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_{in} well above the edge (100-150 eV), scan E_{out}
- 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_{in} across pre-edge region, scan E_{out} 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 (~10¹³ ph/s in 0.1x0.1 mm²) 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