





# Coherent diffraction imaging at synchrotron sources

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#### Before we start, what are we talking about?



 $\rightarrow$  3D quantitative imaging at 10-100 nm resolution

#### The COMiX team at Institut Fresnel

#### Coherent Optical Microscopy and X-rays





V. Chamard Coherent X-ray microscopy



M. Allain Inversion problems



P. Ferrand Optical



T. Grünewald Incoherent x-ray microscopy

→ Development of coherent-diffraction based microscopy methods with x-rays and optics

#### An ideal microscopy set-up



#### An ideal microscopy set-up



#### Why x-ray microscopy?

• Decrease  $\lambda$ 

 $\rightarrow$  X-ray microscopy ( $\lambda$  = 0.1 - 1 nm)

- Weak interaction with matter

   → Bulky sample
   → Complex sample environment
- Label-free chemical sensitivity

X-ray microscopy!?



X-ray microscopy!?



Resolution =  $\lambda/2NA$ 

# $\lambda$ : illumination wavelength NA: numerical aperture

#### $\rightarrow$ Can we deal with the information collected in the diffraction plane?





## Solving the phase problem: strategies



Inverse problem with intensity data



#### Experimental set-up

 Encode phases into a *known* reference
 → Holography



Eisebitt *et al.,* Nature (2004)

#### Sample information

• Add *known* constraint

#### → Finite support CDI



Chapman *et al.* (2006). J. Opt. Soc. Am. A, **23**, 1179–1200.

Exploit the probe

 Divide the problem into simpler sub-problems with partial *redundancy*

#### → Ptychography



Holler et al., Nature (2017)

## Solving the phase problem: strategies



Inverse problem with intensity data



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 Encode phases into a *known* reference
 → Holography



Chamard *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2010)

#### Sample information

• Add *known* constraint

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Pfeifer *et al.* (2006). Nature, **442**, 63–66.

Exploit the probe

 Divide the problem into simpler sub-problems with partial *redundancy*

#### → Ptychography



Li et al., Nature Commun. (2021)

- I Solving the phase problem from diffraction intensity information
- II Coherent diffraction imaging modalities
- III Biomineralization & coherent diffraction imaging

I – Solving the phase problem from diffraction intensity information

#### Finite support coherent diffraction imaging

It all started with this article

Acta Cryst. (1952). 5, 843

Some implications of a theorem due to Shannon. By D. SAYRE, Johnson Foundation for Medical Physics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

(Received 3 July 1952)

Shannon (1949), in the field of communication theory, has given the following theorem: If a function d(x) is known to vanish outside the points  $x = \pm a/2$ , then its Fourier transform F(X) is completely specified by the values which it assumes at the points  $X = 0, \pm 1/a, \pm 2/a, \ldots$  In fact, the continuous F(X) may be filled in merely by laying down the function  $\sin \pi a X/\pi a X$  at each of the above points, with weight equal to the value of F(X) at that point, and adding.

Now the electron-density function d(x) describing a single unit cell of a crystal vanishes outside the points  $x = \pm a/2$ , where a is the length of the cell. The reciprocal-lattice points are at  $X = 0, \pm 1/a, \pm 2/a, \ldots$ , and hence the experimentally observable values of F(X) would suffice, by the theorem, to determine F(X) everywhere, if the phases were known. (In principle, the necessary points extend indefinitely in reciprocal space, but by using, say, Gaussian atoms both d(x) and F(X) can be effectively confined to the unit cell and the observable region, respectively.)

For centrosymmetrical structures, to be able to fill in the  $|F|^2$  function would suffice to yield the structure, for sign changes could occur only at the points where  $|F|^2$  vanishes. The structure corresponding to the  $|F|^2$ function is the Patterson of a single unit cell. This has twice the width of the unit cell, and hence to fill in the  $|F|^2$  function would require knowledge of  $|F|^2$  at the halfintegral, as well as the integral h's. This is equivalent to a statement made by Gay (1951).

I think the conclusions which may be stated at this point are:

1. Direct structure determination, for centrosymmetric structures, could be accomplished as well by finding the sizes of the  $|F|^2$  at half-integral h as by the usual procedure of finding the signs of the F's at integral h.

2. In work like that of Boyes-Watson, Davidson & Perutz (1947) on haemoglobin, where  $|F|^2$  was observed at non-integral h, it would suffice to have only the values at half-integral h.

The extension to three dimensions is obvious.

#### References

BOYES-WATSON, J., DAVIDSON, E. & PERUTZ, M. F. (1947). Proc. Roy. Soc. A, 191, 83.

GAY, R. (1951). Paper presented at the Second International Congress of Crystallography, Stockholm.

 $\rightarrow$  The solution to the phase problem!

SHANNON, C. E. (1949). Proc. Inst. Radio Engrs., N.Y. 37, 10.

Possibility of phase retrieval

• Shannon theorem + oversampling (2 × Nyquist frequency)

 $\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{T}^{-1}[|\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{q})|| \exp^{i\varphi(\mathbf{q})}]$ experimentally  $\rightarrow I(\mathbf{q}) = IA(\mathbf{q})I^2$ 



Possibility of phase retrieval

• Shannon theorem + oversampling (2 × Nyquist frequency)

 $\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{FT}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{IA}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{I} \exp^{i\varphi(\mathbf{q})} \end{bmatrix}$ experimentally → I(q) = IA(q)I<sup>2</sup>
• the phase information is lost  $\int_{0}^{1} \delta \mathbf{r} = 2\pi/q_{max}$ 



Possibility of phase retrieval

• Shannon theorem + oversampling (2 × Nyquist frequency)

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = FT^{-1}[|\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{q})|| \exp^{i\varphi(\mathbf{q})}]$$

experimentally  $\rightarrow I(q) = IA(q)I^2$ 

• the phase information is lost

+ • Oversampling: a solution can be found (in principle !)  $\rightarrow$  zero padding the sample



#### The diffraction plane (Fraunhoffer formalism)



Sum of spherical waves emitted by the aperture

$$\psi(P) = \int_{\Sigma} K\psi_i(Q) \frac{e^{ikQP}}{QP} dxdy$$

with the incident plane wave:

 $\psi_i(Q) \propto \exp(i\vec{k_i}.\vec{OQ})$ 

→ Plane wave?(coherent beam)

$$\frac{1}{QP} \sim \frac{1}{z}$$
$$QP = z\left[1 + \frac{(X-x)^2 + (Y-y)^2}{z^2}\right]^{1/2} \sim z + \frac{(X-x)^2 + (Y-y)^2}{2z}$$

Fraunhoffer conditions

Paraxial approximation

$$d^2 << \lambda.z$$
  
 $\psi(\vec{k}) \propto \int_{\Sigma} T(x, y) \cdot \exp(-i(\vec{k} - \vec{k_i}) \cdot \vec{OQ}) dx dy$ 

ightarrow Fourier transform of the aperture transmission function

L3 lecture from O. Jacquin, Grenoble-Alpes Univ.

## *Coherence volume:* $\xi_{//}\xi_{\perp}^{2}$

See V. Jacques's talk on friday

• Transverse coherence length: the Young's slits experiment



F. van der Veen and F. Pfeiffer, J. Phys: Condens. Matter 16 (2004) 5003

## Producing a coherent beam from an incoherent source

Most of x-ray sources are incoherent sources



Transverse coherence length

 $\xi_{\perp} = \frac{1}{2} \lambda R/w$ 

 $\rightarrow$  Decrease source size w

ightarrow Increase distance to the source R



Longitudinal coherence length

$$\xi_{//} = \frac{1}{2} \lambda^2 / \Delta \lambda$$

→ Increase energy filtering  $\Delta\lambda/\lambda$ 

## → Throwing away a lot of photons!

Flux  $\rightarrow$  Brilliance (photons/s/mm<sup>2</sup>/mrad<sup>2</sup>/0.1%bw)

10<sup>15</sup> ph/s

 $F_{c} = B w_{h} w_{v} \Delta \Omega \Delta \lambda / \lambda$ with  $\Delta \Omega = \xi_{h} \xi_{v} / R^{2}$  $F_{c} = B \lambda^{2} \Delta \lambda / \lambda$ 

3rd generation synchrotron  $\Delta\lambda/\lambda = 10^{-4}, \lambda = 10^{-10} \text{ m}, \text{ B} = 10^{20}$  $\rightarrow$  Fc = 10<sup>11</sup> ph/s



#### In summary

- Shannon theorem → Phase retrieval is possible from the knowledge of oversampled Fourier components (ie finite size sample)
- Fourier components → Possible in the Fraunhoffer regime, but needs coherent illumination
- Highly brilliant x-ray source → Possibility to extract a coherent beam from an incoherent x-ray source

 Solutions to the phase problem → Numerical approaches based on high power computing

## **II – Coherent diffraction imaging modalities**

#### 1 - **CDI** - Inversion iterative algorithm for isolated particle

Inversion algorithm : weak scattering regime and far-field detection



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J. R. Fienup, Appl. Opt. **21**, 2758 (1982), R. W. Gerchberg et al., Optik (Stuttgart) **35**, 237 (1972).

An alternative to the finite support approach  $\rightarrow$  using a scanned 'structured' illumination





Faulkner et al. PRL 93 (2004); Rodenburg et al. APL 85 (2004)















#### From non-crystalline to crystalline microscopy









#### From non-crystalline to crystalline microscopy





In the vicinity of the origin of the reciprocal space → Non crystalline information In the vicinity of a Bragg peak → Crystalline information





#### Mathematical model introducing the displacement field



#### Main coherent x-ray microscopy modalities

	Density information	Crystalline properties
Finite-size sample	Coherent Diffraction Imaging (CDI)	Bragg-Coherent Diffraction Imaging (BCDI)
Extended sample	Ptychography	Bragg ptychography

Review: see *Miao et al., Science 348 (2015)* 



#### Main coherent x-ray microscopy modalities

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#### • 3D field of view

- → CDI: 0.1 4 μm
- → BCDI: 0.1 2 μm
- $\rightarrow$  Ptychography: 2 30  $\mu$ m
- $\rightarrow$  Bragg ptychography: extended x 2  $\mu$ m

#### Sensitivity

- $\rightarrow$  CDI, ptychography: 1-2%
- $\rightarrow$  BCDI Strain, lattice rotation: 10<sup>-4</sup> a few 10<sup>-3</sup>, 0.005 0.01°
- $\rightarrow$  Bragg ptychography Strain, lattice rotation: up to 10<sup>-2</sup>, up to 1°

#### • Spatial resolution

 $\rightarrow$  3D, down to 7 nm, but contrast-dependent, anisotropic

#### Total acquisition time

 $\rightarrow$  From a few hours to 10 min

#### Inversion time

 $\rightarrow$  From a few hours to a few min

## **III – Applications of coherent diffraction imaging**







## III - Calcareous biomineralisation & coherent diffraction imaging







#### Biominerals in material science

Highly regulated and complex hierarchical organo-mineral structures



J.-P. Cuif, Y. Dauphin and E. Sorauf, Cambridge Univ. Press (2011)

 $\rightarrow$  Biomimetism?

• Damage resistance



L. Li and C. Ortiz, Adv. Funct. Mater. 25 (2015)

#### **Biominerals and environmental science**

CaCO<sub>3</sub>, one of most prominent minerals in Earth's crust



A. Ridgwell and R. Zeebe., EPSL 234 (2005)

#### Calcareous biomineralisation Generic features

• Mineral/organics materials



- Granular structure at the nano-scale

• Single crystalline at the macro-scale (no facet)



• Amorphous precursor(s)





#### Biocrystallisation related questions

From the amorphous to the crystalline final phase What are the different transient metastable phases? What are the nucleation and phase transition mechanisms?



#### **CDI** – Coccolithophores formation

Unicellular marine planktonic algae producing calcareous exoskeleton made of CaCO<sub>3</sub> scales



→ Unique distance between nucleation sites
 → Mass directly related to perimeter

#### **BCDI** – Crystallisation pathways from a synthetic model

#### **Crystal growth**

#### Classical vs non classical crystallisation of calcite

Suzana et al., Adv. Mat. 2024



## $\rightarrow$ Proposition of a crystallisation pathway



#### Biomimetic calcareous systems Amorphous to crystalline transition in synthetic CaCO3

Collab. C. Chevallard C. Clément

Production of an **amorphous calcium carbonate** film (from Ammonia diffusion method into organic-mediated solution )



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Collab. **Crystallisation pathways in biomimetic calcareous systems** C. Chevallard Amorphous to crystalline transition in synthetic CaCO3 C. Clément Humidity activated crystalline transition Tilt angle #1  $\rightarrow$  Localized dissolution/ 1.5 0.2 reprecipitation 0.1 y (μm) 0.5 0 0 -0.1 -0.5 Exter ded -0.2 -1 0 1 he reilie iength -1 400 nn  $x (\mu m)$ (700 x 250 nm<sup>2</sup>) 1 0 nm Heat activated crystalline transition Tilt a rgle #1 1.5 → Solid/solid transition Limited 1 coherence length 0.5 (50 x 200 nm<sup>2</sup>) λ (μm) 0 0 -0.5 -0.5 -1 -1.5 -1 -2 -0.5 0.5 0 200 nm  $x (\mu m)$ unpublished 100 nm

Biomimetic calcareous systems Amorphous to crystalline transition in synthetic CaCO3 Collab. C. Chevallard C. Clément

→ Different crystallisation pathways present different BP fingerprints





#### Biomineral mesoscale structure: biogenic calcite



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# Limit of the single-crystal description is reached $\rightarrow$ The prism is composed of several slightly

mis-orientated crystalline domains

Nature Materials (2017)

#### Biomineral mesoscale structure: biogenic calcite





#### Limit of the single-crystal description is reached

- → The prism is composed of several slightly mis-orientated crystalline domains
- → Each iso-oriented domain contains several coherent crystals larger than a granule

Nature Materials (2017)

## A closer look to the crystalline coherence

Comparison of different crystalline regions within a prism



#### Comparison with non-classical crystallization pathways



## **Concluding remarks**

# Inversion based microscopy methods are valuable tools for 3D x-ray microscopy

- CDI for isolated particles
- Ptychography for extended samples
- Combined with Bragg geometry for crystalline properties
- → These are mature techniques, available worldwide
   Easy to implement and analyse, compatible with complex sample environment
- → Bragg ptychography is recent, available at some synchrotrons worldwide Set-up uses nano-diffraction approach, analysis is non-trivial Inversion is robust

#### 4th generation synchrotron sources are expected to revolutionize the field

- Faster and smarter data acquisition schemes
- Leading to dynamical study of material-science related questions
- $\rightarrow$  Wider use of Bragg ptychography is expected

## The EasyBragg project

#### Bragg ptychography for a wider community of users

Axis I - Development of a 3DBP user-friendly open-source suite and implementation

- at four beamlines (ID01/ID13/ESRF, I13-1/Diamond and NanoMAX/MAX IV),
- online analysis of 3DBP data acquired at these instruments,

- code freely available to synchrotrons and their user community, for further implementation at other beamlines.

Axis II - Development of a full dissemination suite

- to train and teach the BP users

 $\rightarrow$  Interested by the first tutorial? Please express our interest!







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#### Bragg ptychography developments



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- J. Garriga Ferrer
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- F. Mastropietro (now in Bordeaux)

#### Bragg ptychography applications



F. Hofmann N. Phillips



C. Chevallard C. Colas

D. Carbone

- M. Burghammer
- S. Leake
- V. Favre Nicolin
- T. Metzger

**Universidad** I. Calvo-Almazan

www.fresnel.fr/comix

#### Experimental geometry



Calvo-Almazan et al., under revision

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#### BCDI – a mature technique

#### Dislocation dynamics under external stimuli

#### Operando battery nanoparticles

Ulvestad et al., Science 2015



See also, mechanical loading, e.g.,

Dupraz et al., Nano Lett. 2017

#### BCDI – a mature technique

#### Phase transition / phase separation

Solid-state transition of a Ni<sub>3</sub>Fe nanoparticule towards a Ni<sub>3</sub>Fe –Ni core-shell particles *Chatelier et al., ACS Nano 2024* 





#### Positioning of inversion microscopy wrt to other techniques

Crystalline microscopy approaches



In other words: It is possible to retrieve the phase of the measured intensity if intensity signal is **oversampled** 



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→ Increase sample to detector distance (1 m) → Decrease sample size (1  $\mu$ m)

#### Information available in a diffraction pattern

 $\delta r = 2\pi/q_{max} \approx 5 \text{ nm}$ 

 $\delta r$  + exact particle distribution





incoherent scattering



#### coherent scattering

Sensitivity to

- the particle shape
- the particle position

