National Synchrotron Light Source II

# High energy resolution techniques

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# XAS in fluorescence mode

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# High-resolution analysis of emission



Biochimica et Biophysica Acta 1853 (2015) 1406–1415



- Measure shapes of emission lines
- High resolution (~1 eV)

# High-resolution instrumentation



P. Zimmermann et al. / Coordination Chemistry Reviews 423 (2020) 213466

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# What kind of problems we would like to solve at ISS?

- ISS aims to address problems in:
  - Chemistry
  - Catalysis
  - Materials science
  - Bioinorganic chemistry
  - Environmental sciences



- Problems that are outside of the ISS scope:
  - Collective electronic excitations (magnetism, superconductivity, etc)
  - Polarization, momentum dependence

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# New flavors of X-ray spectroscopy

- HERFD XAS
- X-ray emission spectroscopy
- RIXS (RXES)







#### High-energy resolution fluorescence detected (HERFD) XAS



Helps to overcome core hole broadening!



The core hole effect: unrealistic system with no broadening





The core hole effect: unrealistic system with unrealistic broadening



Finite core hole lifetime results in the energy broadening of the level

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The core hole effect: unrealistic system with unrealistic broadening



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The core hole effect: unrealistic system with unrealistic broadening



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#### The core hole effect: unrealistic system, broadening, HERFD



#### The core hole effect: slightly more realistic system, broadening, HERFD



The core hole effect: slightly more realistic system, broadening, HERFD



#### What HERFD does in practice



Instrument IRF and intermediate state

### **HERFD Examples: 5d metals**

5d metals core-hole

broadening can reach 6-8 eV

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11500

11520



J. Environ. Qual. 46:1146–1157 (2017).

ISS data Samples from Bruce

Energy, eV

11560

11580

116

11540

#### **HERFD Examples: 3d metals**



J. Environ. Qual. 46:1146–1157 (2017).

Cu 1,7-Octadiene complex





# Other applications of HR spectroscopy

- Poor contrast between element of interest and the rest of the sample/environment
  - Low loading Fe or Co in Fe-rich environment
  - Pt/Zn and Ir/Cu measurements
- Limited EXAFS due to edge overlap
- Position sensitivity

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#### X-ray emission spectroscopy: a spin probe

- Fix E<sub>in</sub> well above the edge (100-150 eV), scan E<sub>out</sub>
- Kα (2p → 1s) and Kβ (3p → 1s) lines are sensitive to spin state of the absorbing atom (3d/2p and 3d/3p exchange interaction)



Inorg. Chem.2020, 59, 12518-12535



#### X-ray emission spectroscopy: spin, covalency





#### X-ray emission spectroscopy: valence-to-core



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#### X-ray emission spectroscopy is amicable to DFT



#### **Resonant X-ray Scattering**

- Resonant inelastic x-ray scattering (resonant X-ray emission)
- Scan E<sub>in</sub> across pre-edge region, scan E<sub>out</sub> along emission line
- Covalency, oxidation state

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#### L-edge-like data with RIXS

Fe 1s2p RIXS L-edge like data (ferrous cyt *c*)



- Cuts through pre-edge give L-edge like data
- Differential covalency and bonding

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M.L. Baker et al. / Coordination Chemistry Reviews 345 (2017) 182–208 National Synchrotron Light Source II

### Challenge: Sample damage

- High flux density (~10<sup>13</sup> ph/s in 0.1x0.1 mm<sup>2</sup>) cause sample to degrade
- Need to check every sample for degradation
- Sometimes cryostat is needed
- Ensure you have enough spots on the sample to measure

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### Conclusions

- HR spectroscopy (HERFD-XAS, XES, RIXS) provides complementary insights into electronic structure of materials
- HERFD-XAS: cleaner data, enhanced sensitivity
- XES: spin, ligand speciation
- RIXS: covalency, bonding