Ecole d'Oléron 2016



Physical concepts essential to structural biology





- A question of interaction between radiation and matter
- Radiations can be:
 - Photons (electro-magnetic wave: light, X-rays)
 - Electrons
 - Neutrons
- Matter

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Your molecule under study

Possible approaches



• "Imaging" techniques

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- Visible light microscopy
- Electron microscopy
- X-ray or neutron crystallography
- Localization technique
 - Super-resolution microscopy
- Spectroscopic techniques
 - ➤ NMR
 - SAXS

Visible light microscopy



- Source light (radiation): photons or electromagnetic wave
 - \succ Wave length: 0.3 0.8 μ m
- Object (matter): absorb and re-emit incident light in all directions
 - More or less absorption
 - > some time wave length dependent (color)
- · Lens: focuses light emitted by the object
 - The light emitted by one point of the object is focused on one point of the detector



How to increase resolution?



- Atomic resolution
 - \succ d ~ 1 Å => $\lambda \le 2$ Å
 - Use photons in the domain of X-rays
 - Typically: for $\lambda = 1$ Å, E = hv = hc/ $\lambda \approx 12.4$ keV
- •
- Do X-rays interact with atoms?
 - Yes, X-ray photons can be elastically scattered by the electronic cloud of an atom

How a photon is scattered by an atom ?



- Elastic scattering (no loss of energy, wavelength is conserved)
 - Thomson scattering: free electrons (photon energy >> electron binding energy)
 - Carbon atom E(1s) = -1013 eV, E(2s,2p) = -36 eV to be compared to 7 to 15 keV for X-ray photons
 - Photon energy should differ from element absorption edges
 - The wave description of X-ray photons (electromagnetic wave) is fine to explain the phenomenon (classical model)
 - In an electric field \vec{E} a charge e feels a force: $\vec{F} = e \cdot \vec{E}$
 - Thus, the electric field of the electromagnetic wave will induce movement of nucleus
 and electrons
 - Due to the non-relativistic velocity of atomic electrons, the Lorentz force induced by the magnetic field of the electromagnetic wave $\vec{F} = e \cdot \vec{v} \wedge \vec{B}$ can be neglected

Ocillating dipole



- \succ In an electric field \vec{E} a charge e feels a force: $\vec{F}\!=\!e_{\,\cdot}\,\vec{E}$
- The force will induce an acceleration of both the electron and the nucleus
- $\overrightarrow{F} = \mathbf{m} \cdot \overrightarrow{\gamma} \Longrightarrow \overrightarrow{\gamma}_{e} = -e \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{E}}{m_{e}} \text{ and } \overrightarrow{\gamma}_{n} = +Ze \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{E}}{(Zm_{p} + (A Z)m_{n})}$
 - + Since $\rm m_{p}$ and $\rm m_{n} >> \rm m_{e}$ one can neglect the movement of the nucleus
- > The dipole induced by the electric field is: $d = Ze \cdot \vec{r}$ (with \vec{r} vector between center of mass of electrons and nucleus)

$$\frac{\partial^2 \dot{d}}{\partial t^2} = -Ze \cdot \vec{\gamma}_e = Ze^2 \cdot \frac{\dot{E}}{m_e}$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 \cos[\omega t] \Rightarrow \vec{d} = -(Ze^2 \frac{\vec{E}_0}{m_e \omega^2}) \cos[\omega t]$$
ocillating electric field

Oscillating dipole and emitted wave







How a photon is scattered by an atom ?



- The incident electromagnetic wave induce the oscillation of the electronic cloud
- > The negatively charged electronic cloud et the positively charged nucleus become an oscillating dipole, thus emitting a spherical electromagnetic wave of same wavelength and a phase difference of π .



The atom becomes a source of photon, with the same wave length.

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Why can't we get directly the image of the molecule with X-rays?

- Problem: we have no lens for X-ray photons
 - > No image on the detector, but a scattering spectra
- With a lens
 - All radiation arriving on one point of the detector come from one point on the object
- Without a lens

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- Radiation arriving on one point of the detector come from all points on the object
 - · It the sum of waves emitted by each point of the object

What is a scattering spectra?



- What is the link between the scattering spectra and the molecule?
- Can we still get a image of the molecule?
- What is an electromagnetic wave?
 - > Wave generated by an oscillating dipole



Reminder about waves



- Fresnel representation of waves
 - Electric field: $\vec{E_0} cos[\omega t \vec{q_0}.\vec{r}] = \vec{E_0} exp[i(\omega t \vec{q_0}.\vec{r})]$
 - A phase shift ϕ : $\vec{E_0} \exp[i(\omega t \vec{q_0}, \vec{r} + \phi)] = \vec{E_0} \exp[i(\omega t \vec{q_0}, \vec{r})] \cdot \exp[i\phi]$



• Sum of two waves are simple to express $\vec{E_0} \exp[i(\omega t - \vec{q_0}, \vec{r})] + \vec{E_0} \exp[i(\omega t - \vec{q_0}, \vec{r})] \cdot \exp[i\phi] = \vec{E_0} \exp[i(\omega t - \vec{q_0}, \vec{r})] \cdot (1 + \exp[i\phi])$



Reminder about waves



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Scattering by one atom



- The planar incident wave induces the emission of a spherical wave of same wavelength and with a π phase shift

Scattering by one atom





Pic à 4

4

3

Intensité mesurée

Détecteur

Scattering by two atoms



• The two atoms are emitting a spherical electromagnetic wave. If the two atoms are not mobile and close by, the two waves interfere





- · All atoms are emitting a spherical electromagnetic wave.
 - > In P, you get the sum of the waves emitted by all atoms. The phase of the wave depend on the position of the atom

• What is this sum?

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Scattering by numerous atoms





Scattering by numerous atoms



- The structure factor is $F(\vec{s}) {=} \sum_{i} f_{_J}.exp[2i\pi(\vec{s}),\vec{r}_{_J}]$
 - It is the Fourier transform of the distribution of electron, i.e. the electron density:

$$F(\vec{s}) = \sum_{I} f_{J} exp[2i\pi(\vec{s}),\vec{r}_{J}] = \int \rho(\vec{r}) exp[2i\pi\vec{r},\vec{s}] d\vec{r}$$

- It is a complex number (amplitude and phase)
- The electron density can be calculated by the reverse Fourier transform:

$$\rho(\vec{r}) = \sum_{J} f_{J} \cdot \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{J}) = \int_{\text{rec.vol.}} F(\vec{s}) \exp[-2i\pi \vec{r} \cdot \vec{s}] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

- $\succ\,$ The dectector measures the intensity of the scattered wave
 - This intensity is proportional to the square modulus of structure factor

 $I(\vec{s}) \propto |F(\vec{s})|^2$

Scattering by numerous atoms

• The wave emitted by all atoms In P is jus the sum: $\sum_{J} \vec{E}_{0} \exp[i(\omega t - \vec{q}_{0}, \vec{r}_{J})] \cdot \frac{f_{J}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{J}|} \cdot \exp[-i\vec{q}_{1}.(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{J})] \cdot \exp[i\pi]$ • If sample size << distance sample-detector it becomes: $\frac{\vec{E}_{0}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{0}|} \exp[i(\omega t - \vec{q}_{1}, \vec{r})] \cdot \exp[i\pi] \cdot \sum_{J} f_{J} \cdot \exp[i(\vec{q}_{1} - \vec{q}_{0}) \cdot \vec{r}_{J}]$ • If we define the scattering vector: $\vec{s} = \vec{s}_{1} - \vec{s}_{0} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot (\vec{q}_{1} - \vec{q}_{0})$ $\underbrace{\vec{E}_{0}}_{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{0}|} \exp[2i\pi(\nu t - \vec{s}_{1}, \vec{r})] \cdot \exp[i\pi]}_{\text{depend on the incident wave and position P}} \sum_{\text{Fourier transform of the distribution of scattering factors}$

What if the sample is a crystal?



- A crystal can be described by a unit cell
 - > Three vector $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ define this unit cell
- Unit cells (identical content) are piled up in the 3 directions of space







What if the sample is a crystal?



> The general form a the structure factor is: $F(\vec{s}) = \int \rho(\vec{r}) \exp[2i\pi \vec{r}.\vec{s}].d\vec{r}$ > If the sample is a crystal, it can be described as a pile of N_{cell} unit crystal. cells $F(\vec{s}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{cell}} \int_{\Omega_{cell}} \rho(\vec{r} + \vec{r_n}) \exp[2i\pi(\vec{r} + \vec{r_n}) \cdot \vec{s}] \cdot d\vec{r}$ with : $\vec{r_n} = n_1 \cdot \vec{a} + n_2 \cdot \vec{b} + n_3 \cdot \vec{c}$ and $\rho(\vec{r} + \vec{r_n}) = \rho(\vec{r})$ $F(\vec{s}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{eff}} \exp[2i\pi n_1 \cdot \vec{a} \cdot \vec{s}] \exp[2i\pi n_2 \cdot \vec{b} \cdot \vec{s}] \exp[2i\pi n_3 \cdot \vec{c} \cdot \vec{s}], \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \rho(\vec{r}) \exp[2i\pi \vec{r} \cdot \vec{s}] \cdot d\vec{r}$ factor ≈ 0 except if \vec{s} satisfy Laue equations: $\vec{a} = \vec{s} = \vec{k}$, $\vec{s} = l \Rightarrow factor = N$. Fourier transform of electron density of the unit cell > There is significant X-ray scattering only in specific, discrete direction => diffraction phenomenon How we get the "image" from a diffraction spectra • If \vec{s} statisfy the Laue equations $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{s} = h, \vec{b} \cdot \vec{s} = k, \vec{c} \cdot \vec{s} = l$ • \vec{s} is a vector a lattice, named reciprocal lattice $\vec{s} = h \cdot \vec{a^*} + k \cdot \vec{b^*} + l \cdot \vec{c^*}$ with $\vec{a^*} = \frac{\vec{b} \wedge \vec{c}}{\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b} \wedge \vec{c}}$, $\vec{b^*} = \frac{\vec{c} \wedge \vec{a}}{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \wedge \vec{c}}$, $\vec{c^*} = \frac{\vec{a} \wedge \vec{b}}{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \wedge \vec{c}}$ Electronic density calculation $\rho(\vec{r}) = \sum_{J} f_{J} \cdot \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{J}) = \int_{\text{rec.vol.}} F(\vec{s}) \exp[-2i\pi \vec{r} \cdot \vec{s}] \cdot d\vec{s}$ $\rho(\vec{r}) = \sum_{J} f_{J} \cdot \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{J}) = \sum_{k,l=1} F(\vec{s}) \exp\left[-2i\pi \vec{r} \cdot \vec{s}\right]$

X-ray scattering by a crystal





What is a Fourier transform?



• Example of a crystal

$$\rho(\vec{r}) = \sum_{J} f_{J} \cdot \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{J}) = \sum_{h,k,l} F(\vec{s}) \exp[-2i\pi \vec{r} \cdot \vec{s}]$$

- The electron density is a complex function depending on the nature of your molecule
 - > If the molecule is in a crystal, the electron density is periodical
- · A way to describe it as a sum of well known functions
 - Sinus or cosinus
 - Discrete Fourier transform

What is the meaning of F(s)?



- A parallel with sound
 - The sound can be described as the acoustic pressure as a function of time
 - The Fourier transform is the analysis of the frequencies present in your sound
 - One can describe the sound as a sum of different frequencies
 - The higher frequencies, the more detailed is the sound
 - Parallel with resolution
- · Let try a real time analysis
 - Live with AudioXporer

Go back to electron density



```
\rho(\vec{r}) = \sum_{h,k,l} F(h.\vec{a^*} + k.\vec{b^*} + l.\vec{c^*}) \exp[-2i\pi \vec{r}.(h.\vec{a^*} + k.\vec{b^*} + l.\vec{c^*})]
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- The reflection (h,0,0) is the coefficient for or sinusoidal function, the period of which is the a axis
- Higher indices correspond to higher indices
- The higher you go, the highest is the resolution

Other particles to probe matter?



- Is photon (electromagnetic wave) the unique probe to see molecule?
- In 1924, Louis de Broglie proposed that all elementary particles can behave both as a wave and as a particle
 - > Any particle can be used to probe matter if
 - the associated wave length $\lambda = \frac{h}{n}$ is appropriate
 - It interact with matter
 - > What is the wave length of an elementary particle?
 - Photon (no mass): $E = hv = h\frac{c}{\lambda}$, $p = \frac{hv}{c}$



• Particle (mass \neq 0): $E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$, p = mv, $\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$



Energies and wave length



- Electromagnetic waves / photons (1901, Röntgen)
 - Photon energy: $E = hv = h\frac{c}{\lambda} \rightarrow 7 \text{ keV} < E < 17 \text{ keV} \text{ or } 1.7 \text{ Å} > \lambda > 0.7 \text{ Å}$
- Neutrons (1932, Chadwick)
 - Neutral particle (m_n = 1.6749 10⁻²⁷ kg)
 - $E = \frac{1}{2}m_n v^2$, $\lambda = \frac{h}{m}v \rightarrow \lambda = 1.5$ Å for v = 2600 m/s and $E = 3.6 \, 10^{-2} \text{eV}$
- Electrons (1897, Thomson)

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- Negatively charged particle (q = $1.6 \ 10^{-19} \text{ C}, \text{ m}_a = 9.1091 \ 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$)
- $E = \frac{1}{2}m_e v^2$, $\lambda = \frac{h}{m_e}v \rightarrow \lambda = 1.2$ Å for v = 6000 km/s and E = 100 eVin practice 100 keV \leq E \leq 300 keV and 0.004 Å $> \lambda > 0.0009$ Å

Neutron



- No electromagnetic interaction
 - Penetrate matter easily
- Different type of neutrons
 - Cold neutrons: E<0.0038 eV
 - Thermal neutrons: 0.0038 eV < E < 0.5 eV => used for diffraction and SANS experiment
 - Epithermal or resonance neutrons: 0.5 eV<E<100 keV
 - Fast neutrons: 100 keV<E<10MeV
 - Relativistic neutrons: E>10MeV
 - Elastic interaction with nucleus: E < 1MeV</p>
 - Inelastic scattering by nucleus: E > 1MeV
 - Induced fission



Impact on the atomic form factor



- For neutron f_{nuc}(s)=σ_{scat}
- No decrease with s or resolution

Differences and similarities with X-rays



- No lens available for neutrons
 - Diffraction spectra
- If you manage to measure the amplitude and to get the phase of the wave for each reflection on the detector
 - A Fourier transform enable to calculate the distribution of nucleus of your molecule

$$\sum_{J} \sigma_{J} \cdot \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{J}) = \sum_{h,k,l} F(\vec{s}) \exp[-2i\pi \vec{r} \cdot \vec{s}]$$

- Scattering cross section for H and D are very different
 - Deuteration can be useful

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 Both the electric and the magnetic field induce force on the electron



- A lens can be made for electrons with magnet
 - First one made in 1929 (Ruska & Knoll)

- Charged particle (q = $1.6 \ 10^{-19} \text{ C}, \text{ m}_{e} = 9.1091 \ 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$)
- Strongly interact with matter
 - Elastic interaction with
 - atomic electron (small energy transfer)
 - Nucleus (Ruthrford scattering)
 - "Sense" the electrstatic potential

Direct imaging of the molecule





To conclude



- X-rays & Neutrons
 - > Diffraction => F(hkl) + $\phi(hkl)$ => electron density map
 - Small angle scattering => ab-initio modeling (fit whith scattering curve)
- Electrons

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- Direct imaging => electron density map
- Diffraction is also possible
- NMR
 - Gather structural information (local interatomic distance, ...) => search for models that satisfy the data.

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