The Effects of High Intensity X-ray Laser Pulses in MHz-XPCS Measurements of **Protein Solution Dynamics**



Stockholm University



Mario Reiser, Jan 24 2022, XFEL MID Workshop

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Time Scales Of Protein Diffusion



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	molecule	measured context	diffusion coeff (µm²/s)
	H ₂ O	water	2000
	H ₂ O	nucleus of chicken erythrocyte	200
	H^+ (from H_3O^+ to H_2O)	water	7000
	O ₂	water	2000
	CO ₂	water	2000
	tRNA (≈20 kDa)	water	100
	protein (≈30 kDa GFP)	water	100
	protein (≈30 kDa GFP)	eukaryotic cell (CHO) cytoplasm	30
	protein (≈30 kDa GFP)	rat liver mitochondria	30
	protein (NLS-EGFP)	cytoplasm of <i>D. melanogaster</i> embryo	20
	protein (≈30 kDa)	E. coli cytoplasm	7-8
	protein (≈40 kDa)	<i>E. coli</i> cytoplasm	2-4
	protein (≈70-250 kDa)	<i>E. coli</i> cytoplasm	0.4-2
	protein (≈140 kDa Tar-YFP)	<i>E. coli</i> membrane	0.2
	protein (≈70 kDa LacY-YFP)	<i>E. coli</i> membrane	0.03
	fluorescent dye (carboxy-fluorescein)	A. thaliana cell wall	30
	fluorescent dye (carboxy-fluorescein)	A. thaliana mature root epidermis	3
	transcription factor (Lacl)	movement along DNA (1D, in vitro)	0.04 (4×10 ⁵ bp ²
	morphogen (bicoid-GFP)	cytoplasm of D. melanogaster embryo	7
	morphogen (wingless)	wing imaginal disk of D. melanogaster	0.05
	mRNA	HeLa nucleus	0.03-0.10
	mRNA	various localizations and sizes	0.005-1
	ribosome	E. coli	0.04



Antibody Solutions



Immunoglobulin (Ig) Ig molecule

Polyethylene Glycol PEG molecule



) mg/mL $R_h = 5.5 \, \text{nm}$

$\tau \approx 1 - 10 \,\mu s$

Ragulskaya, et al., *J. Phys. Chem.* Girelli, et al., et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* Begam, et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **126**



MHz X-Ray Photon Correlation Spectroscopy

(sequential) XPCS



XFEL Freq. (MHz)	temporal resolution τ (
4.5	220
2.2	440
1.1	880



Measuring Protein Dynamics with MHz XPCS Correlation Functions





Perakis and Gutt, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 22 (2020): 19443.



SAXS MHz-XPCS Setup at MID

Setup Parameters

beam size	10µm x 10µm	
attenuation	> 99 %	
flux (attenuated)	1e9 photons / pulse	
signal	~0.01 to 0.1 photons / pixel	
sample detector distance	8m	
photon energy	9keV	
beam mode	pink beam	
data volume	800TB	
pulses per train	up to 200	







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Dose and Dose Rate MHz-XPCS with a pulsed source



measurement time

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Structural Changes Azimuthally Integrated Intensity











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Time Resolved Dynamics Two-Time Correlation Functions

$$g_2(q,\tau) = \frac{\langle I(q,t)I(q,t+\tau)\rangle_t}{\langle I(q,t)\rangle_t^2}$$

Intensity auto-correlation functions

$$c_2(q, t_1, t_2) = \frac{\langle I(q, t_1)I(q, t_2)\rangle}{\langle I(q, t_1)\rangle\langle I(q, t_2)\rangle}$$

two-time correlation function

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average over 5000 trains





Correlation Functions Parameter Estimation





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Dynamic Parameters

Diffusion Coefficient D_0



•aggregation: decreasing D_0 and increasing heterogeneity ($\alpha < 1$). • dose rate dependence: D_0 increases with dose rate simple exponential behavior ($\alpha \approx 1$).

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KWW exponent α

The Effect of X-Ray Induced Heating

temperature profile after 20 pulses



Lehmkühler, et al. PNAS 117 (2020): 24110. Dallari et al. *IUCrJ* 8 (2021)

Correlation Before Aggregation



MHz XPCS With Antibody Solutions First Step: The Effect of Dose and Dose Rate

- We demonstrated the feasibility of MHz-XPCS with IgG-PEG solutions.
- Distinguish between X-ray induced aggregation and speed-up.
- Dose rate dependence implies X-ray induced dynamics beyond heating.

 MHz-XPCS at XFEL would benefit from higher degree of longitudinal coherence (monochromator, seeding), faster repetition rates (4.5 MHz), longer trains (more pulses), and smaller pixels.

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Thank You.



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