcns/DENZO/denzo_1_96/real_data/309_01_001.raw
Write/Print
A/D test
Floor Up
Floor Down
reverse
color
Remove pred
Full scale
Go
Show Overfl
Peak Sear
Edit P.S.
Help
dim
bright
close
Frame
Imax=1046720
I=1885
[290.6 ,566.6]
HKL
Processing
System
W. Minor
Z. Otwinowski
7272
6363
5454
4545
3636
2727
1818
909
0
Zoom in
Zoom out
Int. box
Diff Vec
Zoom close
new date was send, updating picture wind
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/denzo_1_96/real_data
File Edit View Terminal Help
autoindex unit cell 35.44 31.09 64.92 90.00 105.53 90.00
crystal rotx, roty, rotz -112.379 87.484 0.804
Autoindex Xbeam, Ybeam 225.65 490.29
position 73 chi**2 x 11.35 y 8.84 pred. decrease: 0.000 * 73 = 0.0
partiality 73 chi**2 0.64 pred. decrease: 0.000 * 73 = 0.0
Angles equivalent by space group symmetry for:
vertical axis 1 0 0
spindle axis 0 0 1
crystal rotx 67.621 roty 92.516 rotz 0.804
rotx -112.379 roty 87.484 rotz -179.196
crystal rotx -112.379 roty 87.484 rotz 0.804
rotx 67.621 roty 92.516 rotz -179.196
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/denzo_1_96/real_data
File Edit View Terminal Help
[jcns@phys real_data]$ ls -ltr
total 16140
-rwxr--r-- 1 jcns jcns 4507524 Nov 2 18:51 Freimessen_291011_01_274_0.tif
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5512500 Nov 2 19:01 Freimessen_291011_01_274_001.raw
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 496 Nov 2 19:03 refineone.dat~
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 474 Nov 2 19:03 refineall.dat
-rw-r----- 1 jcns jcns 467 Nov 2 19:03 cr_info
-rwxr-xr-x 1 jcns jcns 626060 Nov 2 19:03 denzo
-rwxr-xr-x 1 jcns jcns 325804 Nov 2 19:03 xdisp
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 1049 Nov 2 19:05 auto_index_sim_spotb.dat~
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 441 Nov 2 19:09 refineone.dat
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 1013 Nov 5 18:04 auto_index_sim_spotb.dat
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5512500 Nov 5 18:11 309_01_001.raw
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5029 Nov 5 18:12 peaks.file
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 3680 Nov 5 18:15 hklpredictions
[jcns@phys real_data]$ emacs auto_index_sim_spotb.dat &
[1] 23247
[jcns@phys real_data]$
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
[Reaktor-Info: Forschu...
./309_01_001.raw
Untitled window

d_min=2.5 Å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Sat Nov 5, 18:29 JCNS
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Write/Print
A/D test
Floor Up
Floor Down
reverse
color
Update pred
Full scale
Go
Show Overfl
Peak Sear
Edit P.S.
Help
dim
bright
close
Frame
Imax=1046720
I=1838
[340.2 ,562.6]
HKL
Processing
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Z. Otwinowski
7272
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5454
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Zoom in
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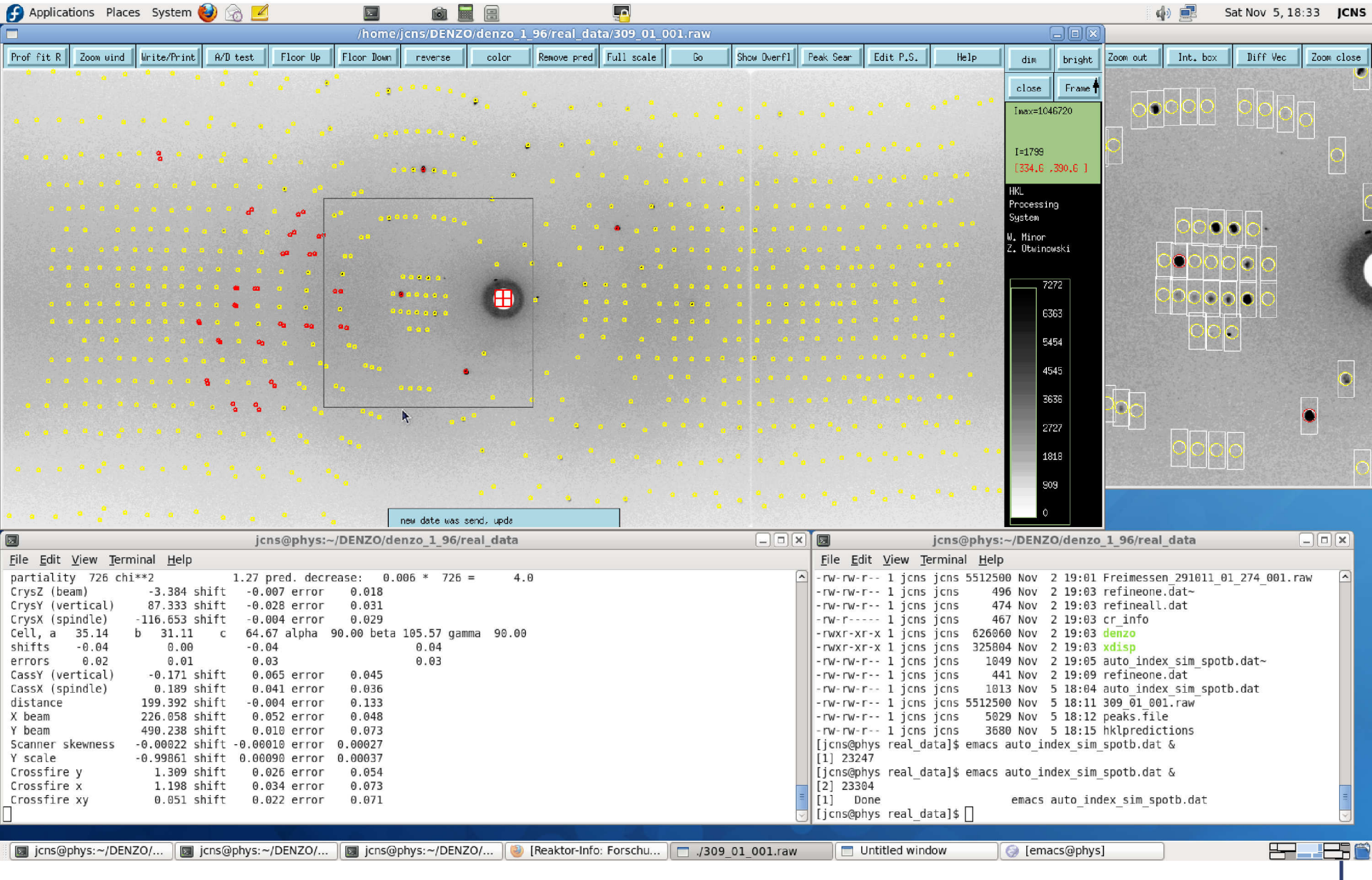
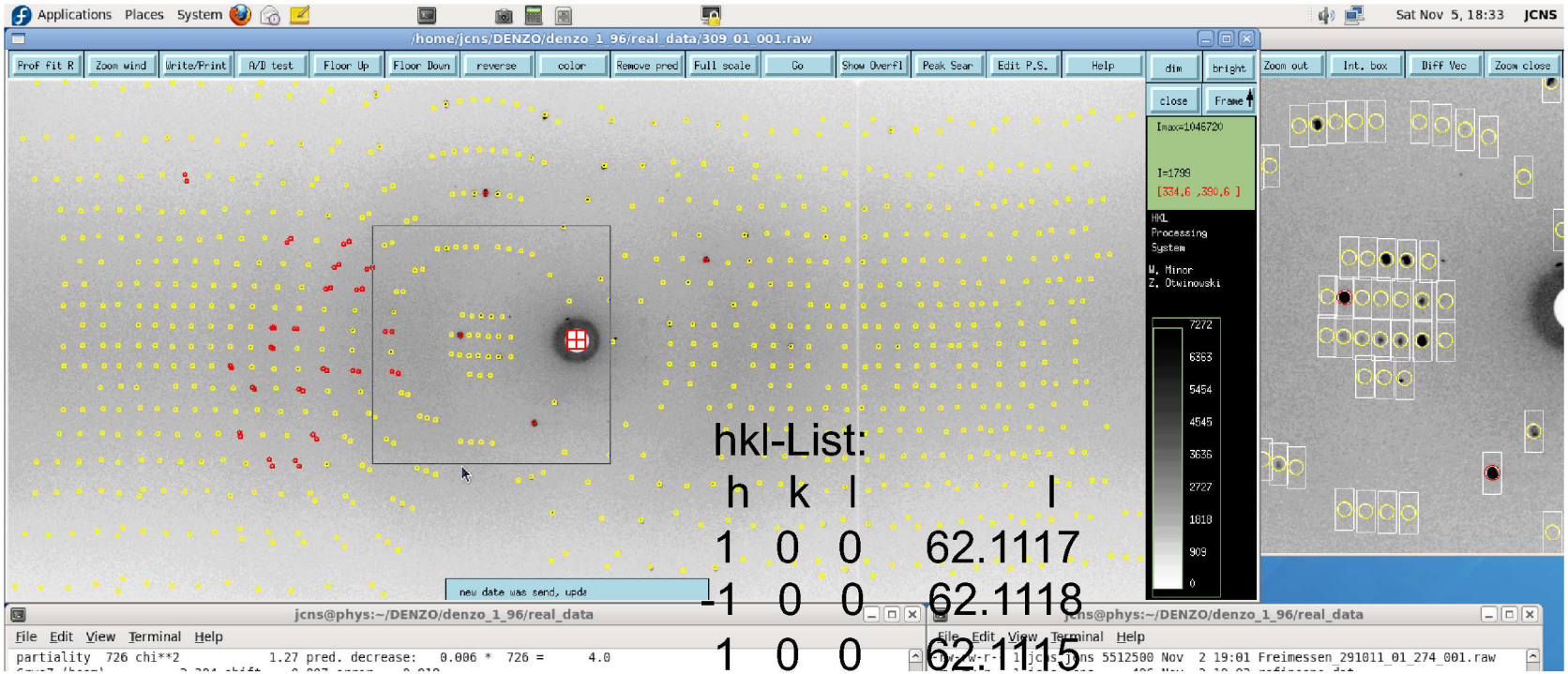
Zoom close
new date was send, updating picture wind
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/denzo_1_96/real_data
File Edit View Terminal Help
partiality 286 chi**2 1.47 pred. decrease: 0.000 * 286 = 0.1
CrysZ (beam) -5.048 shift -0.002 error 0.024
CrysY (vertical) 87.305 shift 0.019 error 0.052
CrysX (spindle) -118.356 shift 0.006 error 0.057
Cell, a 35.15 b 31.11 c 64.76 alpha 90.00 beta 105.51 gamma 90.00
shifts 0.00 -0.01 -0.01 -0.02
errors 0.09 0.05 0.11 0.09
CassY (vertical) -0.365 shift -0.035 error 0.085
CassX (spindle) 0.070 shift 0.014 error 0.078
distance 199.267 shift -0.039 error 0.417
X beam 225.944 shift -0.014 error 0.055
Y beam 490.208 shift 0.003 error 0.106
Scanner skewness 0.00001 shift 0.00000 error 0.00041
Y scale -0.99962 shift -0.00015 error 0.00076
Crossfire y 1.097 shift 0.000 error 0.075
Crossfire x 1.131 shift -0.017 error 0.079
Crossfire xy -0.001 shift 0.008 error 0.086
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/denzo_1_96/real_data
File Edit View Terminal Help
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5512500 Nov 2 19:01 Freimessen_291011_01_274_001.raw
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 496 Nov 2 19:03 refineone.dat~
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 474 Nov 2 19:03 refineall.dat
-rw-r----- 1 jcns jcns 467 Nov 2 19:03 cr_info
-rwxr-xr-x 1 jcns jcns 626060 Nov 2 19:03 denzo
-rwxr-xr-x 1 jcns jcns 325804 Nov 2 19:03 xdisp
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 1049 Nov 2 19:05 auto_index_sim_spotb.dat~
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 441 Nov 2 19:09 refineone.dat
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 1013 Nov 5 18:04 auto_index_sim_spotb.dat
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5512500 Nov 5 18:11 309_01_001.raw
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5029 Nov 5 18:12 peaks.file
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 3680 Nov 5 18:15 hklpredictions
[jcns@phys real_data]$ emacs auto_index_sim_spotb.dat &
[1] 23247
[jcns@phys real_data]$ emacs auto_index_sim_spotb.dat &
[2] 23304
[1] Done emacs auto_index_sim_spotb.dat
[jcns@phys real_data]$
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
[Reaktor-Info: Forschu...
./309_01_001.raw
Untitled window
[emacs@phys]

d_min=1.5 Å


Applications Places System
Sat Nov 5, 18:33 JCNS
/home/jcns/DENZO/denzo_1_96/real_data/309_01_001.raw
Prof fit R
Zoom wind
Write/Print
A/D test
Floor Up
Floor Down
reverse
color
Remove pred
Full scale
Go
Show Overfl
Peak Sear
Edit P.S.
Help
dim
bright
close
Frame
Imax=1046720
I=1799
[334.6 ,390.6]
HKL
Processing
System
W. Minor
Z. Otwinowski
7272
6363
5454
4545
3636
2727
1818
909
0
Zoom out
Int. box
Diff Vec
Zoom close
new date was send, upda
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/denzo_1_96/real_data
File Edit View Terminal Help
partiality 726 chi**2 1.27 pred. decrease: 0.006 * 726 = 4.0
CrysZ (beam) -3.384 shift -0.007 error 0.018
CrysY (vertical) 87.333 shift -0.028 error 0.031
CrysX (spindle) -116.653 shift -0.004 error 0.029
Cell, a 35.14 b 31.11 c 64.67 alpha 90.00 beta 105.57 gamma 90.00
shifts -0.04 0.00 -0.04 0.04
errors 0.02 0.01 0.03 0.03
CassY (vertical) -0.171 shift 0.065 error 0.045
CassX (spindle) 0.189 shift 0.041 error 0.036
distance 199.392 shift -0.004 error 0.133
X beam 226.058 shift 0.052 error 0.048
Y beam 490.238 shift 0.010 error 0.073
Scanner skewness -0.00022 shift -0.00010 error 0.00027
Y scale -0.99861 shift 0.00090 error 0.00037
Crossfire y 1.309 shift 0.026 error 0.054
Crossfire x 1.198 shift 0.034 error 0.073
Crossfire xy 0.051 shift 0.022 error 0.071
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/denzo_1_96/real_data
File Edit View Terminal Help
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5512500 Nov 2 19:01 Freimessen_291011_01_274_001.raw
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 496 Nov 2 19:03 refineone.dat~
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 474 Nov 2 19:03 refineall.dat
-rw-r----- 1 jcns jcns 467 Nov 2 19:03 cr_info
-rwxr-xr-x 1 jcns jcns 626060 Nov 2 19:03 denzo
-rwxr-xr-x 1 jcns jcns 325804 Nov 2 19:03 xdisp
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 1049 Nov 2 19:05 auto_index_sim_spotb.dat~
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 441 Nov 2 19:09 refineone.dat
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 1013 Nov 5 18:04 auto_index_sim_spotb.dat
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5512500 Nov 5 18:11 309_01_001.raw
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 5029 Nov 5 18:12 peaks.file
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jcns jcns 3680 Nov 5 18:15 hklpredictions
[jcns@phys real_data]$ emacs auto_index_sim_spotb.dat &
[1] 23247
[jcns@phys real_data]$ emacs auto_index_sim_spotb.dat &
[2] 23304
[1] Done emacs auto_index_sim_spotb.dat
[jcns@phys real_data]$
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
jcns@phys:~/DENZO/...
[Reaktor-Info: Forschu...
./309_01_001.raw
Untitled window
[emacs@phys]

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



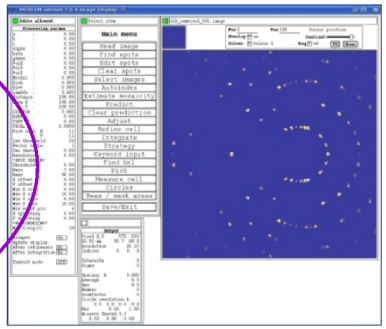
hkl-List:

h	k	l	I
1	0	0	62.1117
-1	0	0	62.1118
1	0	0	62.1115
-1	0	0	62.1120
0	0	-1	33.5555
1	0	-1	33.5589
0	0	1	33.5533
-1	0	1	33.5511

ca. 300 images

Flow chart of data treatment and model building

Scans at varying crystal orientation
Scan := Series of detector images



-MOSFLM
-HKL-denzo
(comercial)

Data reduction

- determination of crystal orientation, unit cell dimensions etc.
- Calculating integral of reflection intensities

hkl-list for each scan:
h k l Intensity Intensity error

Scaling of each hkl list to match each other

-SCALA (CCP4-program package)

Unified hkl-list of measurement := complete data set

Calculation of a first map

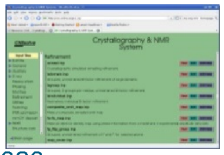
Additional information from the solution of the phase problem

Structure refinement

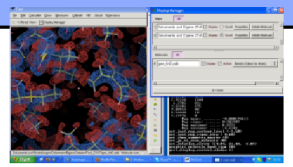
-Refinement of atom coordinates displacements
- Calculation of scattering density maps (netrons) or electron density maps (x-rays)

Map-plotting

- inspection of model to fit the map)
- real space changes and refinement to the model



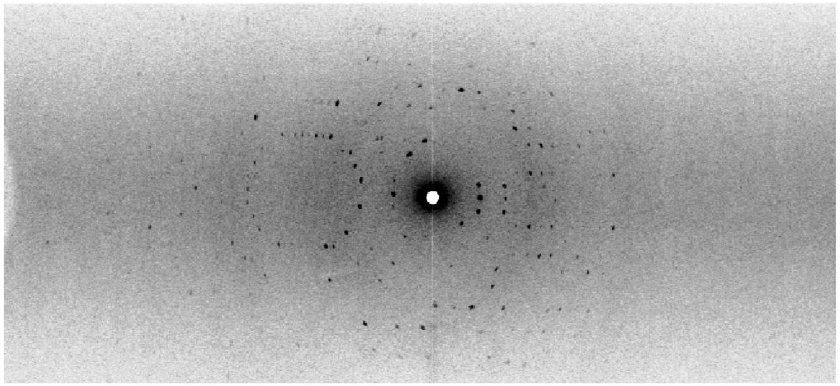
-nCNS
-PHENIX

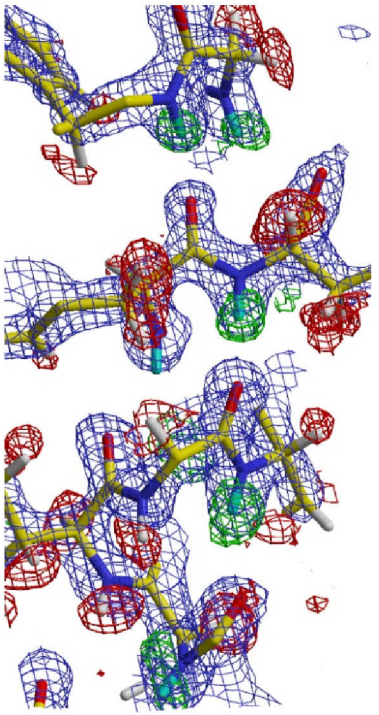


-XtalView
-Coot

Theory on scattering from a crystal

3D structural analysis:





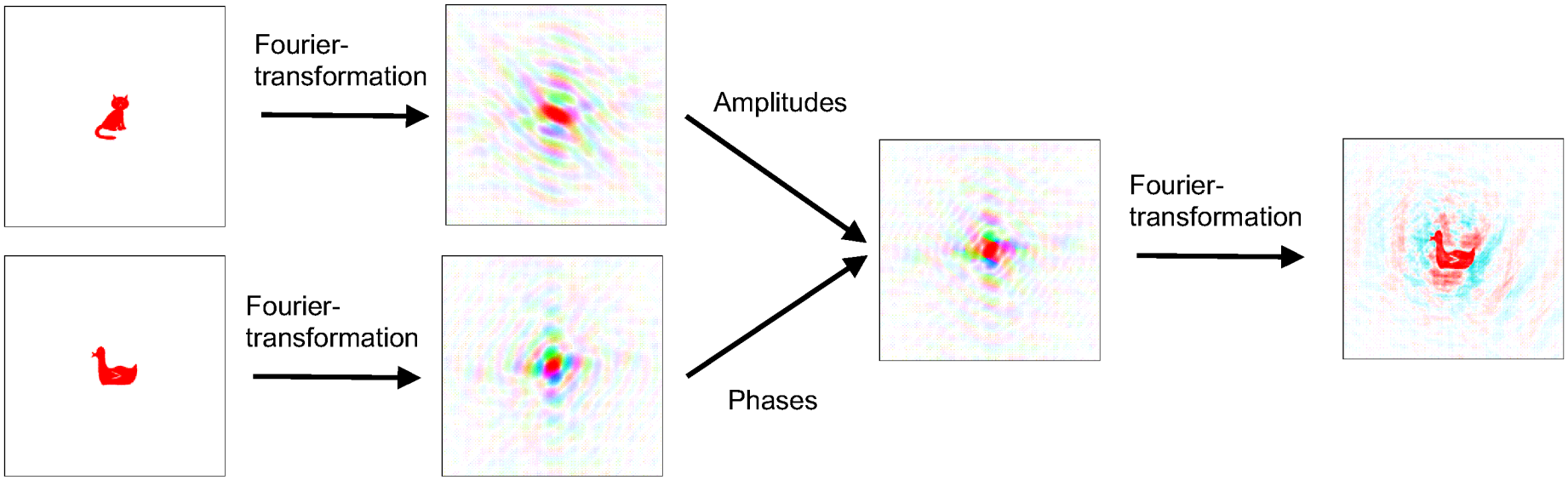
$$\rho(x,y,z) = \frac{1}{V_E} \sum_{h,k,l} F_{hkl} \cdot e^{-2\pi i(h\cdot x + k\cdot y + l\cdot z)}$$

Structure factors are complex numbers: $F_{hkl} = \|F_{hkl}\| e^{-2\pi i \alpha_{hkl}}$

with amplitudes $\|F_{hkl}\|$ and phases α_{hkl}

→ Phase Problem, because we only record intensities: $I = \|F_{hkl}\|^2$

The phases are stronger than the intensities



http://www.ysbl.york.ac.uk/~cowtan/fourier/magic.html

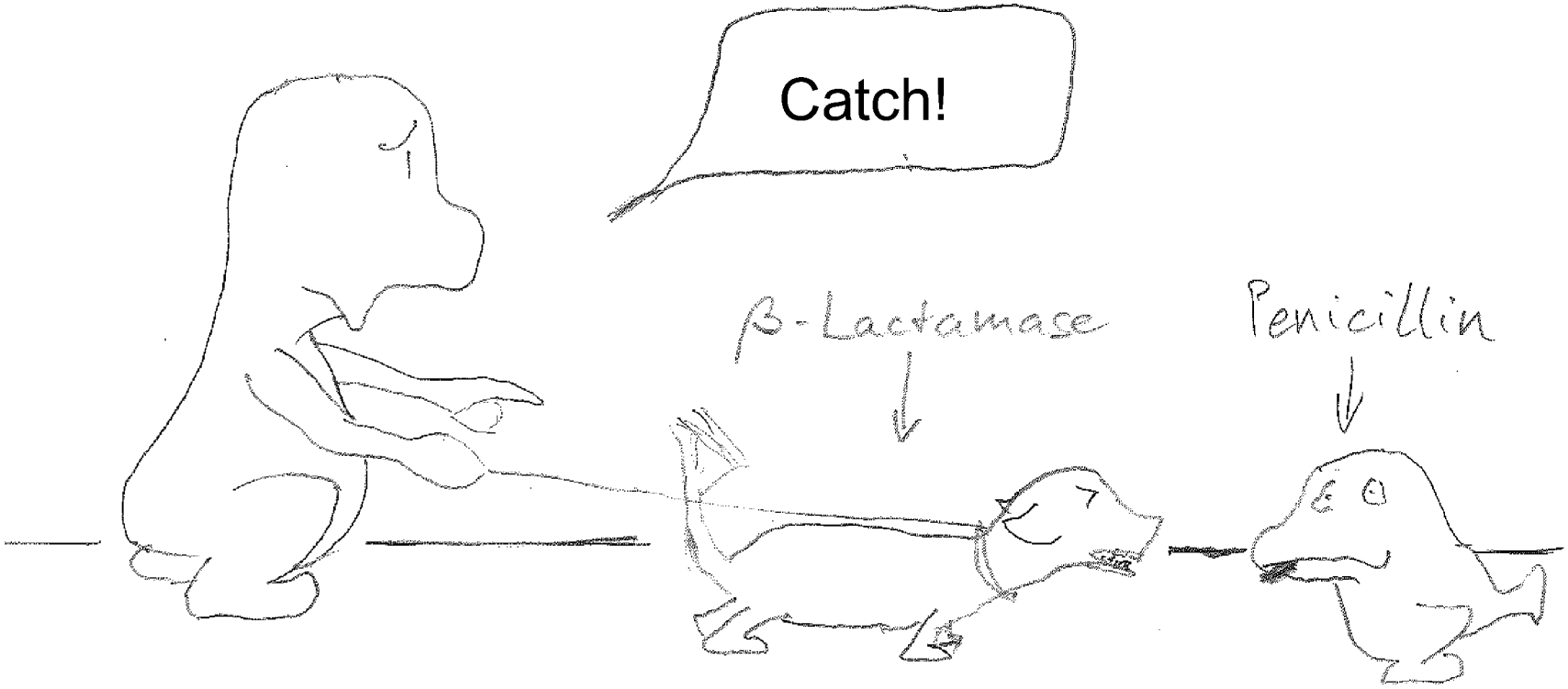
Neutron protein crystallography

Phase problem is solved by molecular replacement method using the structure obtained from the x-ray data.

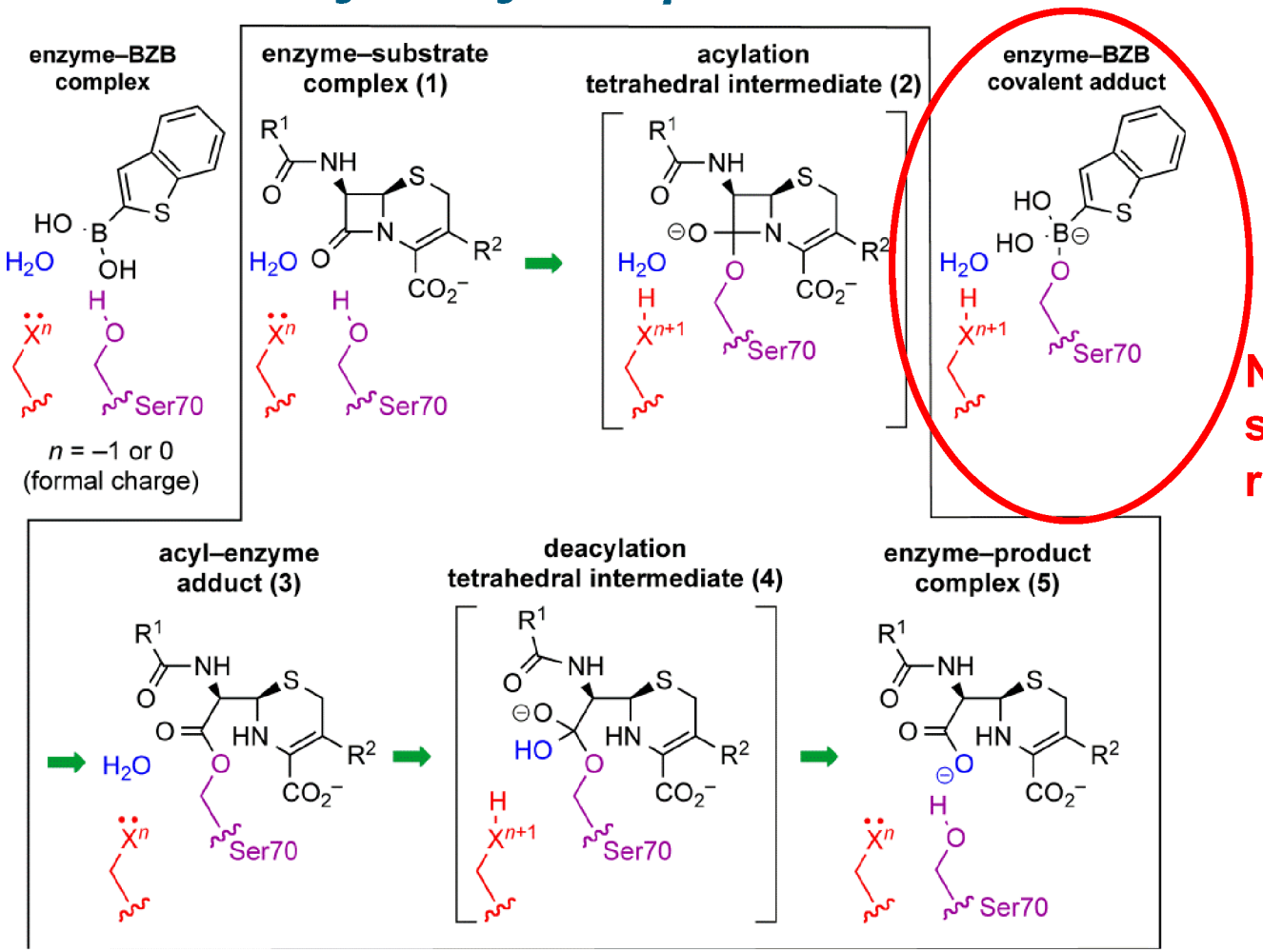
=> x-ray crystallography is a prerequisite of neutron protein crystallography.

Application Example: Protonation state of amino acid residues

The protein β-lactamase



β-lactamase: hydrolyses β-lactam antibiotics

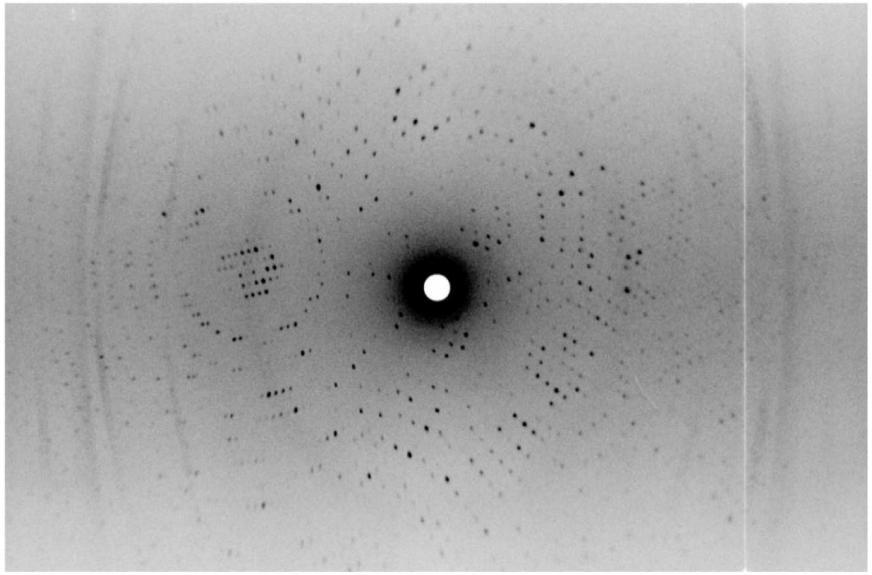


Neutron structure recorded

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.

Figures from: Tomanicek et al., doi: 10.1074/jbc.M112.436238

Data-set: β-lactamase with bound inhibitor



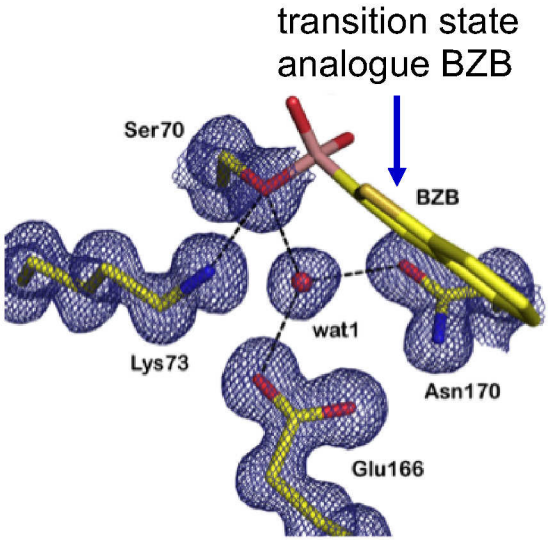
- unit cell: 73.4Å, 73.4Å, 99.1Å $P3_221$
- fully deuterated protein
- crystal size: 2.7mm^3
- Collection time: 9d

d_{min}	I/σ(I)	N_{meas}	mult.	compl. in shell %	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**

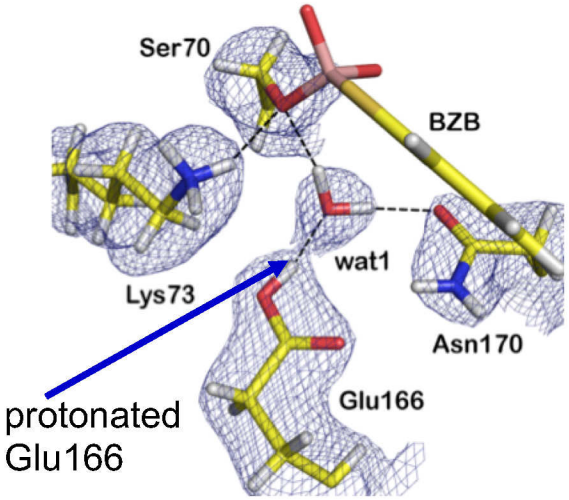
R_{pim} = 7.9% (17.9%)

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

Catalytic Proton Network of the Toho-1 β-Lactamase



electron density map



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

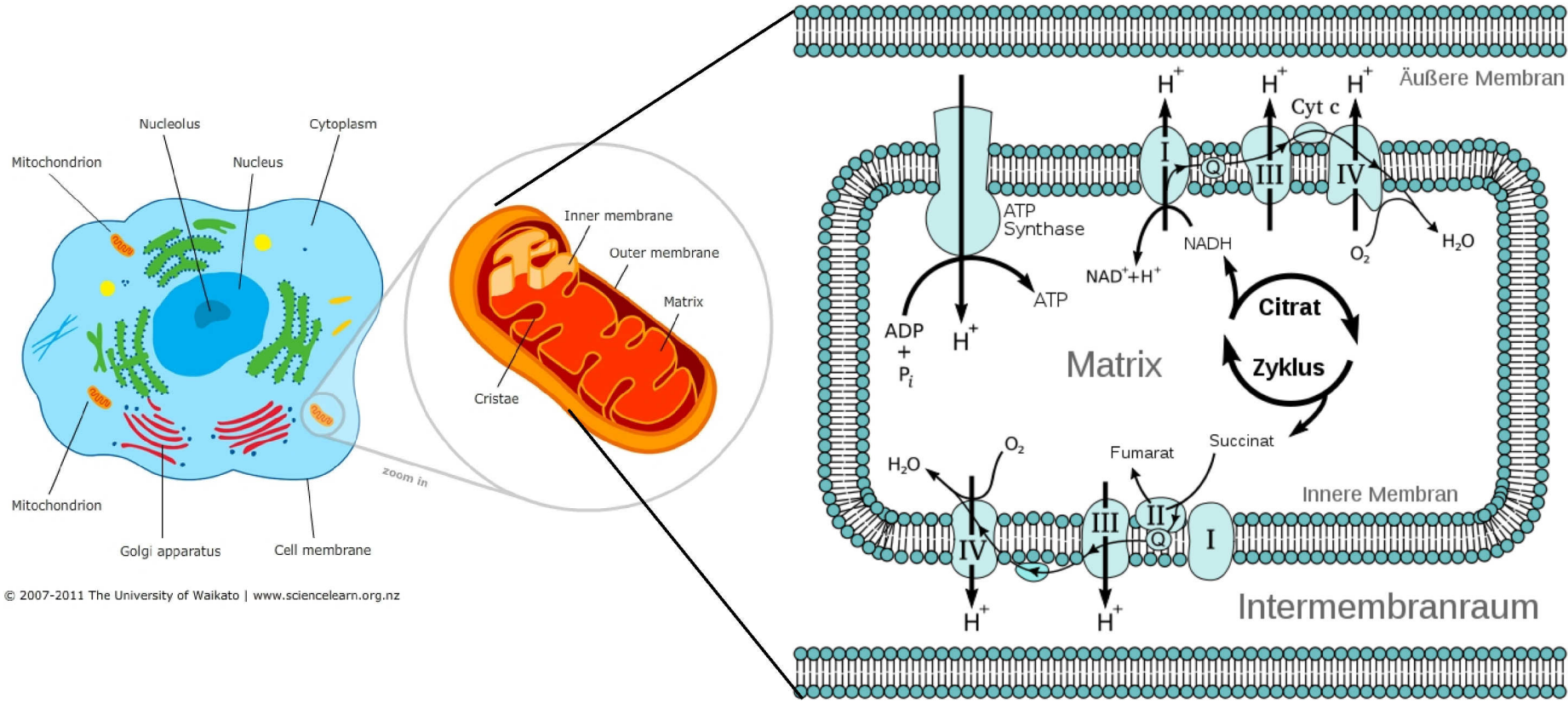
An example for a metallo-protein:

Cytochrome *c* peroxidase, or CcP is a water-soluble heme-containing enzyme of the peroxidase family that takes reducing equivalents from cytochrome *c* and reduces hydrogen peroxide to water:

$$CcP + H_2O_2 + 2\ \text{ferrocytochrome } c\ (Fe^{2+}) + 2H^+ \rightarrow CcP + 2H_2O + 2\ \text{ferricytochrome } c\ (Fe^{3+})$$

(taken from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cytochrome_c_peroxidase)

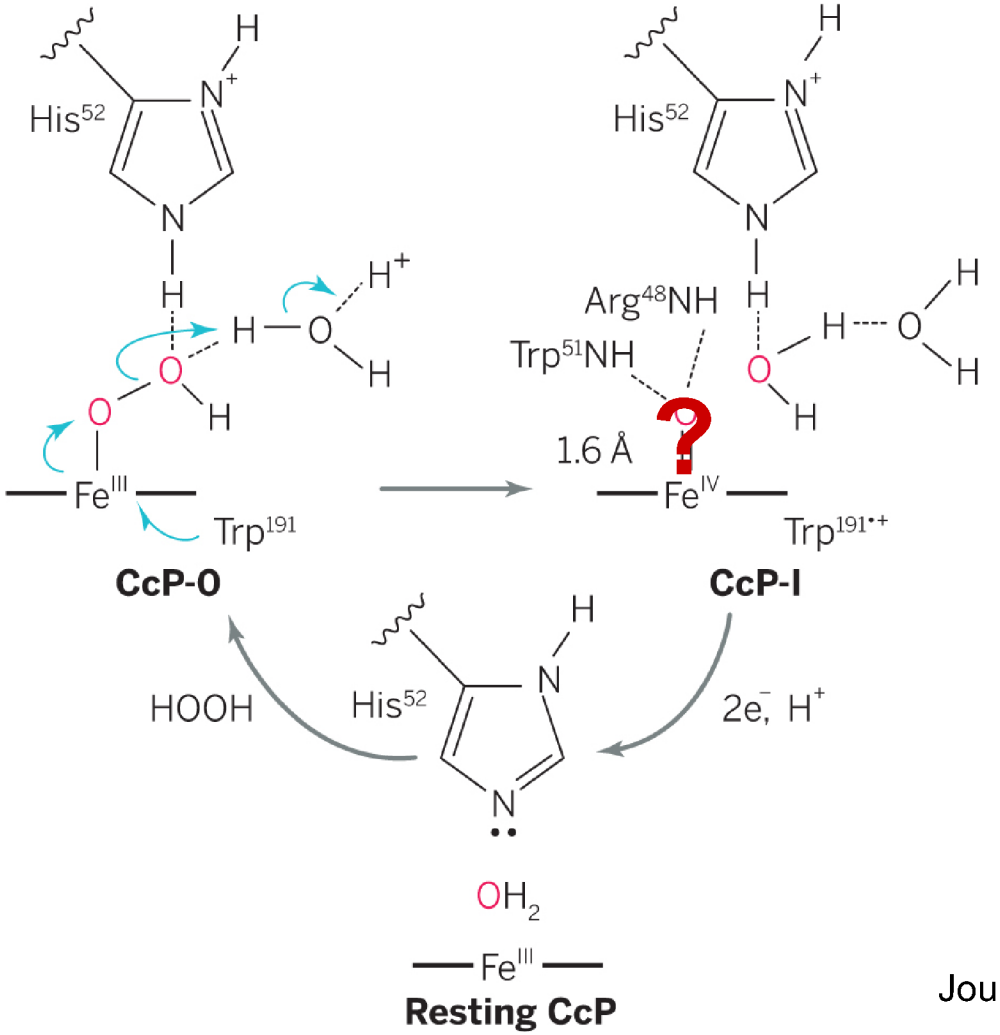
Mitochondria are the power plant of a cell (production of ATP):



http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atmungskette

- Cytochrome C serves as an electron transporter in the respiratory chain.
- Cytochrome c Peroxidase uses two ferro-cytochrome C proteins to reduce H_2O_2 to water and two ferricytochrome C molecules

Proton-mediated mechanism.Reaction of ferric CcP with H_2O_2 first gives CcP-0, followed by O-O bond scission driven by external protonation to afford CcP-I.



J T Groves, and N C Boaz Science 2014;345:142-143

Alternative Hypothesis:

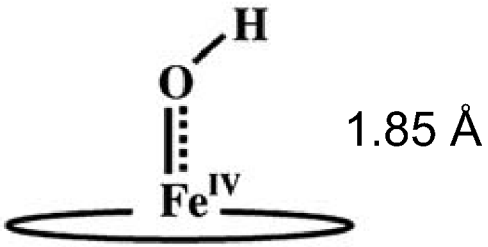
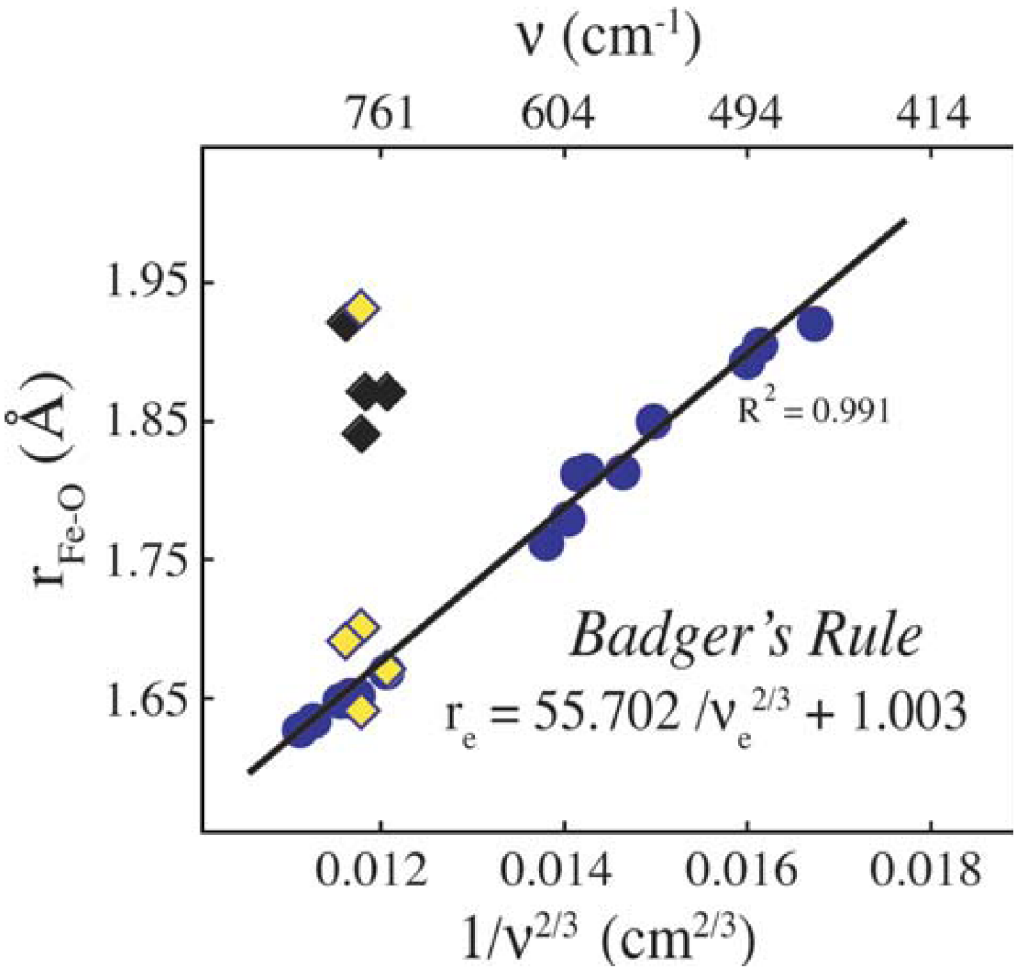


Fig. 3. Compound I with an O–H bond and a bond length of Fe-O of ca. 1.85 Å.

Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry 100 (2006) 448–459

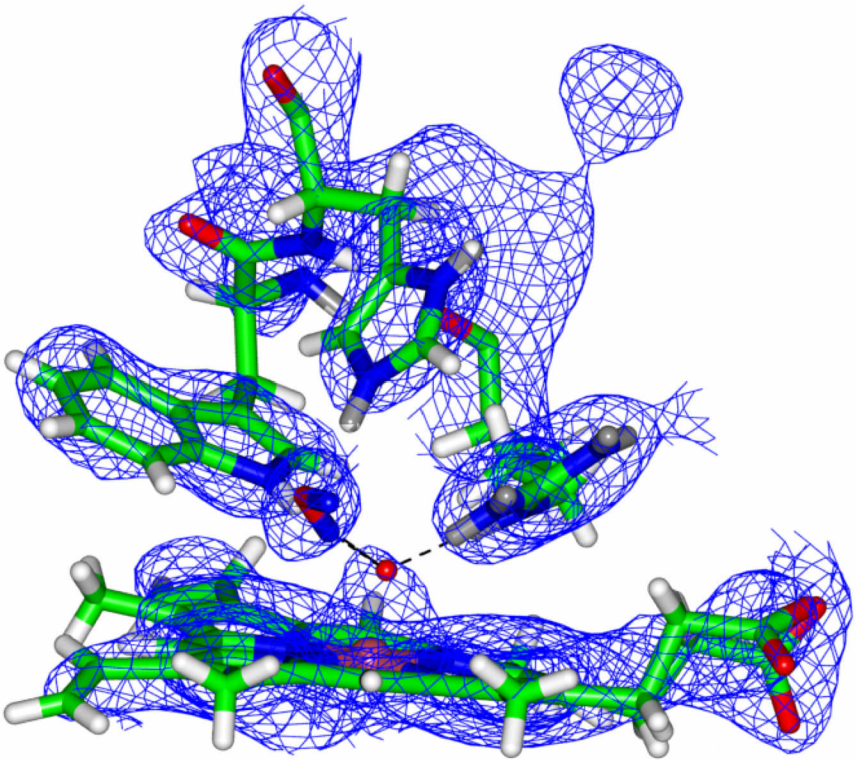
No method so far could unambigiously show the nature of the iron-oxide bond



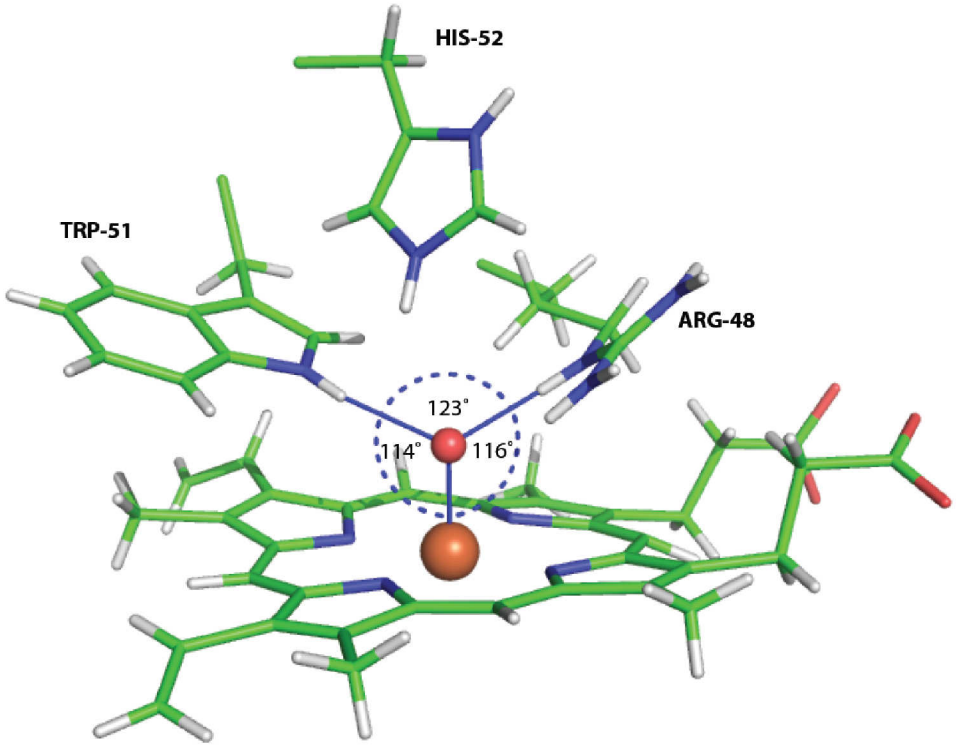
Plot of computed stretching frequency vs Fe–O bond distance. **Yellow diamonds** are from resonance Raman or EXAFS and the solid diamonds from X-ray crystal structures. The **blue circles** are from calculations.

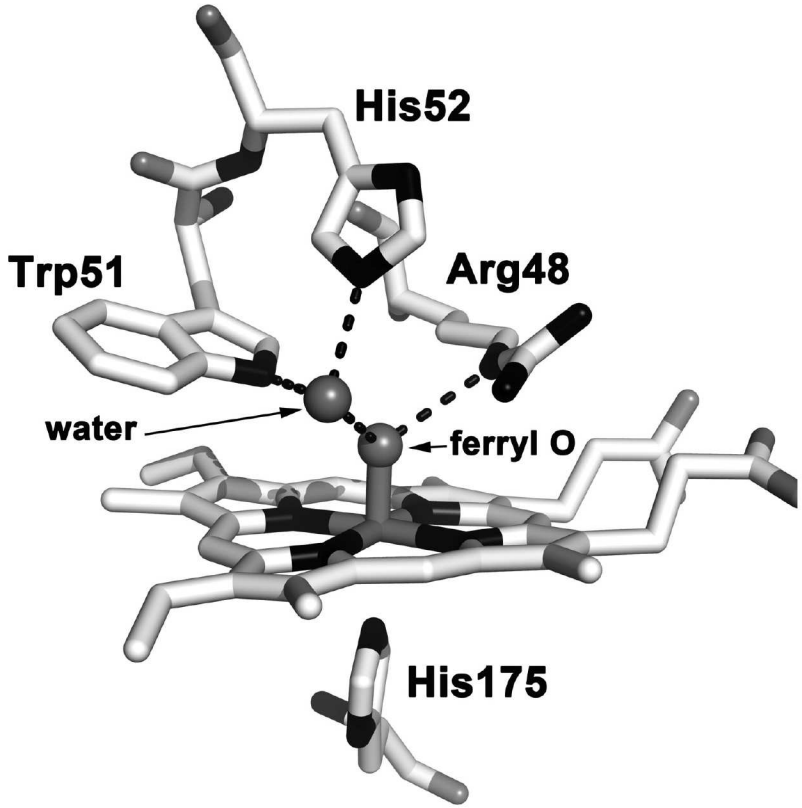
Figure taken from: Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry 100 (2006) 448–459

Compound I of Cytochrome c Peroxidase



Cecilia M. Casadei, Andrea Gumiero, Clive L. Metcalfe, Emma J. Murphy, Jaswir Basran, Maria Grazia Concilio, Susana C. M. Teixeira, Tobias E. Schrader, Alistair J. Fielding, Andreas Ostermann, Matthew P. Blakeley, Emma L. Raven, Peter C. E. Moody, Science 2014;345:193-197

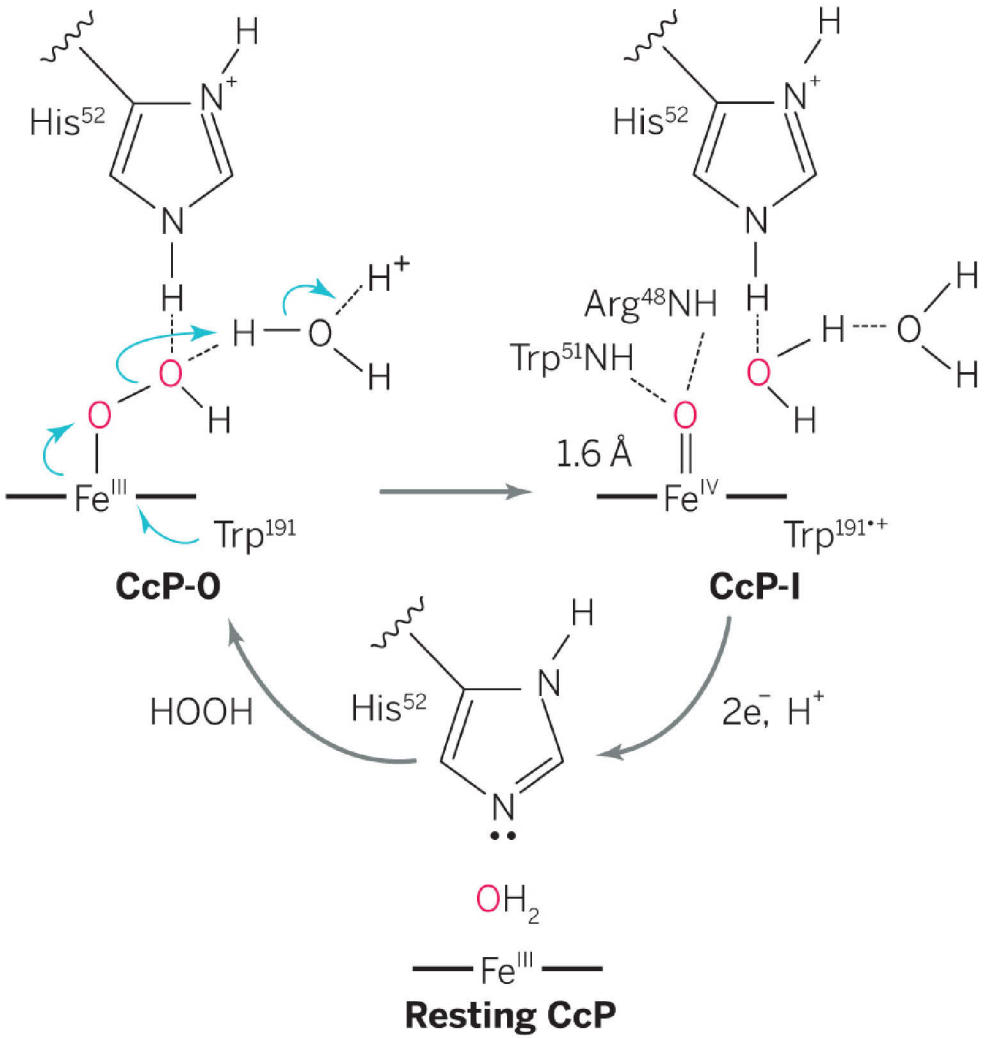


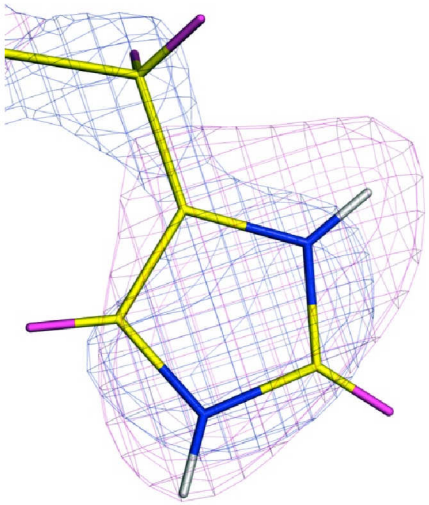


Neutron structure of CcP compound I .The water molecule H-bonded His 52 does not hydrogen bond to the ferryl O atom. Trp 51 interacts directly with the ferryl O.

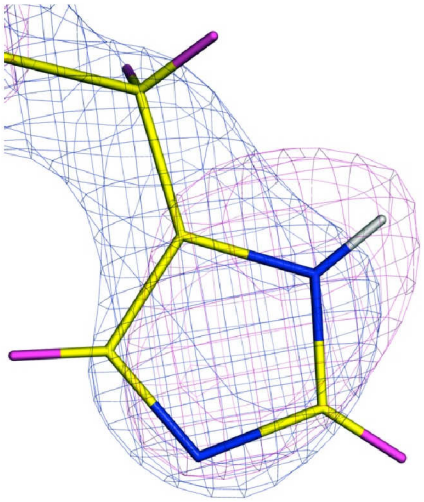
Crystal structure of CCP compound I(38) which is basically the same as the HRP compound I structure.(37) The water molecule H-bonded to the ferryl O atom is ideally positioned to assist His52 in acid–base catalysis as suggested.(39)

Proton-mediated mechanism.Reaction of ferric CcP with H2O2 first gives CcP-0, followed by O-O bond scission driven by external protonation to afford CcP-I.





His 52
Compound I



His 52 ferric
(resting)

J T Groves, and N C Boaz Science 2014;345:142-143

Summary

- Proteins show a special 3-D structure which is specific to their function
- x-ray crystallography: Most of the beautiful schematic pictures of proteins in textbooks of chemistry and molecular biology represent structures determined by X-ray diffraction. Advantages:
  1. only small crystals needed
  2. short measurement times enable large throuput
  3. phase problem can be solved with more and more sophisticated methods

  Disadvantages:
  1. radiation damage often observed: hydrogen abstraction, reduction of metal centres in the metalo-proteins, disulfide bond cleavage.
  2. Hydrogen positions can usually not be determined (only at high resolution)
- Neutron protein crystallography is a complementary technique as compared to x-ray crystallography. Here one can determine:
  1. protonation states of amino acid side chains (important for the function of the protein)
  2. deuterium exchange as a measure of flexibility and accessibility (discrimination between **H** / **D**)
  3. solvent structure including hydrogen atoms

Thanks to...

- Andreas Ostermann
- Alexander Ioffe
- Marialucia Longo
- Livia Balacescu

and you for your attention!