# Structural Dynamics in Hydrogen-Bonded and Transition-Metal Systems



Max Planck Research Department for Structural Dynamics at the University of Hamburg

& Center for Free Electron Laser Science

SwissFEL Photonics Pump Laser Workshop

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SCIENCE





**Countesy:** nammeskrause architekten



# Elucidating chemical reaction pathways and intermediates in solution and at interfaces via time-resolved X-ray Absorption and Photoemission Spectroscopy

- energy levels & coupling constants
- charge distribution & bonding
- spin-state-dependent effects

## How fast is SwissFEL?

or what is the timing jitter...





## **Transient X-ray Spectroscopic Methods**

## X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XAS) X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XES) Resonant Inelastic X-ray Scattering (RIXS)

- Photon-only  $\rightarrow$  no worries about space charge, sample charging, laser field streaking
- Moderate to no vacuum requirements

#### **Photoemission Spectroscopy (PES)**

- Efficient & atom-specific probe for surface chemistry
- Depth-dependence of excess kinetic energy uniquely suite for interface chemistry
- Angle-resolved PES delivers new insights into anisotropic effects in chemical reactions





inter



#### **Research Objectives**







> Solute Dynamics

#### Liquid-Phase Chemistry

 $OCIO(X^{2}B_{1}) + h\nu \rightarrow CIO(^{2}\Pi) + O(^{3}P_{g})$  $OCIO(X^{2}B_{1}) + h\nu \rightarrow CI(^{2}P_{u}) + O_{2}(^{3}\Sigma_{g}^{-})$  $OCIO(X^{2}B_{1}) + h\nu \rightarrow CI(^{2}P_{u}) + O_{2}(^{1}\Delta_{g})$  $OCIO(X^{2}B_{1}) + h\nu \rightarrow CIOO \rightarrow CI(^{2}P_{u}) + O_{2}(^{3}\Sigma_{g}^{-})$ 





- O-H stretching modes (3400cm<sup>-1</sup>)
- O-H bending mode (1650cm<sup>-1</sup>)
- Librations (300 to 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>)
- Slower intermolecular modes (< 300cm<sup>-1</sup>)
- Intermolecular coupling: dephasing, spectral diffusion, H-bond cleavage ~0.05 to several ps

#### Microscopic dynamics of water over a wide range of timescales

- ~ 0.03 to 0.2ps
- < 0.2ps

~ 0.01ps

~ 0.02ps



#### **Spectral Features in Water and Phases of Ice**



- Pre-edge height seems not to be unique to HB strength but the spectral position is
- Time-resolved x-ray probe measurements reproduce the same spectral behavior





## Ultrafast Soft X-ray Spectroscopy on H<sub>2</sub>O







- Thermalization
   → Isochoric Heating
- Adiabatic Expansion
- Pressure Dependence?

Wernet et al., APA **92**, 511 ('08) Huse et al. PCCP **11**, 3951 ('09) Wen et al. JCP **131**, 234505 ('09)





## **Transient Soft X-ray Spectroscopy of Solutes**



 Huse et al. PCCP 11, 3951 (2009)

 Wen et al. JCP 131, 234505 (2009)

 Huse et al. JACS 132, 6809 (2010)

 Huse et al. JPCL 2, 880 (2011)

 Van Kuiken et al. JPCL 3, 1695 (2012)

 Cho et al. Faraday Discuss. 157, 463 (2012)





#### **Probing the Metal** *d***-Orbitals**





#### **Trading Spin for Orbital Angular Momentum**



Huse et al. JPCL 2, 880 (2011)





Advantages:

- Theory is quite matured
- No multiplet effects due to weaker spin orbit coupling
- Increased solvent
   transmission
- Complementary information on metal-ligand interactions
- Prospect of laser-based femtosecond X-ray spectroscopy and beyond



## Fe<sup>II</sup>(bpy)<sub>3</sub> in Water





- Ab inito DFT calculations, only energy axis has been shifted
- Bound-bound N-1s core-level transitions only (using ORCA)



#### **Core-Level Sensitivity to Valence Charge**



- Core-level transition shifts due to core-level shift
- Core-level energy highly sensitive to amount of valence charge



García-Lastra et al. *JCP* **133**, 151103



#### **Core-Level Sensitivity to Valence Charge**





 Spectral gear box amplifies spectral shifts in addition to valence charge changes on target atom



García-Lastra et al. *JCP* **133**, 151103



## **High-Spin Valence Charge Distribution**





#### **Ground-state HOMOs**









## **High-Spin Valence Charge Distribution**





## **High-Spin Valence Charge Distribution**



Strong M-L orbital mixing  $\rightarrow$  Structural change  $\rightarrow$  ???









#### Reaction intermediates in (metal)organic chemistry



- Unique characterization of transient valence charge density
  - Atomic specificity
  - Spin-sensitivity

#### **Solute-Water Interactions**

#### **Enzymatic Activity and Cooperativity**







#### Tunable laser system (highly robust and reliable)

- Electronic excitation triggers over broad range with  $\lambda > 200$ nm
- Mid-infrared generation for vibrational excitations with  $\lambda$  < 20um
- Intense THz pulses reaching up to  $15THz \rightarrow$  needs insertion device

#### Carrier envelope stability (or better control) ?

- Coherent excitations at sub-cycle resolution
- Access to phase-sensitive phenomena
- Controlled excitations

#### Laser pulse requirements

- 10fs (UV-Vis) to single-cylce (THz)
- 10s of uJ from UV to THz





## **Final Considerations & Summary**

- Manpower and expertise will determine user involvement. Undogmatic approach desirable
- Large tunability will ensure broad application spectrum
- CEP control will drive new science, use of synergy effects to solve timing issues
- X-ray science provides unique ways of studying matter beyond electronic excitations
- What about 'Two-color' 2DFT spectroscopy?

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