

# The application of Free Electron Lasers to Biology: Playing with retinal proteins and GPCRs



Wir schaffen Wissen – heute für morgen

**ETH**

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



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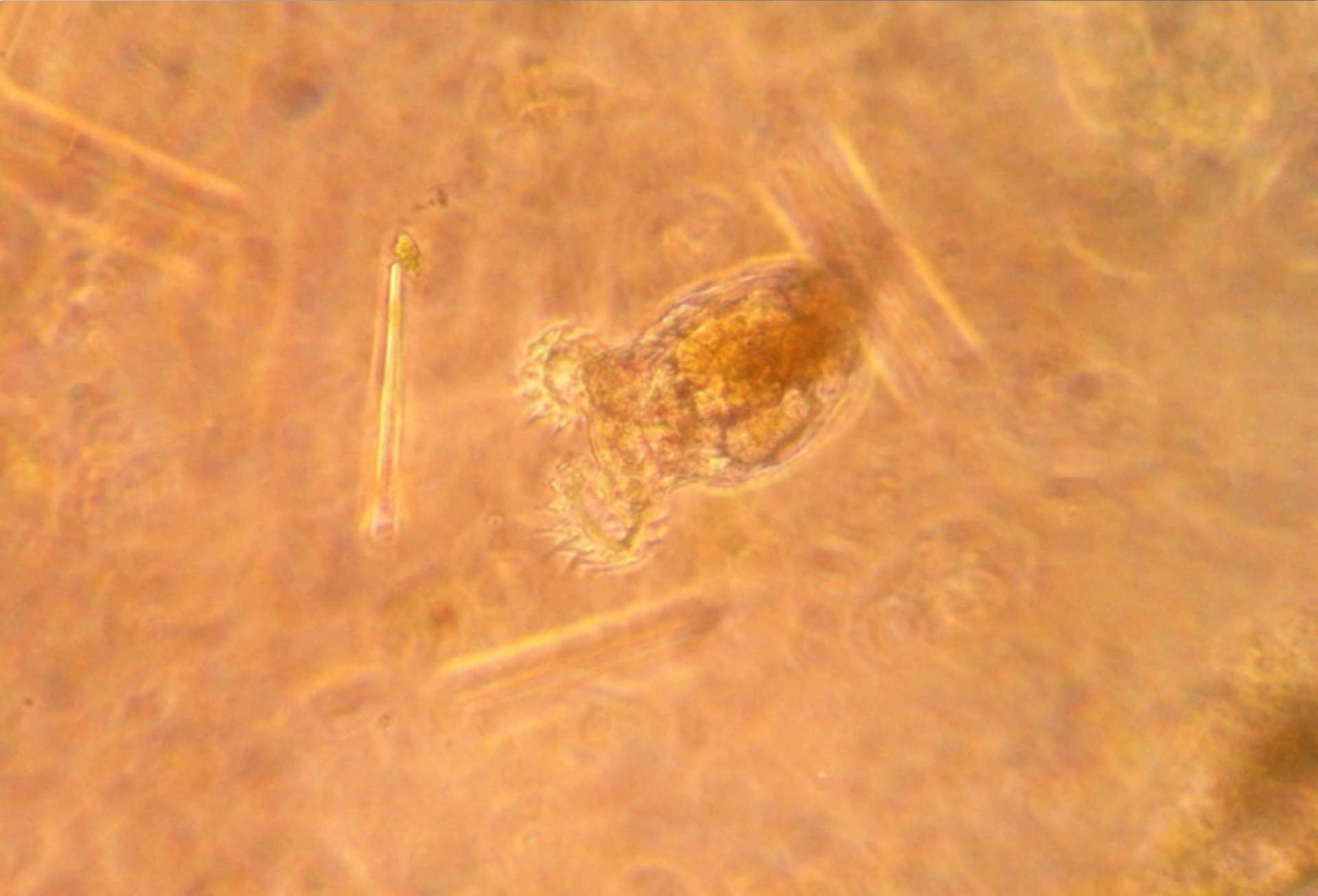
Laboratory of Biomolecular Research

Switzerland

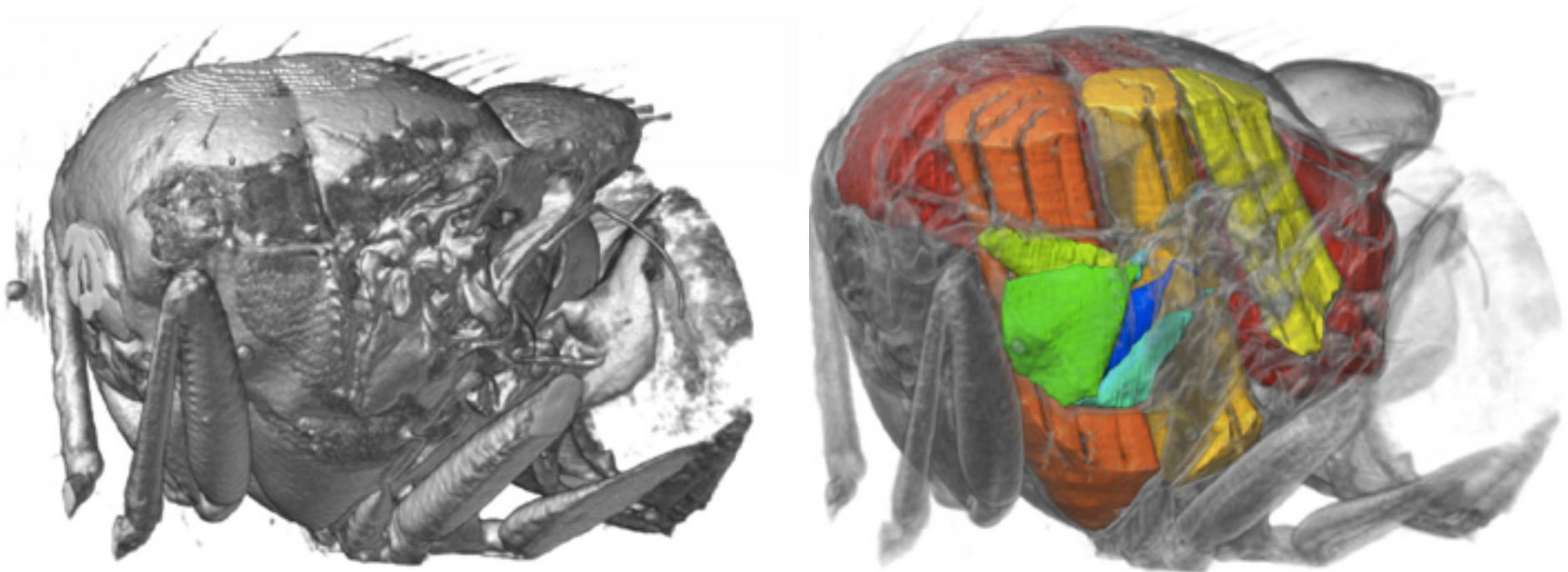




Biology is **Dynamic** and has **many Time Domains**



# Dynamic X-ray tomography of a flying fly



Dynamic image of a Flying insect in real time recorded  
No sectioning no complicated sample manipulation!!



# Time domains in Biology

Evolution million of years

Human life cycle 80 years

Circadian day night rhythm one day

Cell division hours

Enzyme activation milliseconds

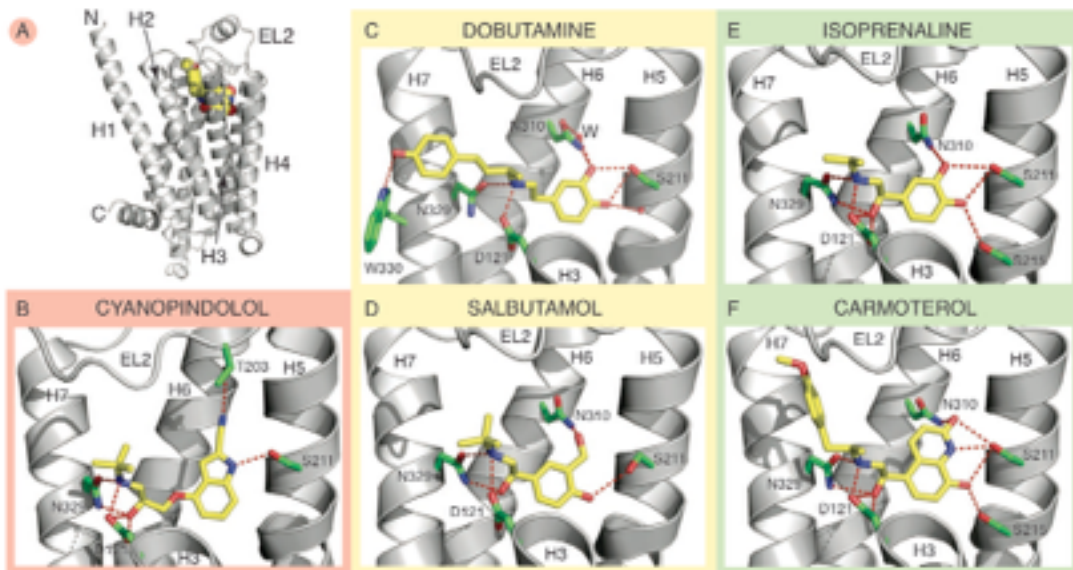
Protein motion conformational change microseconds

Formation of early photoproduct in vision picoseconds

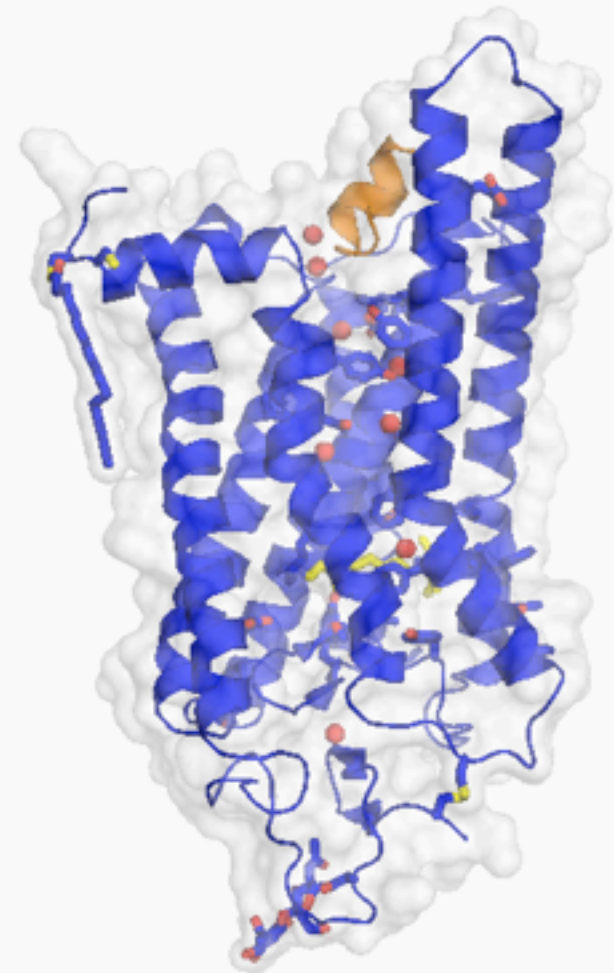
Retinal isomerization femtoseconds

Photon capture, orbital rearrangements attoseconds

## Understanding Drug Action in G-Protein Coupled Receptors: GPCRs



Agonists and Antagonists in  
Adrenergic Receptor  
*Nature* **469**, 241-244 2011




Visual Pigment Rhodopsin  
Fully Active Conformation  
*Nature* **471**, 656-660 2011







- Neutronen Quelle PSI
- Synchrotron PSI
- Swiss FEL PSI
- Protonen Therapie PSI
- Biologie und Chemie Department PSI

**Grossanlagen der Schweiz  
Paul Scherrer Institute  
PSI**

# Membrane proteins are key drug targets

EMBL-EBI  **EB-eye Search**

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- Integr8 News
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- Browse Species
- H.sapiens**
  - Literature
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- Inquisitor status
- BioMart
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- About Integr8
- Publications
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- Genome Reviews 
  - Curated versions of EMBL entries for complete genome sequences
- IPI 
  - A top-level guide to the main databases that describing higher eukaryotic proteomes

EBI > Databases > Integr8

**Integr8 : Proteome analysis:**

Search for species   Search for gene/protein  in

Selected species **H.sapiens** [Change scope](#)

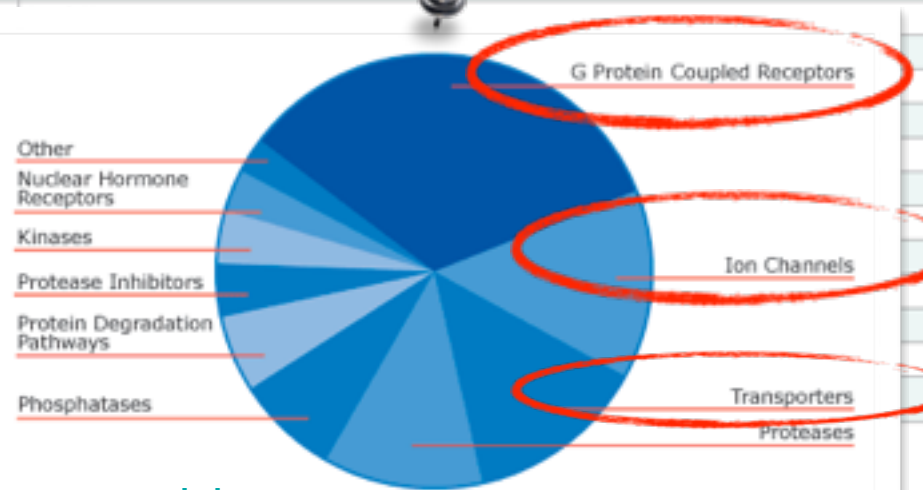
InterPro Comparative CluStr GO Structure

Select analysis:

**15 most common families for H.sapiens**

InterPro	Proteins matched	Name
IPR000276	<a href="#">848</a>	GPCR, rhodopsin-like
IPR017452	<a href="#">842</a>	GPCR, rhodopsin-like superfamily
IPR000725	<a href="#">532</a>	Olfactory receptor
IPR001806	<a href="#">169</a>	
IPR013753	<a href="#">127</a>	
IPR007114	<a href="#">105</a>	
IPR001664	<a href="#">88</a>	
IPR011701	<a href="#">86</a>	
IPR001128	<a href="#">76</a>	
IPR000832	<a href="#">69</a>	
IPR002494	<a href="#">64</a>	
IPR002198	<a href="#">64</a>	
IPR003579	<a href="#">63</a>	
IPR004000	<a href="#">59</a>	
IPR001993	<a href="#">59</a>	

**InterPro**



Other

Nuclear Hormone Receptors

Kinases

Protease Inhibitors

Protein Degradation Pathways

Phosphatases

G Protein Coupled Receptors

Ion Channels

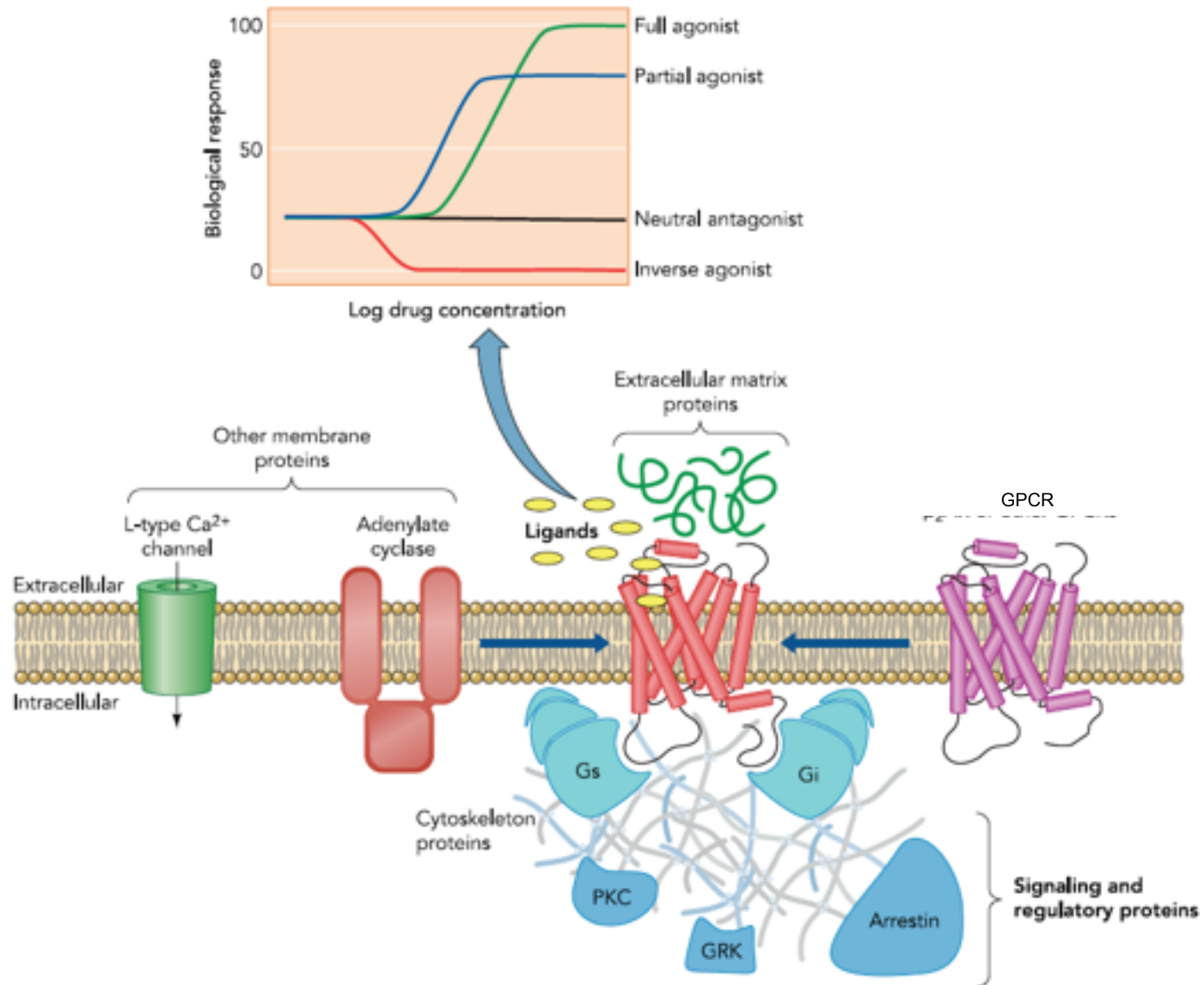
Transporters

Proteases

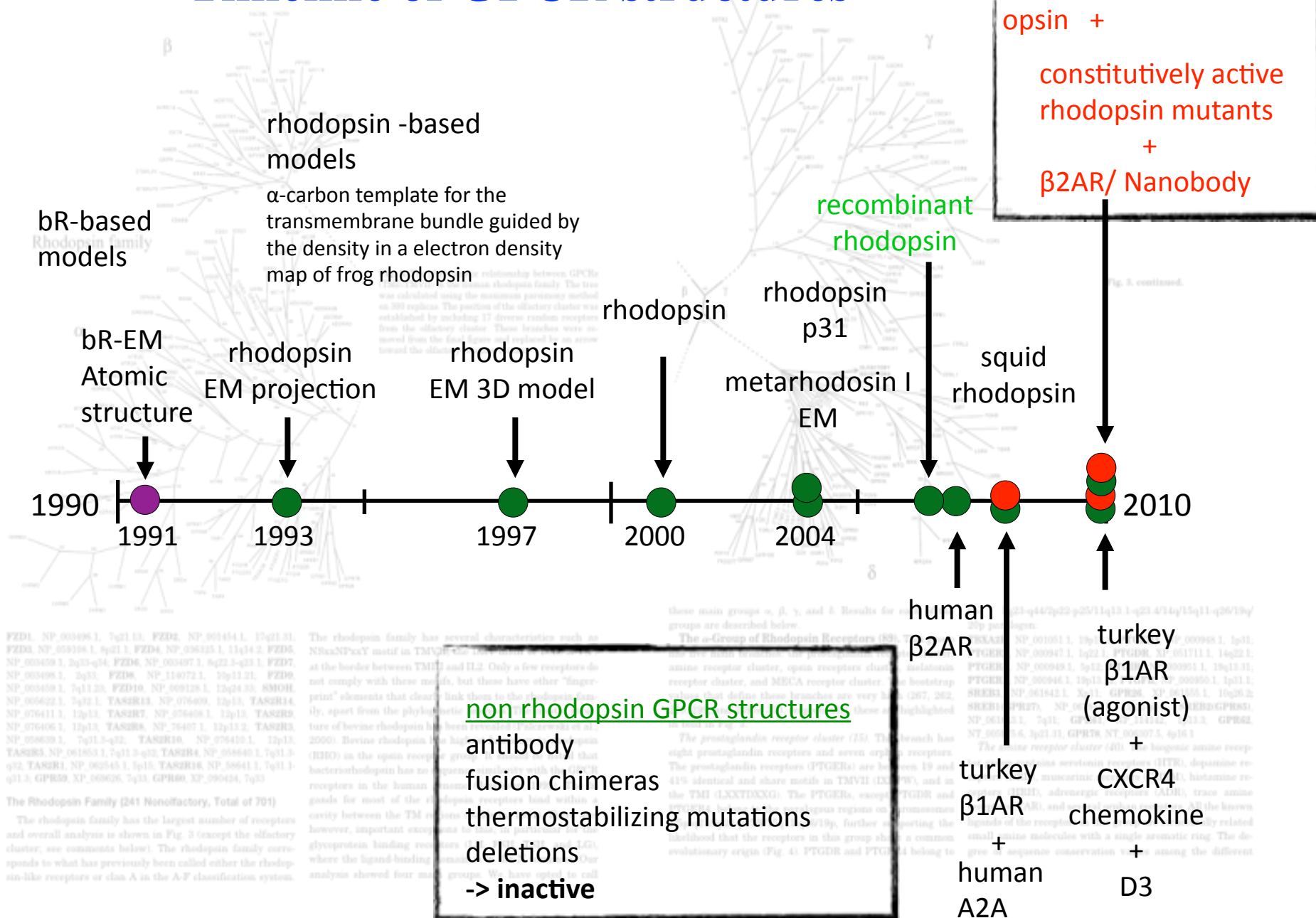
[www.deltagen.com](http://www.deltagen.com)



# G-Protein Coupled Receptors GPCRs

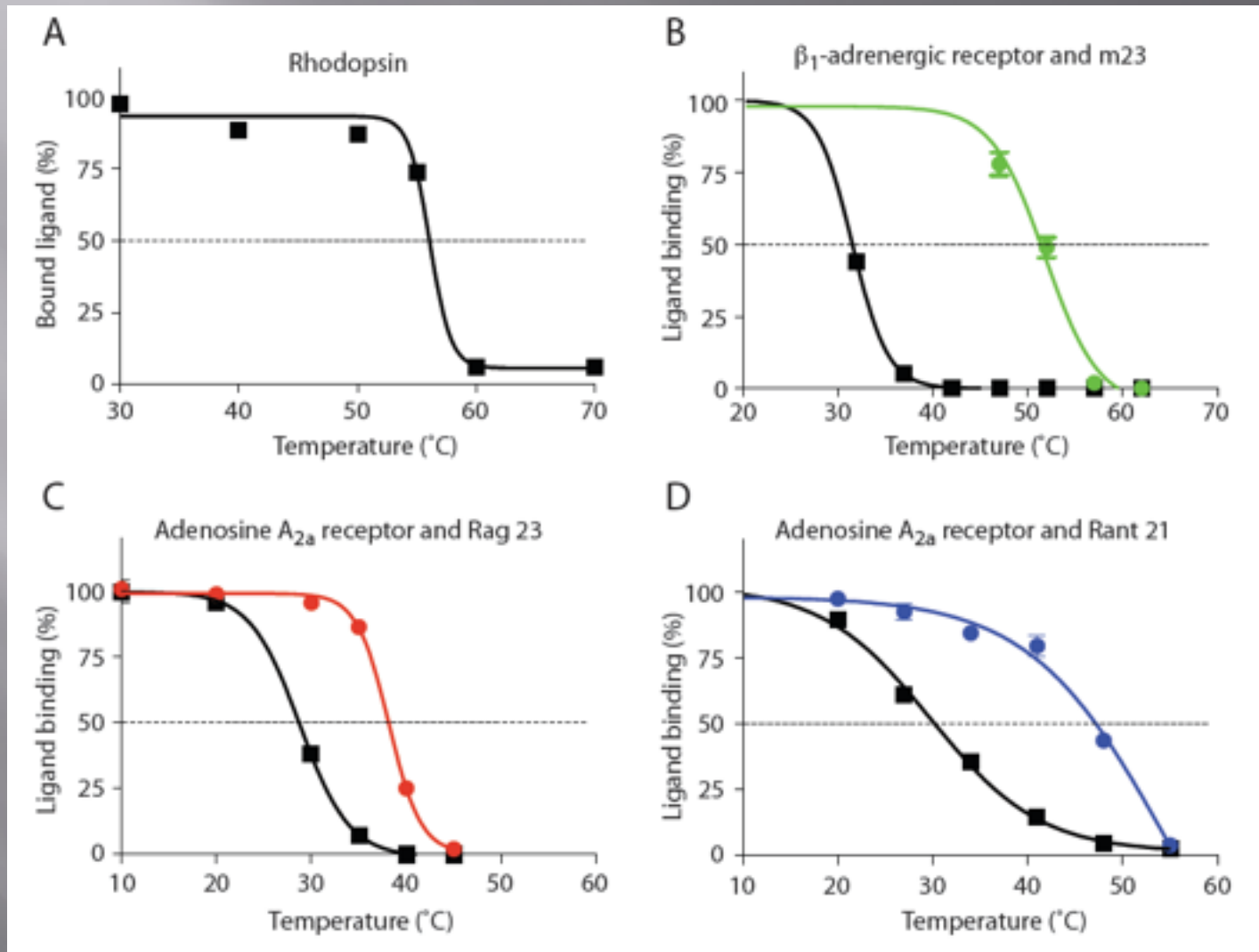


# Timeline of GPCR structures

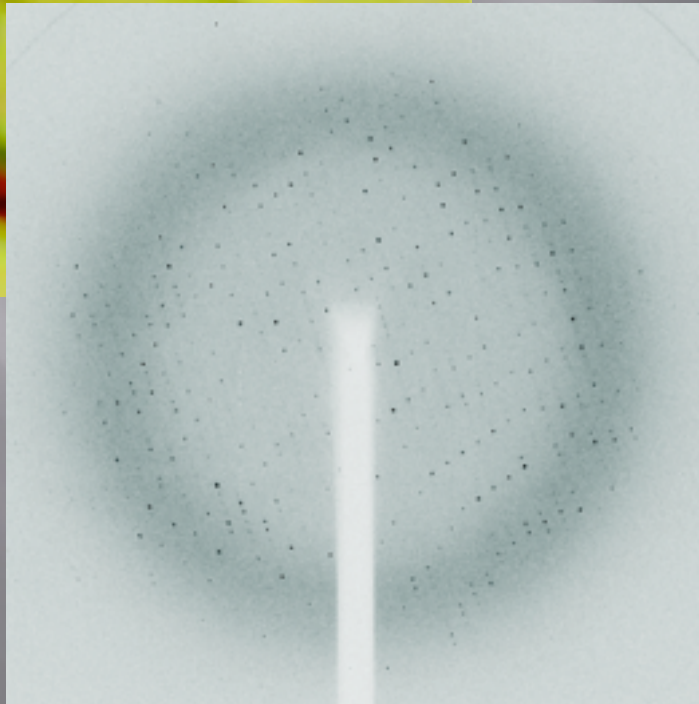
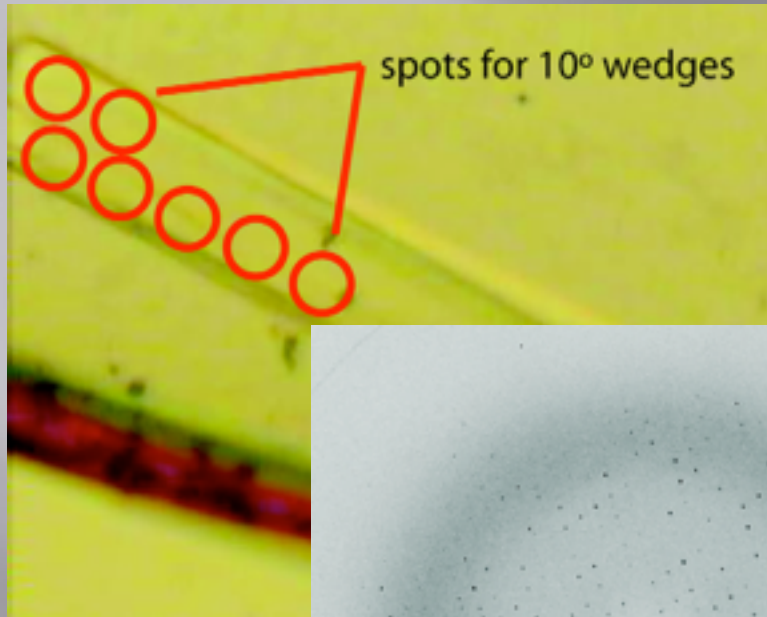




# Receptor can be stabilised in a ground state and active conformations



# Micro crystallography data collection beta 1 adrenergic receptor



Relatively long exposures

Narrow wedges ( $10^\circ$ )

$1^\circ$  oscillations

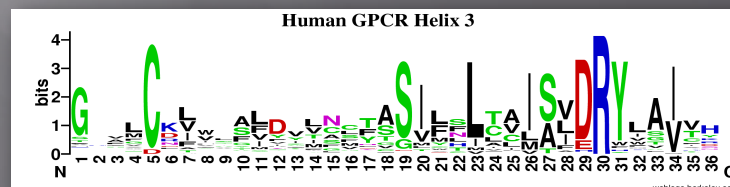
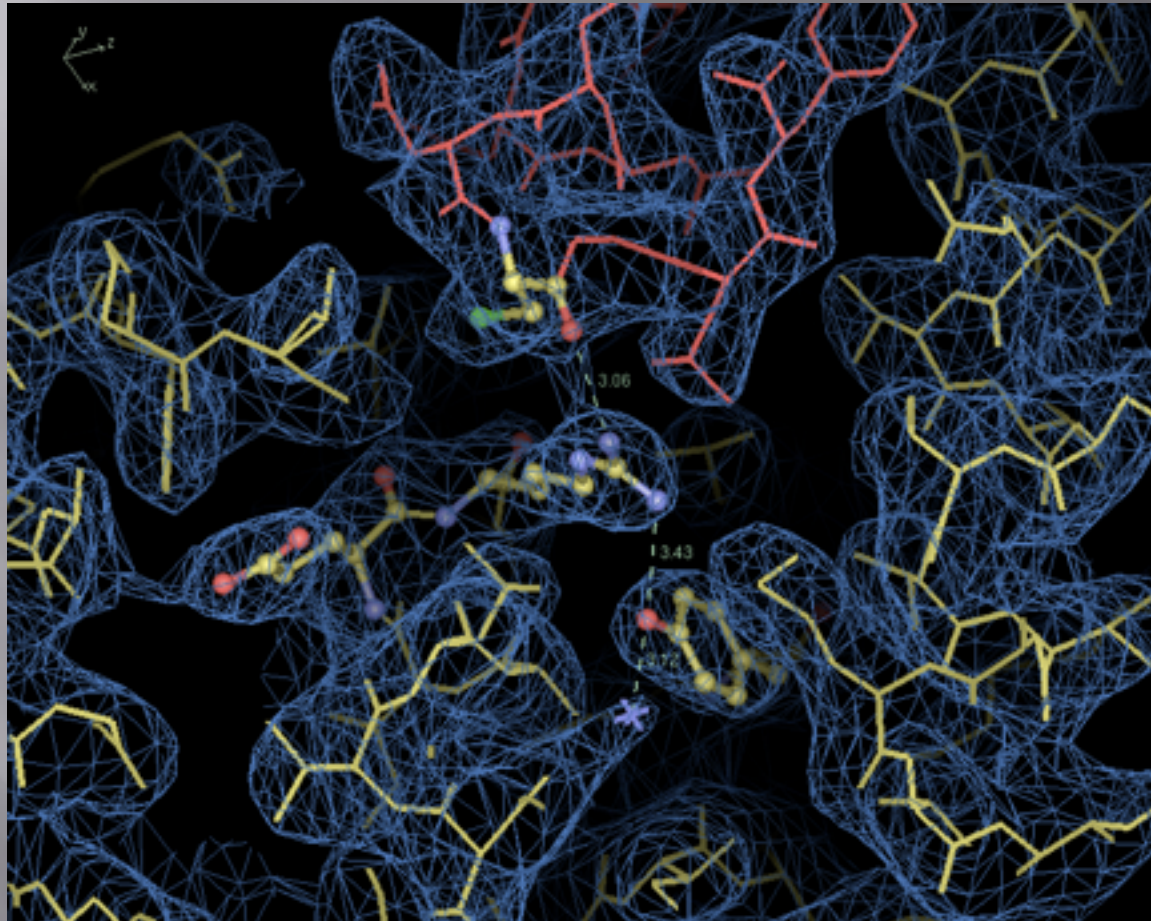
Recording from good  
positions only

At least 18 wedges ( $180^\circ$  of data  
for 100% completeness due to  
monoclinic space group)

Diffraction quality over crystal  
very variable !!



# Extended Arginine Rotamer Stabilised by Conserved Tyrosine in Helix 5

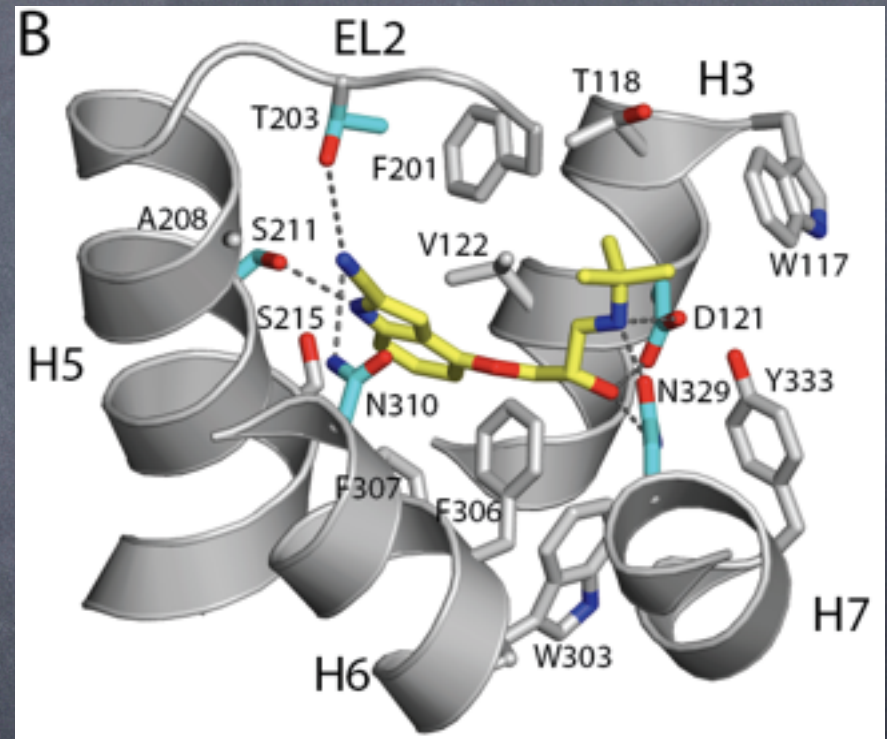
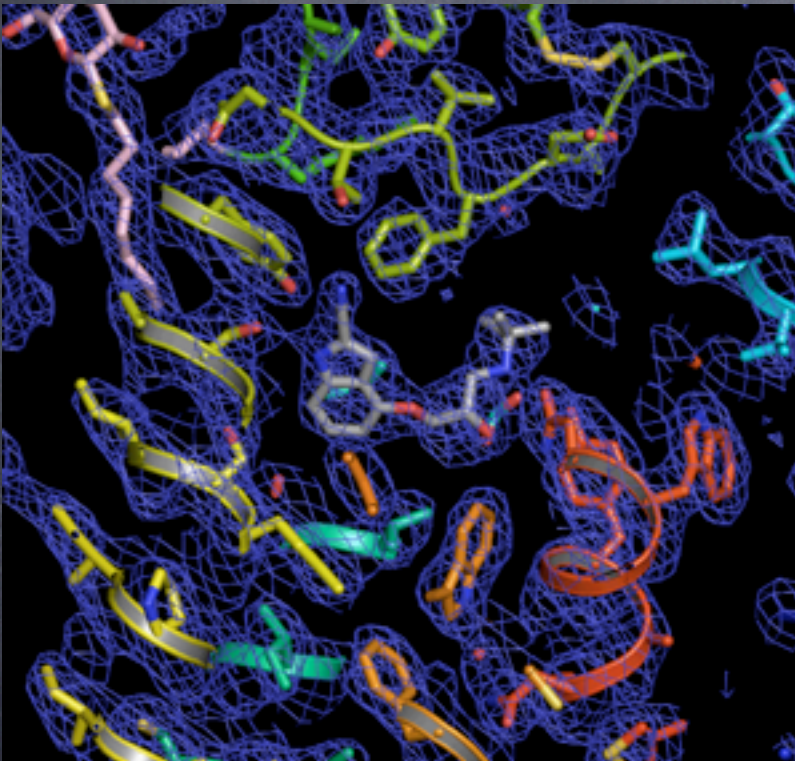


E 113Q Standfuss, Oprian and Schertler Nature 2011



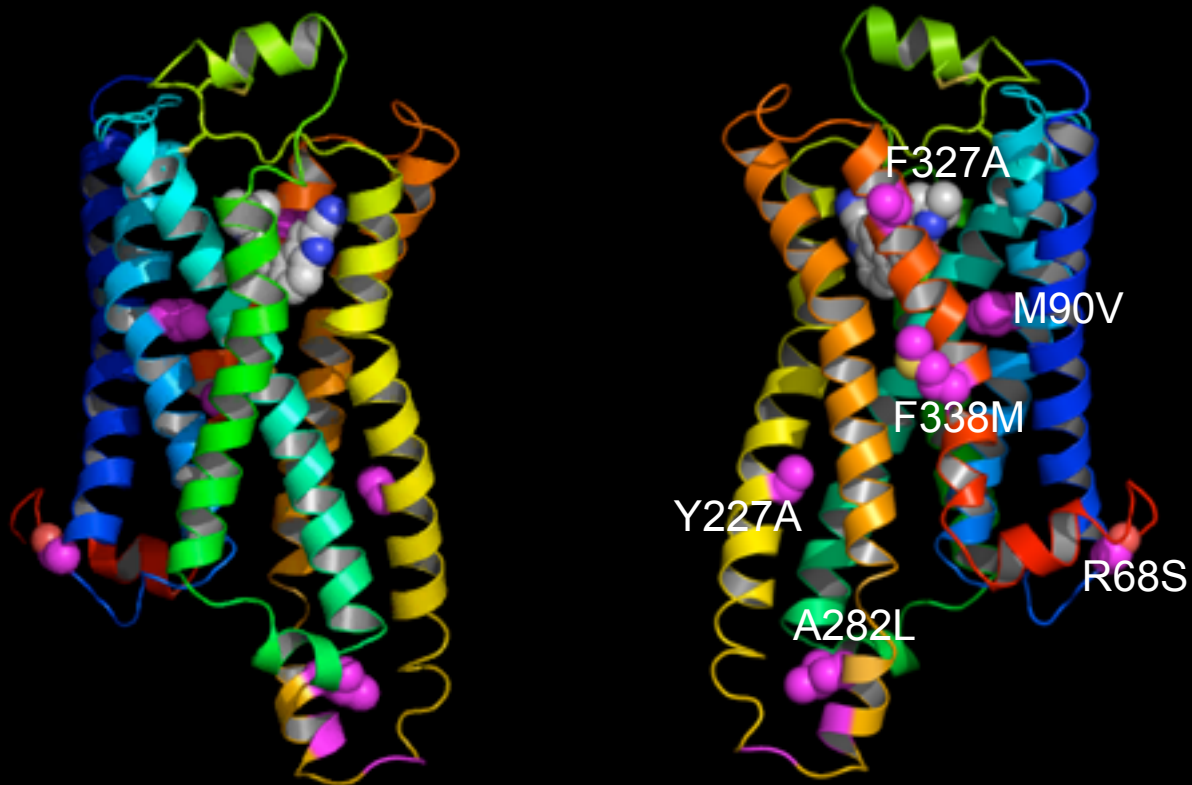
How does a ligand bind to a GPCR?

Structure of stabilized beta 1 adrenergic receptor

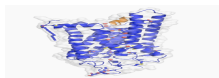


Warene, Tate and Schertler Nature 2008

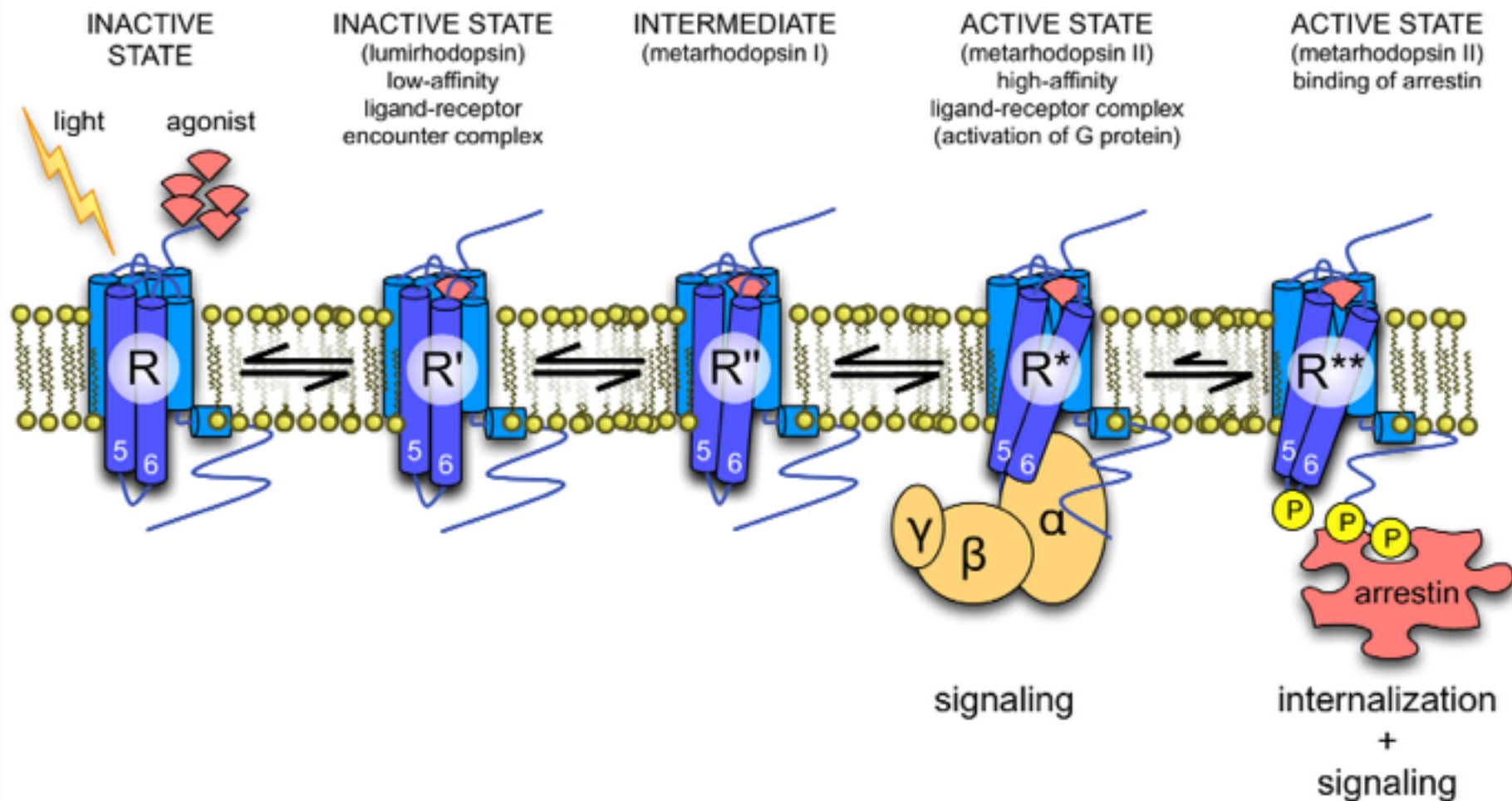
# Beta1 Adrenergic Receptor C3 deletions and stabilising mutations



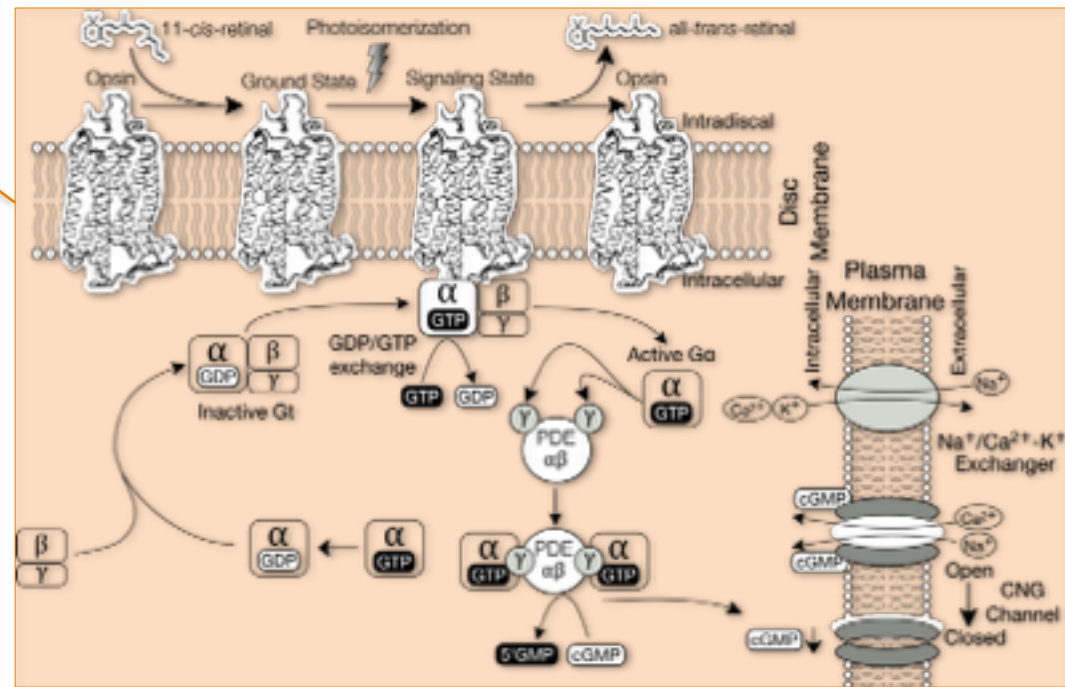
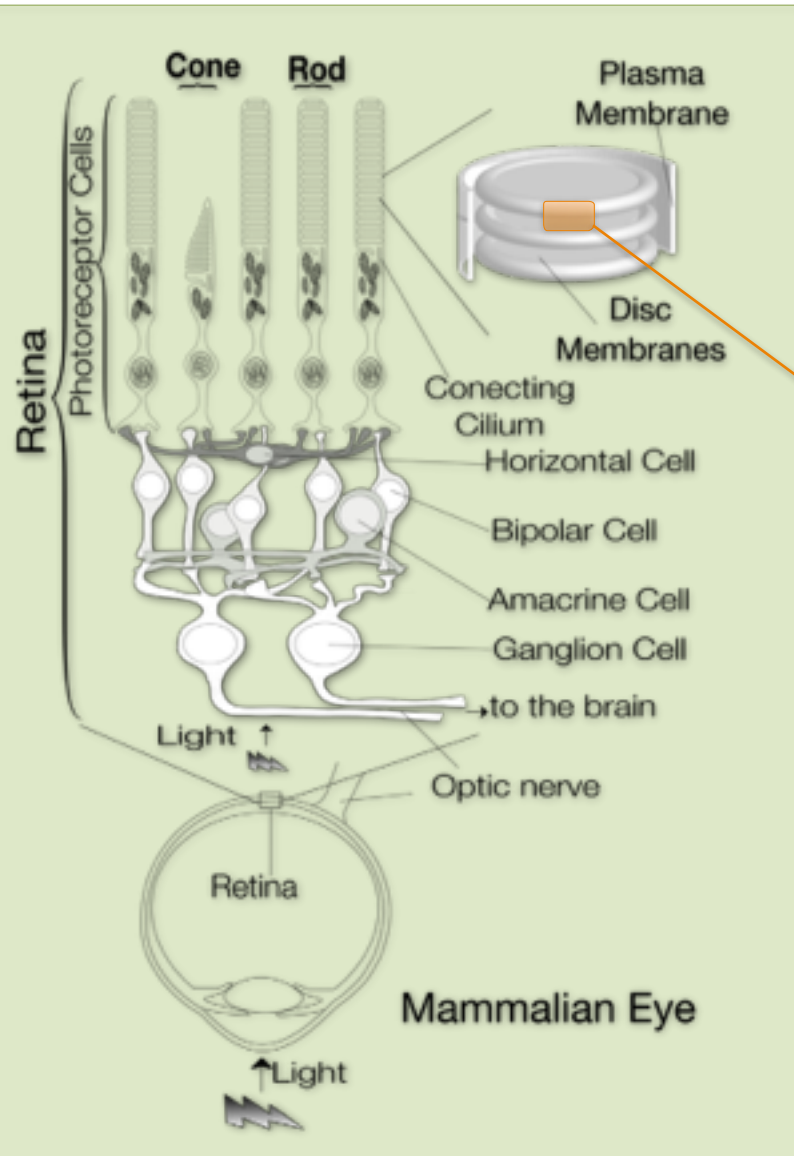




# A framework for G Protein Coupled Receptor signaling

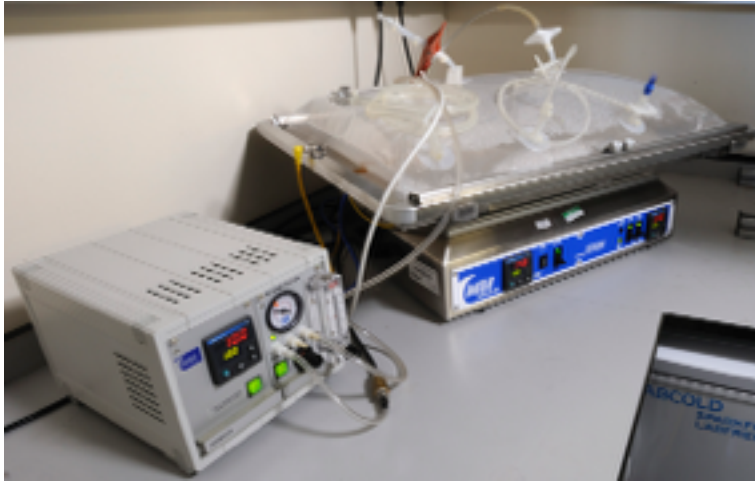


# Mammalian visual system

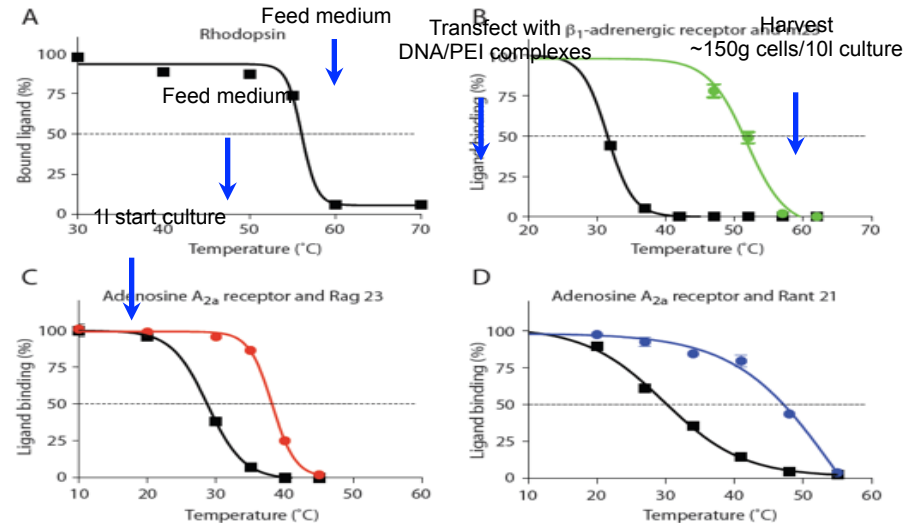


# Large scale expression using HEK293 cells in a wave bag bioreactor

## Wave bag bioreactor



## Growth curve



## Effect of GnTII<sup>-</sup> cells

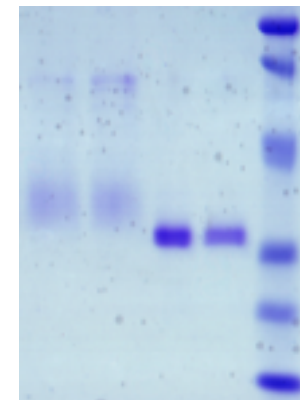
Typical yields from 10l suspension culture:

Transient transfection:

4-5 mg

Stable Tetracycline inducible cell line:

7-8 mg



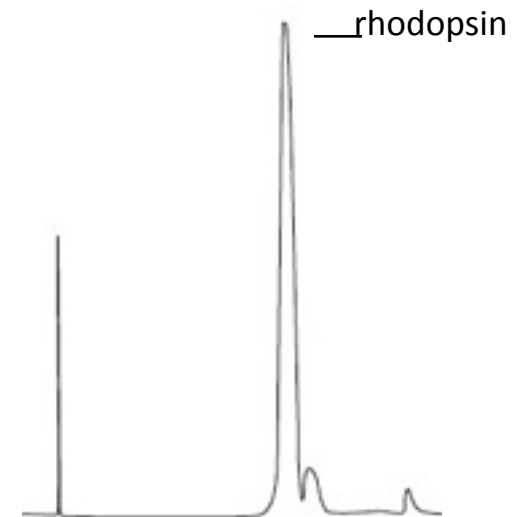
Free Style    GnTII<sup>-</sup>



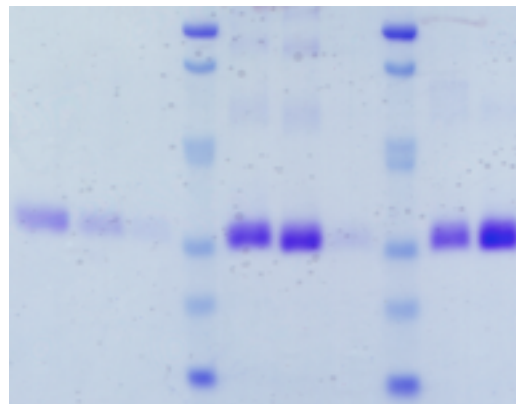
# Purification of recombinant rhodopsin

- Expression in HEK293 GnTI- cells
- Solubilization of cell membranes
- Immuno affinity purification and reconstitution with retinal
- Gelfiltration to exchange detergent and remove residual retinal

## Elution profile



## SDS-PAGE

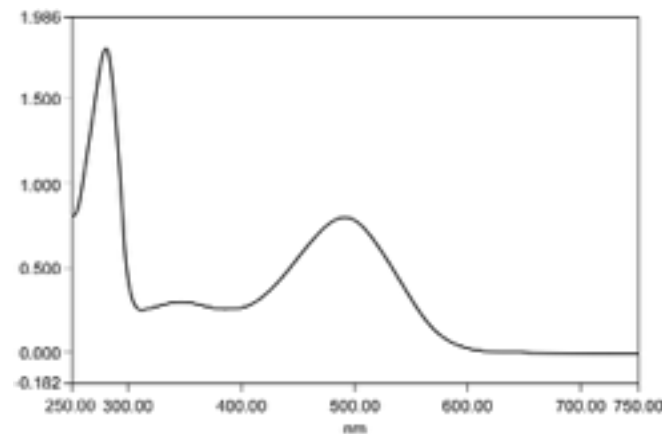


1D4

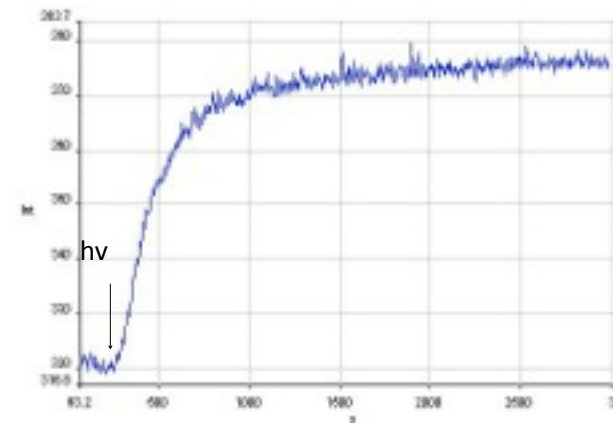
GF

Conc

## UV/Vis Spectrum



## G protein activation



## First structure of a recombinant GPCR



**Opsin stabilising disulphide bond fixes  
the N-terminal Cap over the Lid**

Standfuss et al JMB 2007

# The constitutively active mutantS M257Y and E113Q

	Opsin (%)	<i>all-trans</i>	11- <i>cis</i> /light
Wt	1	14	100
M257L	1	17	112
M257A	10	112	102
E113A	21	58	100
M257N	23	93	72
E113Q	23	111	97
<b>M257Y</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>101</b>

Strongest known constitutively active single mutations

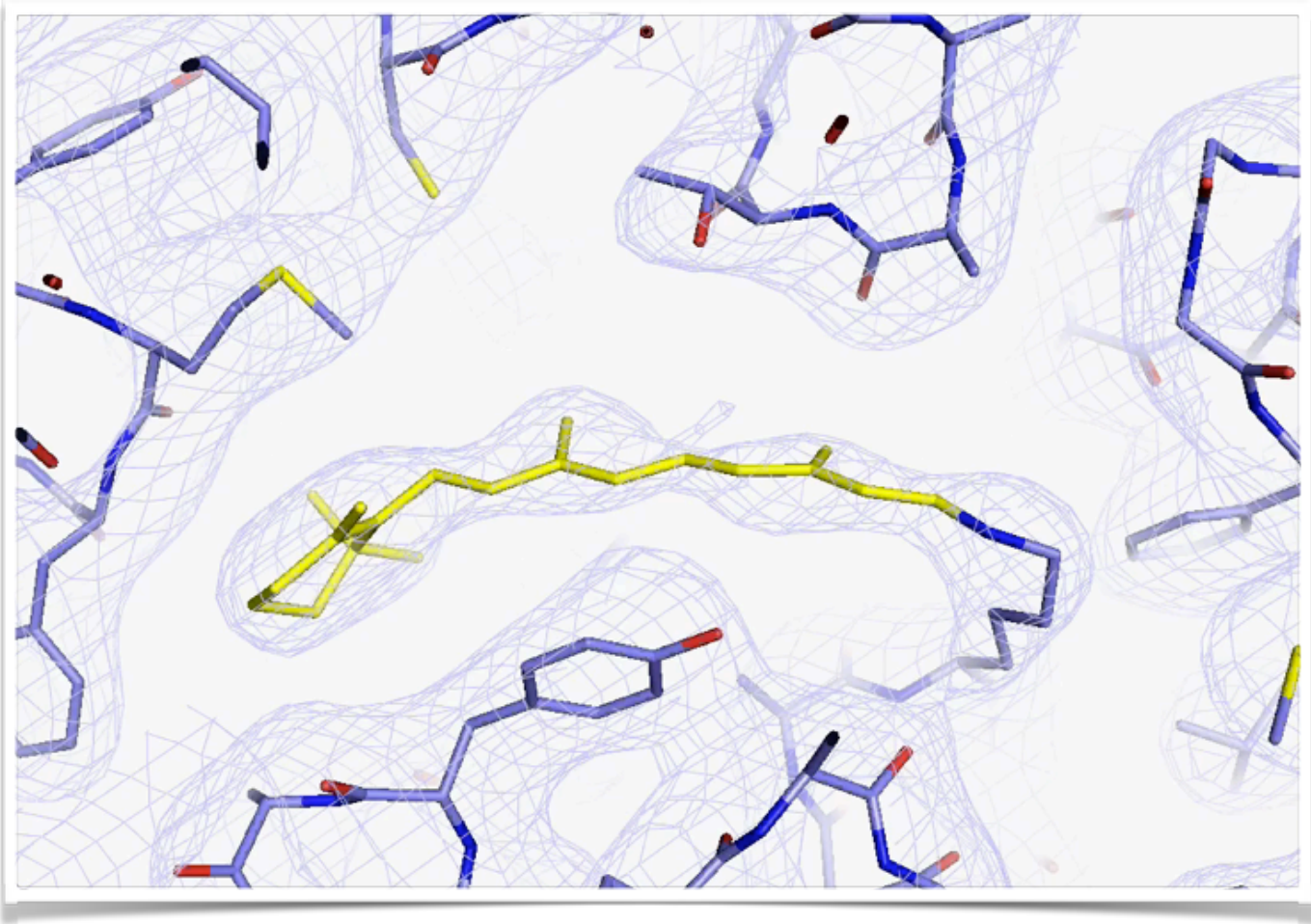
E113Q Removes the counterion and restraining salt bridge

**M257Y** Modifies the hydrophobic barrier between the retinal binding site and the ionic lock region

Activation data taken from Han & Sakmar, 2000



**M257Y rhodopsin contains all-*trans* retinal covalently bound as in active Rhodopsin: Meta-rhodopsin II**



Deupi et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 2012

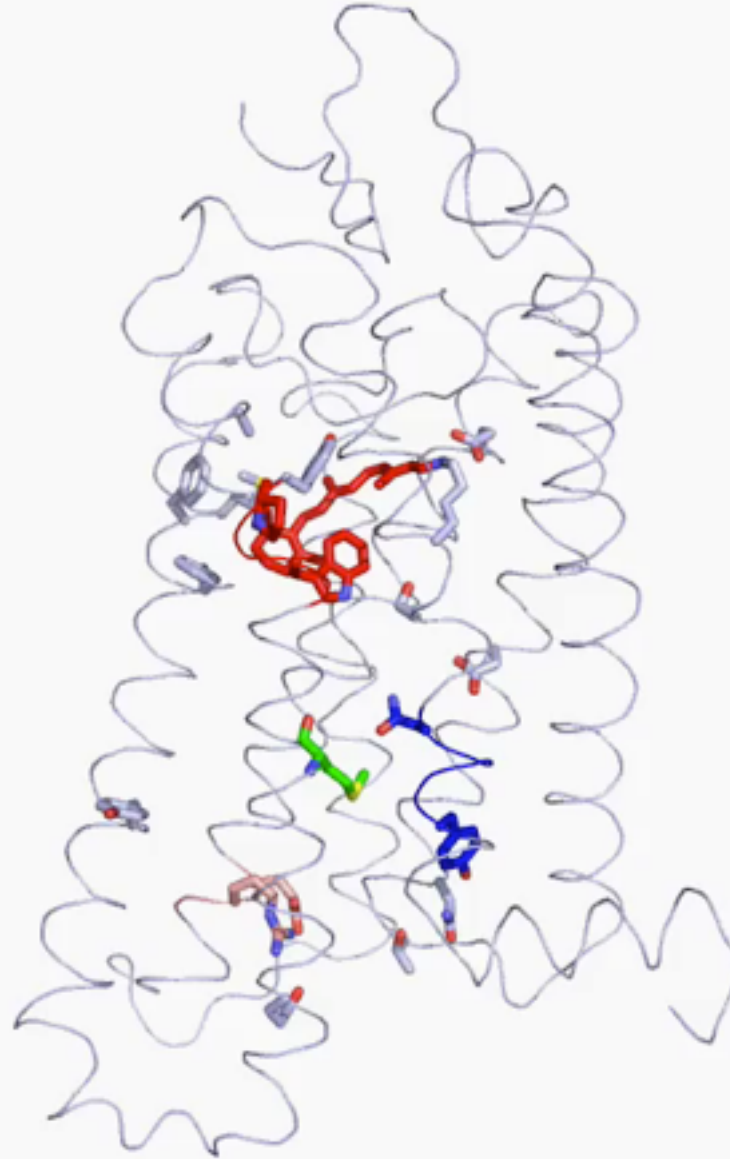
# GPCR Activation: Rhodopsin

Retinal  
and  
CWxP

NPxxY

E(D)RY

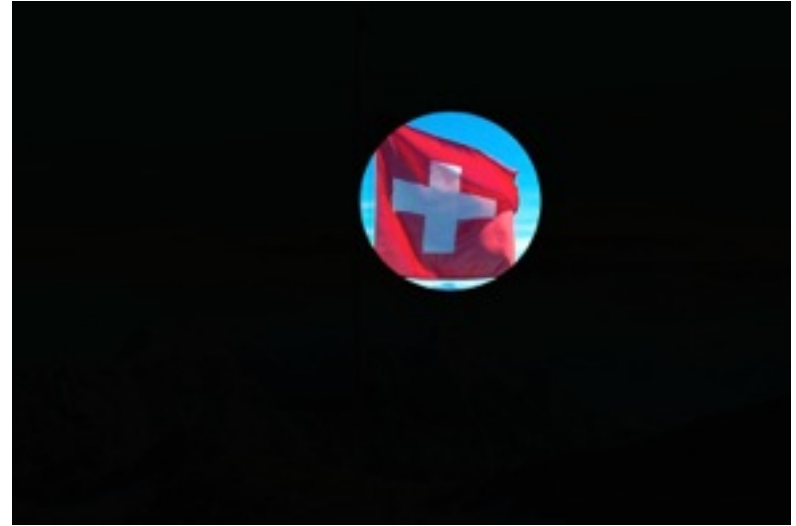
GαCT



## Normal Vision



## Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP)



**Retinitis pigmentosa (RP) is a hereditary disease leading to initial night blindness with slow progression towards complete loss of sight**

- Occurrence 1:4000 at birth
- Rho gene disease origin for 25% of RP patients
- 90% of mutations are misfolding mutations
- Four mutations result in a non-progressive night blindness phenotype (CSNB)
- Oral application of small molecules (Vitamin A palmitate, Safranal) reduces retina degeneration in mice and human RP patients

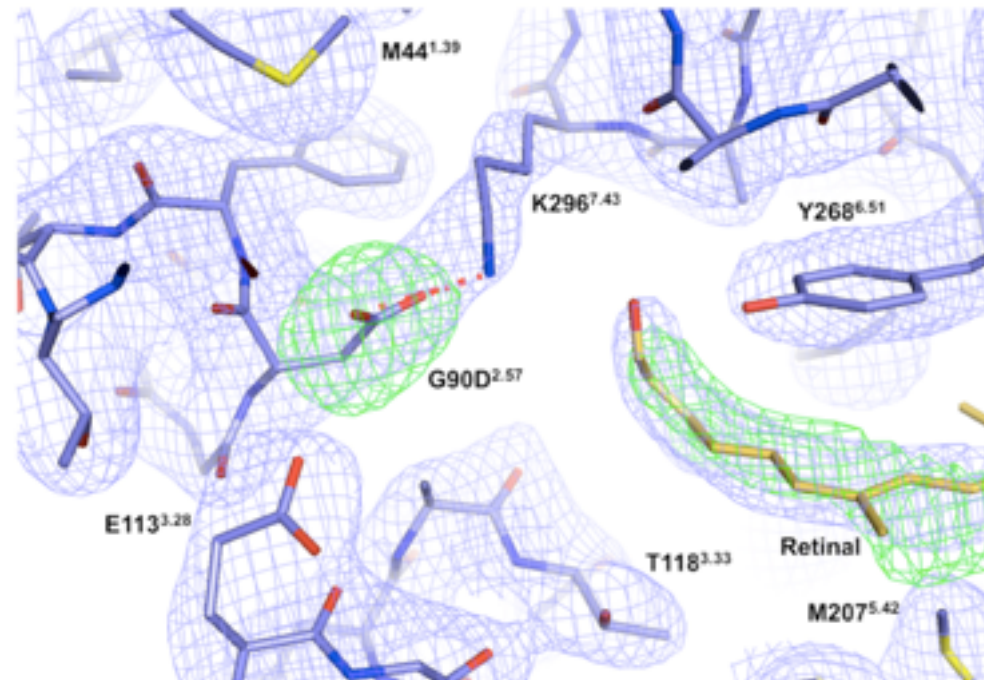
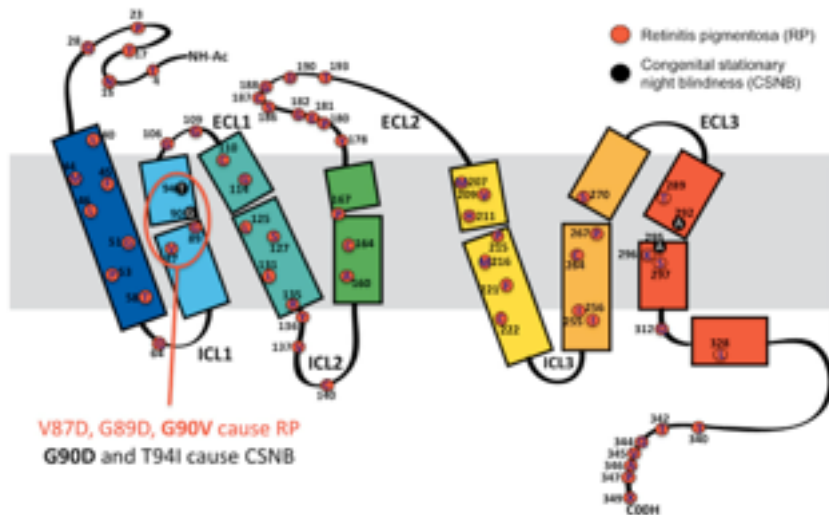




Ankita Singhal

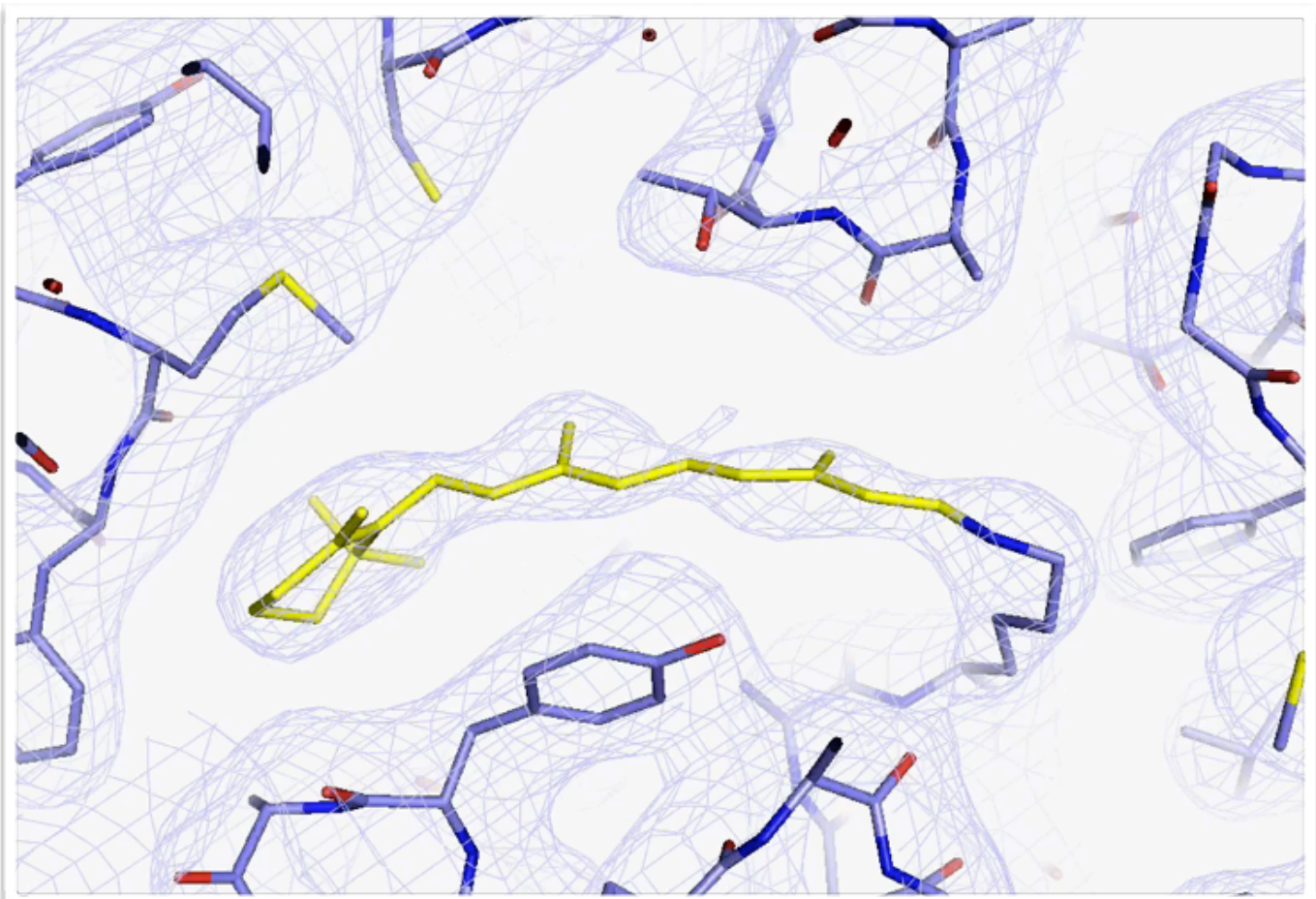
# Insights into congenital stationary night blindness based on the structure of active G90D rhodopsin

Ankita Singhal<sup>1</sup>, Martin K. Ostermaier<sup>1</sup>, Sergey A. Vishnivetskiy<sup>2</sup>, Valérie Panneels<sup>1</sup>, Kristoff T. Homan<sup>3</sup>, John J. G. Tesmer<sup>3</sup>, Dmitry Veprintsev<sup>1</sup>, Xavier Deupi<sup>1,4</sup>, Vsevolod V. Gurevich<sup>2</sup>, Gebhard F.X. Schertler<sup>1,5</sup> and Joerg Standfuss<sup>1,\*</sup>



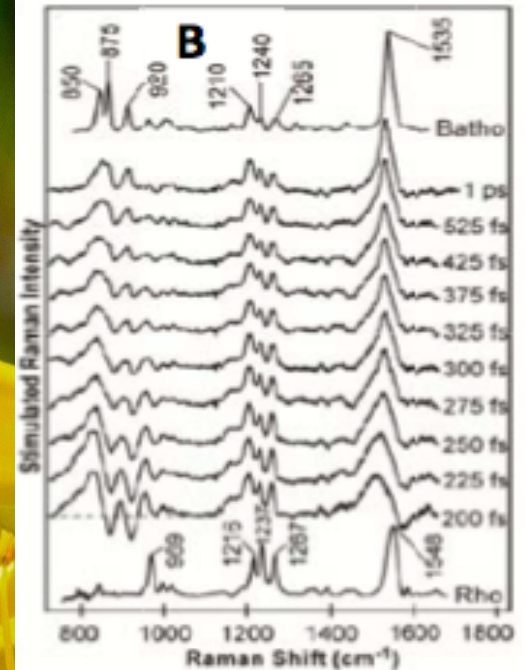
Singhal *et al.*, *EMBO Rep.* 2013

# ACTIVE GPCR WITH AGONIST



Deupi et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 2012

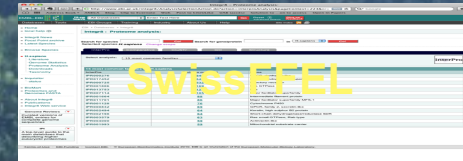
# The catalytic step in vision



- The quantum yield and stereo selectivity
- is decided in **200 femtoseconds!!!**

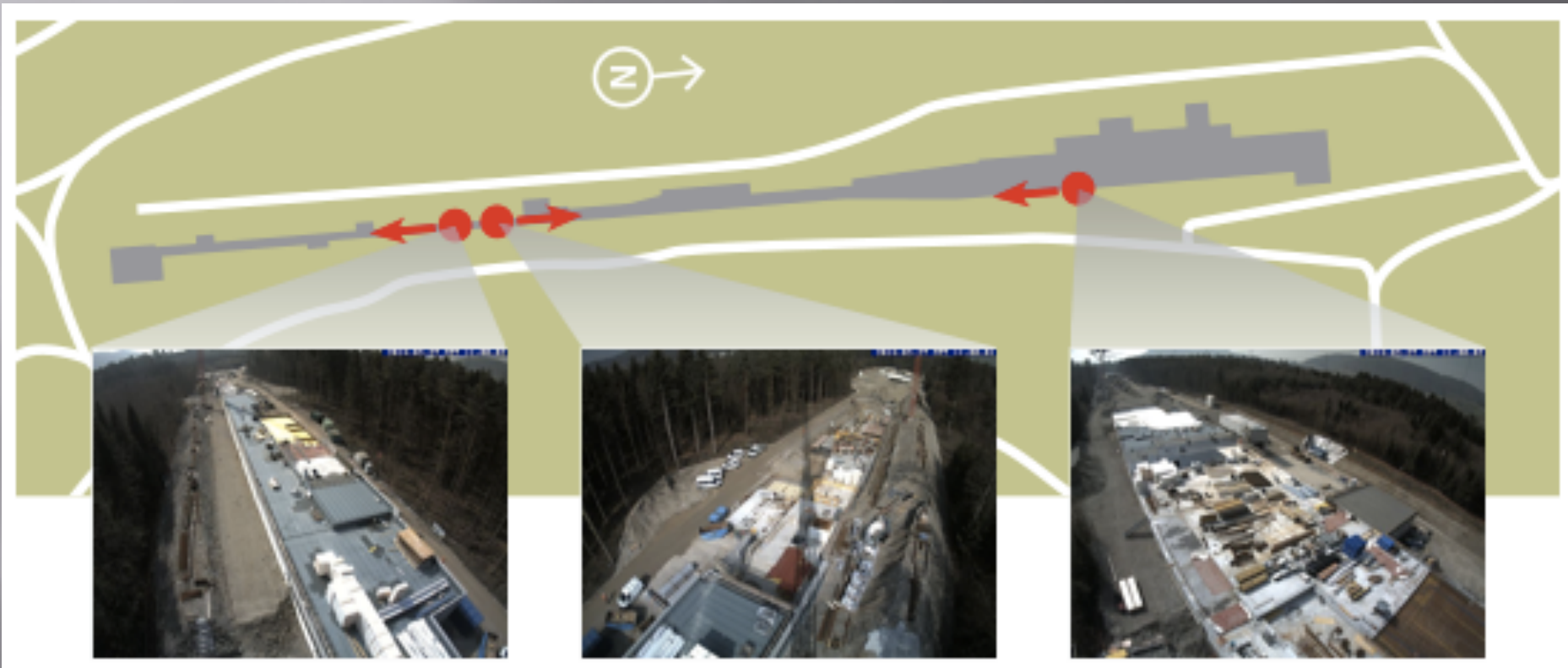


- Neutronen Quelle PSI
- Synchrotron PSI
- Swiss FEL PSI
- Protonen Therapie PSI
- Biologie und Chemie Department PSI



Grossanlagen der Schweiz  
Paul Scherrer Institute  
PSI

# SwissFEL under construction





# The development of X-ray sources



## *X-Ray Source Milestones*

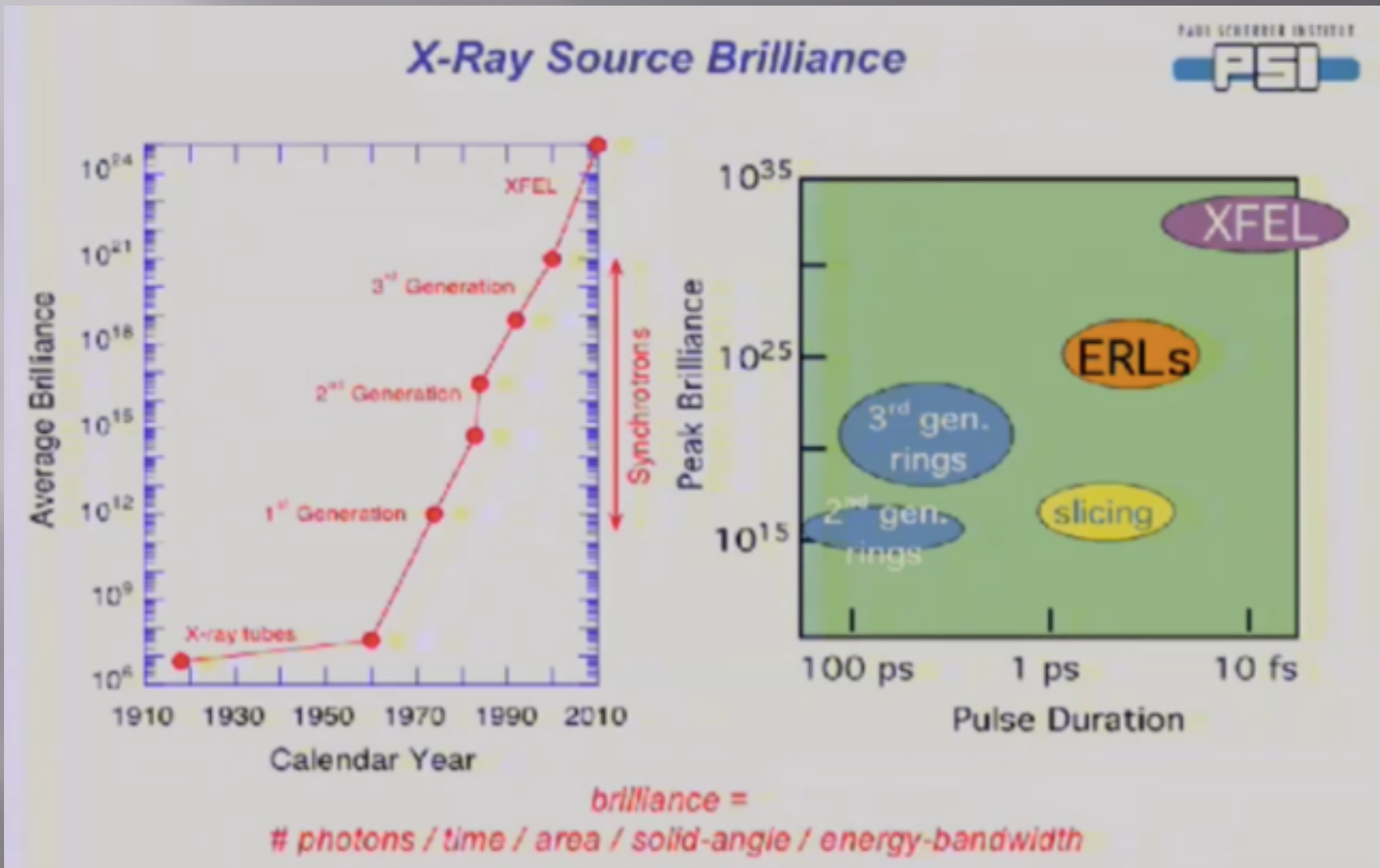
1895	Röntgen (Würzburg)
1953	Rotating-anode (Rigaku)
1947	Synchrotron radiation (GE)
1961	1 <sup>st</sup> generation synchrotron (NBS) - parasitic
1981	2 <sup>nd</sup> gen. (Daresbury) - dedicated to SR
1984	3 <sup>rd</sup> gen. (Grenoble) - undulators
2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> + gen. (SLS, Villigen) - high-brightness
2009	4 <sup>th</sup> gen. (Stanford) - X-ray Free Electron Laser



Taken from Bruce Patterson's presentation at EMPA  
on the SwissFEL project



# The development of X-ray sources



Taken from Bruce Patterson's presentation at EMPA  
on the SwissFEL project

## Synchrotron-Light

detailed, but too slow



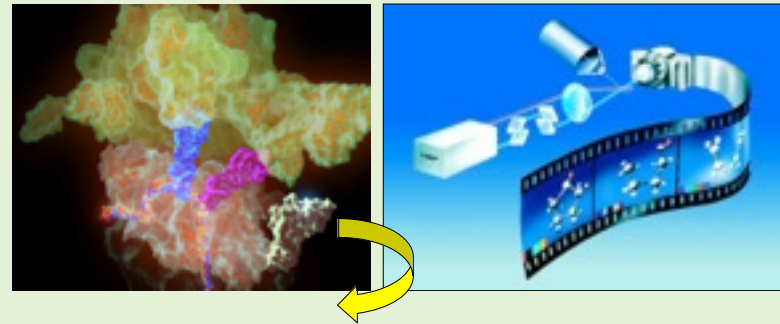
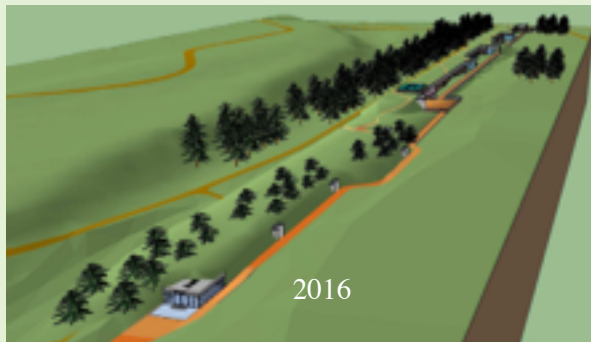
## Optical Laser-Light

very fast, but no spacial detail



## SwissFEL

**detailed** and **fast** and extremely intense

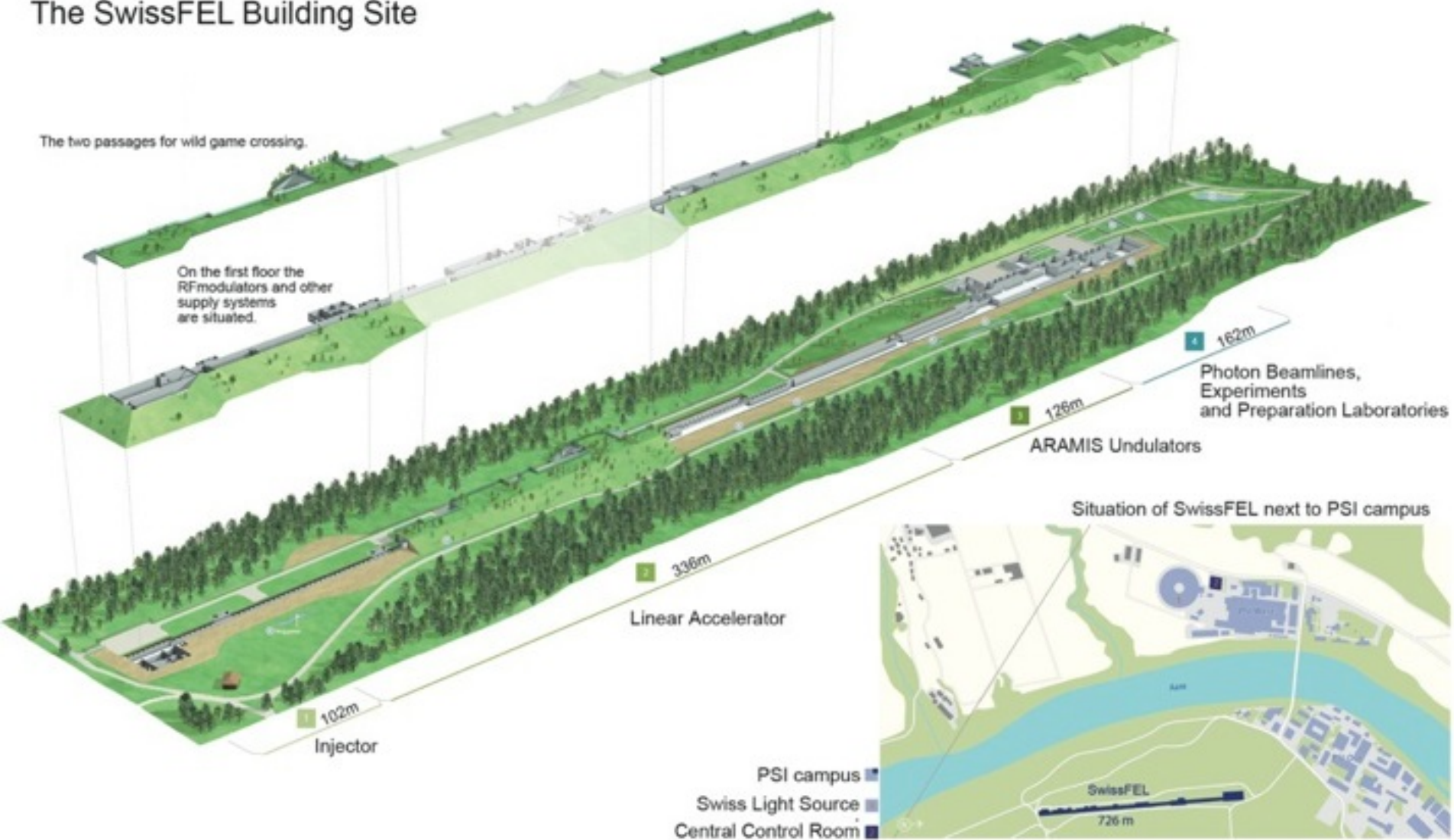


New and dynamic insight into matter:

**With a X-ray video camera**

A free Electron Laser for Switzerland and Science

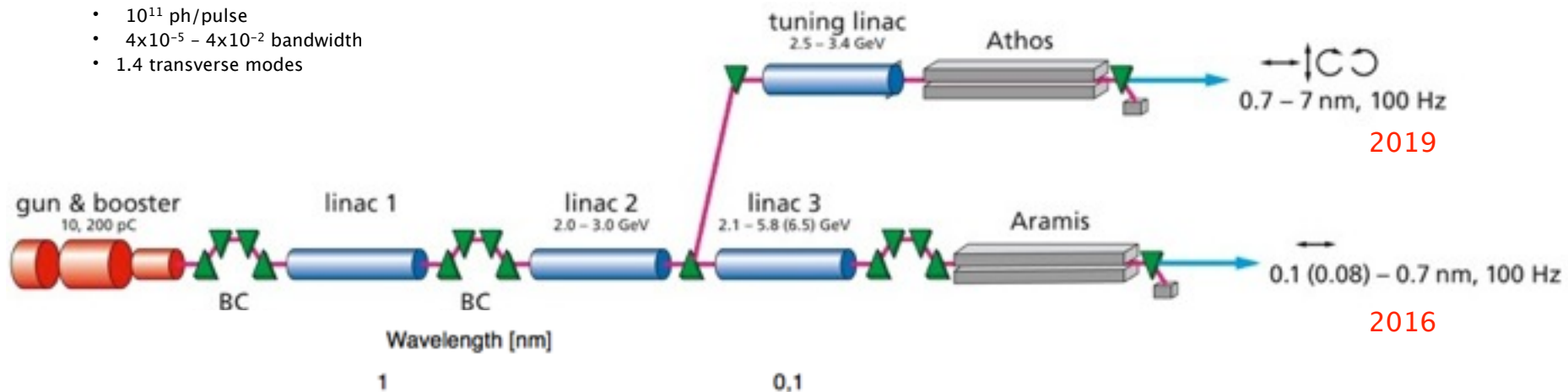
## The SwissFEL Building Site





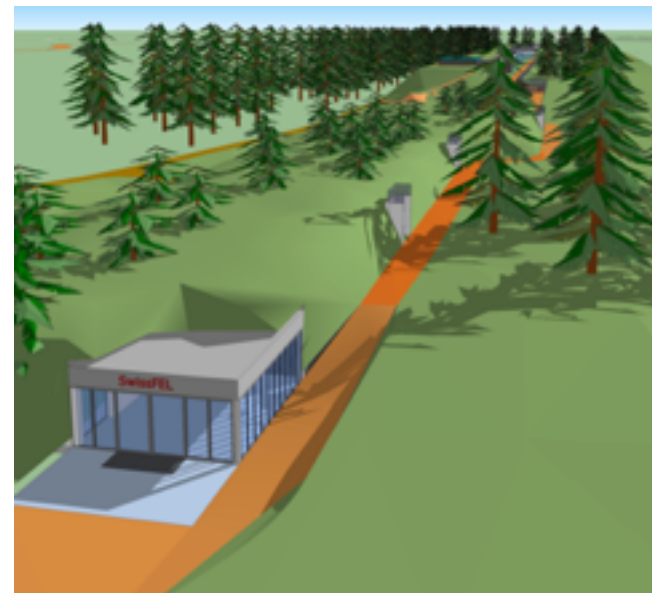
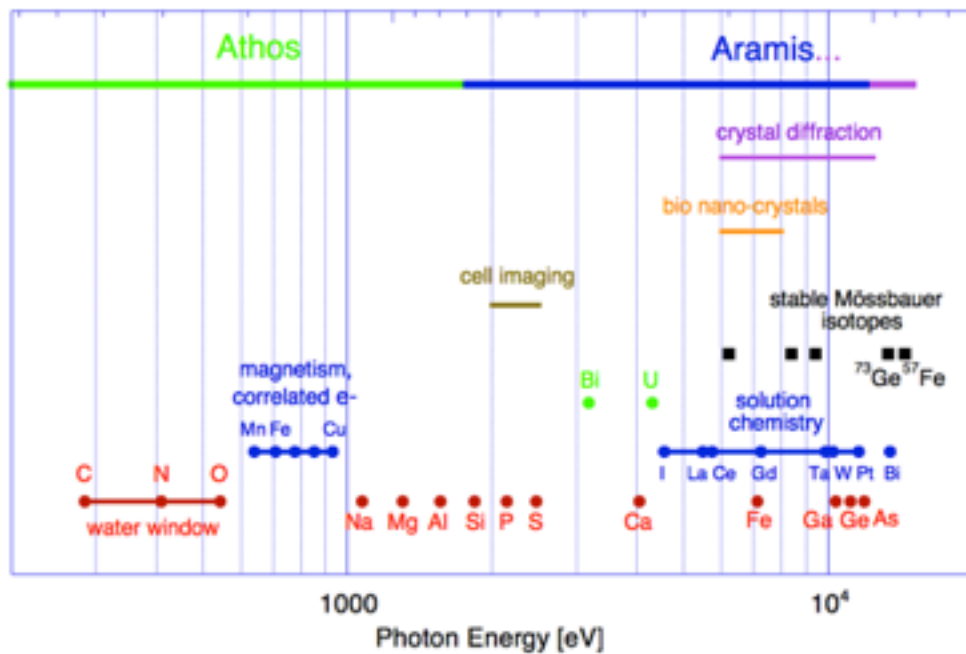
- Methods to look at unique structures on a wide range of length scales and time scales are necessary to obtain a building plan of biological signaling machines!
- Dynamic atomic information not static structure is necessary for understanding the pharmacology of drug targets!
- Understanding catalytic effect of proteins means to observe the changes to the dynamic energetic landscapes introduced by the bound substrate or ligand.
- Quantification of the dynamic mixture of different conformations of Receptors, Channels and Transporters in solution can explain drug action in more precise detail.
- Using the right kind of experiments all these questions can be addressed with the Free Electron Laser SwissFEL in the future.

- 20 fs pulses
- $10^{11}$  ph/pulse
- $4 \times 10^{-5} - 4 \times 10^{-2}$  bandwidth
- 1.4 transverse modes



2019

2016



# Soft X-ray imaging in waterwindow

## 3D Ultrastructural Organization of Whole *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* Cells Studied by Nanoscale Soft X-Ray Tomography

Eric Hummel<sup>1\*</sup>, Peter Guttman<sup>2</sup>, Stephan Werner<sup>2</sup>, Basel Tarek<sup>2</sup>, Gerd Schneider<sup>2</sup>, Michael Kunz<sup>3</sup>, Achilleas S. Frangakis<sup>3</sup>, Benedikt Westermann<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institut für Zellbiologie, Universität Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany, <sup>2</sup>Helmholtz-Zentrum für Materialien und Energie GmbH, Institute for Soft Matter and Functional Materials, Berlin, Germany, <sup>3</sup>Frankfurt Institute for Molecular Life Sciences and Institute of Biophysics, Goethe University Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

### Abstract

The complex architecture of their structural elements and compartments is a hallmark of eukaryotic cells. The creation of high resolution models of whole cells has been limited by the relatively low resolution of conventional light microscopes and the requirement for ultrathin sections in transmission electron microscopy. We used soft x-ray tomography to study the 3D ultrastructural organization of whole cells of the unicellular green alga *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* at unprecedented spatial resolution. Intact frozen hydrated cells were imaged using the natural x-ray absorption contrast of the sample without any staining. We applied different fiducial-based and fiducial-less alignment procedures for the 3D reconstructions. The reconstructed 3D volumes of the cells show features down to 30 nm in size. The whole cell tomograms reveal ultrastructural details such as nuclear envelope membranes, thylakoids, basal apparatus, and flagellar microtubule doublets. In addition, the x-ray tomograms provide quantitative data from the cell architecture. Therefore, nanoscale soft x-ray tomography is a new valuable tool for numerous qualitative and quantitative applications in plant cell biology.

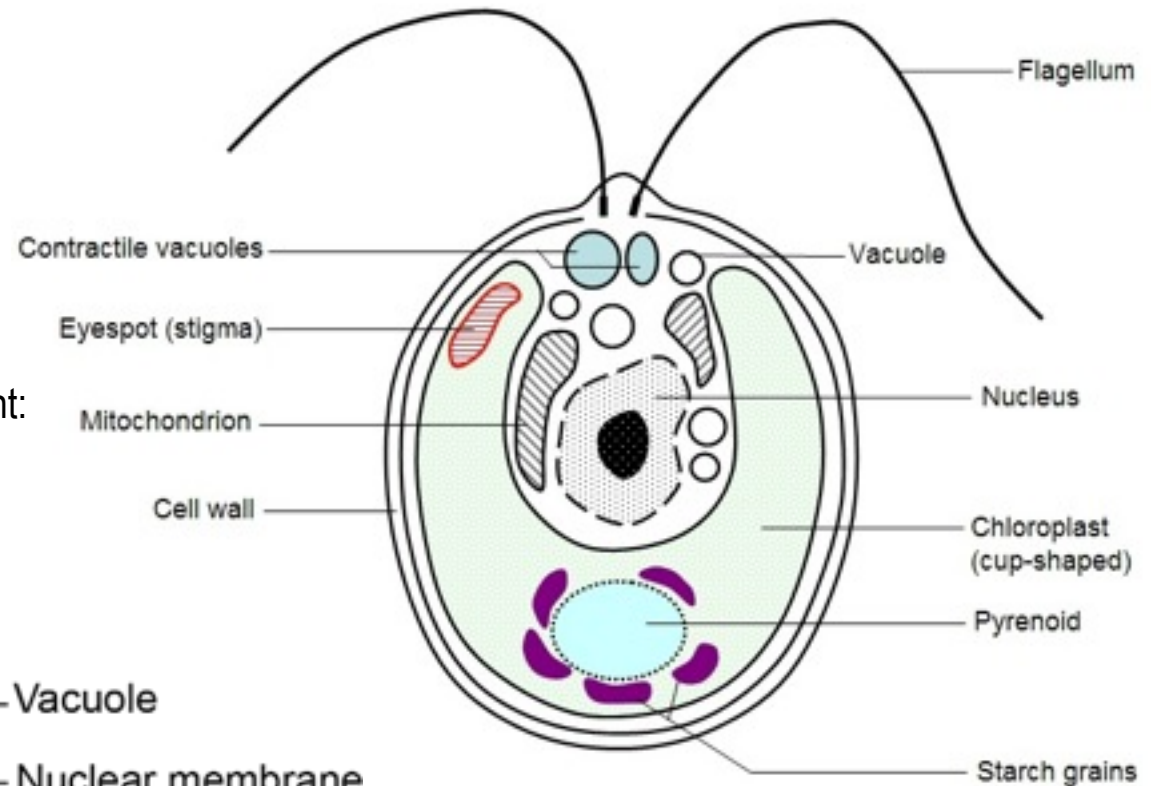
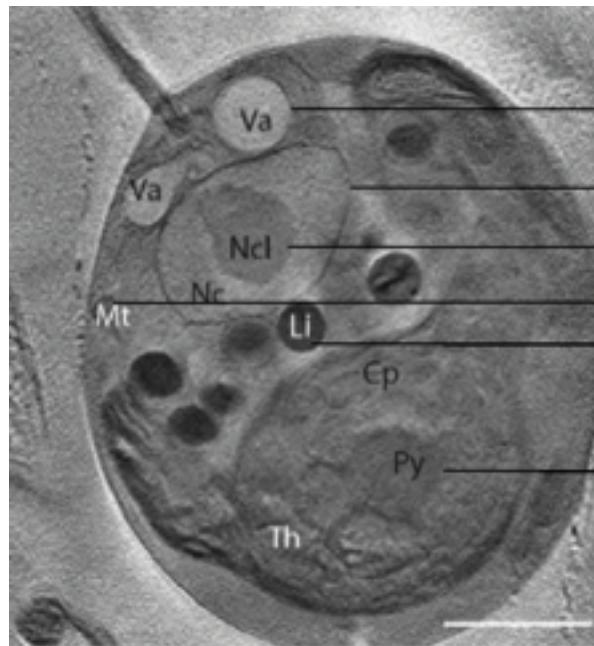


*Chlamydomonas*  
(Green Algae)

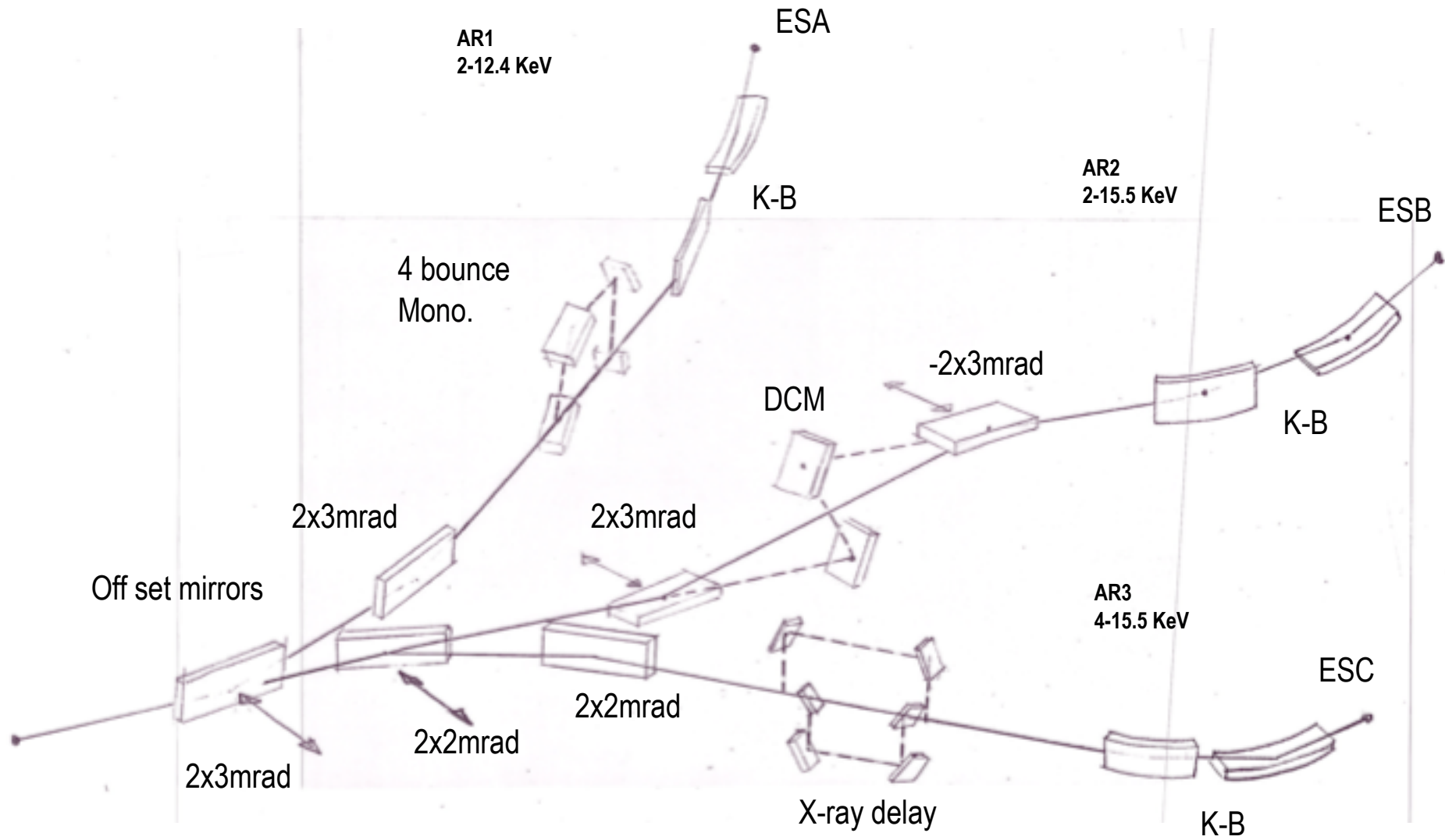


# 3D Soft X-ray images from Bessi Berlin

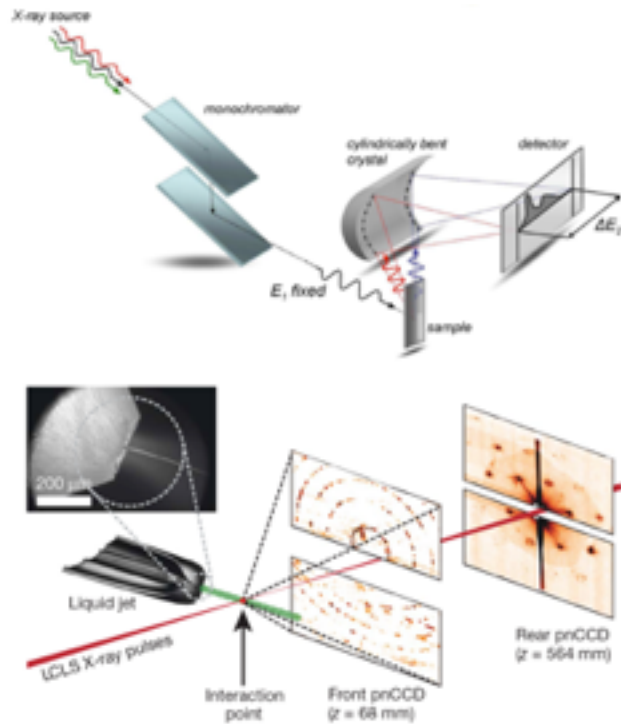
Slice of a cell from soft X-ray measurement:  
Hummel *et al.* (2012) PLOS one



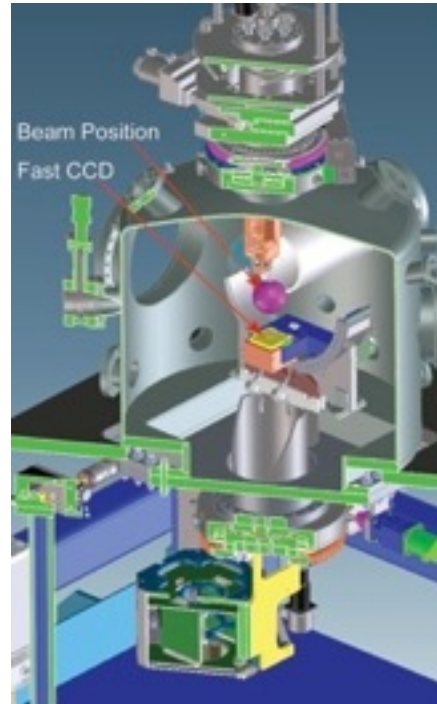
Chlamydomonas  
(Green Algae)



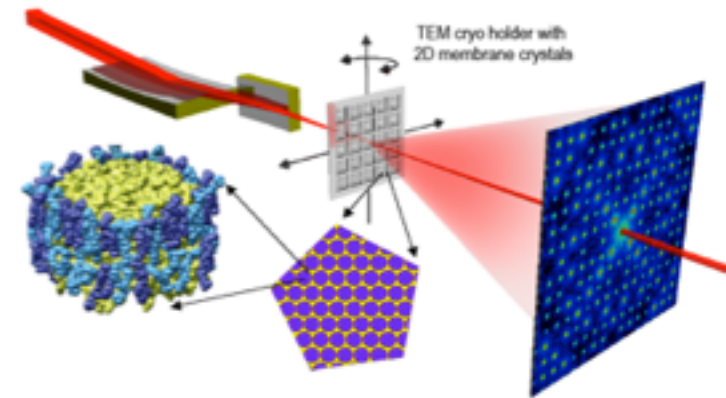
**ESA:**  
Multi-purpose pump-probe



**ESB:**  
Pump-probe crystallography



**ESC:**  
Coherent diffraction





# A Strategy for FEL Biology

## Samples generated from live systems from biologists:

### Suspensions:

3D nano and microcrystals  
Large protein assemblies:  
Virus particles, Virus shells  
Protein/RNA assemblies:  
Spliceosome, Signalosome, Ribosome  
Protein solutions and Membrane proteins  
in detergent:

WAXS experiments  
Ultrafast photochemistry and photobiology  
Serial femtosecond crystallography (SFX)

### Jet sample injectors:

#### Fast Jet system:

Fast pump-probe, WAXS and SFX

#### Slow Jet injector:

For viscous and jelly samples  
LCP-Jet membrane protein SFX

### Supported 2D sections:

Tissue sections  
2D Membrane protein crystals  
Tubular protein assemblies  
Tubulin and helically arranged  
membrane protein tubes  
3D Nanocrystals on a support

### Nano-beam with cryo- 2D scanning stage:

2D crystallography  
Element selective topography  
Helical 3D reconstruction  
Characterization of nanocrystals  
Crystallography with very small  
amounts

### 3D Blocks of tissues:

Retina  
Bone  
Muscle  
Brain tissue  
Block of frozen yeast  
3D-printed cell assemblies

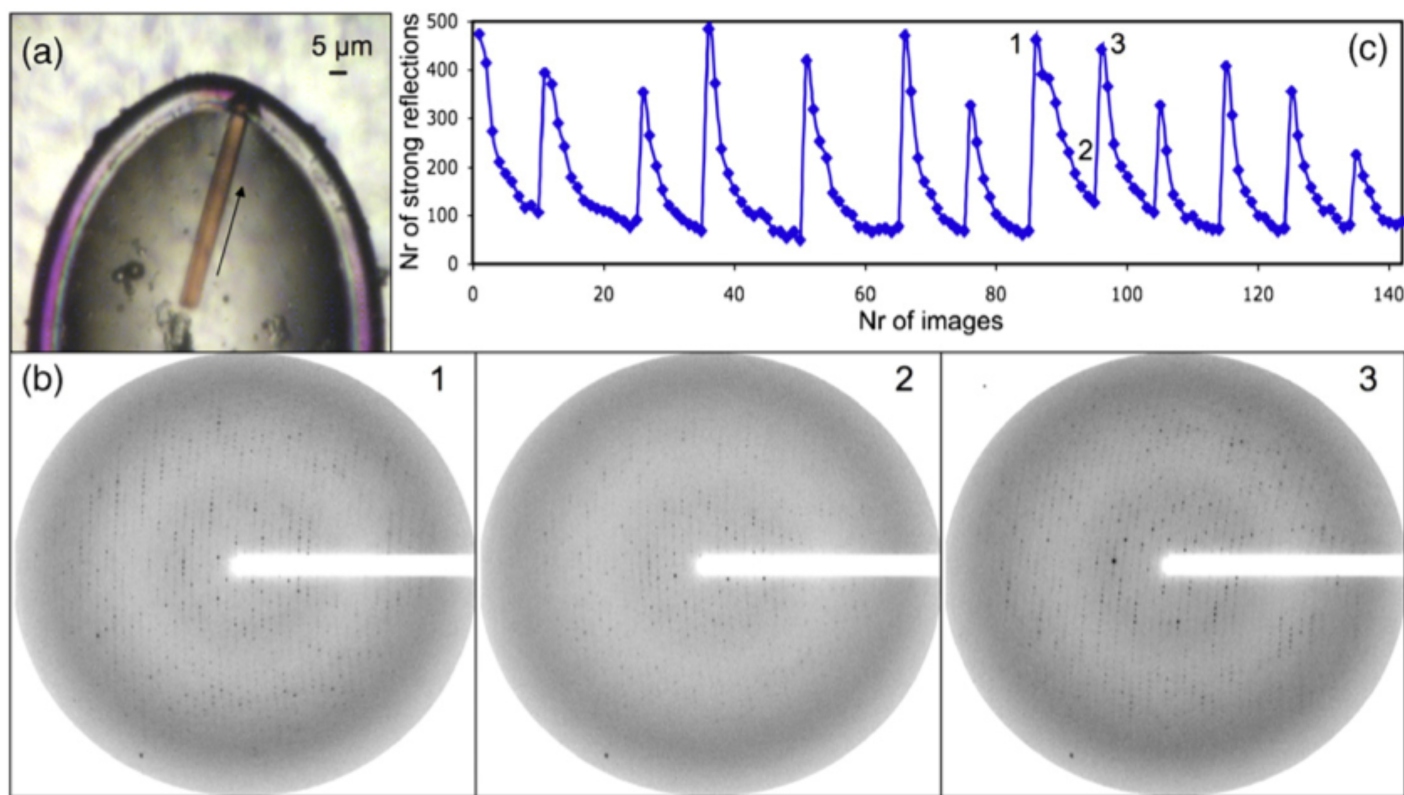
### Nano-beam with cryo- 3D scanning stage:

3D element selective topography  
Element selective imaging  
Direct or holographic imaging  
Tomography

# Radiation Damage in X-Ray Diffraction and EM is limiting Structural Biology

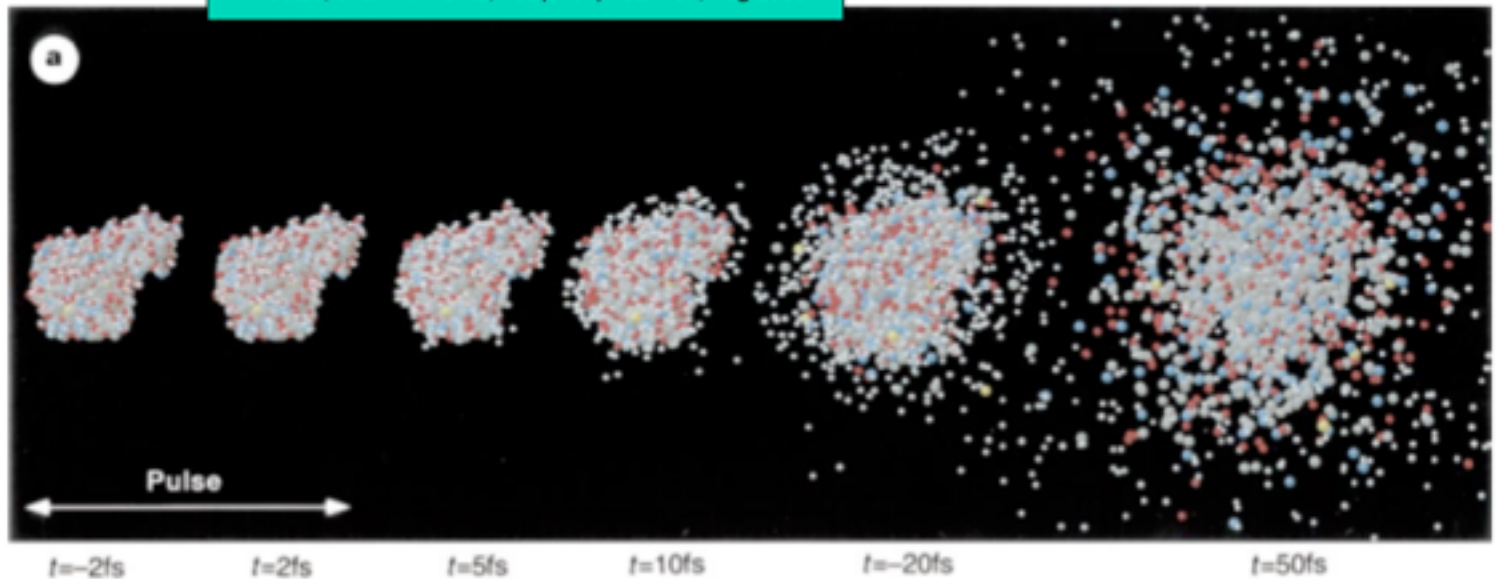
1182

*Crystal Structure of a Thermally Stable Rhodopsin Mutant*



## Simulation of the Explosion dynamics of biomolecules (C,N,O):

R. Neutze, et al. NATURE, 406(6797):752-757, Aug 2000.

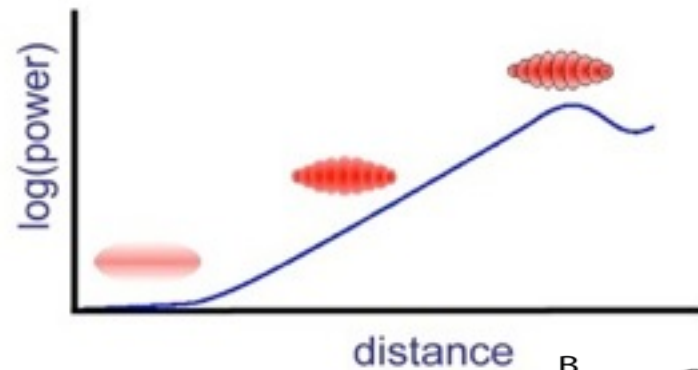
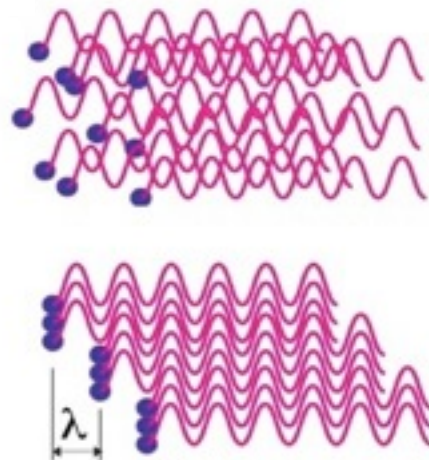
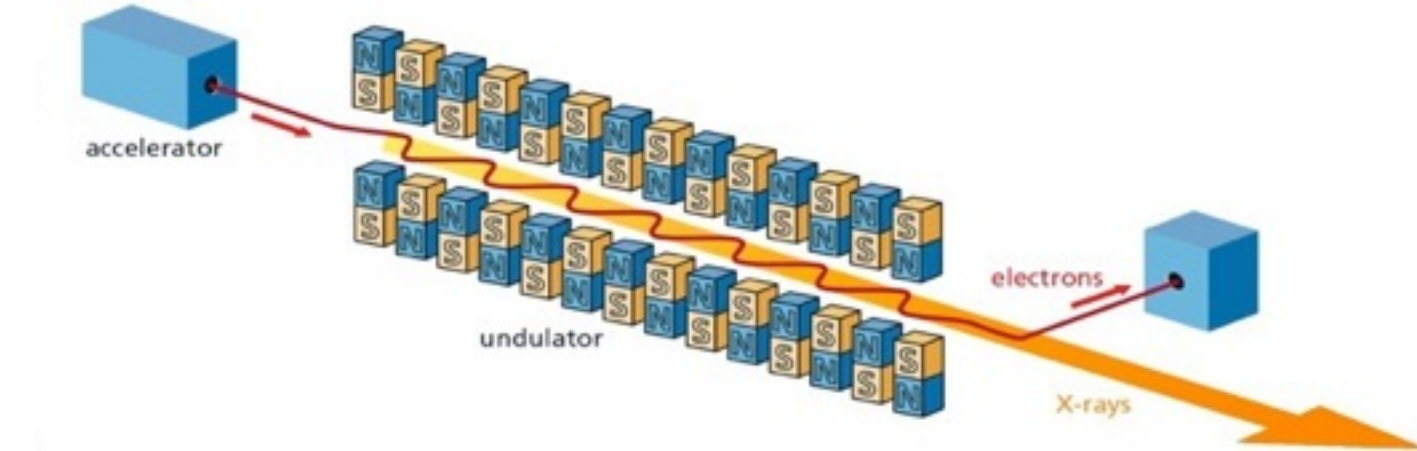


Tricks:

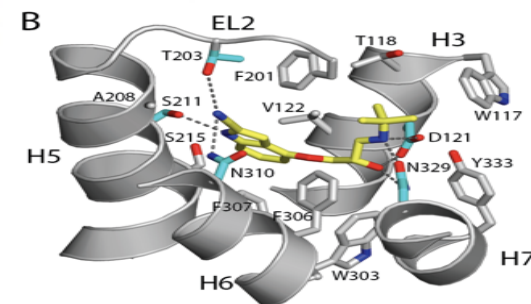
- 1) When the light is not on then we can not see what is happening
- 2) Only crystalline ordered material has enough average signal to be detected



# The XFEL How it Works



SASE: "self amplified spontaneous emission"



# The LCLS is the world's first hard X-ray laser



NATIONAL ACCELERATOR LABORATORY



$10^{12}$  photons per pulse  
120 Hz    70 fs    9 kV

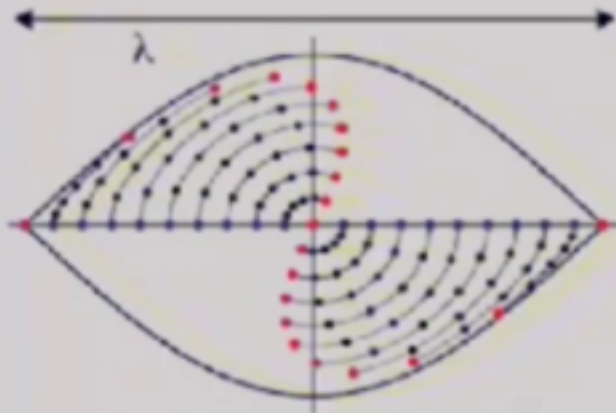
132 m long undulator

First lasing in April 2009. The LCLS at Stanford is the world's first hard X-ray laser. It produces 9 kV X-rays (1.4 Ang) in 5 - 200 fs pulses, about  $1E12$  photons per pulse.



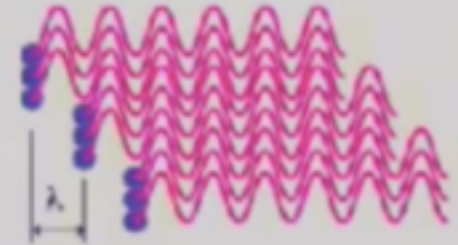
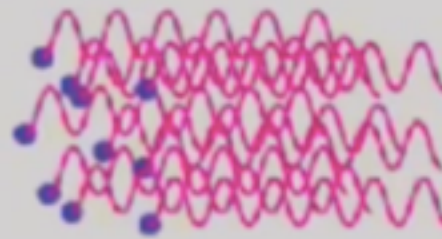
# X-FEL how it works

## Micro-bunching and coherent emission



Initially uniform  $e^-$  distribution (blue) evolves into microbunches (red).

Micro-bunches radiate coherently.

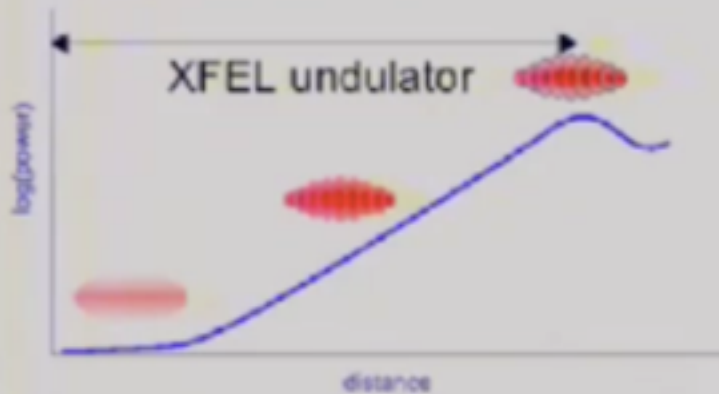


$$P_{\text{incoh}} = NP_1$$

$$E = NE_1$$

$$P_{\text{coh}} = N^2 E_1^2 = NP_{\text{incoh}}$$

$$N = 10^9 !!$$



„Self-amplifying spontaneous emission“ (SASE)



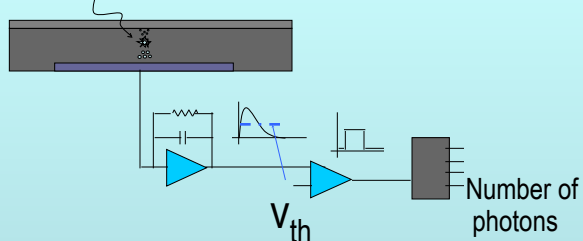
Taken from Bruce Patterson's presentation at EMPA  
on the SwissFEL project



# X-ray Detector Development

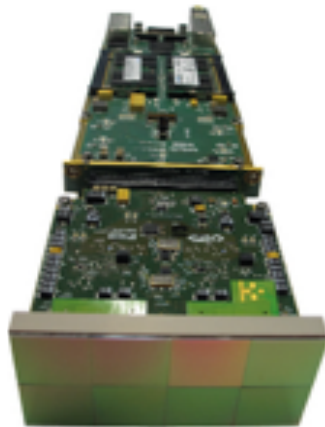
## Synchrotron detectors

### Single photon counting

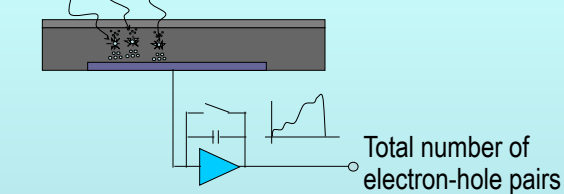


Mythen II

Eiger



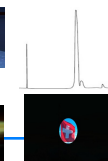
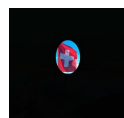
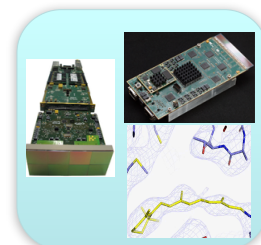
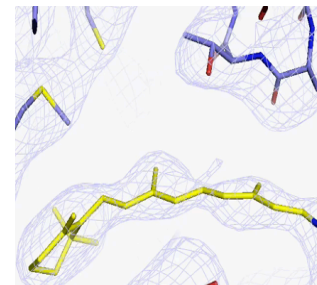
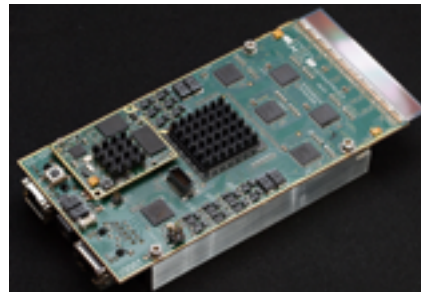
### Charge integrating detectors



EU-XFEL, SwissFEL:  
Gotthard

EU-XFEL:  
AGIPD

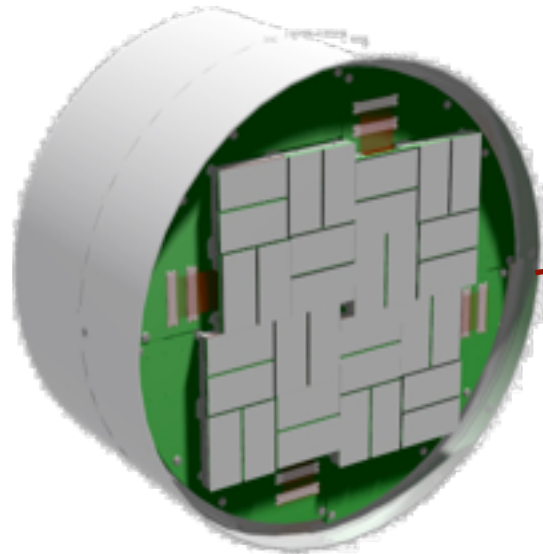
SwissFEL:  
Jungfrau



# Newly Commissioned CXI Hutch Optimized

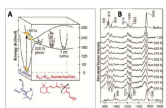
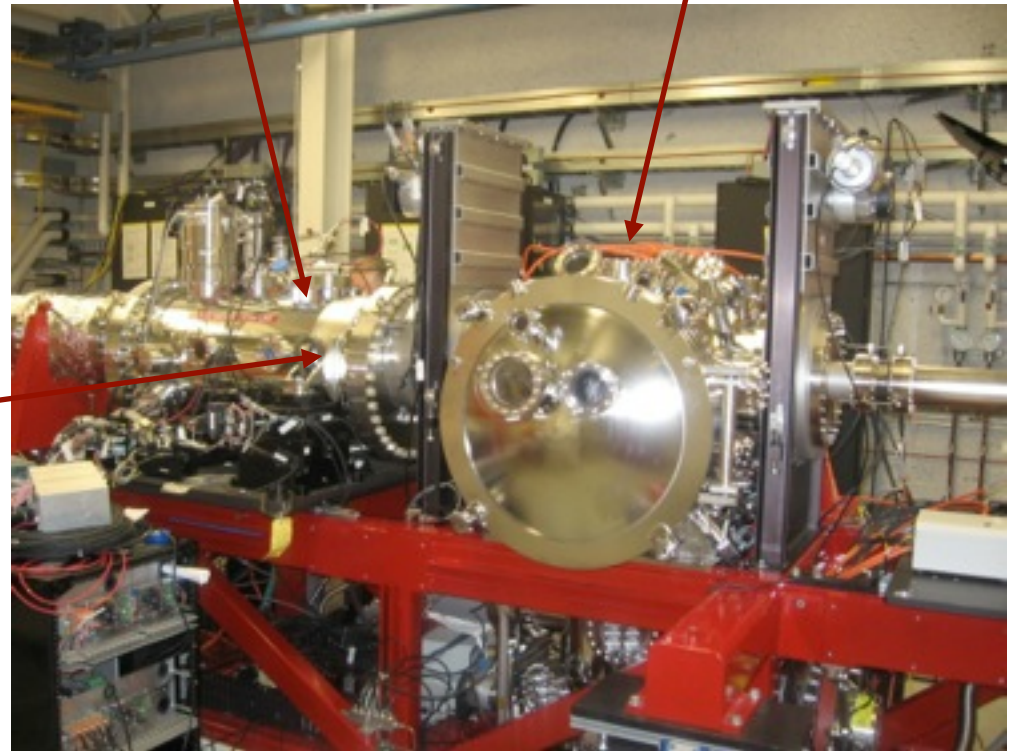
## Cornell-SLAC Pixel Area Detector

- 10 micron pixels
- 1.5 megapixels
- tiled design



## Detector Housing

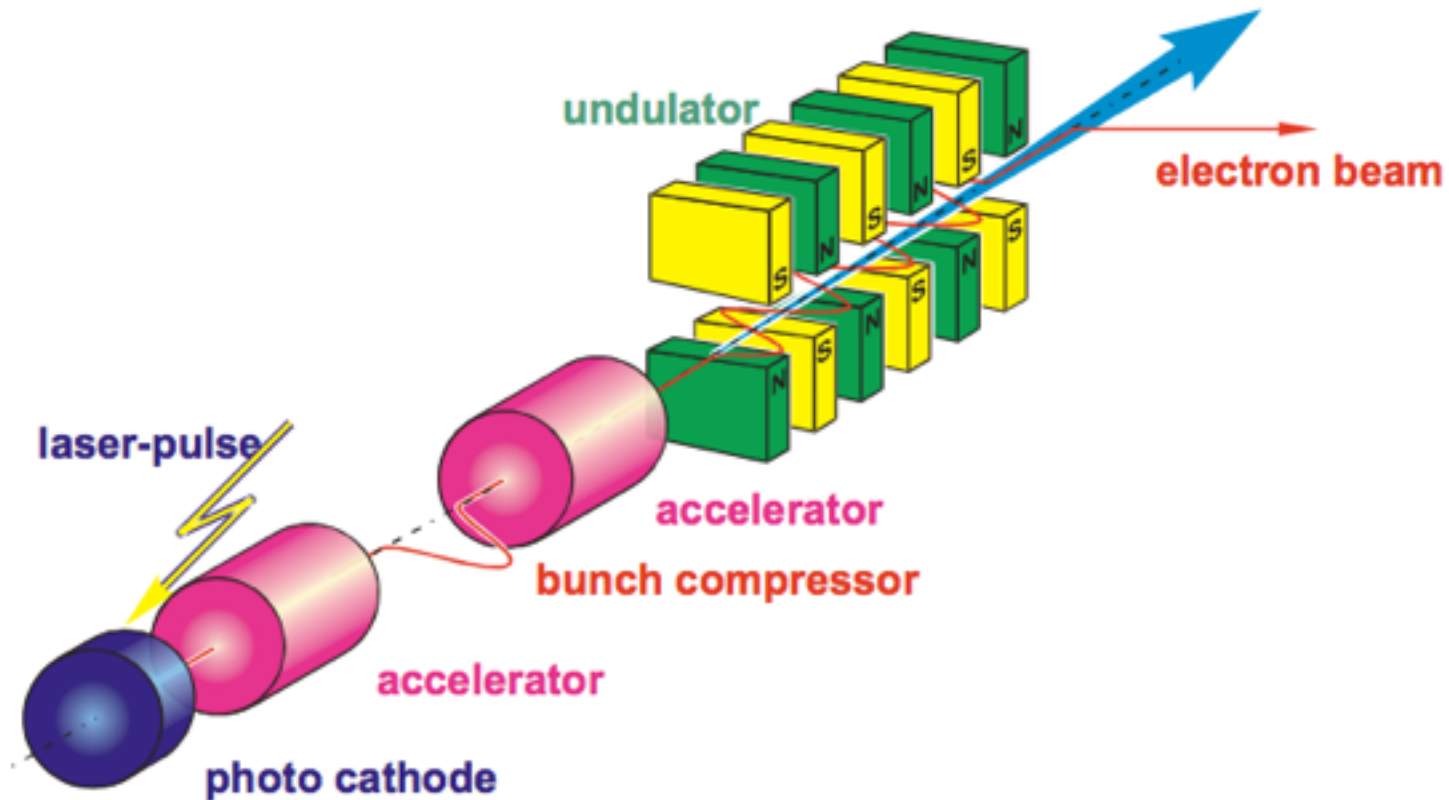
## Sample Chamber 1 micron beam



**Fig.1.** Femtosecond-photocrosslinking of rhodopsin during the first event of vision. **A.** Multidimensional representation of the isomerization coordinate of rhodopsin analyzed by coherent Raman vibrational spectroscopy. The *cis*-retinal photo-rhodopsin and the all-trans retinal bathorhodopsin states are reached after 200fs and 1ps, respectively. **B.** Time-resolved femtosecond stimulated Raman spectra of rhodopsin<sup>77</sup> in the ground-state (blue) and in the trapped bathorhodopsin (red) state.



## Basic XFEL design

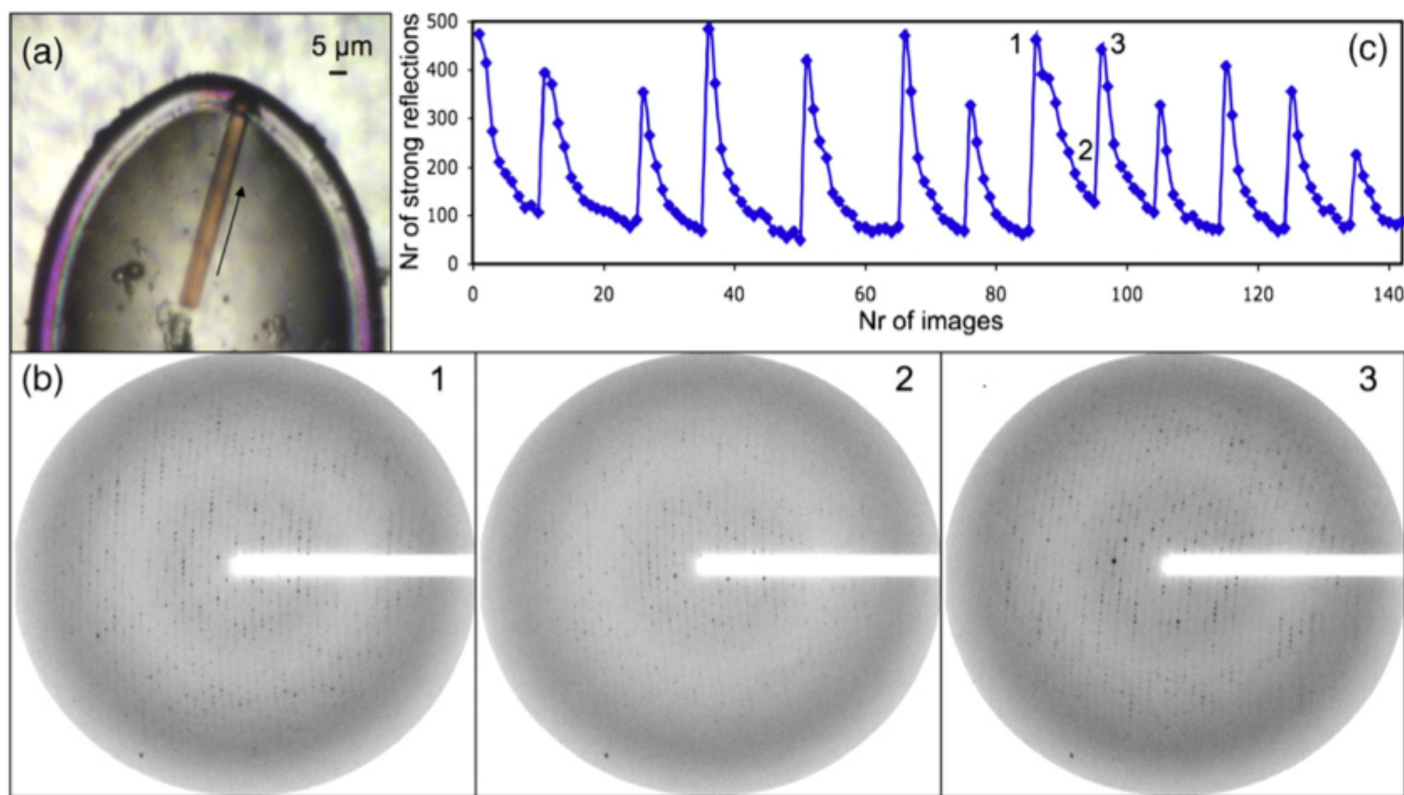




# Radiation Damage in X-Ray Diffraction and EM is limiting Structural Biology

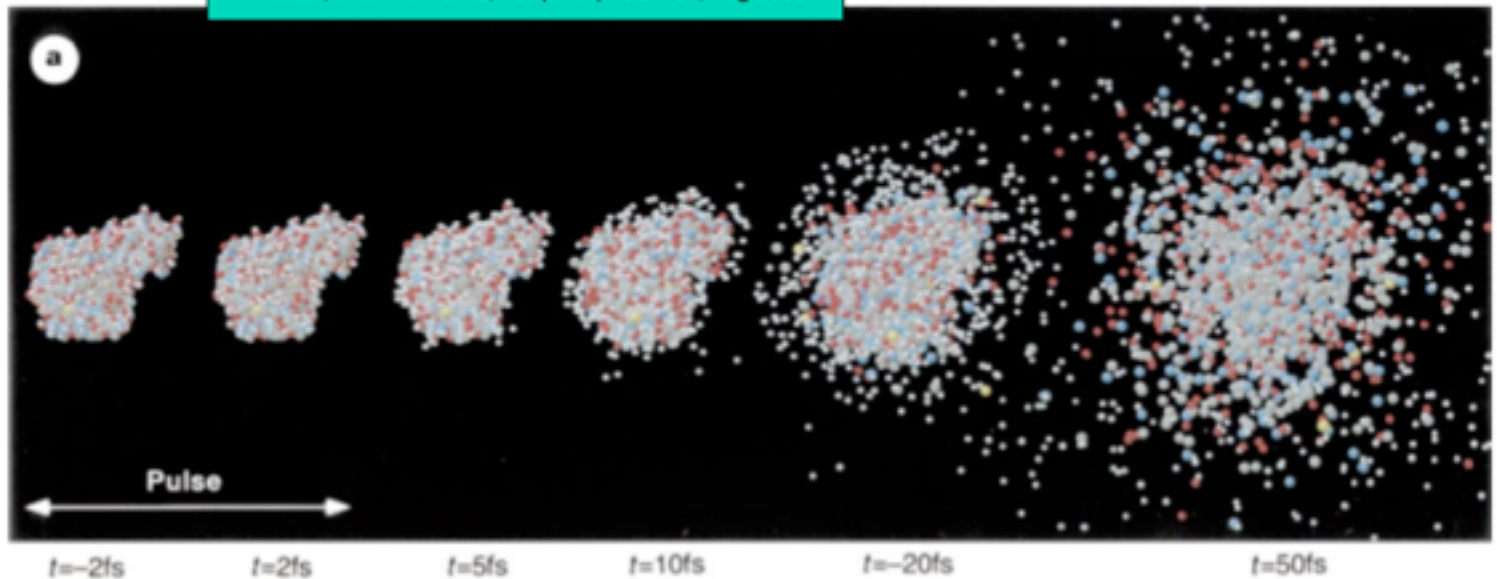
1182

*Crystal Structure of a Thermally Stable Rhodopsin Mutant*



## Simulation of the Explosion dynamics of biomolecules (C,N,O):

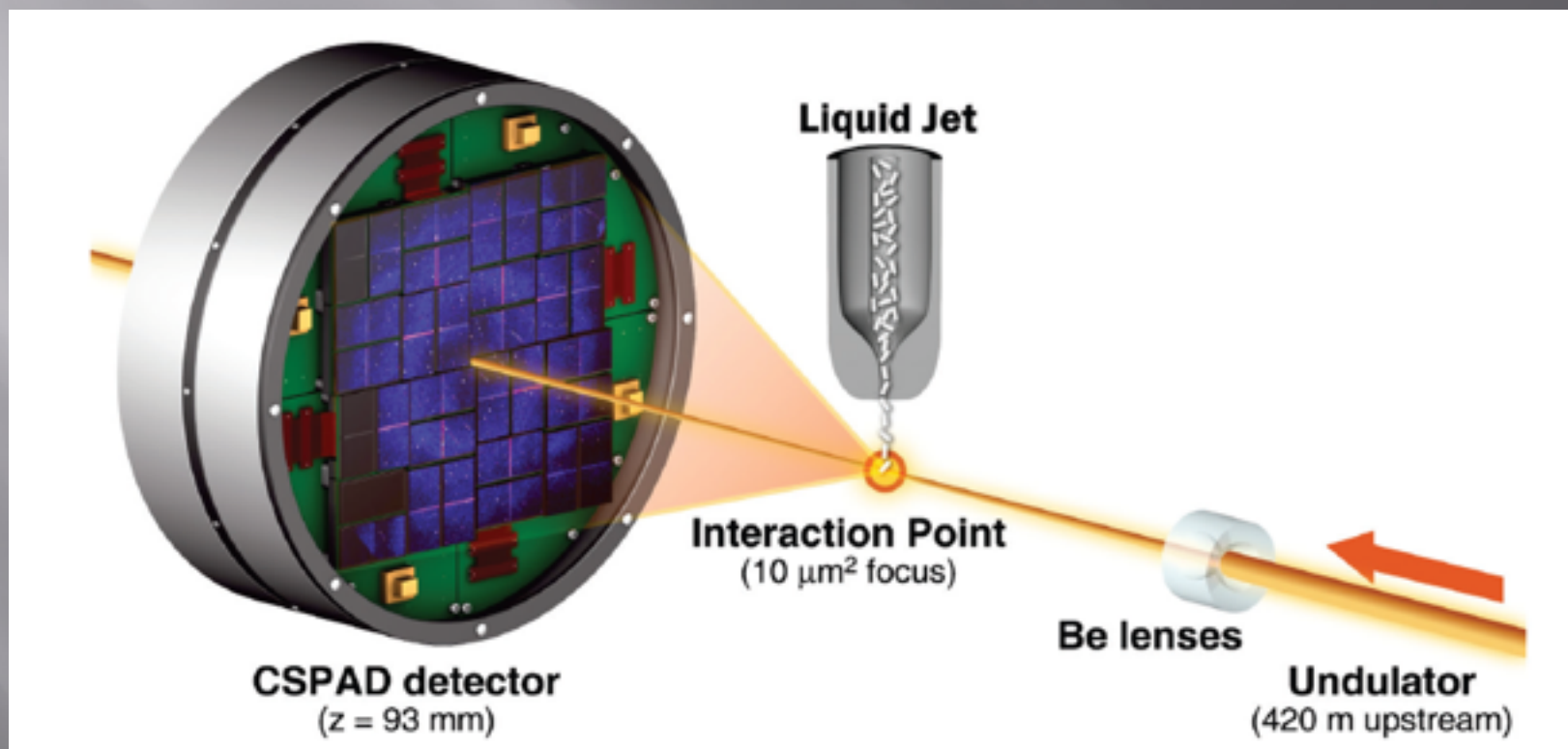
R. Neutze, et al. NATURE, 406(6797):752-757, Aug 2000.



Tricks:

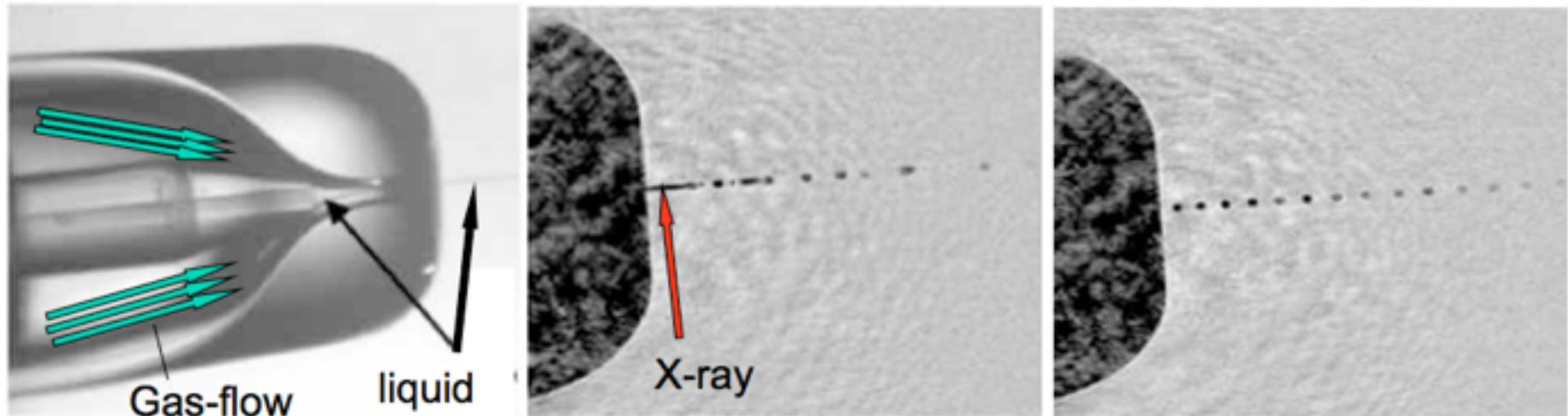
- 1) When the light is not on then we can not see what is happening
- 2) Only crystalline ordered material has enough average signal to be detected

# 3D CRYSTALLOGRAPHY WITH FELS





## The new Aerojet technique provides very fine liquid stream of micrometer size



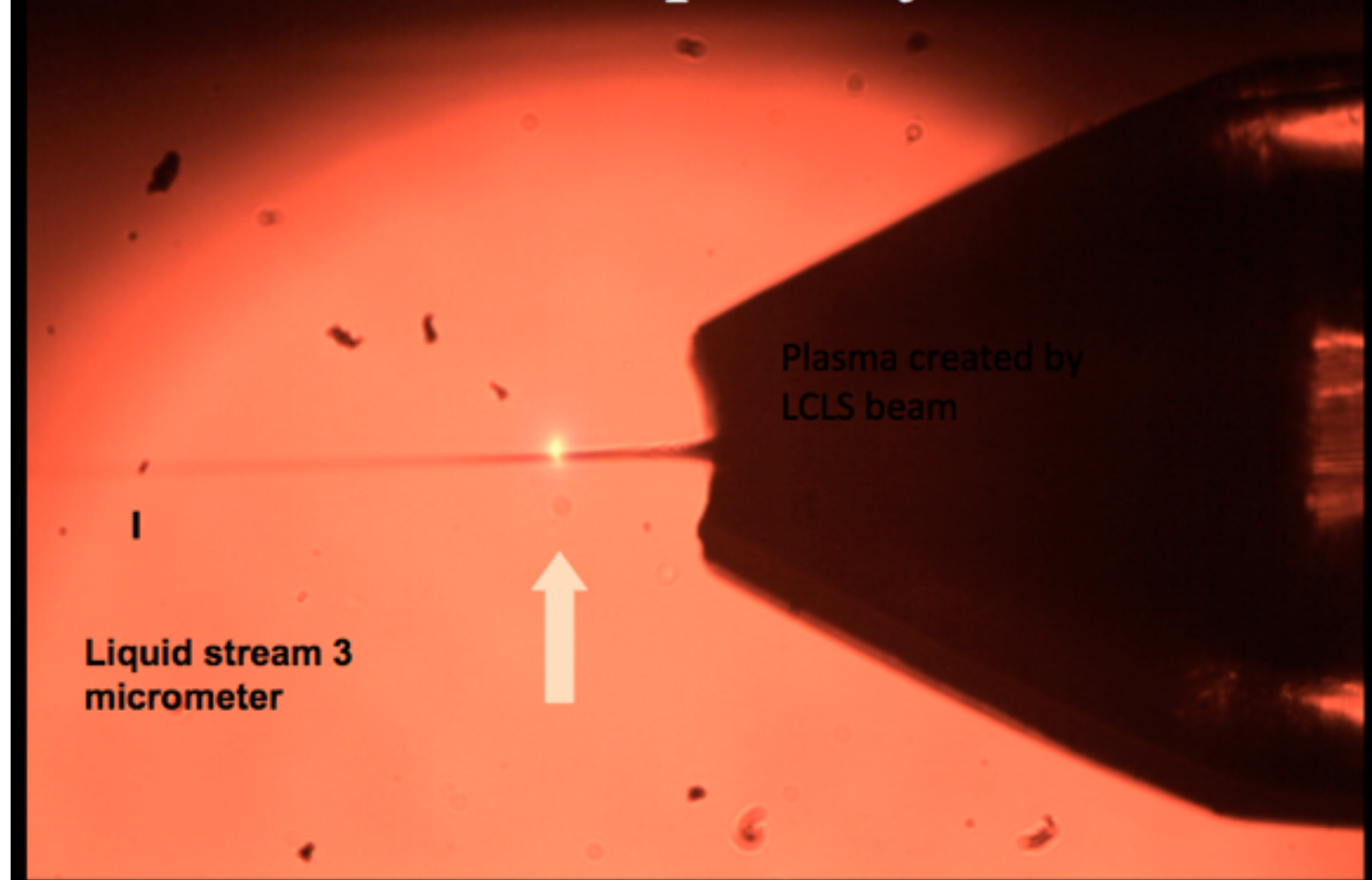
Aerojet source. Left: Liquid cone visible generated by converging gas flow.

Middle: Untriggered breakup into droplets.

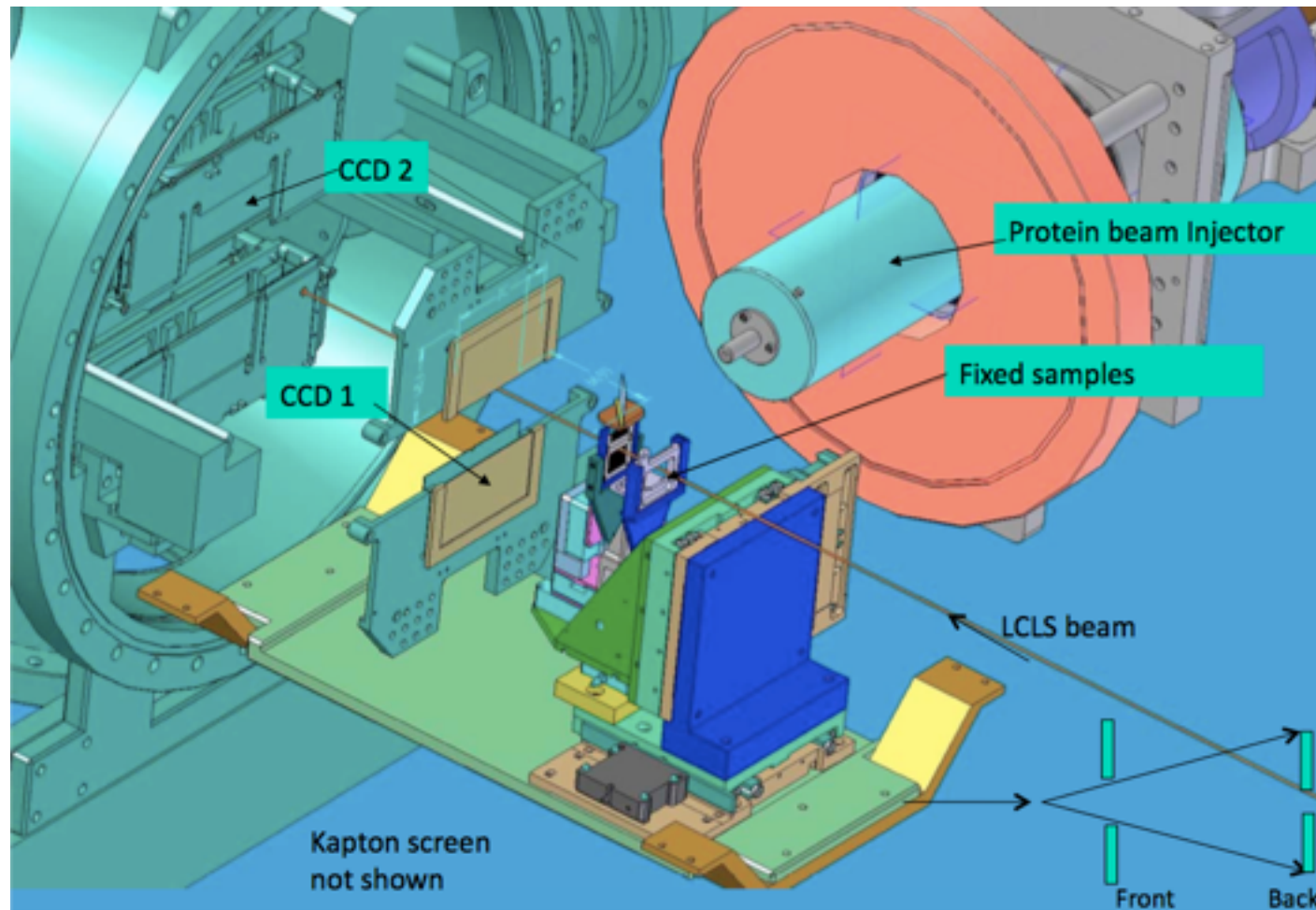
Right: Triggered breakup into droplets.

Droplet speed about 10m/sec. Trigger frequency: 170kHz.

## X-ray beam visualized by a plasma formed on the liquid crystal stream



# The Max Plank CAMP Chamber

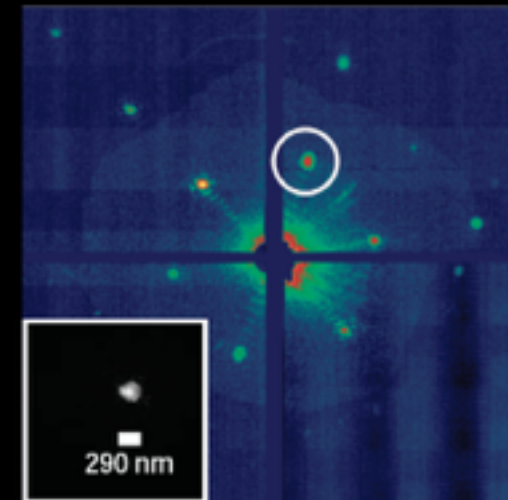
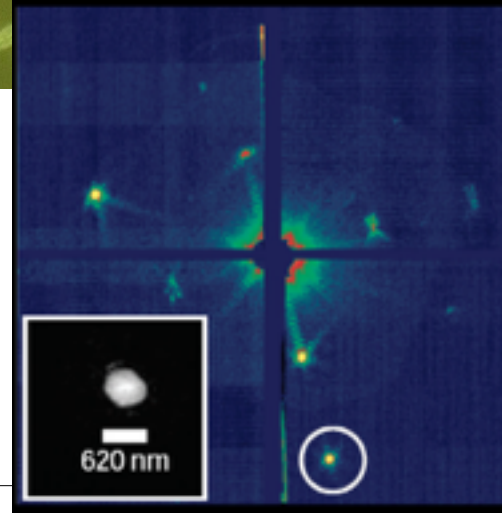


Endstation used for LCLS experiments



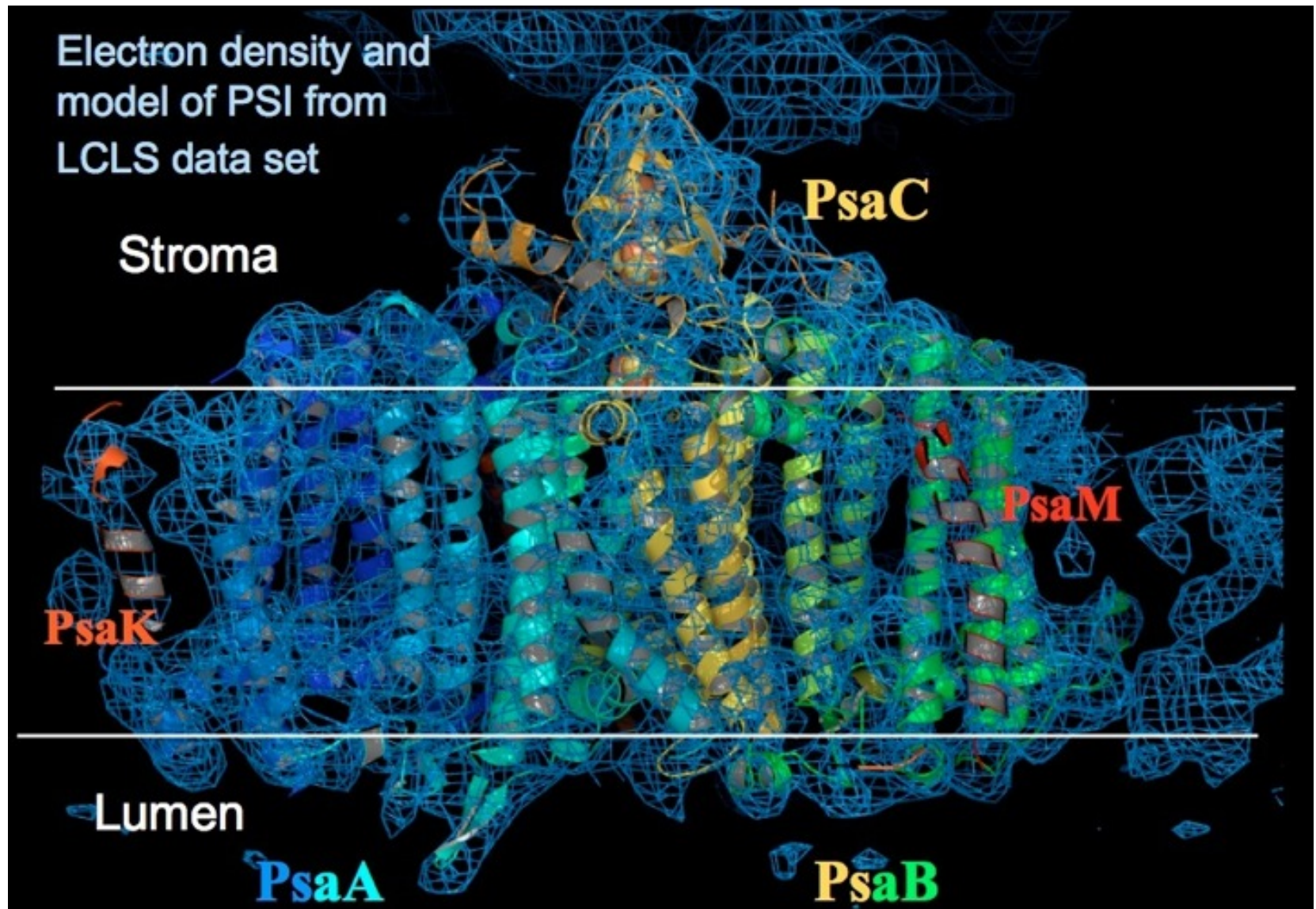


Examples of the determination of crystal size by  
evaluation of the shape transforms



From  
Petra Fromme

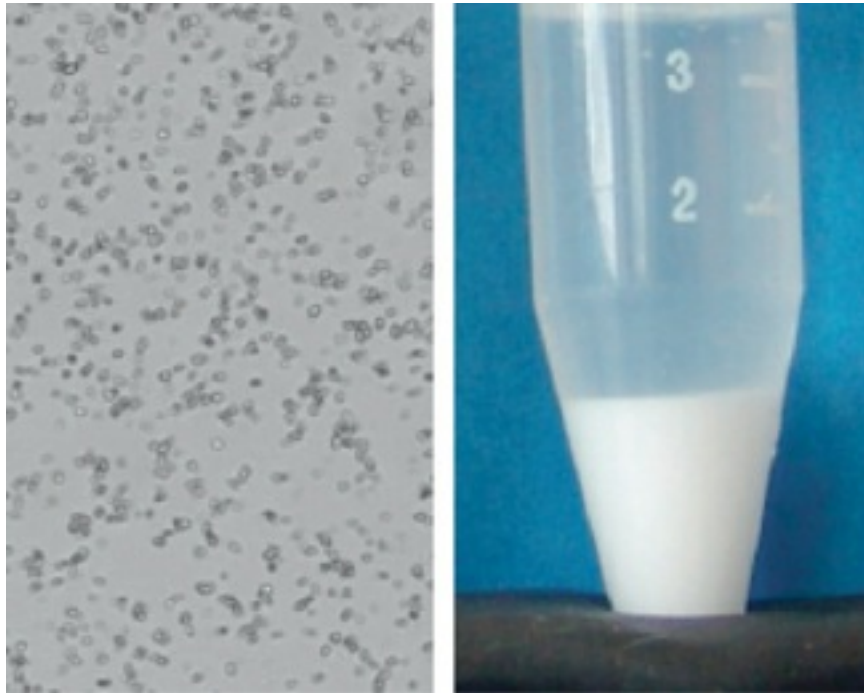
# Structure of Photosystem I from XFEL Data



From Petra Fromme and John Spence



## Lysozyme Nanocrystallisation

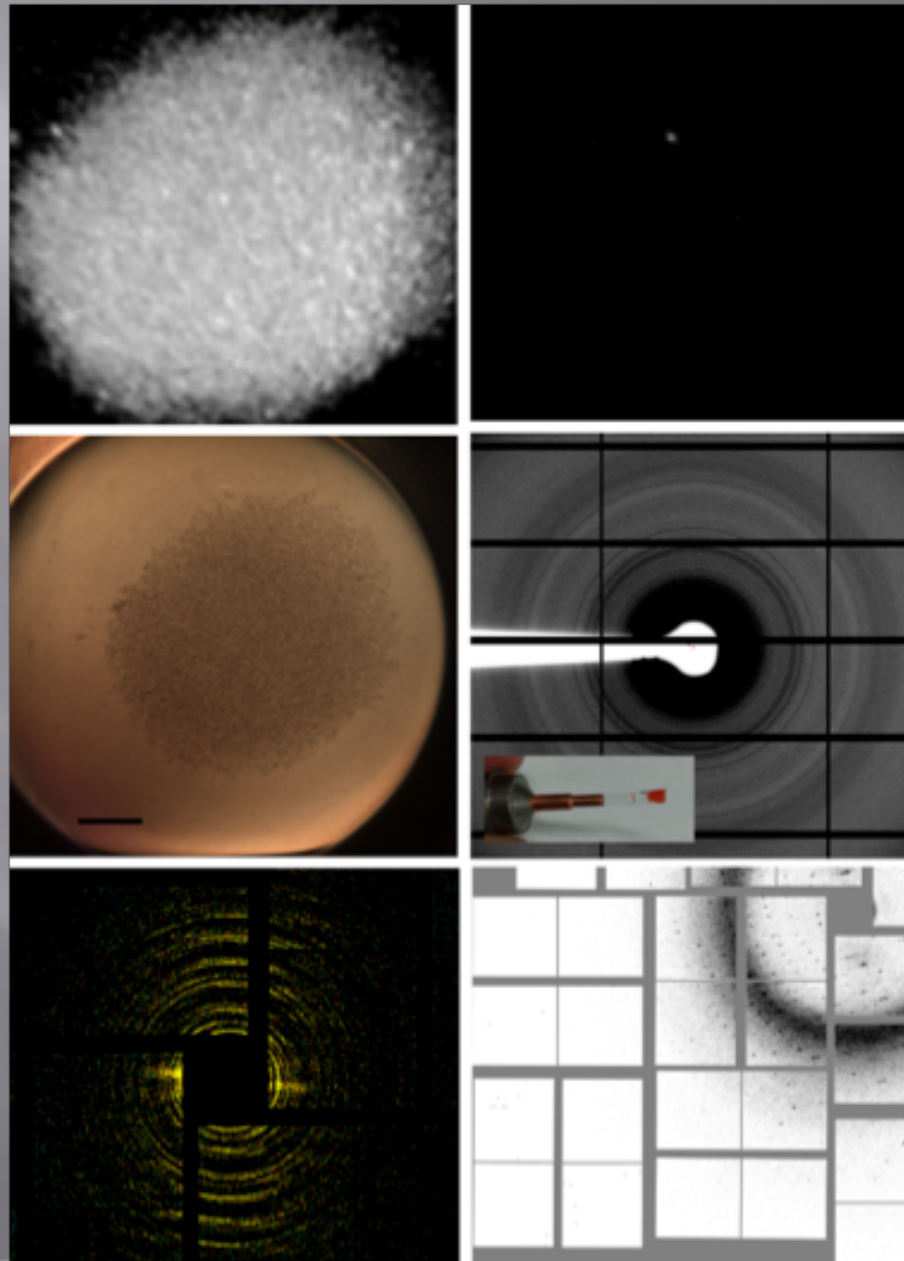


*Schlichting et al, Curr.Op.Strcut.Biol. 2012*

**“about 1.5 million individual “snapshot” diffraction patterns.  
About 4.5% of the patterns classified as crystal hits, 18.4% of which were indexed.”**



# Working with micro and nano crystals

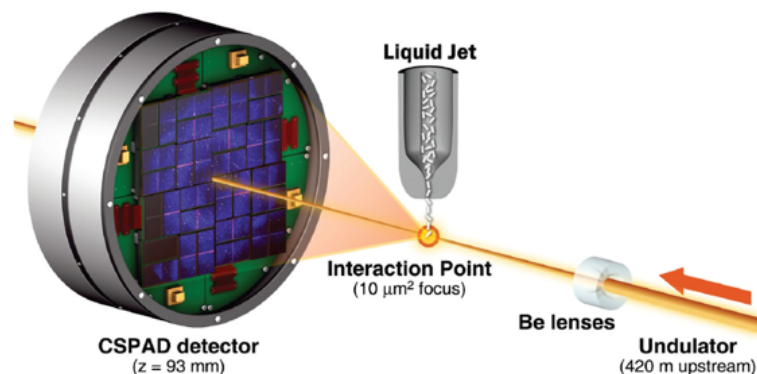
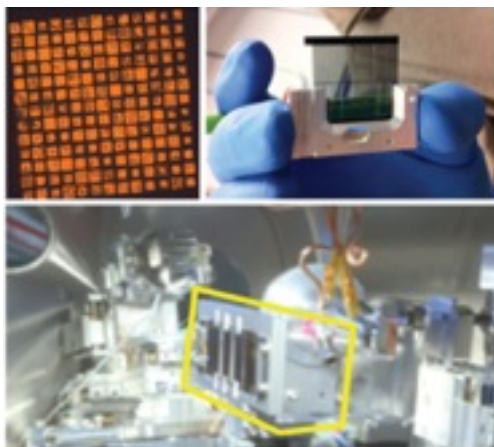


# Serial Femtosecond Crystallography (SFX)

Parameter	40-fs pulses	5-fs pulses	SLS RT data 3
Wavelength	1.32 Å	1.32 Å	0.9997 Å
X-ray focus ( $\mu\text{m}^2$ )	~10	~10	~100 × 100
Pulse energy/fluence at sample	600 $\mu\text{J}/4 \times 10^{11}$ photons per pulse	53 $\mu\text{J}/3.5 \times 10^{10}$ photons per pulse	n.a./ $2.5 \times 10^{10}$ photons/s
Dose (MGy)	33.0 per crystal	2.9 per crystal	0.024 total
Dose rate (Gy/s)	$8.3 \times 10^{20}$	$5.8 \times 10^{20}$	$9.6 \times 10^2$
Space group	$P4_32_12$	$P4_32_12$	$P4_32_12$
Unit cell length (Å), $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$	$a = b = 79, c = 38$	$a = b = 79, c = 38$	$a = b = 79.2, c = 38.1$
Oscillation range/exposure time	Still exp./40 fs	Still exp./5 fs	1.0°/0.25 s
No. collected diffraction images	1,471,615	1,997,712	100
No. of hits/indexed images	66,442/12,247	40,115/10,575	n.a./100
Number of reflections	n.a.	n.a.	70,960
Number of unique reflections	9921	9743	9297
Resolution limits (Å)	35.3–1.9	35.3–1.9	35.4–1.9
Completeness	98.3% (96.6%)	98.2% (91.2%)	92.6% (95.1%)
$I/\sigma(I)$	7.4 (2.8)	7.3 (3.1)	18.24 (5.3)
$R_{\text{split}}$	0.158	0.159	n.a.
$R_{\text{merge}}$	n.a.	n.a.	0.075 (0.332)
Wilson B factor	28.3 Å <sup>2</sup>	28.5 Å <sup>2</sup>	19.4 Å <sup>2</sup>
R-factor/R-free	0.196/0.229	0.189/0.227	0.166/0.200
Rmsd bonds, Rmsd angles	0.006 Å, 1.00°	0.006 Å, 1.03°	0.007 Å, 1.05°
PDB code	4ET8	4ET9	4ETC

\*Electron bunch length

Boutet et al, 2012



- Fully hydrated nanocrystals gave excellent diffraction patterns at room temperature
- Pulses from 2 to 60 Femtoseconds were useful to outrun radiation damage and no degradation of patterns was detectable when nanocrystals were used
- The method of Femtosecond X-ray crystallography will revolutionise structural biology and atomic structure information can be extracted
- Difficult but medically very interesting targets like membrane proteins are very well suited for femtosecond nano crystallography



# Coherent X-ray Diffraction Imaging: CXI



## Structural Coherent X-ray Imaging Primary Isomerization of Retinal Femtosecond Stimulated Raman

**Philipp Kukura, David W. McCamant,\* Sangwoon Yoon,  
Daniel B. Wandschneider, Richard A. Mathies†**

The primary event that initiates vision is the light-induced 11-cis to all-trans isomerization of retinal in the visual pigment rhodopsin. Despite decades of study with the traditional tools of chemical reaction dynamics, both the timing and nature of the atomic motions that lead to photoproduct production remain unknown. We used femtosecond-stimulated Raman spectroscopy to obtain time-resolved vibrational spectra of the molecular structures formed along the reaction coordinate. The spectral evolution of the vibrational features from 200 femtoseconds to 1 picosecond after photon absorption reveals the temporal sequencing of the geometric changes in the retinal backbone that activate this receptor.

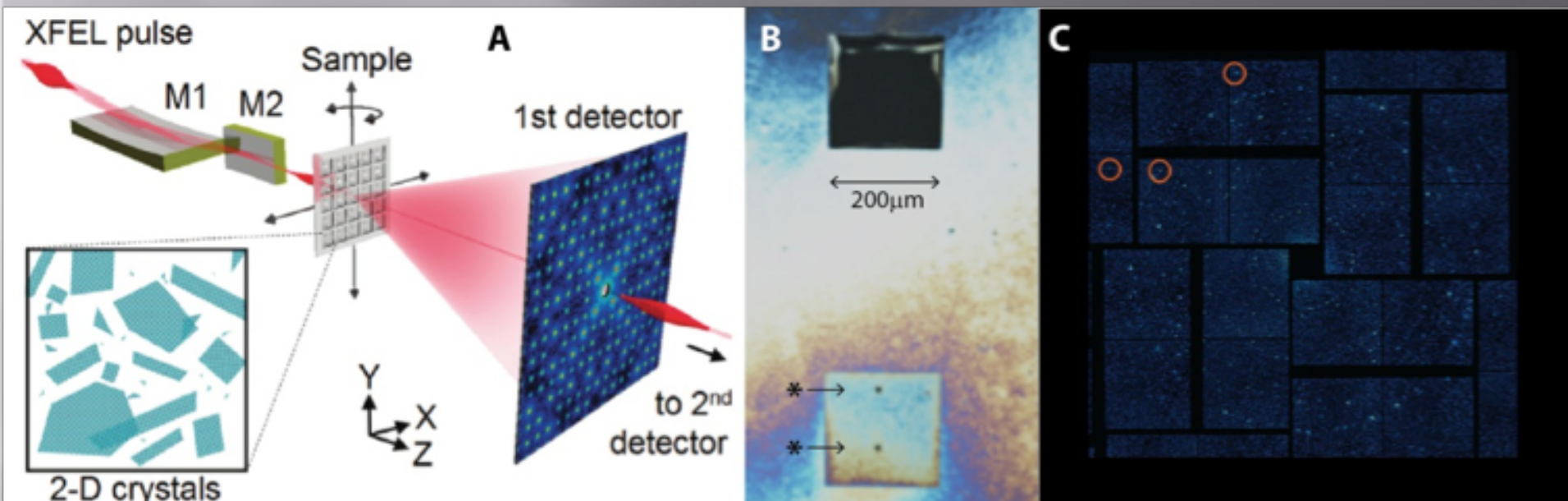
### Beamline Staff

**CXI**  
Coherent X-ray Imaging

### CXI Beamline Staff

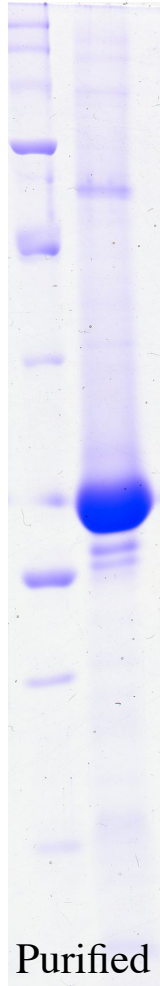


# Diffraction from 2D crystals on a

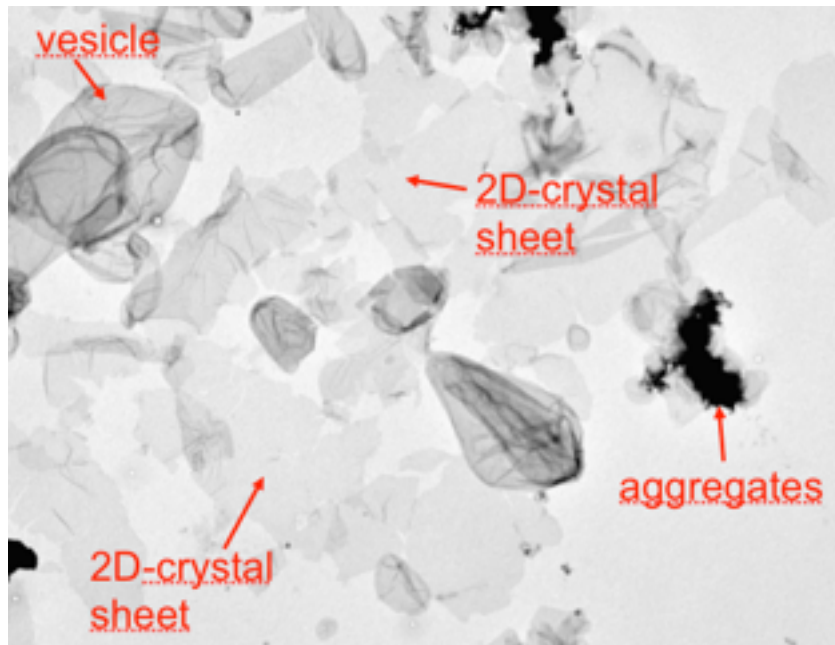


## 2D crystals of Voltage Gated Channel

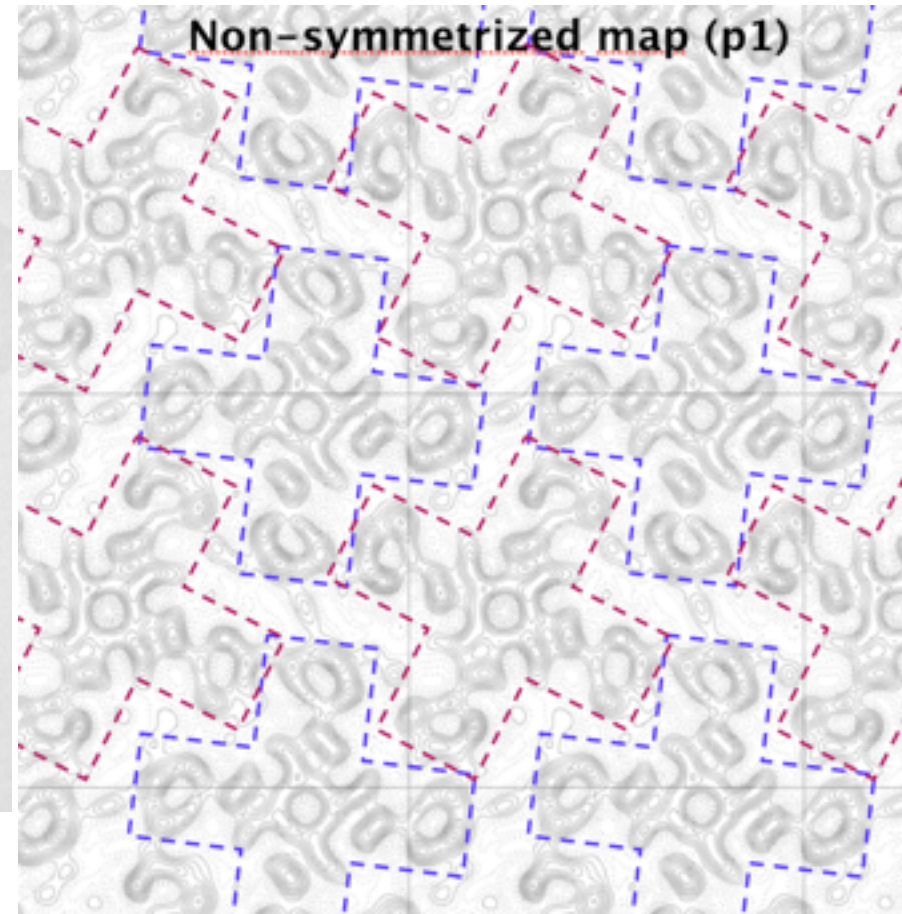
- 3D structure of Channel in 2 Dimensional crystals obtained by cryo-EM
- Prepared in the Biomolecular Research Laboratory at PSI
- by Ching Ju Tsai with Xiao Dan Li project start 2010



Purified  
channel

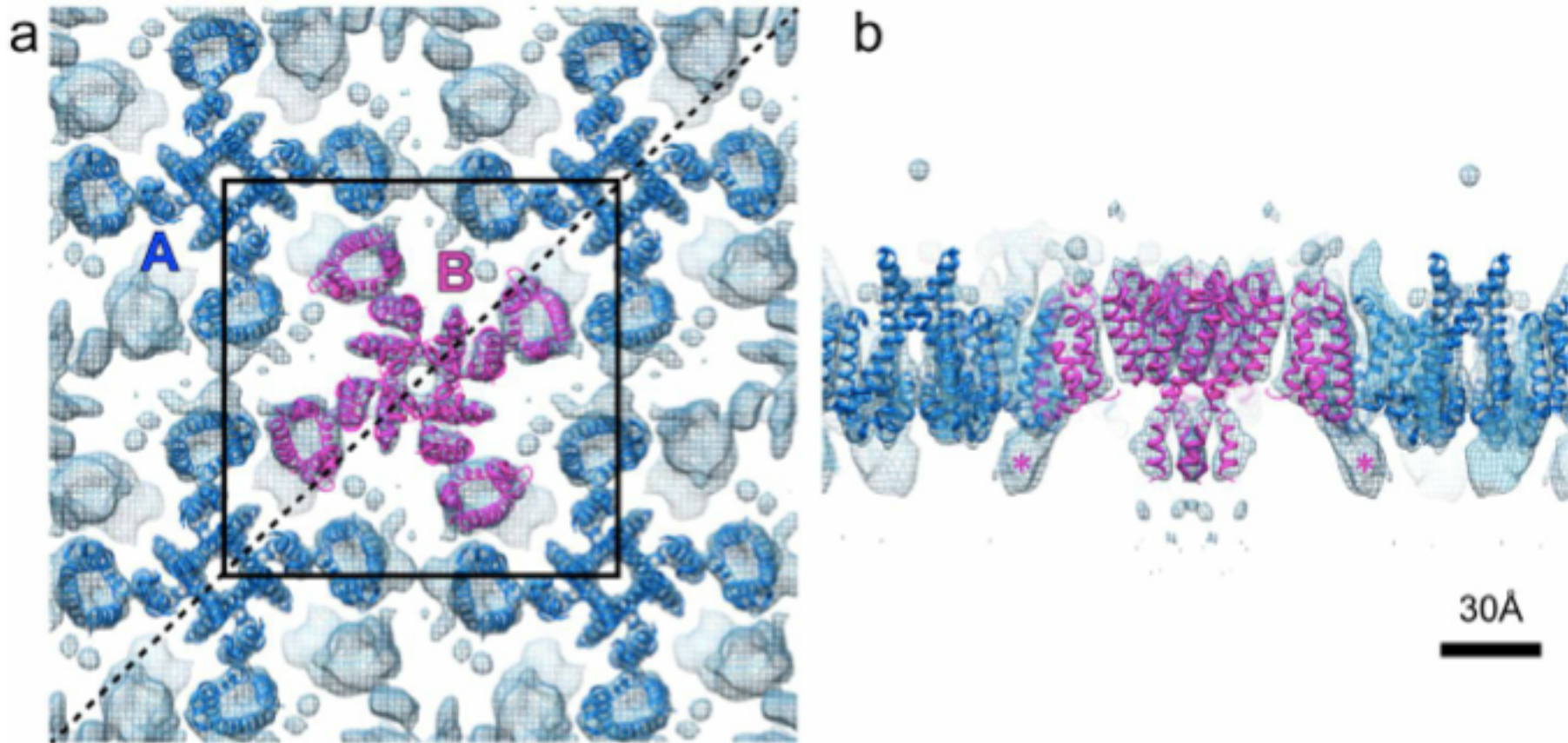


Suspension of 2D crystal on carbon  
film



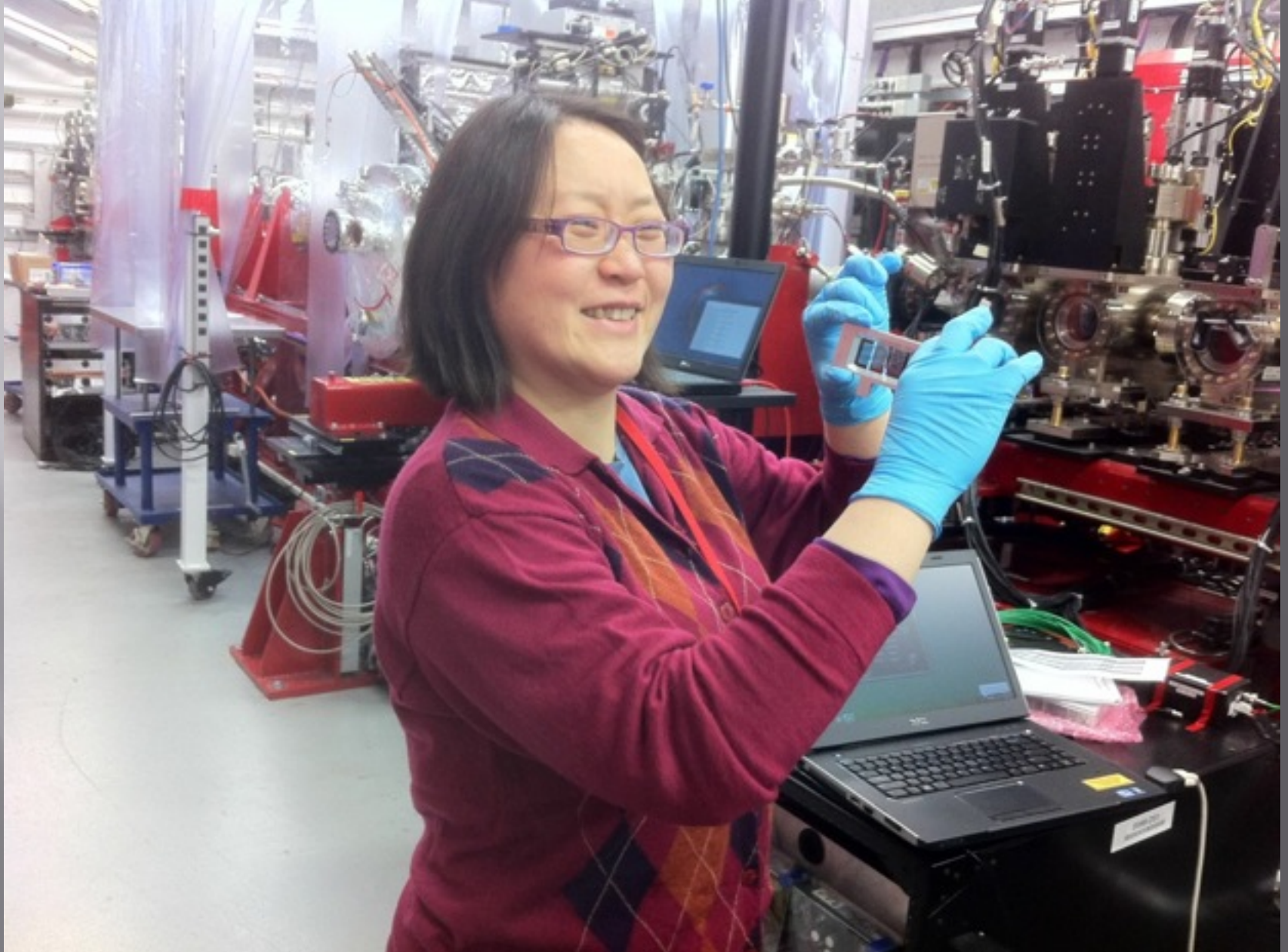
Cryo-EM projection structure of 2D  
crystal





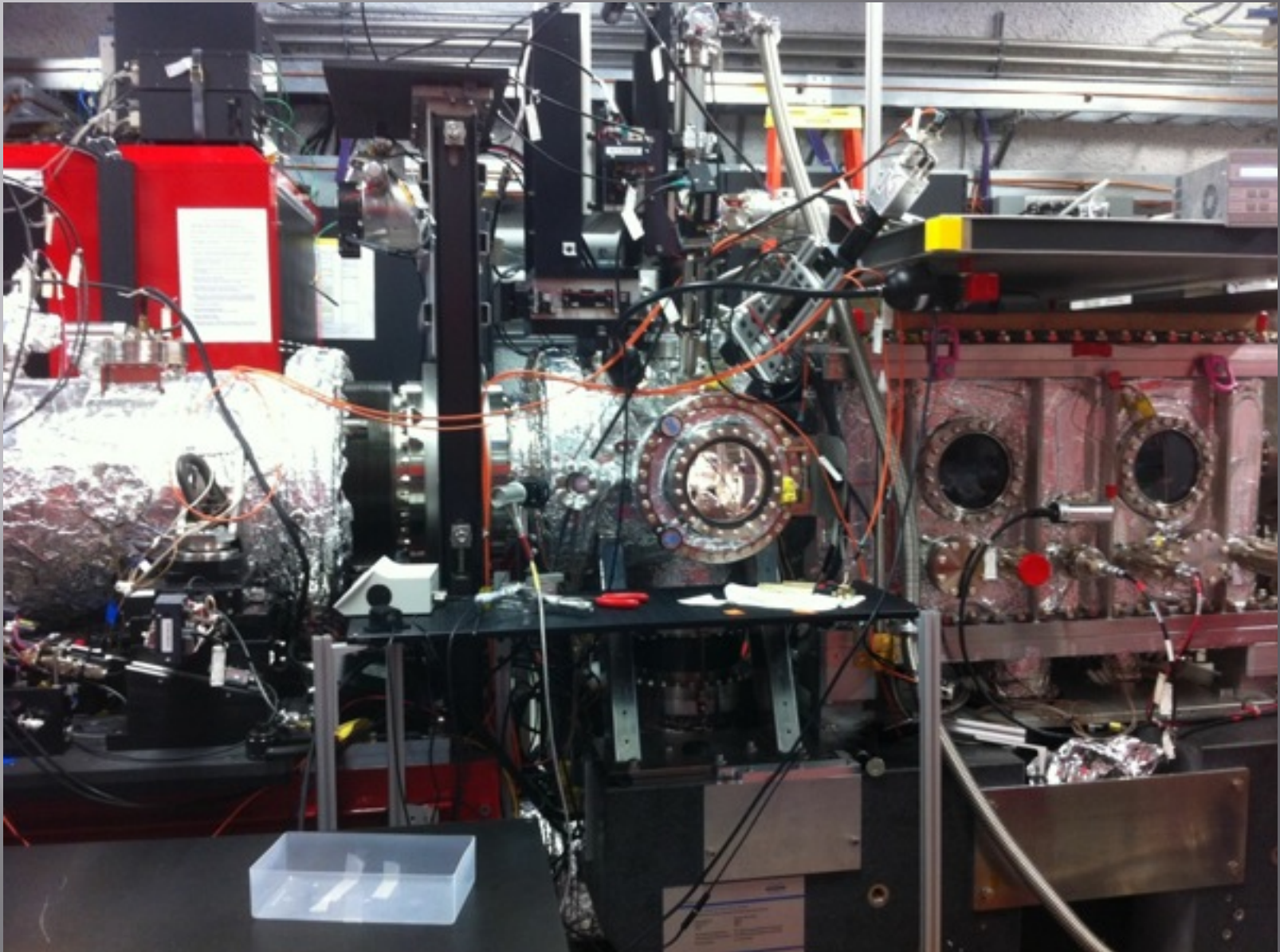
**3D Cryo-EM structure  
from 2D crystal of a  
channel**

# Ching Ju Tsai with solid support



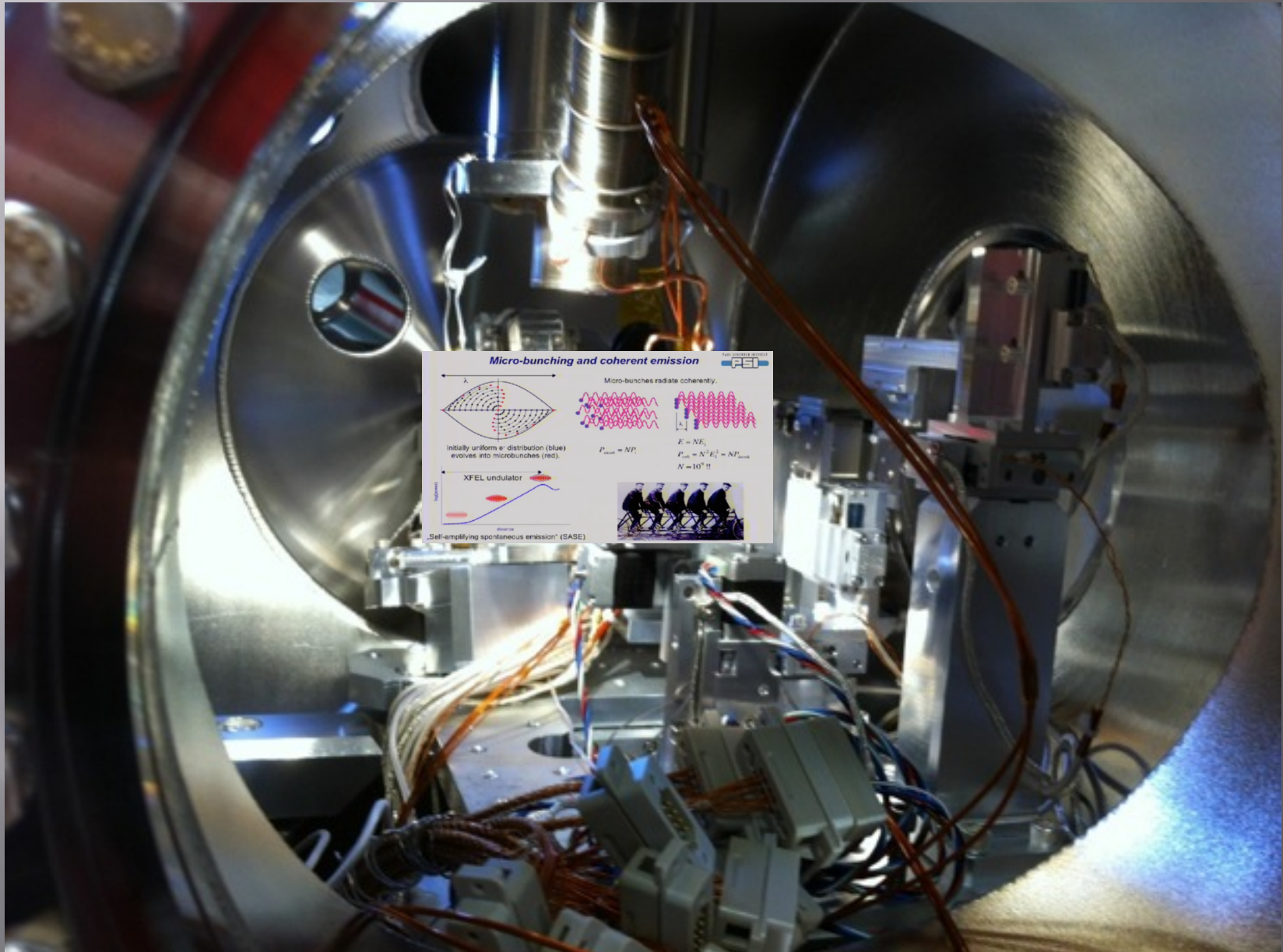


# X-ray Free Electron Laser end station

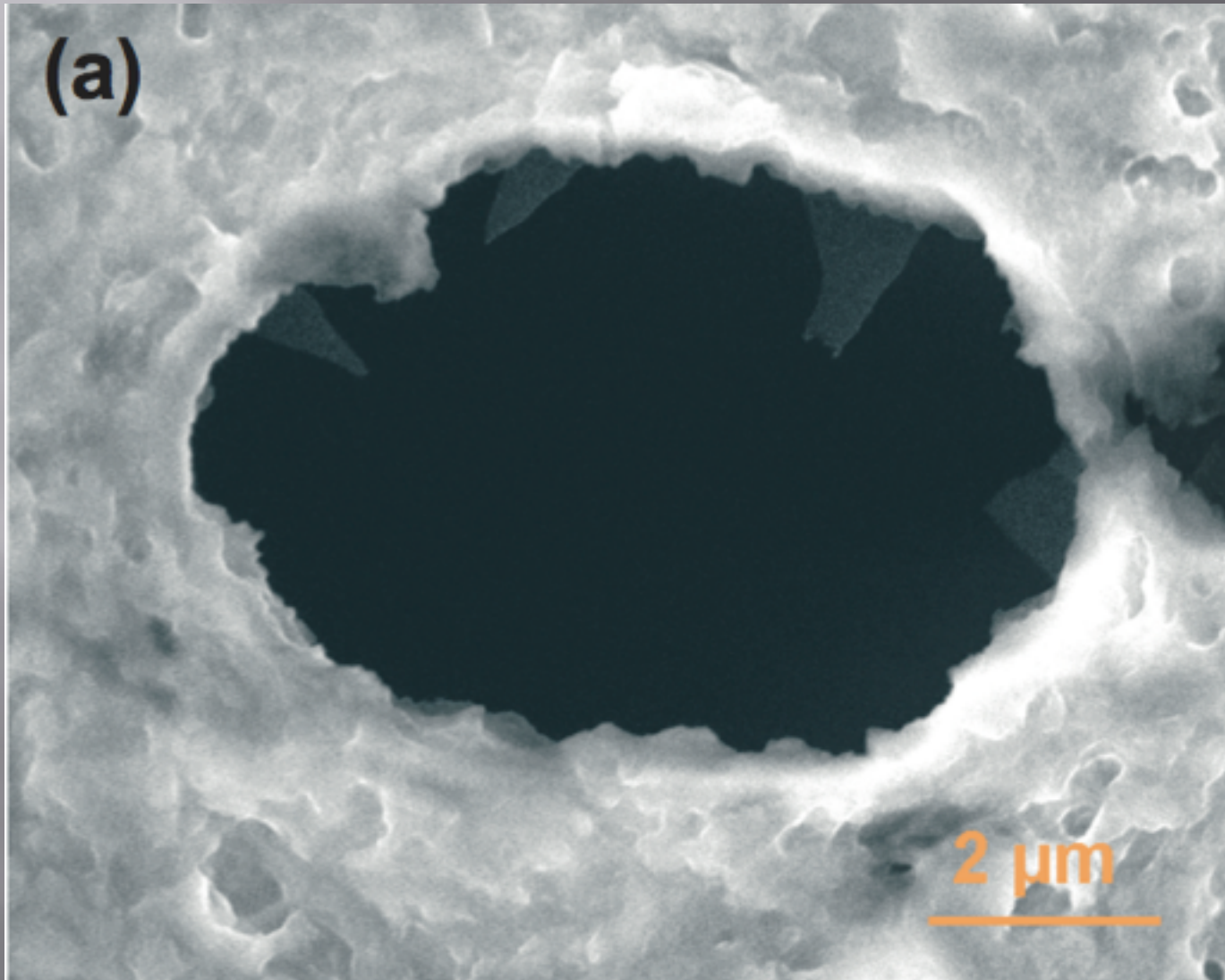




# Solid support in vacuum chamber

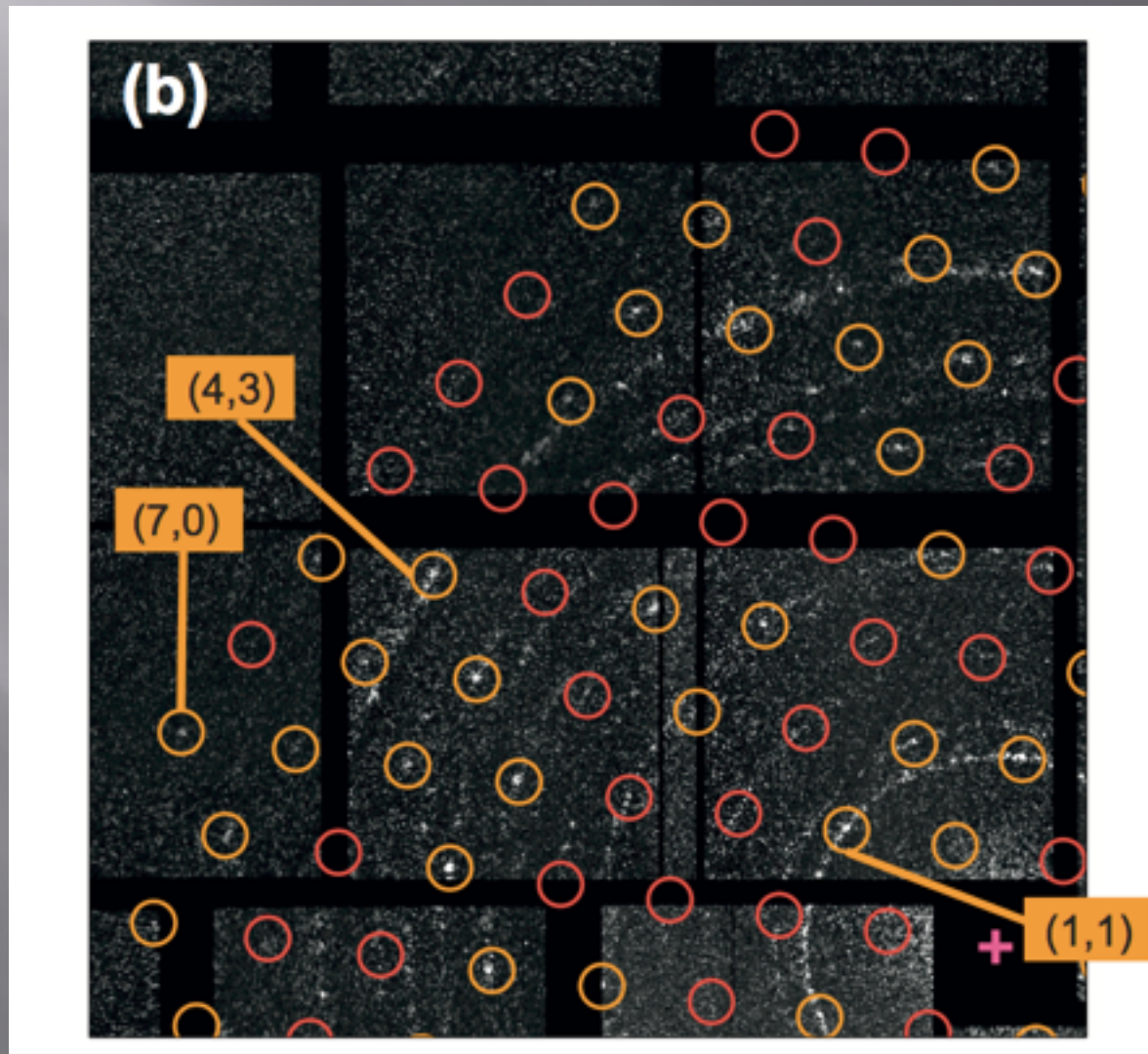


# Devastating impact of a X-FEL



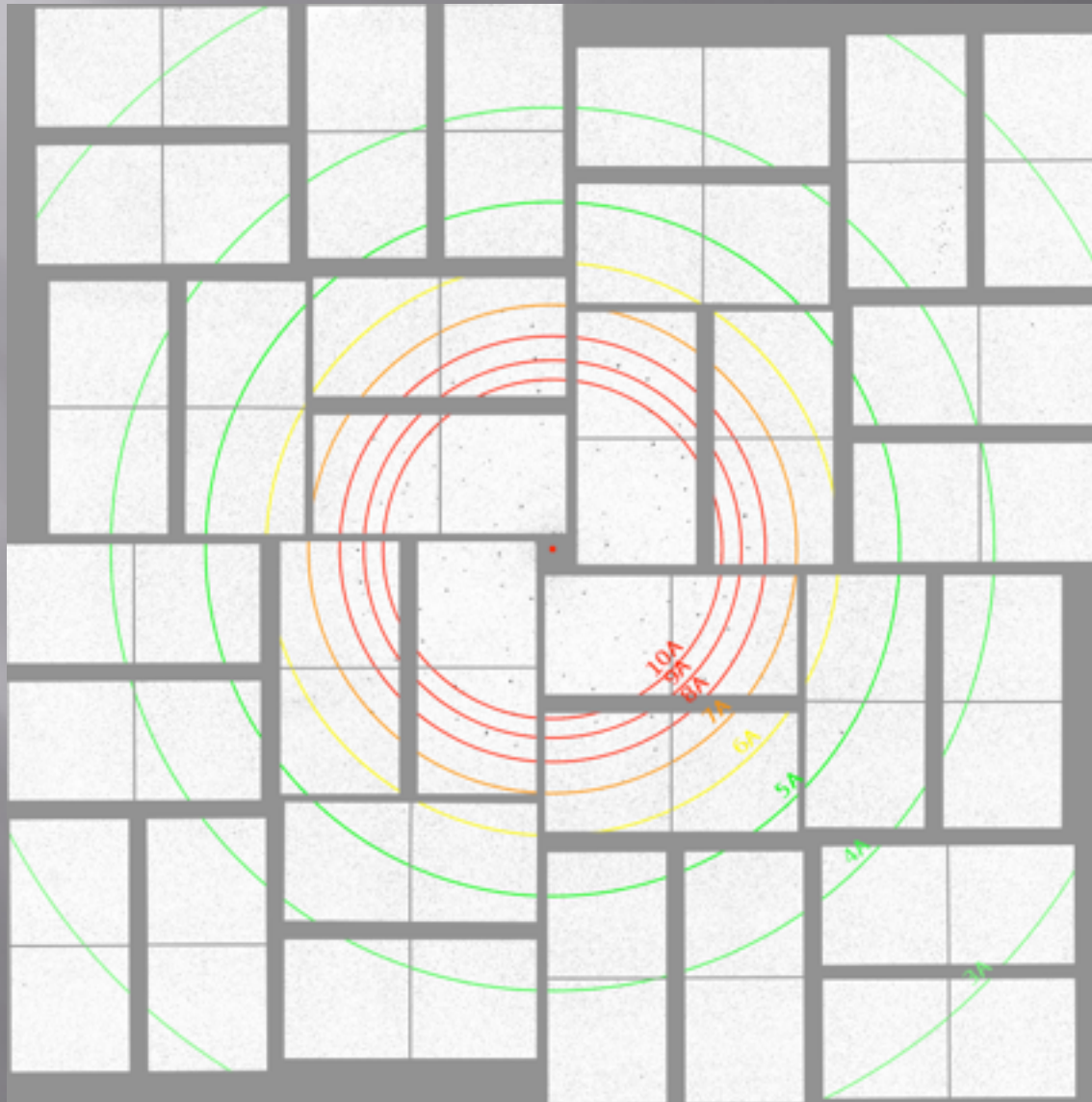


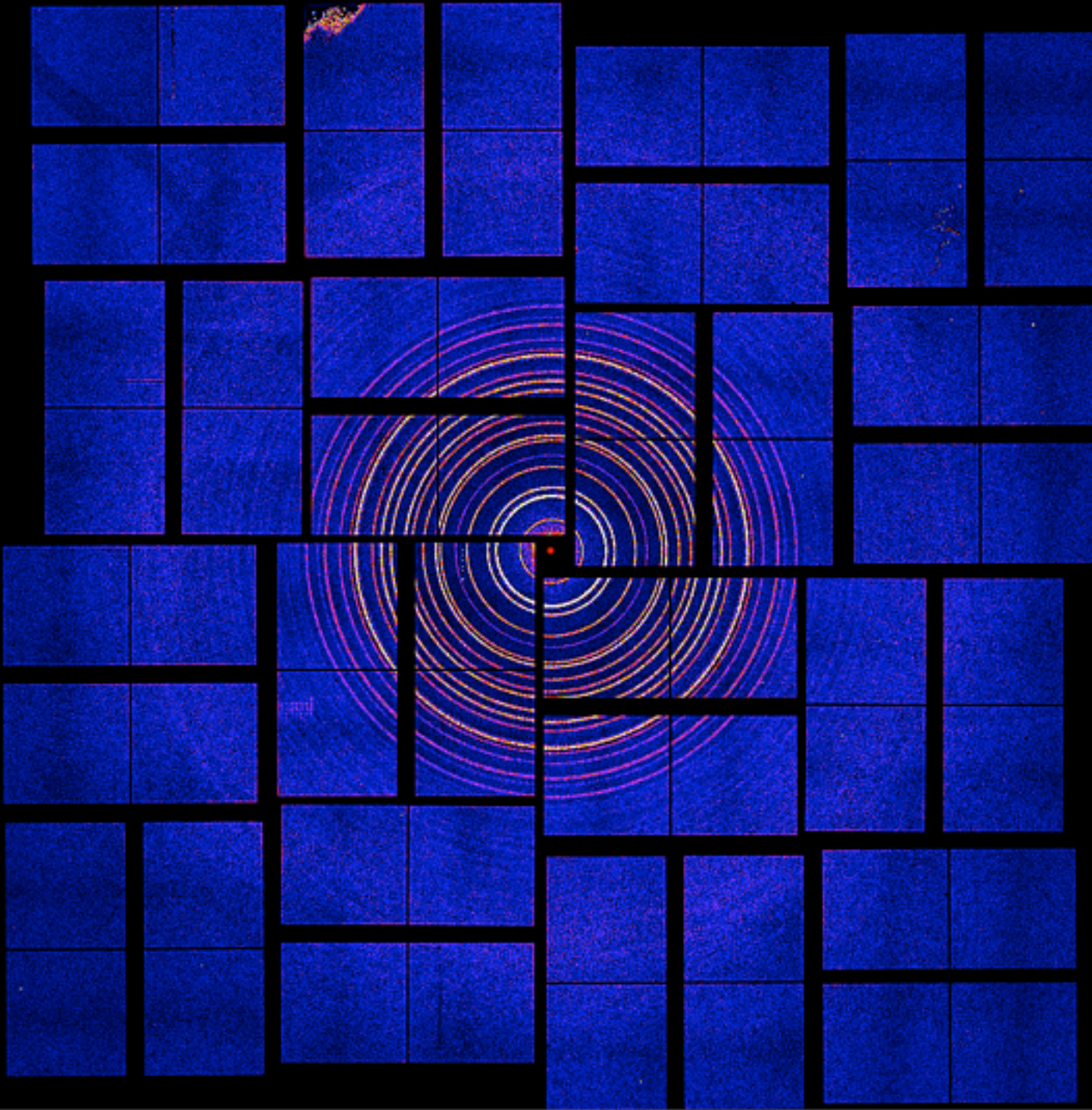
# First diffraction pattern of several 2D crystal patches





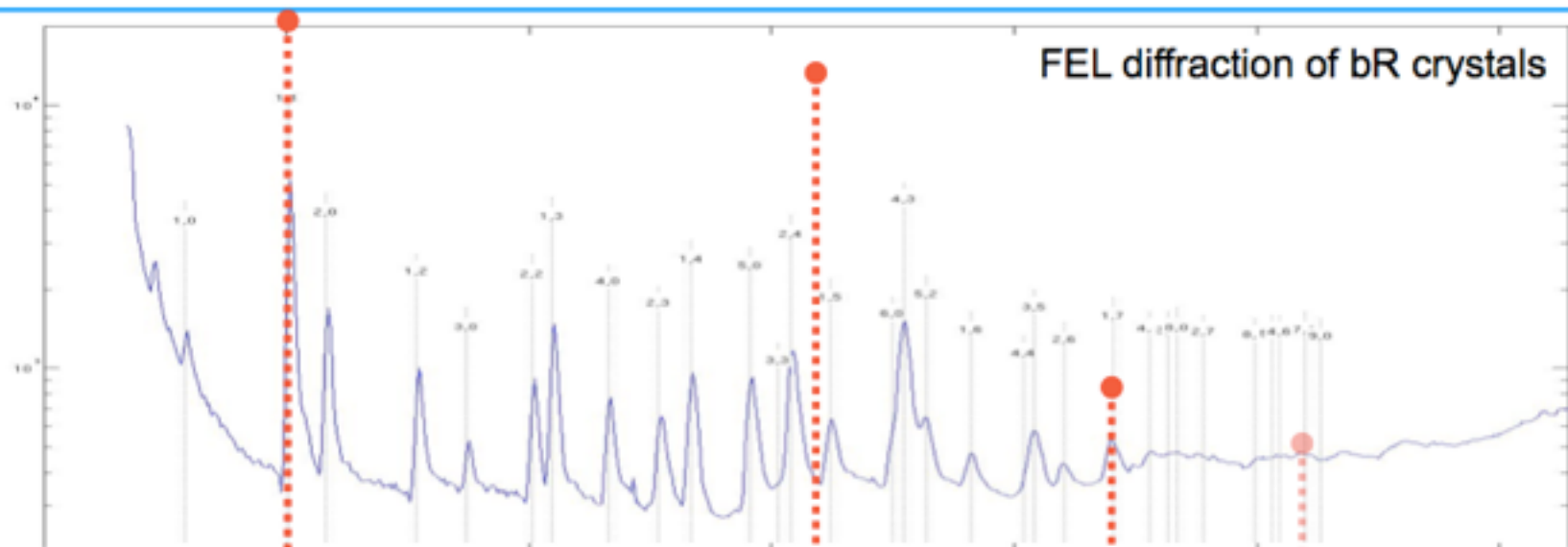
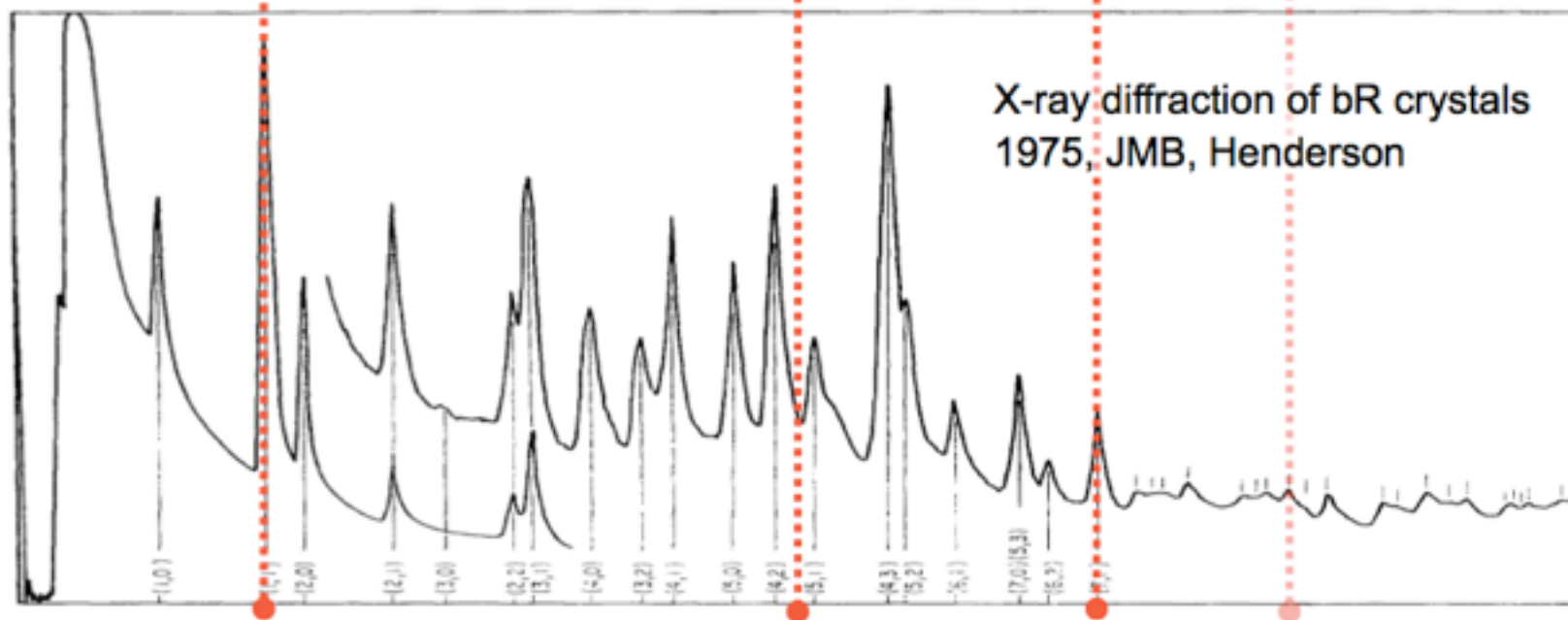
# X-Ray diffraction of single 2D crystal





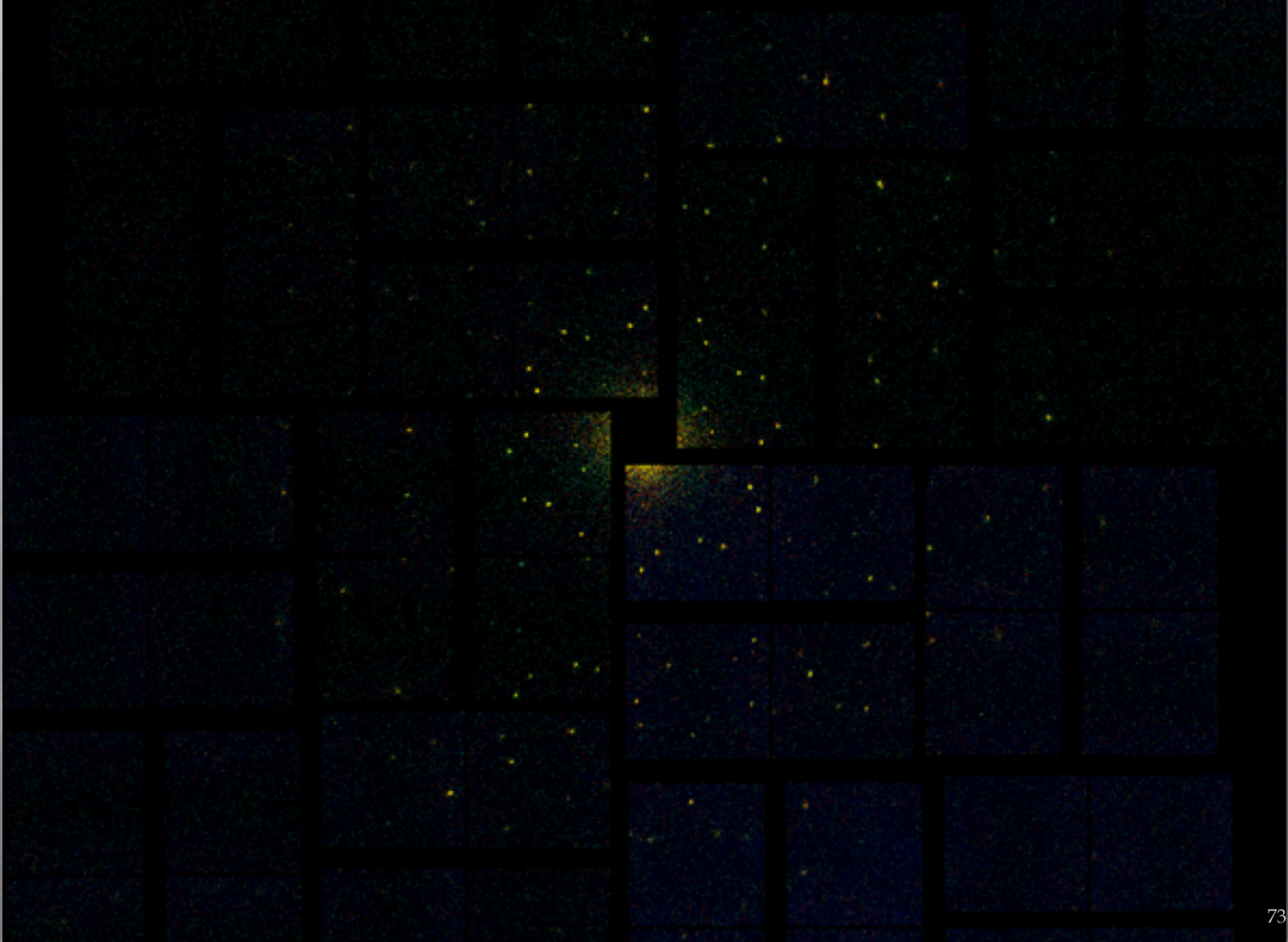
Run 0165  
Averaged pattern from 104  
images

## FEL diffraction of bR crystals

X-ray diffraction of bR crystals  
1975, JMB, Henderson



# Diffraction from 2D crystals on improved





# First Publikation on D2 Membrane Protein Crystal X-ray diffraction

**IUCr**

ISSN 2052-2525

BIOLOGY | MEDICINE

Received 21 October 2013

Accepted 21 January 2014

Edited by H. Chapman, DESY/Universität  
Hamburg, Germany

**Keywords:** two-dimensional protein crystal;  
femtosecond crystallography; single layer X-ray  
diffraction; membrane protein

## Femtosecond X-ray diffraction from two-dimensional protein crystals

Matthias Frank,<sup>a\*</sup> David B. Carlson,<sup>b</sup> Mark S. Hunter,<sup>a</sup> Garth J. Williams,<sup>c</sup> Marc Messerschmidt,<sup>c</sup> Nadia A. Zatsepin,<sup>d</sup> Anton Barty,<sup>e</sup> W. Henry Benner,<sup>a</sup> Kaiqin Chu,<sup>f</sup> Alexander T. Graf,<sup>a</sup> Stefan P. Hau-Riege,<sup>a</sup> Richard A. Kirian,<sup>c</sup> Celestino Padeste,<sup>g</sup> Tommaso Pardini,<sup>a</sup> Bill Pedrini,<sup>h</sup> Brent Segelke,<sup>a</sup> M. Marvin Seibert,<sup>c</sup> John C. H. Spence,<sup>d</sup> Ching-Ju Tsai,<sup>h</sup> Stephen M. Lane,<sup>i</sup> Xiao-Dan Li,<sup>h</sup> Gebhard Schertler,<sup>a</sup> Sebastien Boutet,<sup>c</sup> Matthew Coleman<sup>a</sup> and James E. Evans<sup>h,j,k\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, 7000 East Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550, USA, <sup>b</sup>Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of California, Davis, 1 Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616, USA, <sup>c</sup>Linac Coherent Light Source, 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA, <sup>d</sup>Arizona State University, 300 East University Drive, Tempe, AZ 85287, USA, <sup>e</sup>Center for Free-Electron Laser Science, University of Hamburg, Luruper Chaussee 149, Hamburg 22761, Germany, <sup>f</sup>Center for Biophotonics, 2700 Stockton Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95817, USA, <sup>g</sup>Paul Scherrer Institute, 5232 Villigen PSI, Switzerland, and <sup>h</sup>Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, 3335 Innovation Boulevard, Richland, WA 99354, USA. \*Correspondence e-mail: frank1@llnl.gov, james.evans@pnl.gov

X-ray diffraction patterns from two-dimensional (2-D) protein crystals obtained using femtosecond X-ray pulses from an X-ray free-electron laser (XFEL) are presented. To date, it has not been possible to acquire transmission X-ray diffraction patterns from individual 2-D protein crystals due to radiation damage. However, the intense and ultrafast pulses generated by an XFEL permit a new method of collecting diffraction data before the sample is destroyed. Utilizing a diffract-before-destroy approach at the Linac Coherent Light Source, Bragg diffraction was acquired to better than 8.5 Å resolution for two different 2-D protein crystal samples each less than 10 nm thick and maintained at room temperature. These proof-of-principle results show promise for structural analysis of both soluble and membrane proteins arranged as 2-D crystals without requiring cryogenic conditions or the formation of three-dimensional crystals.



# First Publikation on D2 Membrane Protein Crystal X-ray diffraction

Submitted to Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B - Issue

## 7 Å resolution in protein 2D-crystal X-ray diffraction at LCLS

Bill Pedrini<sup>1</sup>, Ching-Ju Tsai<sup>1</sup>, Guido Capitani<sup>1</sup>, Celestino Padeste<sup>1</sup>, Mark S. Hunter<sup>2</sup>, Nadia A. Zatsepin<sup>4</sup>, Anton Barty<sup>5</sup>, W. Henry Benner<sup>2</sup>, Sébastien Boutet<sup>6</sup>, Geoffrey K. Feld<sup>2</sup>, Stefan P. Hau-Riege<sup>2</sup>, Richard A. Kirian<sup>5</sup>, Christopher Kupitz<sup>4</sup>, Marc Messerschmitt<sup>6</sup>, John I. Ogren<sup>7</sup>, Tommaso Pardini<sup>2</sup>, Brent Segelke<sup>2</sup>, Garth J. Williams<sup>6</sup>, John C. H. Spence<sup>4</sup>, Rafael Abela<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Coleman<sup>2</sup>, James E. Evans<sup>3</sup>, Gebhard Schertler<sup>1</sup>, Matthias Frank<sup>1,2</sup>, and Xiao-Dan Li<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Paul Scherrer Institute, 5232 Villigen PSI, Switzerland

<sup>2</sup>Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, 7000 East Avenue, Livermore, CA, 94550, USA

<sup>3</sup>Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, 3335 Innovation Blvd., Richland, WA, 99354, USA

<sup>4</sup>Arizona State University, 300 E. University Dr., Tempe, AZ, 85287, USA

<sup>5</sup>Center for Free-Electron Laser Science, DESY, Notkestrasse 85, 22607 Hamburg, Germany

<sup>6</sup>Linac Coherent Light Source, 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA, 94025, USA

<sup>7</sup>Physics Department, Boston University, 590 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, MA, 02215, USA

January 22, 2014

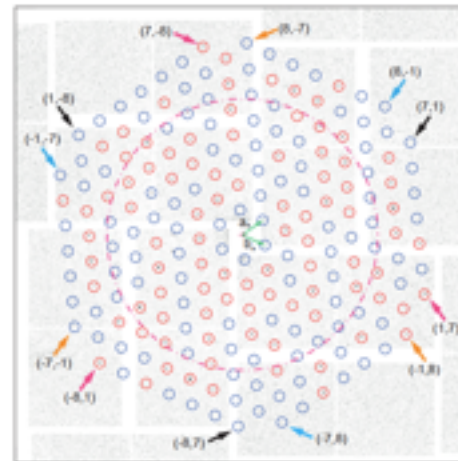


Figure 1: Example of a diffraction image from a single tilt 2D crystal. The dashed ring corresponds to 10 Å resolution. The circles mark the positions of expected diffraction peaks at lower than 7 Å resolution. The precise orientation of the peak lattice was derived from the positions of the prominent, easily identifiable peaks enclosed in red. The basic vectors ( $a^*$ ,  $b^*$ ) of the 2D reciprocal space lattice are shown as green arrows. The small arrows mark the position of peaks in the classes  $((7, 5))$  (black),  $((3, 7))$  (orange),  $((-7, -1))$  (orange) and  $((-1, -7))$  (cyan), each class consisting of three equivalent peaks.

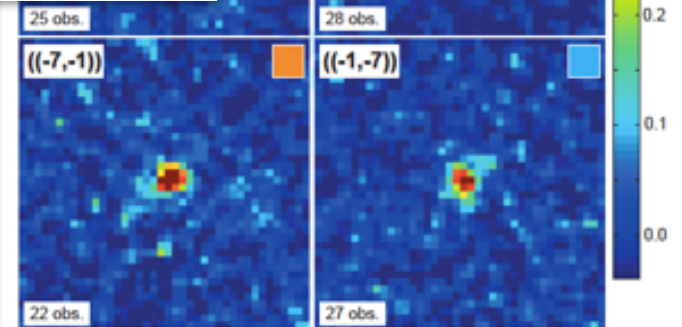
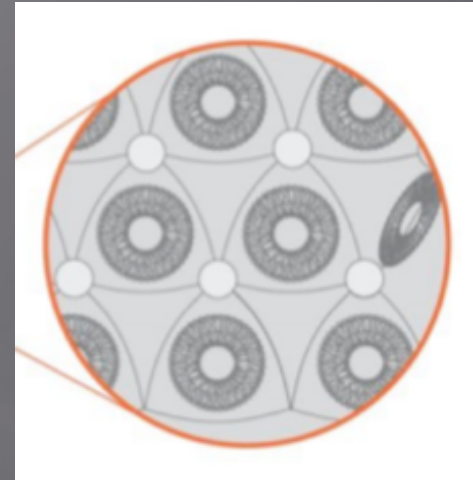


Figure 3: Examples of "image sector sums" (see text) for the four peak classes  $((7, 1))$ ,  $((-7, -1))$ ,  $((1, 7))$  and  $((-1, -7))$ , all at 7.2 Å resolution. For each peak, the number of observations is indicated, and the color in the small box at the top right of each panel corresponds to that of the arrows in Figure 1. The intensity color scale is the same for all four panels. Maximum intensity is about 40 times the background noise, calculated as the average on all image sector sums of the local noise level measured away from the central peak region.

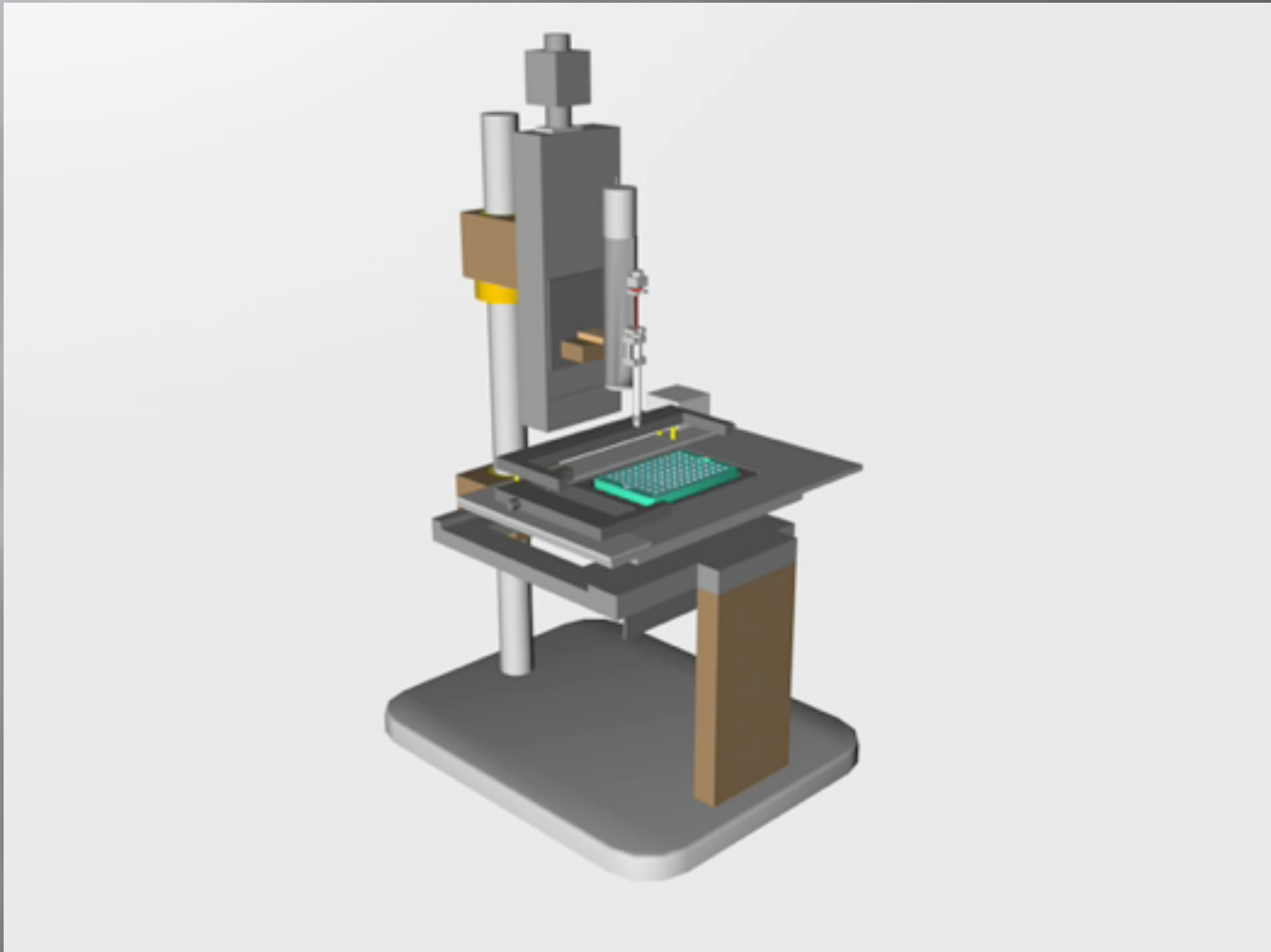


# Lipidic Cubic Phase Crystallization

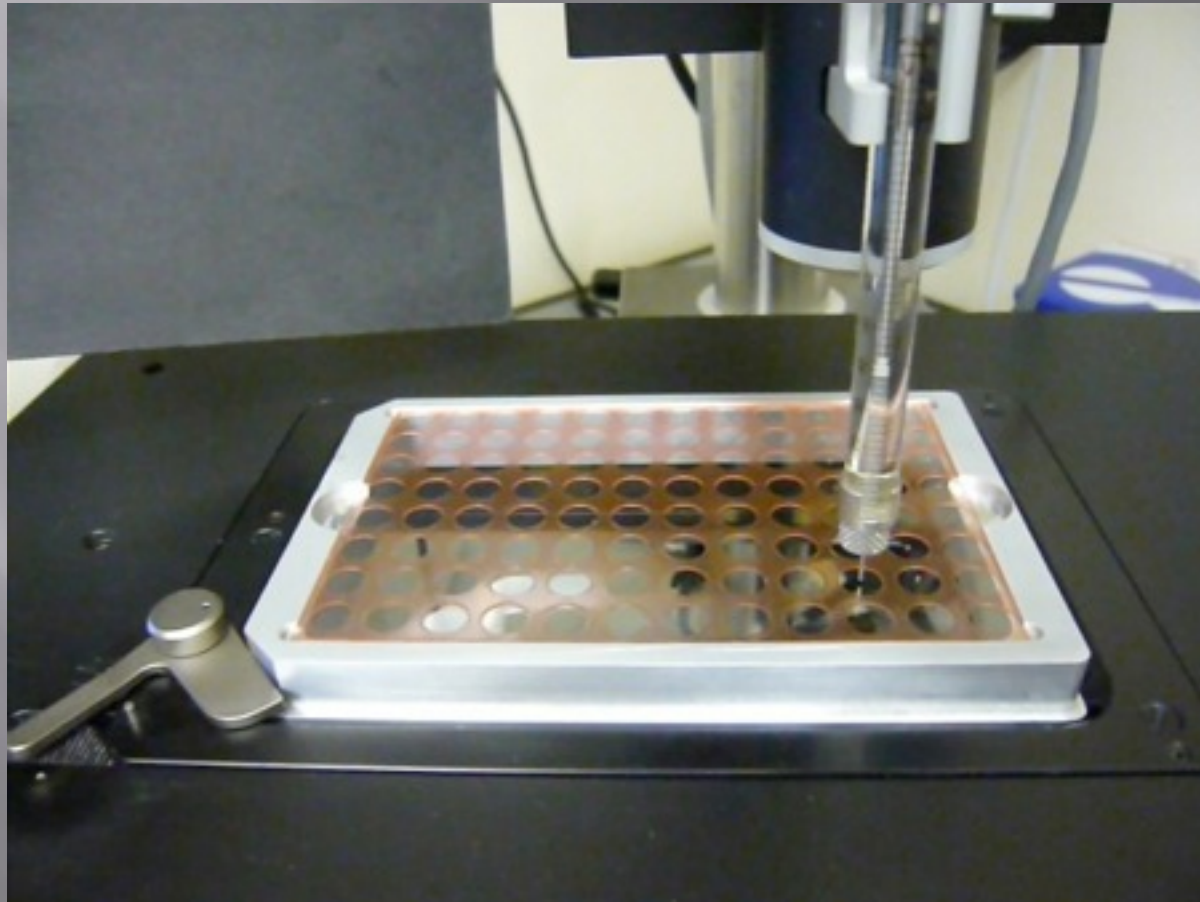


- ❑ Our membrane protein structures have often moderate resolution
- ❑ Lipidic Cubic Phase (LCP) crystallization produces often membrane protein crystals with Type I packing of molecules
- ❑ The new crystal forms can show increased order
- ❑ This way can get better resolution membrane protein structures
- ❑ Still a number of technical issues in practice

# MRC Robotic Cubic Lipidic Phase Dispenser

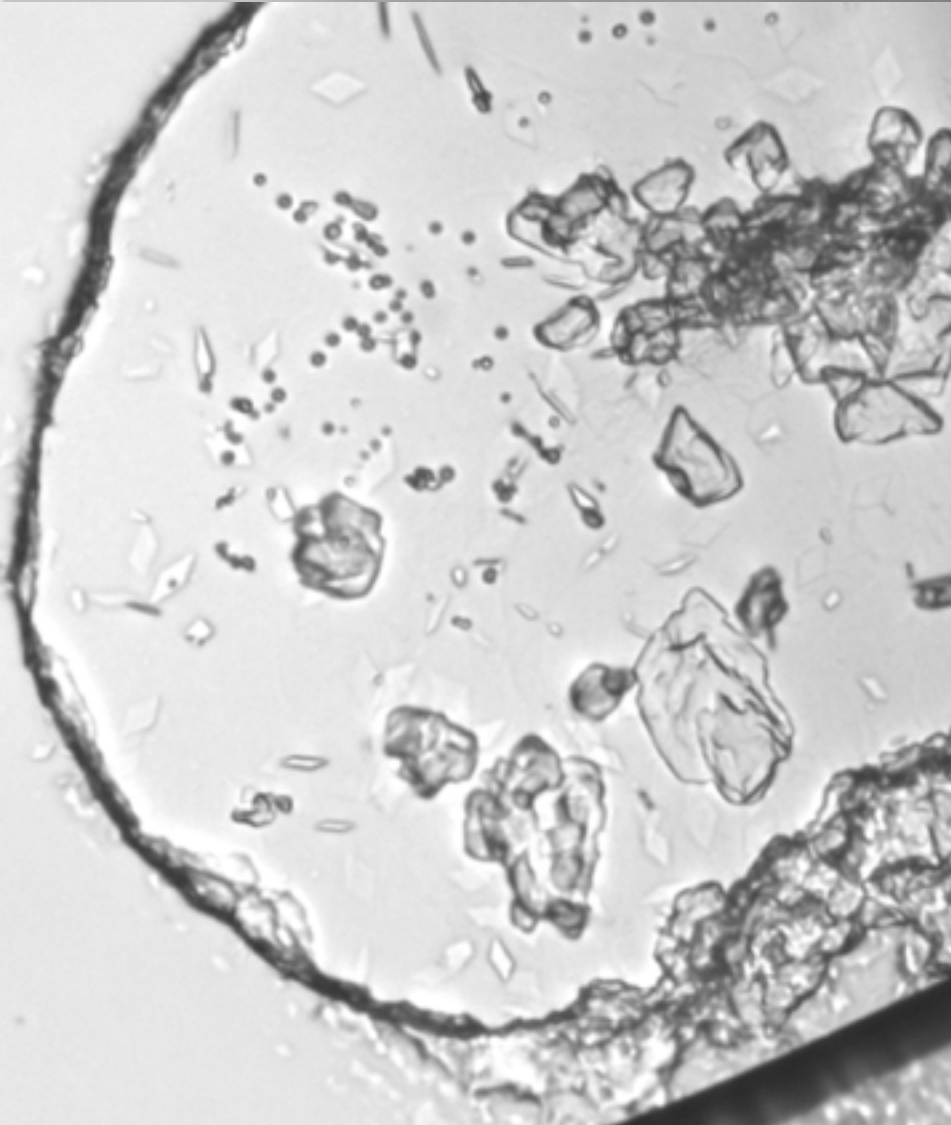


100nL dispense on UV transparent 96 well plate

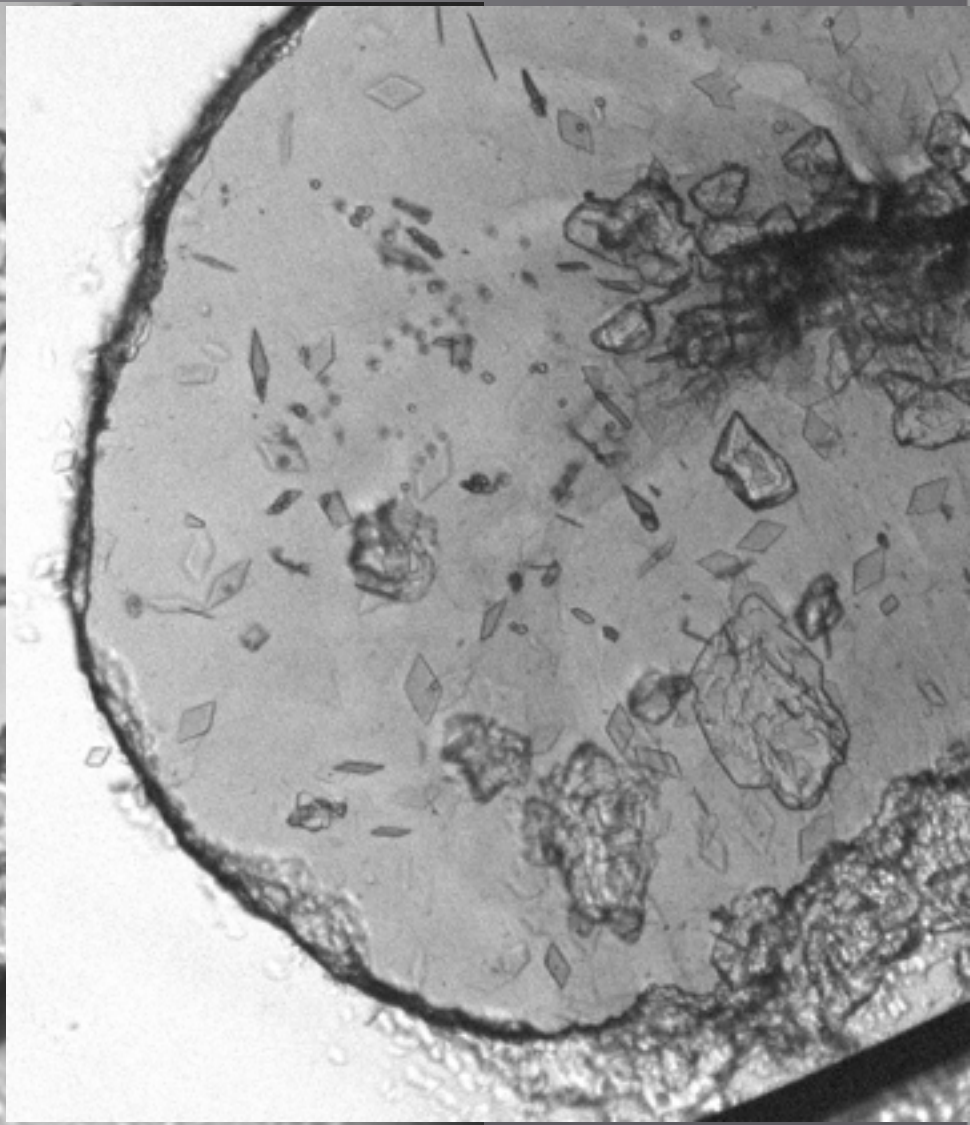




# LCP crystals of stabilised beta 1 adrenergic receptor

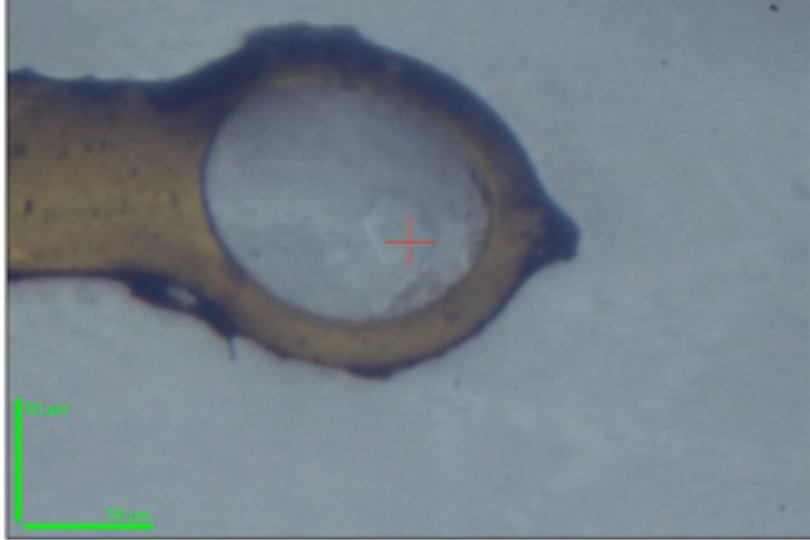


Visible light



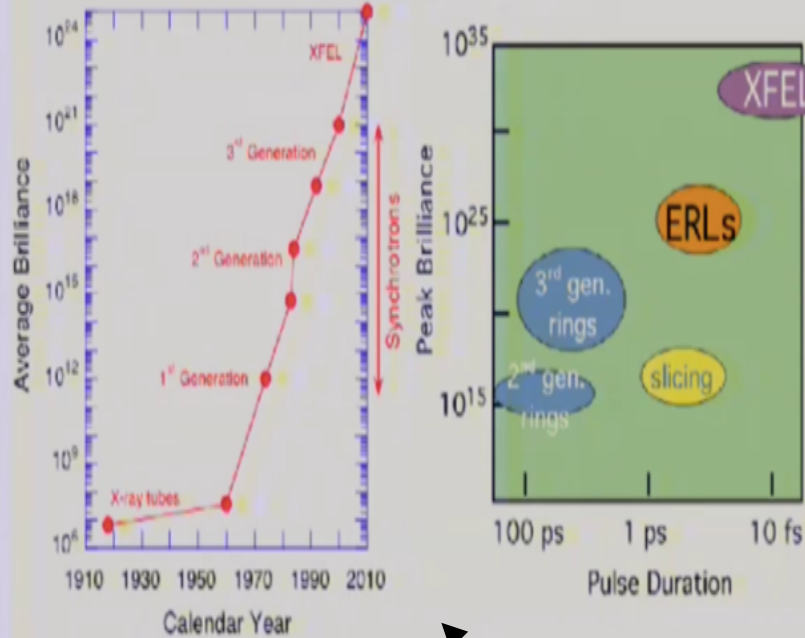
UV image 280 nm

# Stabilised beta 1 adrenergic receptor Type I membrane protein crystal packing



## X-Ray Source Brilliance

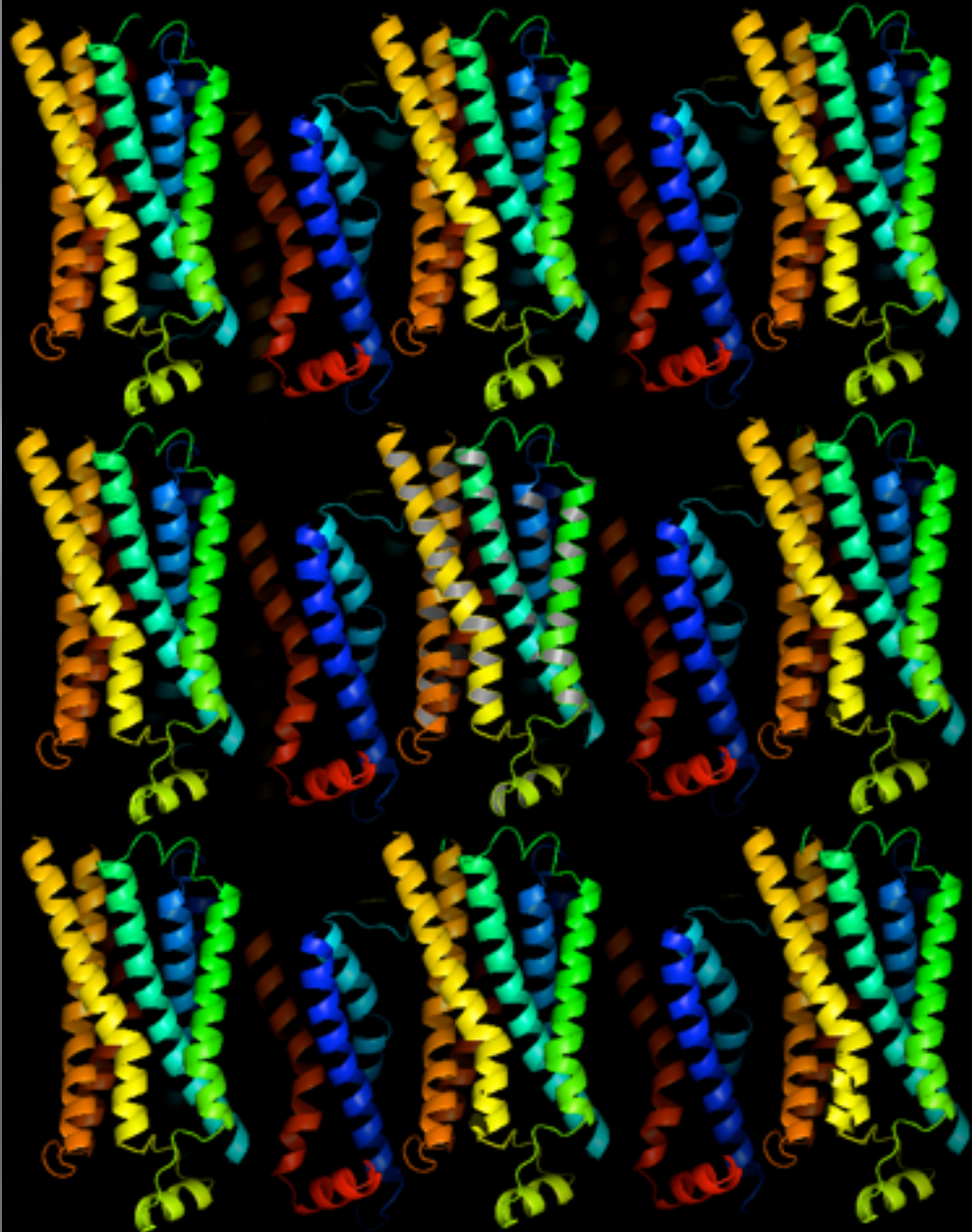
PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUTE  
PSI



brilliance =

# photons / time / area / solid-angle / energy-bandwidth

2.4 Å

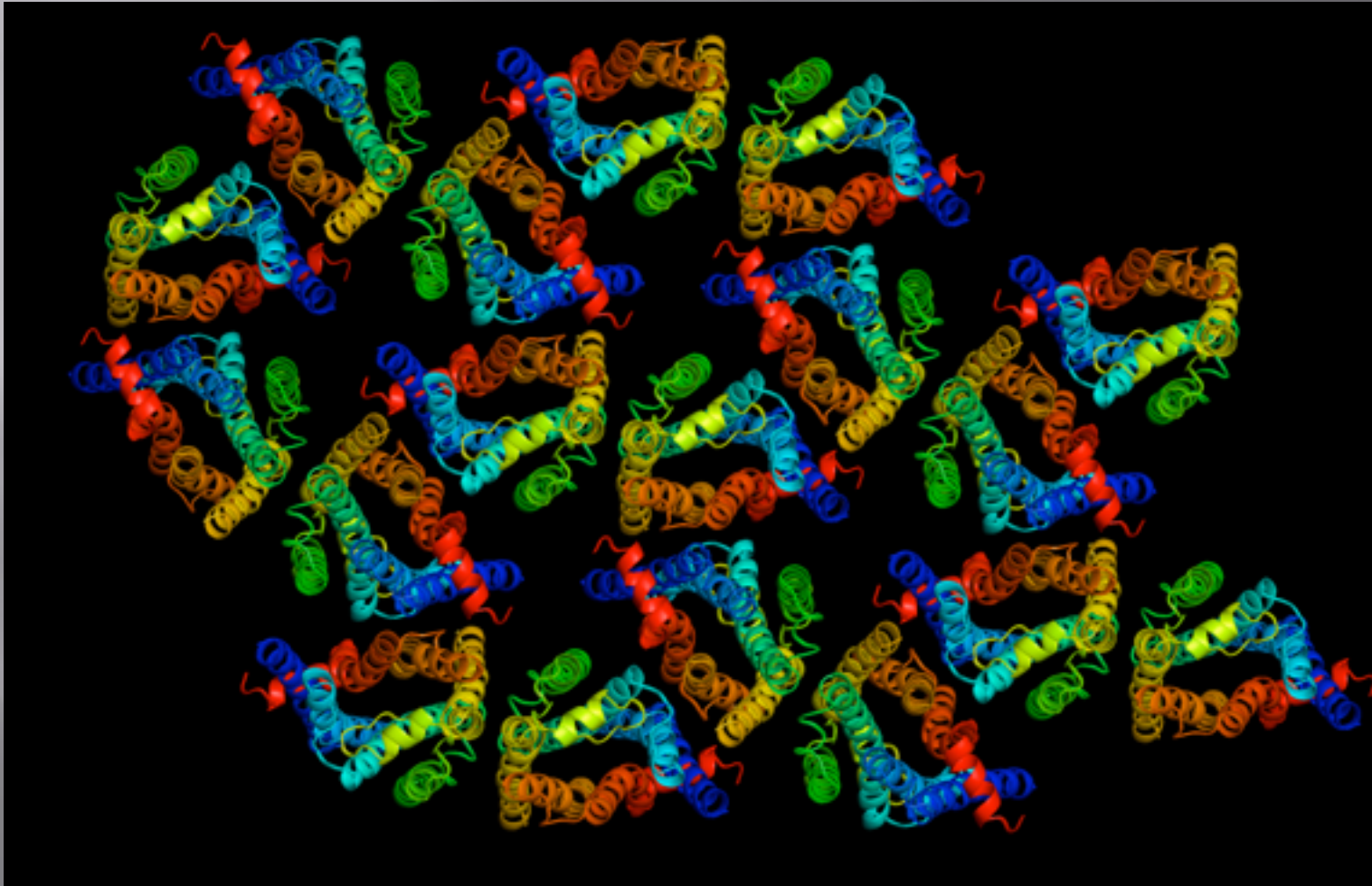


## $\beta_1$ adrenergic receptor LCP crystals

Spacegroup: P 2<sub>1</sub> 2 2<sub>1</sub>

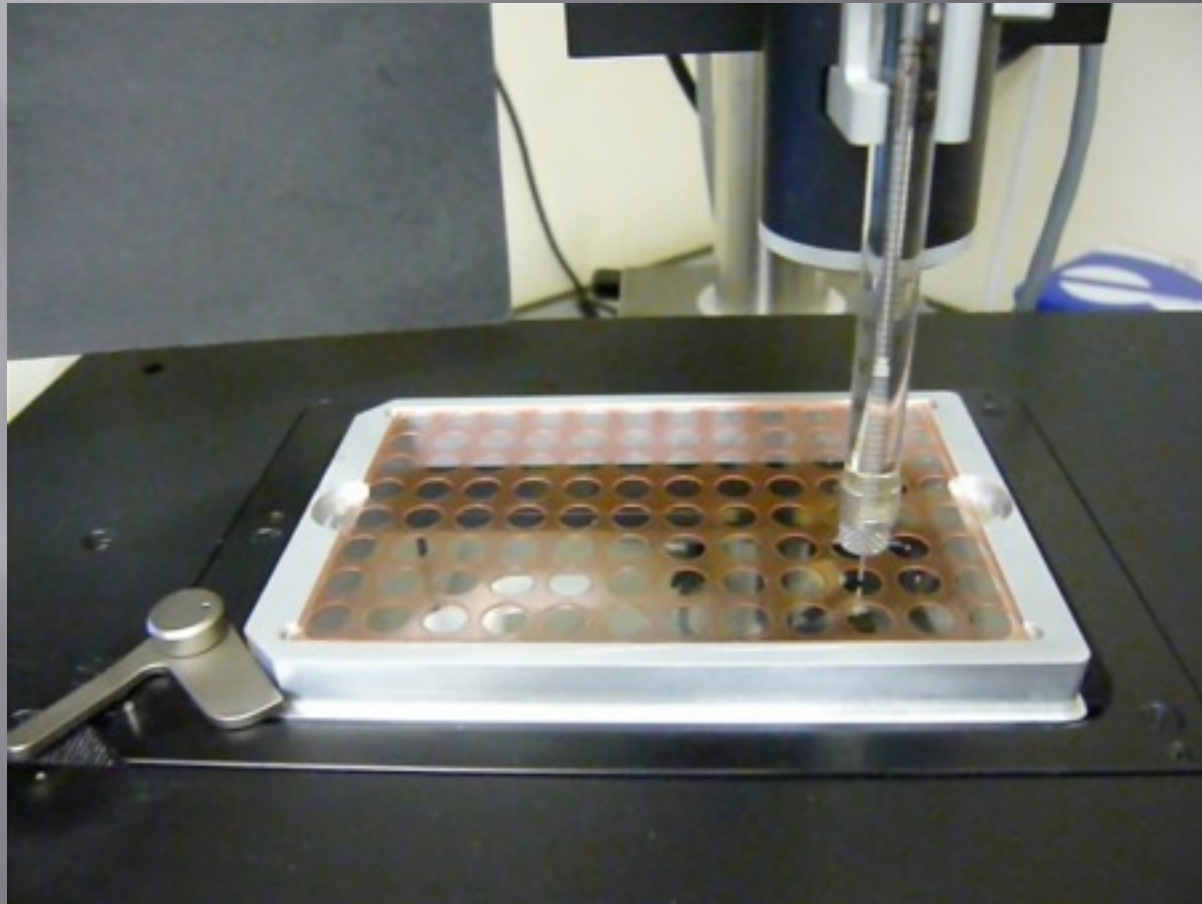
Cell: a=54.4Å b=61.6Å c=94.3Å

$\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$





100nL dispense on UV transparent 96 well plate



# TTP LabTech launches dedicated instrument for lipidic cubic phase screening

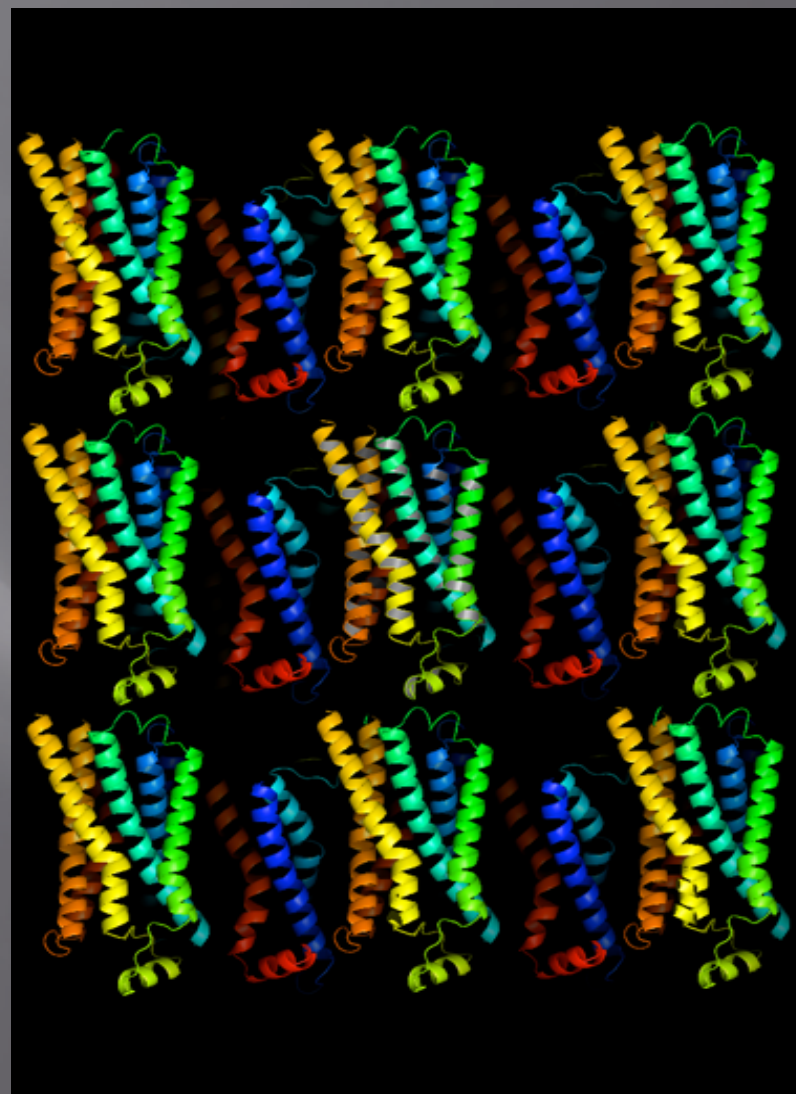
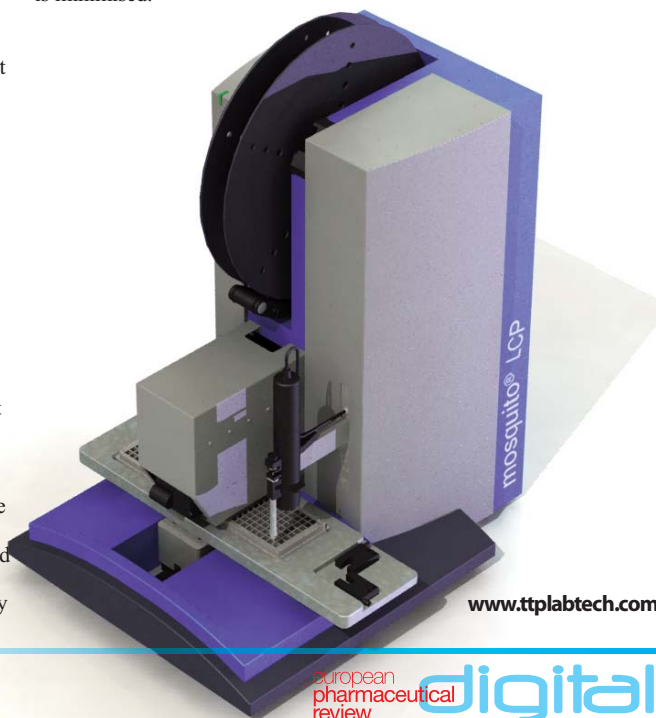
TTP LabTech are pleased to announce the launch of mosquito® LCP. Developed in collaboration with senior researchers from the MRC, UK (Gebhard Schertler and Pat Edwards), this instrument facilitates the automation and increased throughput of lipidic cubic phase (LCP) crystallisation set-ups. This novel automation system enables LCP screening to be performed accurately and with ease.

The LCP technique for crystallising membrane proteins can be difficult and time-consuming to set up by hand as it utilises highly viscous lipid mesophases to reconstitute proteins. TTP LabTech has overcome these problems with mosquito® LCP, a dedicated pipetting instrument for automated LCP screening set-up. This new product boasts the full functionality of the renowned mosquito product, whilst incorporating technical innovations specific for LCP techniques.

Using a positive displacement syringe with automated tip positioning, mosquito LCP provides accurate and repeatable dispensing of the LCP drops. The precise positioning of the LCP material also facilitates automated imaging of membrane protein crystals in a range of high density

plate types. Mosquito® LCP provides significant benefits over manual processes due to the use of its unique disposable tip technology. For the precipitant additions step, this not only guarantees zero cross-contamination, but negates the need for time-consuming tip washing. Subsequently, high throughput rates of more than eight 96- well plates per hour are easily achieved and evaporation of the dispensed LCP is minimised.

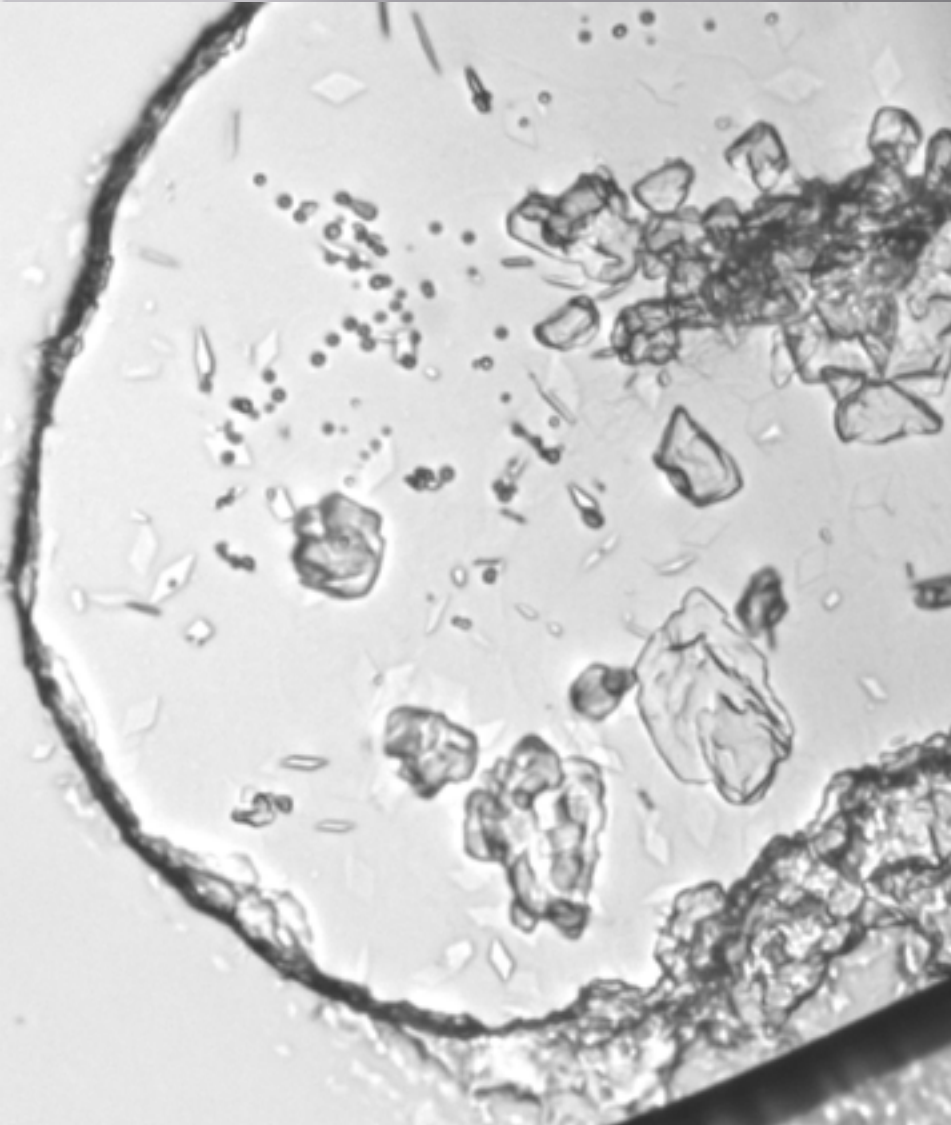
‘The mosquito® is already being used extensively for automated, high throughput protein crystallisation in sitting drop, hanging drop and micro batch applications,’ commented Gebhard Schertler from the MRC ‘This new instrument now extends the applications of the mosquito® to the LCP technique. The mosquito® LCP will be an invaluable addition to any membrane protein crystallisation laboratory.’



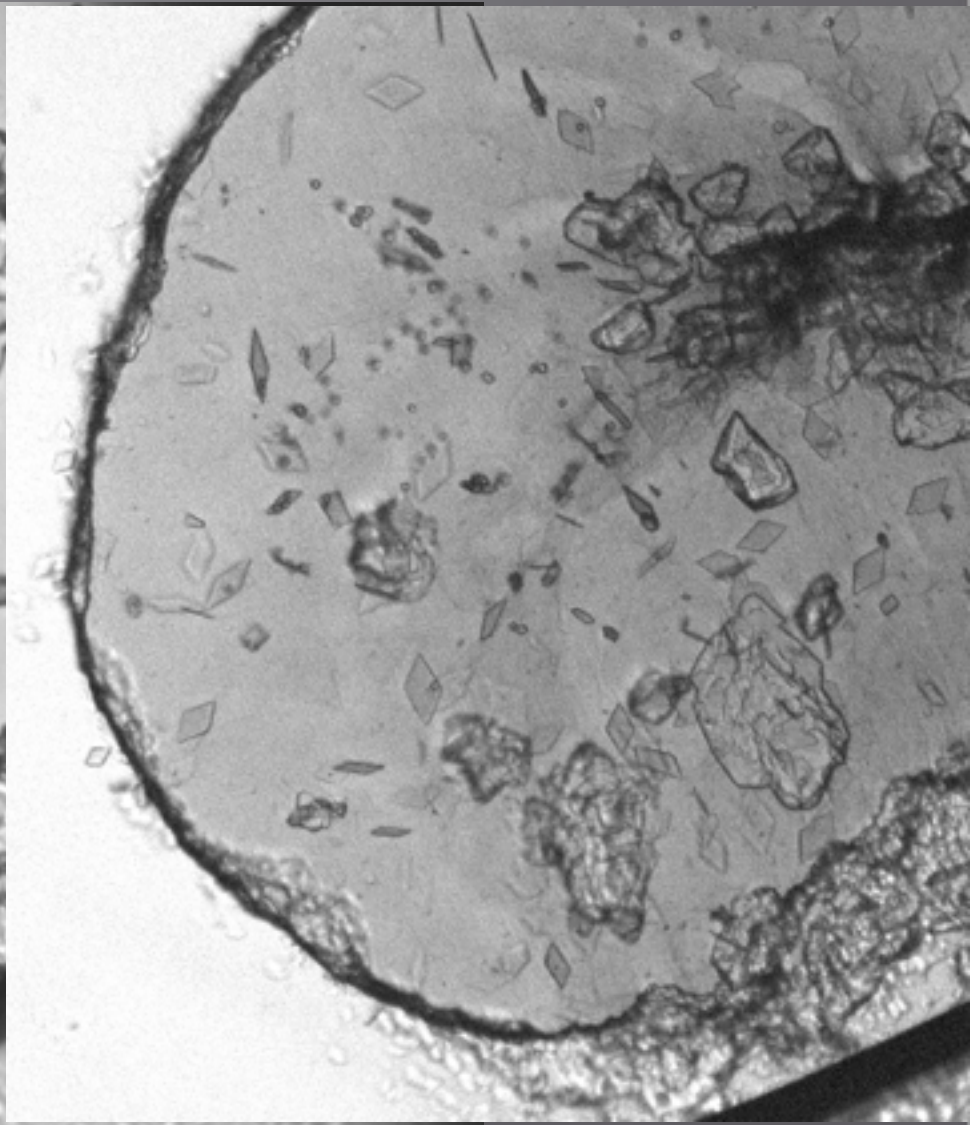
European  
pharmaceutical  
review

digital

# LCP crystals of stabilized beta 1 adrenergic receptor



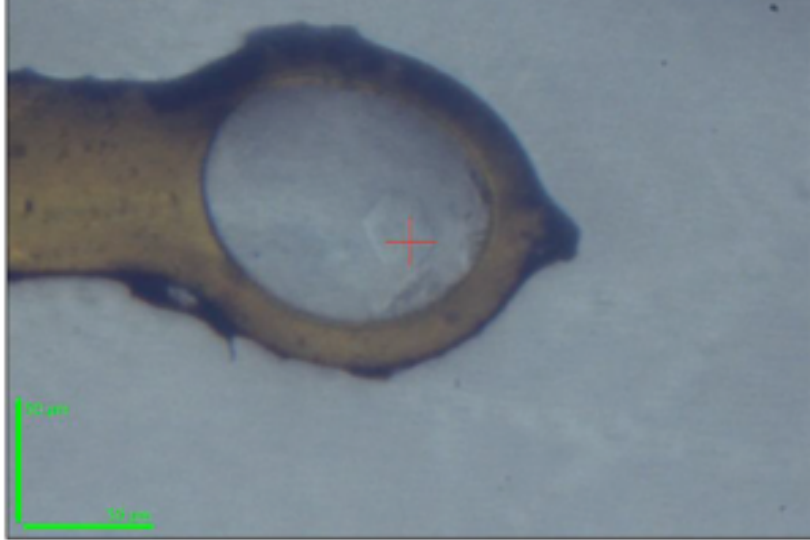
Visible light



UV image 280 nm

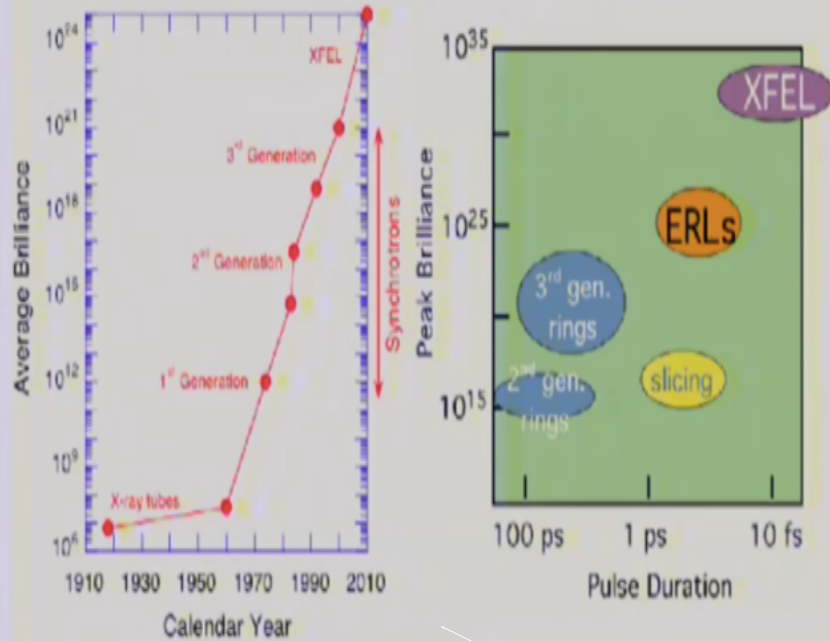


# Stabilised beta 1 adrenergic receptor Type I membrane protein crystal packing



## X-Ray Source Brilliance

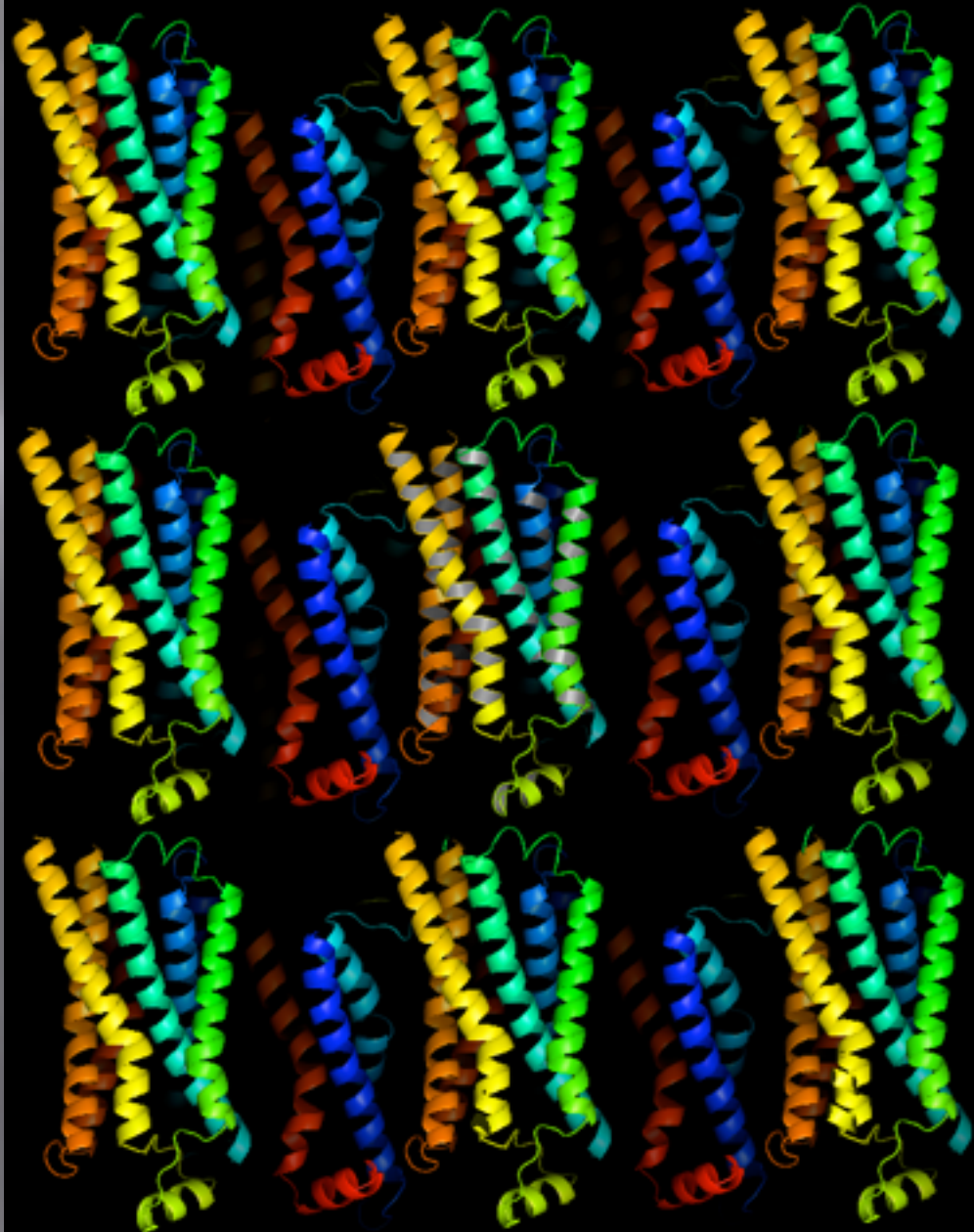
PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUTE  
PSI



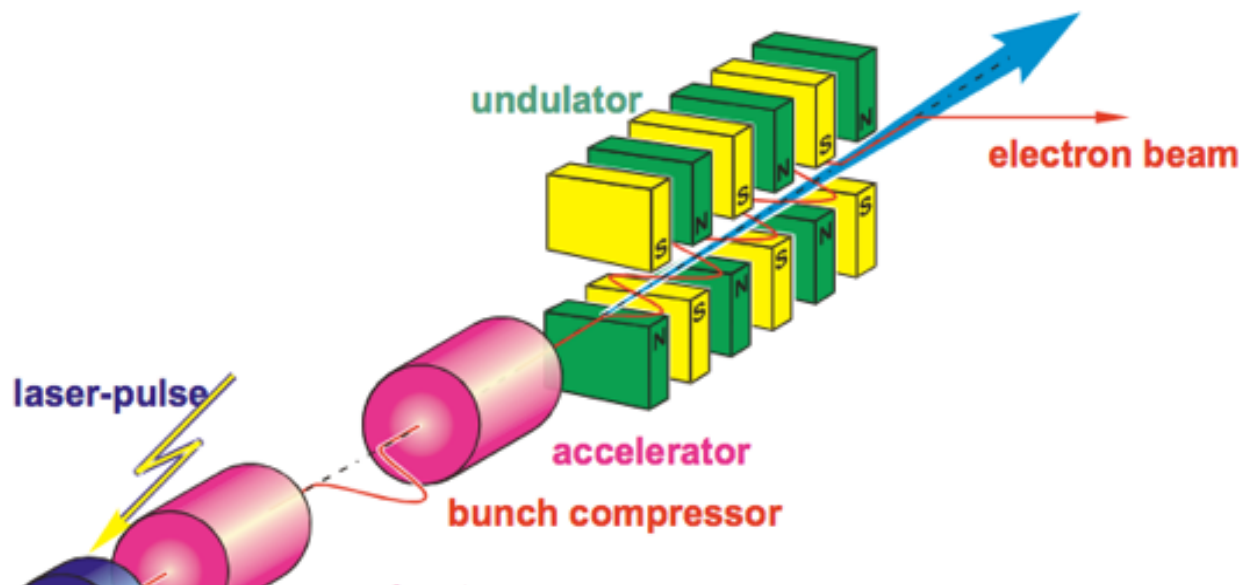
brilliance =

# photons / time / area / solid-angle / energy-bandwidth

2.4 Å



## Basic XFEL design



## The 2.1 Å Resolution Structure of Cyanopindolol-Bound $\beta_1$ -Adrenoceptor Identifies an Intramembrane $\text{Na}^+$ Ion that Stabilises the Ligand-Free Receptor

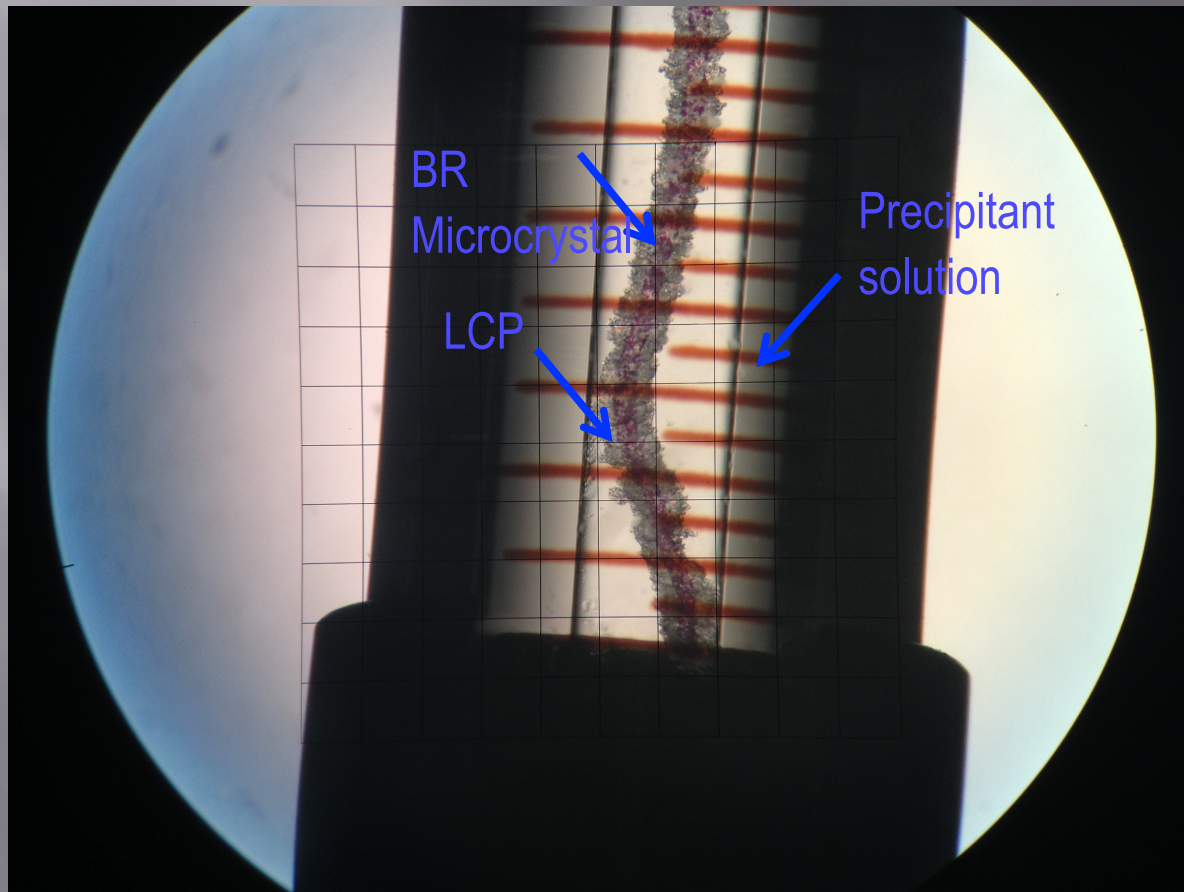
Jennifer L. Miller-Gallacher<sup>a,b</sup>, Rony Nehmé<sup>a</sup>, Tony Warne, Patricia C. Edwards, Gebhard F. X. Schertler<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Andrew G. W. Leslie, Christopher G. Tate<sup>a</sup>

Structural Studies Division, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom

# Lipidic Cubic Phase crystallization for SFX

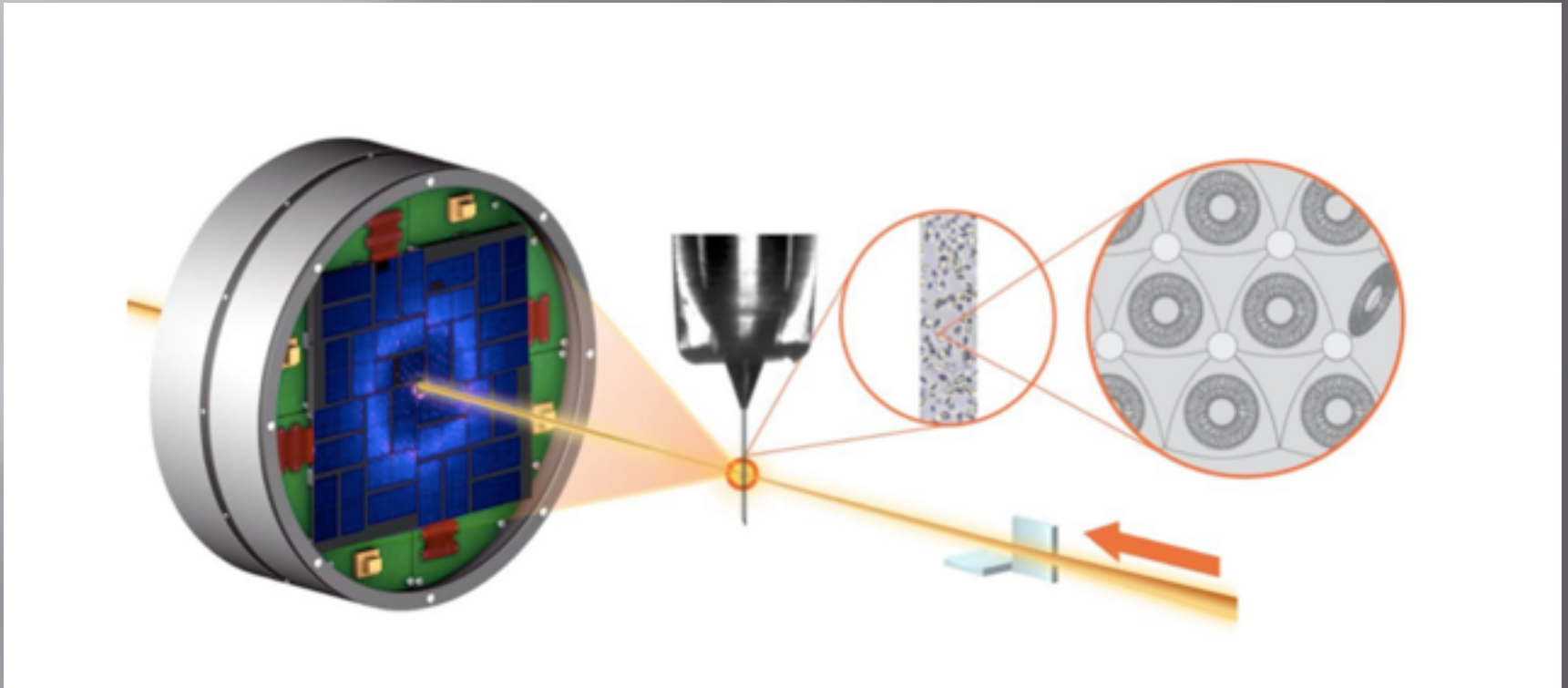
Protein-LCP

Precipitant solution

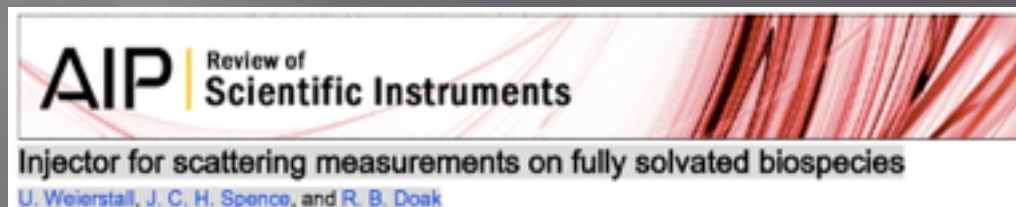




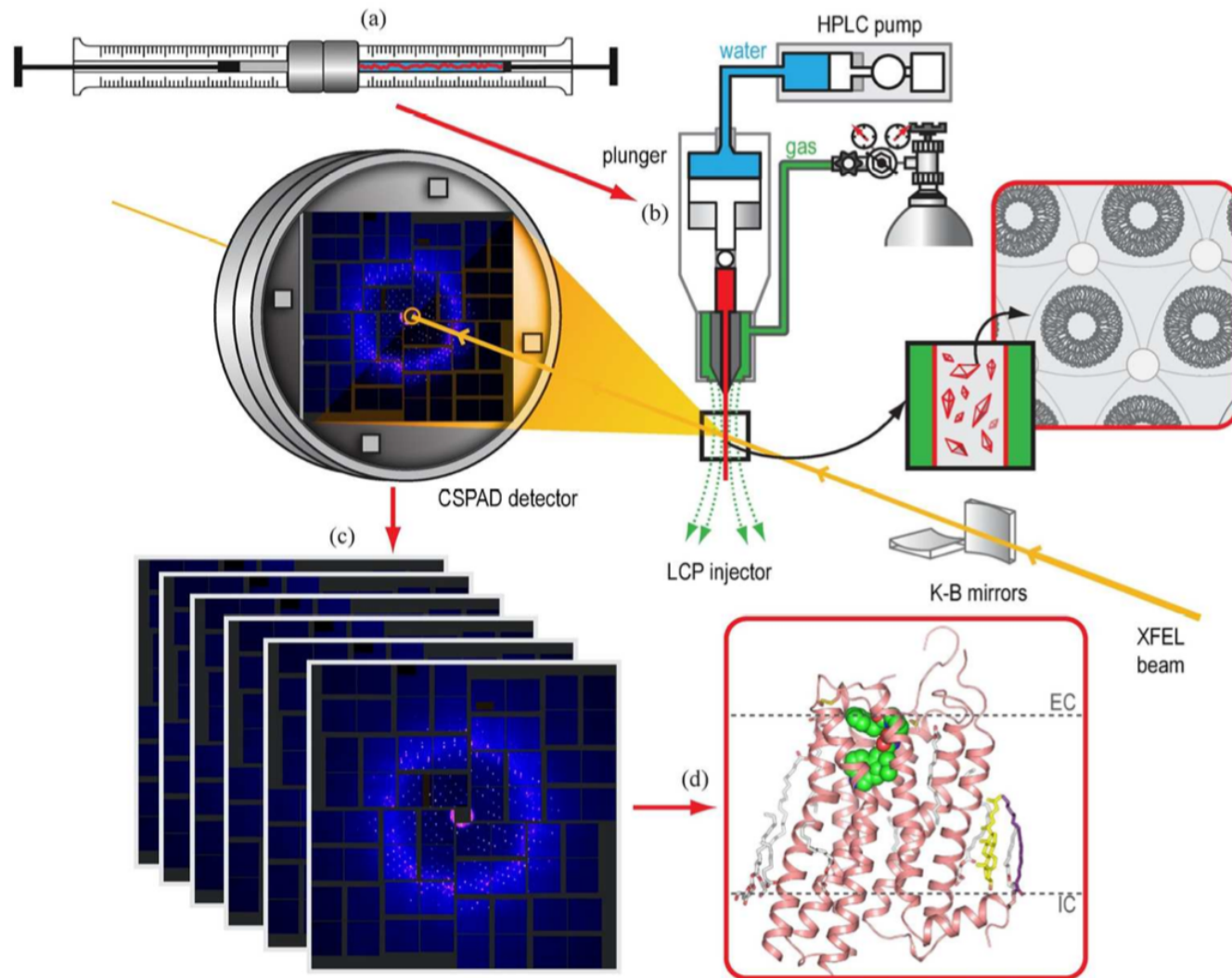
# Lipidic cubic phase (LCP) Jet injector



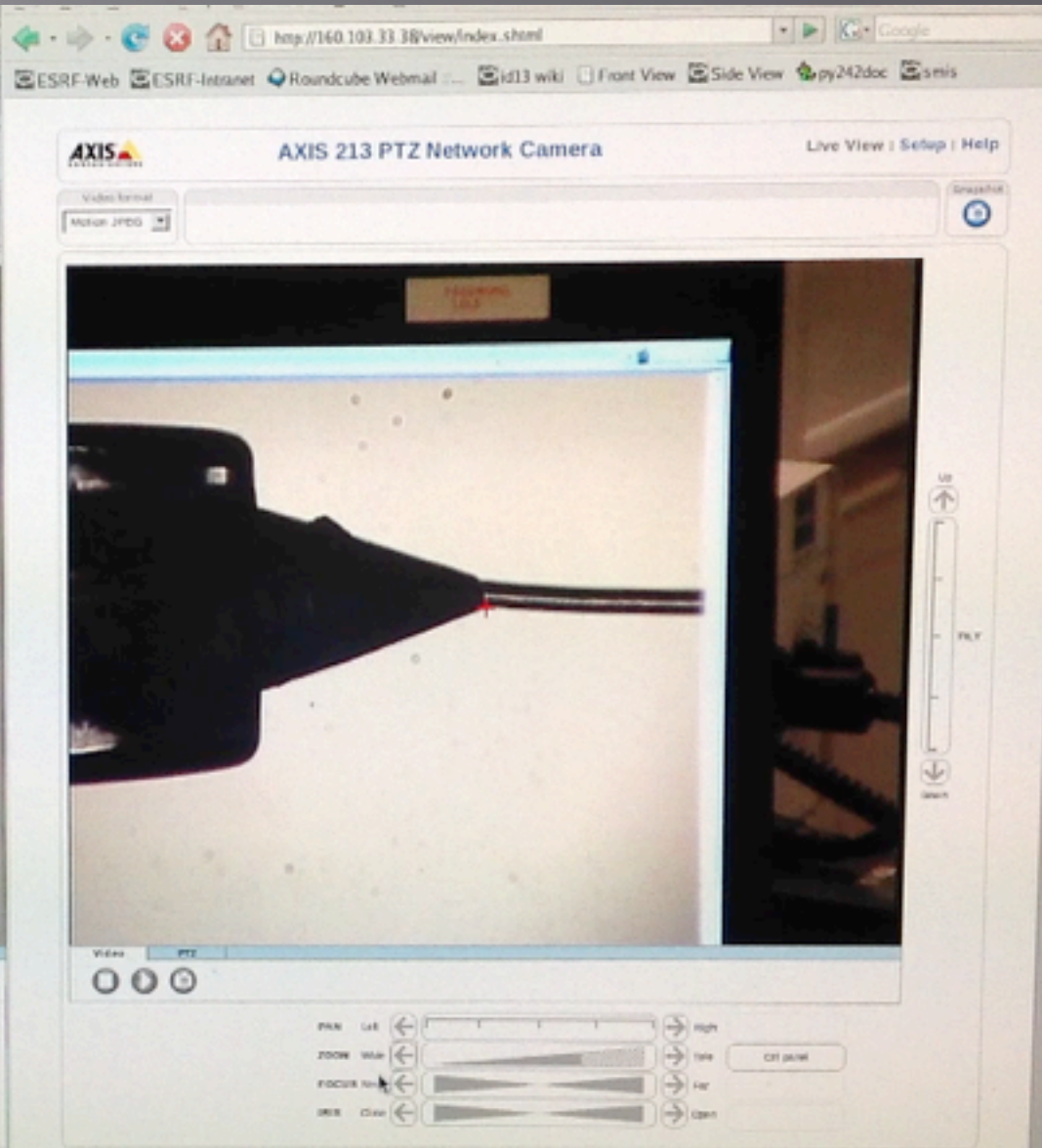
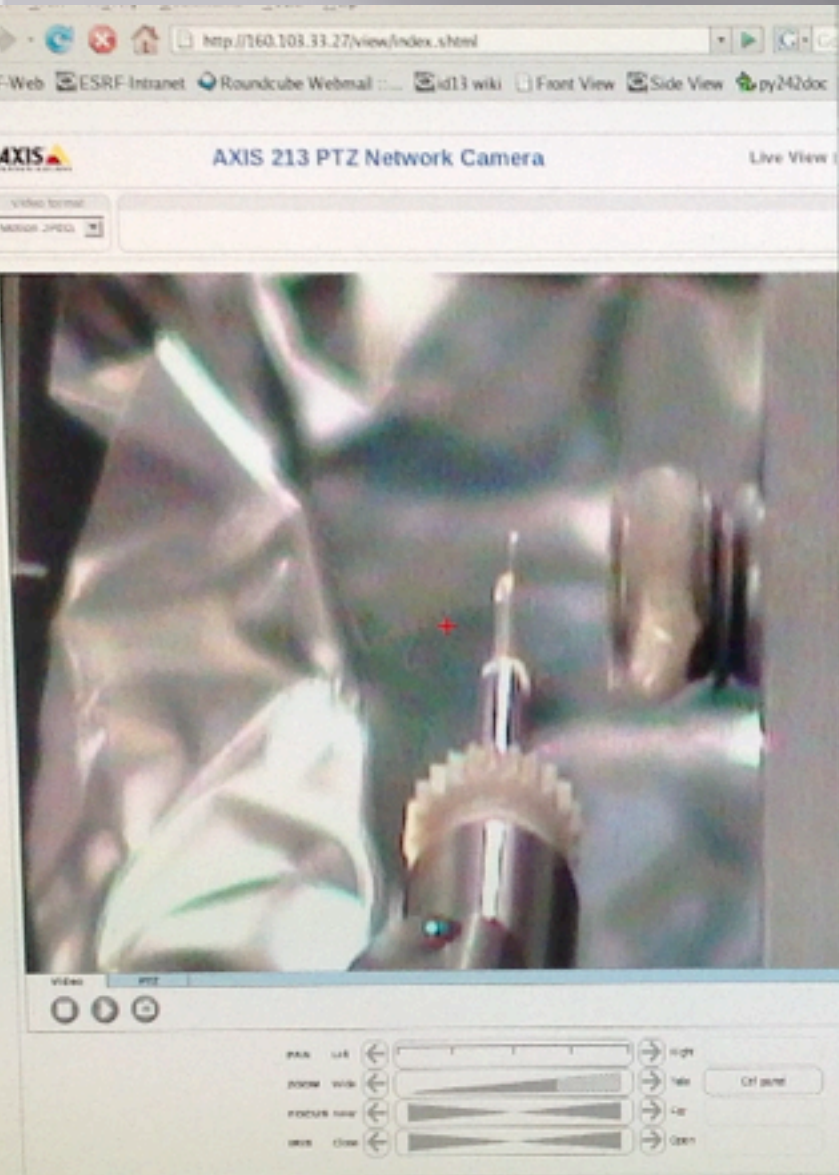
Experimental setup for SFX data collection using an LCP injector



# LCP Jet

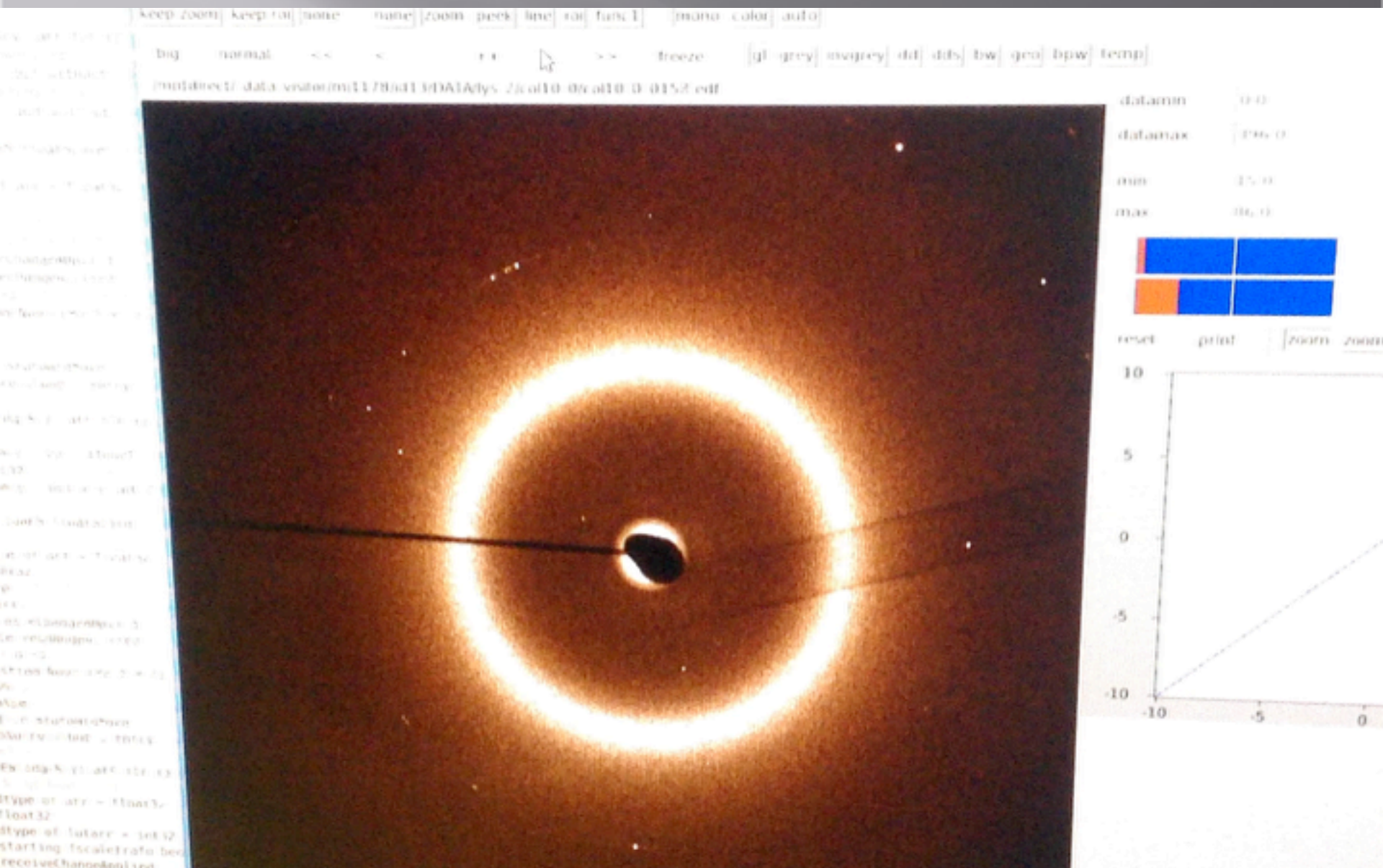


# LCP Jet

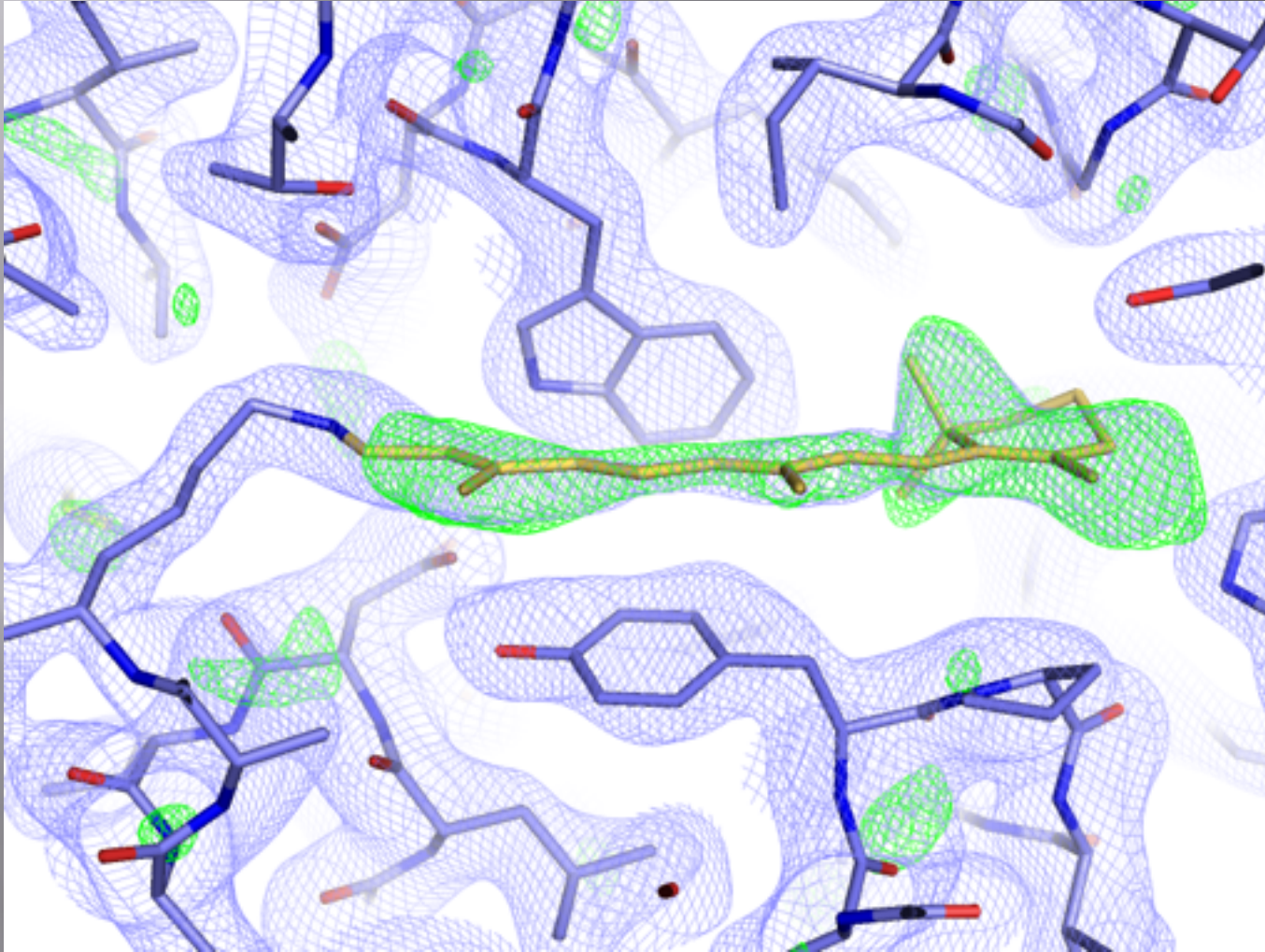




# Data collection with LCP Jet NANOMEM consortium



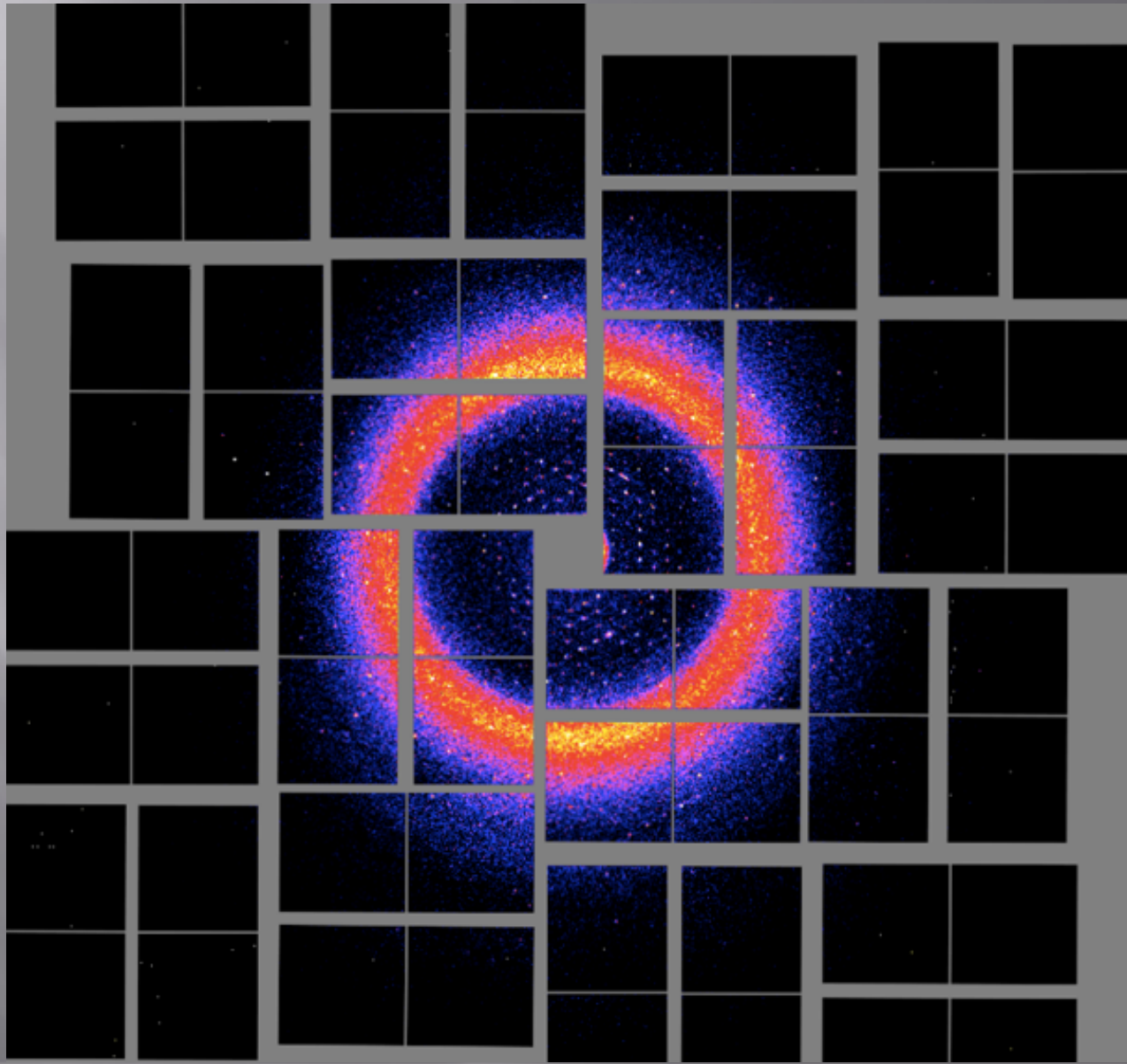
# Bacteriorhodopsin structure assembled from single shot diffraction



NANOMEM Consortium



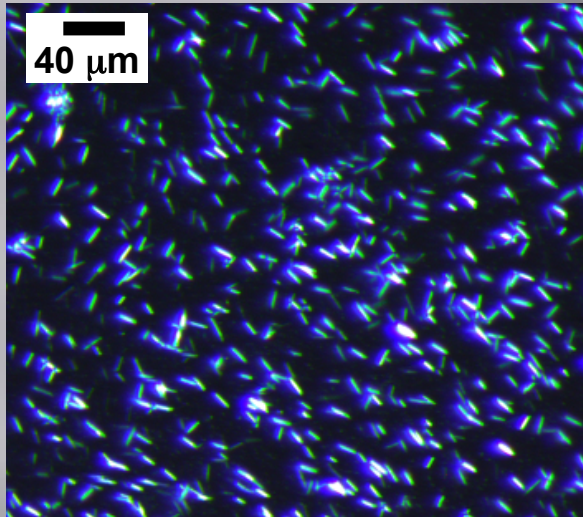
# Bacteriorhodopsin diffraction in LCP at LCLS Stanford



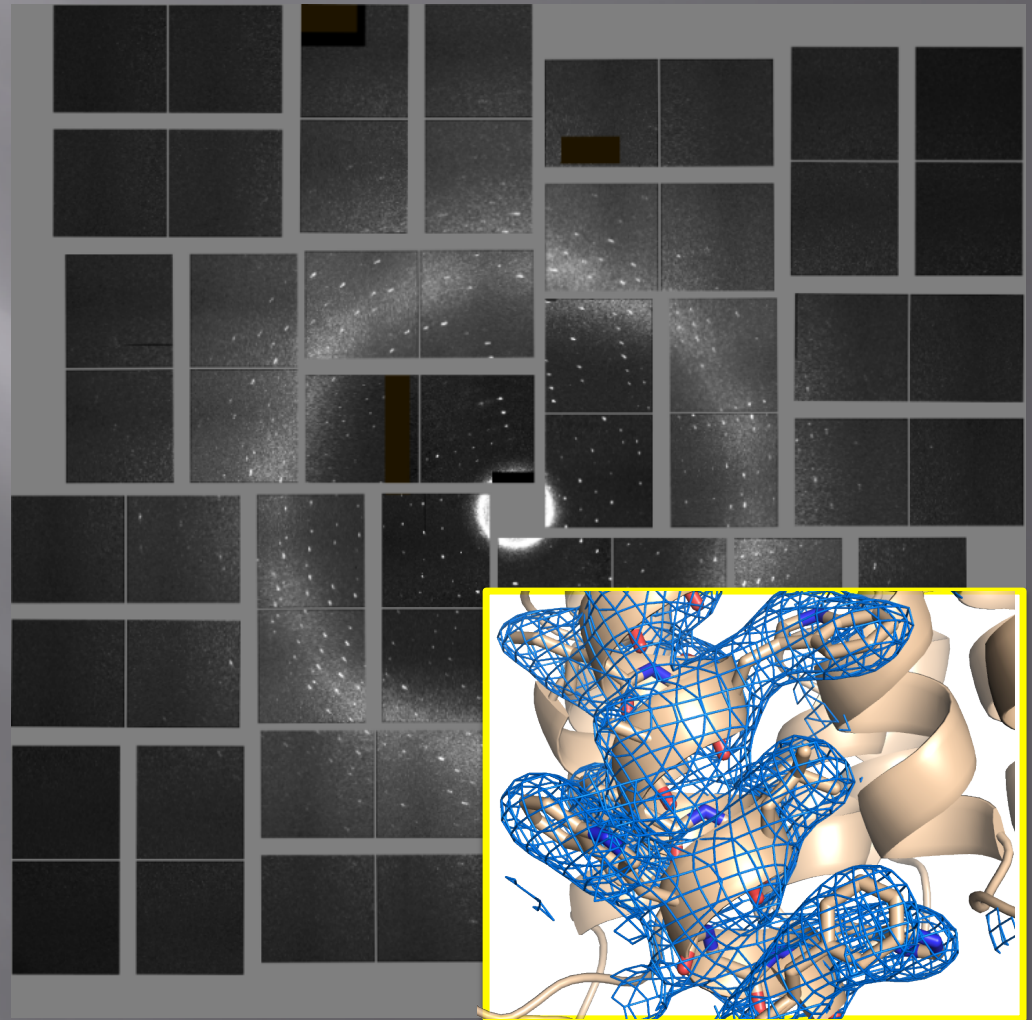


# Example for XFEL data collection using a LCP jet

Courtesy of Dianfan Li, Caffrey Lab  
Data from LCLS

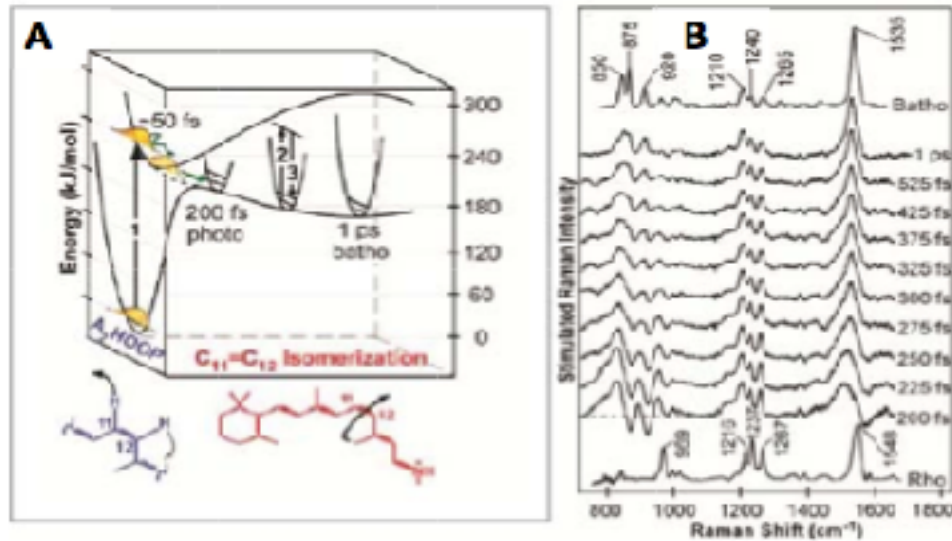


- 0.2 mg protein,
- 14 % hit rate @ 120 Hz
- 2.8 Å resolution
- 1,000 x data redundancy

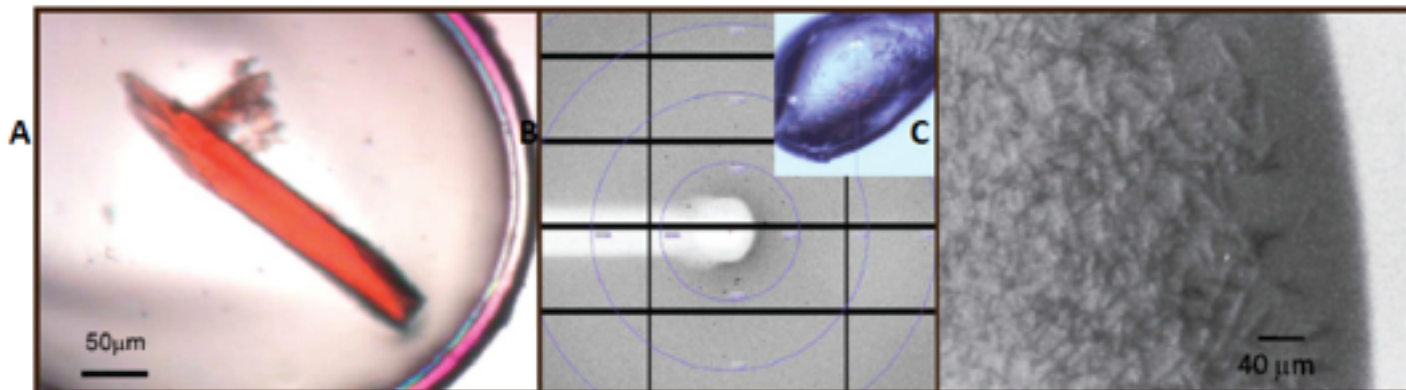




## Femtosecond photo isomerization in Rhodopsin crystals

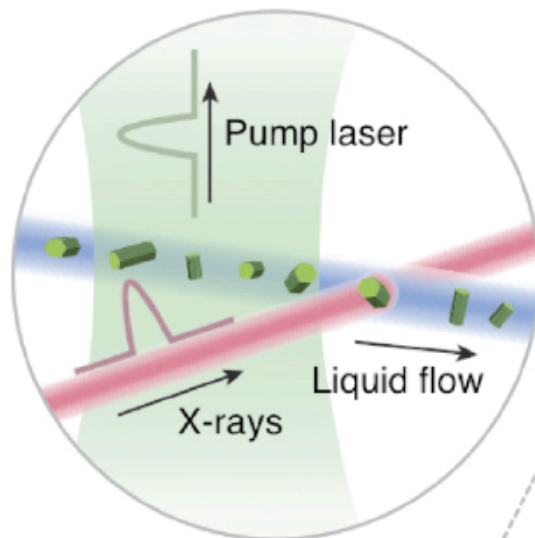
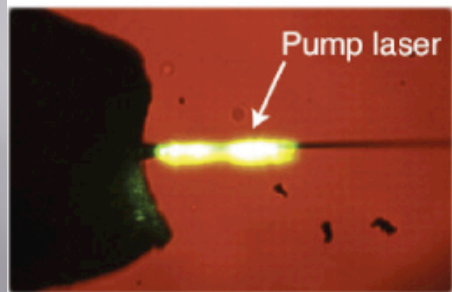
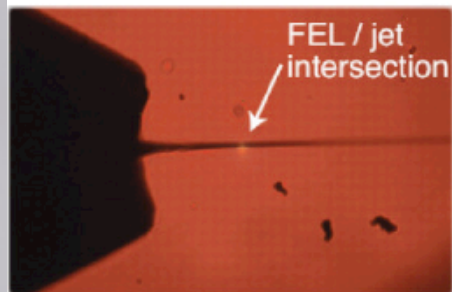


**Fig.1.** Femtosecond-photoisomerisation of retinal during the first event of vision. **A.** Multidimensional representation of the isomerization coordinate of retinal analyzed by coherent Raman vibrational spectroscopy<sup>17</sup>. The cis-retinal photo-rhodopsin and the all-trans retinal bathorhodopsin states are reached after 200fs and 1ps, respectively. **B.** Time-resolved femtosecond stimulated Raman spectra of rhodopsin<sup>17</sup> in the ground-state (Rho) and in the trapped bathorhodopsin (Batho) state.



# X-ray Free Electron Laser Pump probe experiment

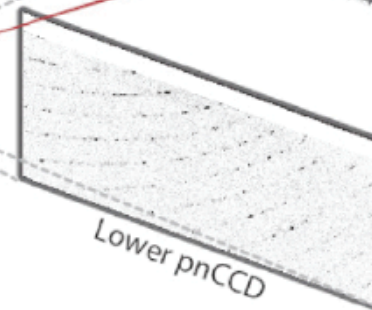
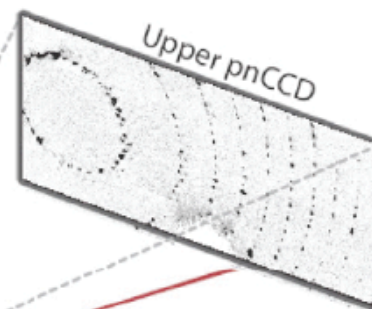
A



Optical fibre laser coupling



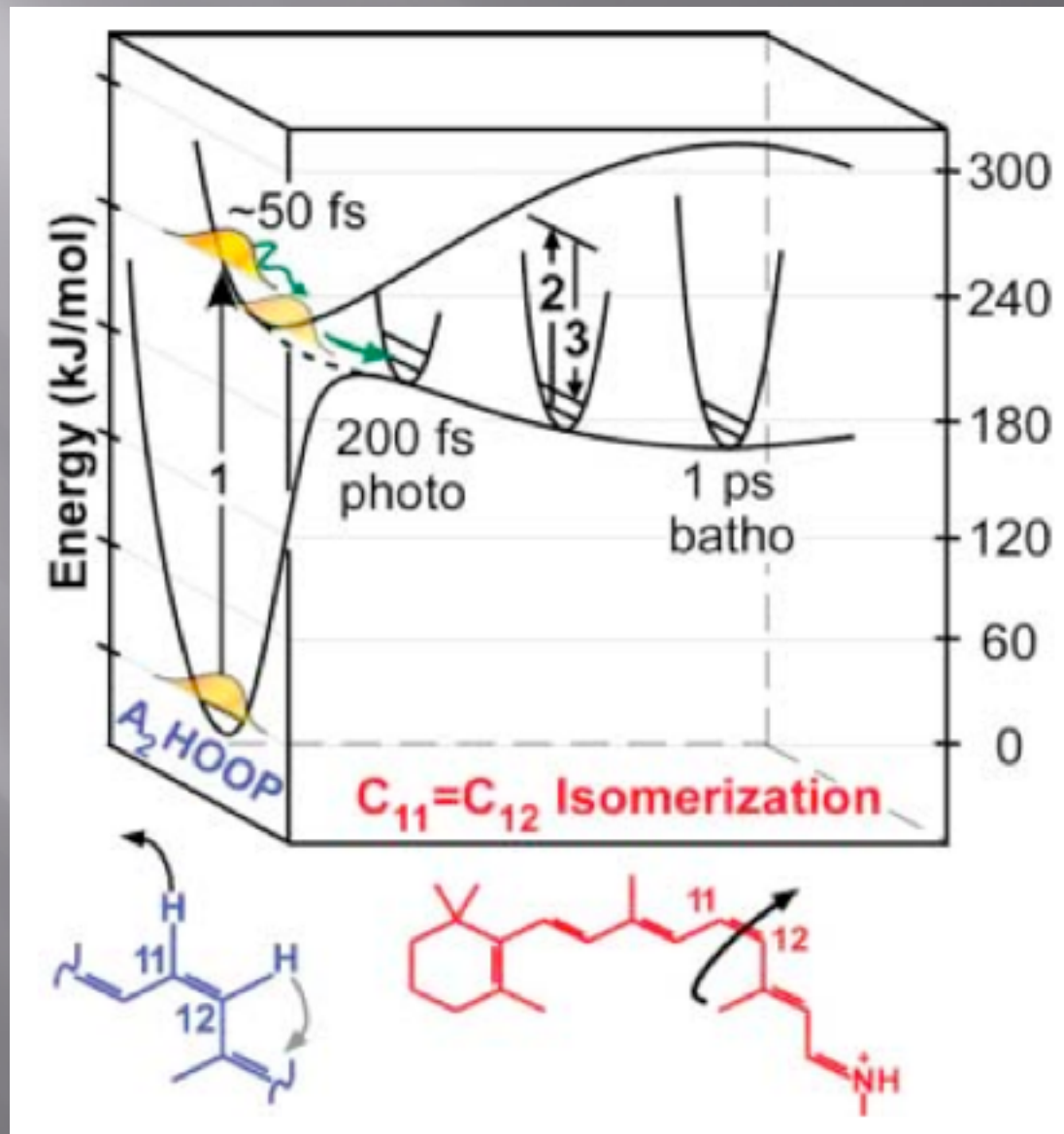
LCLS beam  
2 keV X-ray energy  
40 fs pulse duration



B



# The catalytic step in vision



# The Future of Structural Biology

Micro and nano- diffraction with micro focus beam lines will stay important

Dynamic of biological structures is essential

X-ray Free Electron Lasers will change the way we work also on synchrotrons



[Joerg Standfuss](#)  
Project leader



[Daniel Mattle](#)  
Postdoctoral  
researcher



[Przemek Nogly](#)  
Postdoctoral  
researcher



[Martin Ostermaier](#)  
Ph.D. student



[Xavier Deupi](#)  
Project leader



[Chayne Piscitelli](#)  
Postdoctoral  
researcher



[Milos Matkovic](#)  
Ph.D. student



[Ankita Singhal](#)  
Ph.D. student



[Christian Peterhans](#)  
Ph.D. student



[Kathrin Jaeger](#)  
Ph.D. student



[Prof. Gebhard F.X.  
Schertler](#)  
Group Leader



[Dr. Valerie Panneels](#)  
Lab Manager



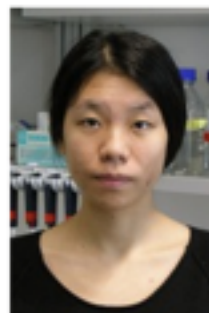
[Jan Rheinberger](#)  
Ph.D. Student



Dr. Ching-Ju Tsai  
Research scientist



Dr. Xiaodan Li  
Project Leader



[Wenging Wu](#)  
Ph.D. Student



[Guido Capitani](#)  
Project Leader





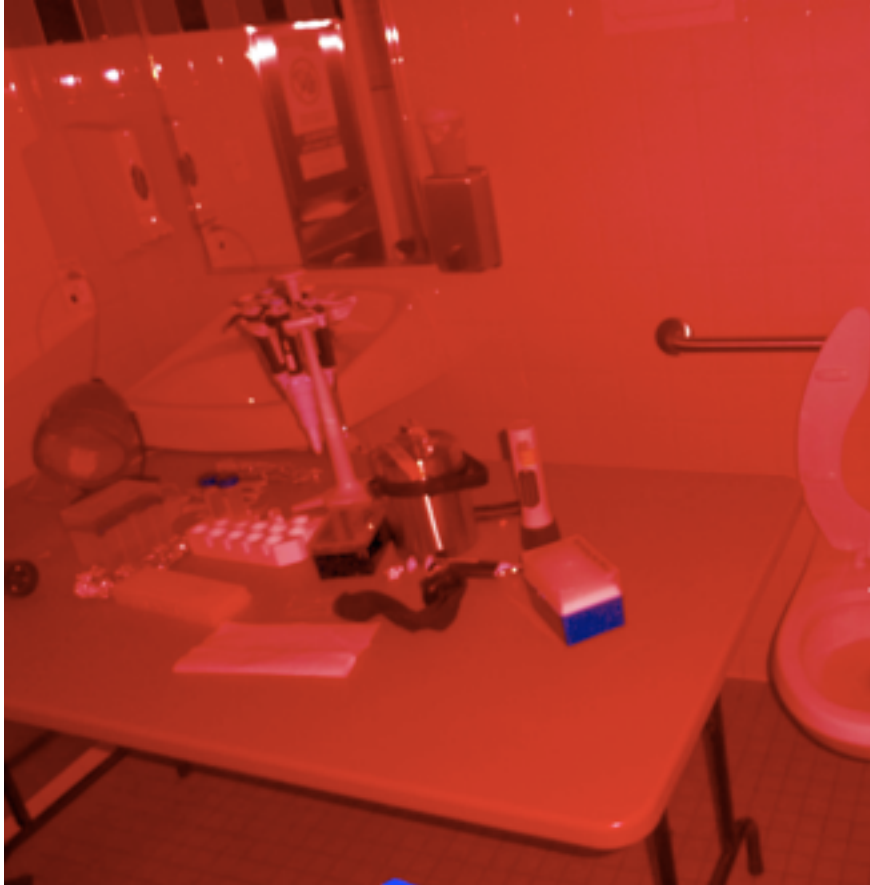
# Part of the LB 32 Team at LCLS CXI



Richar Neutze and the part of the measuring team  
from PSI, Arrizona, and Hamburg and Goeteborg

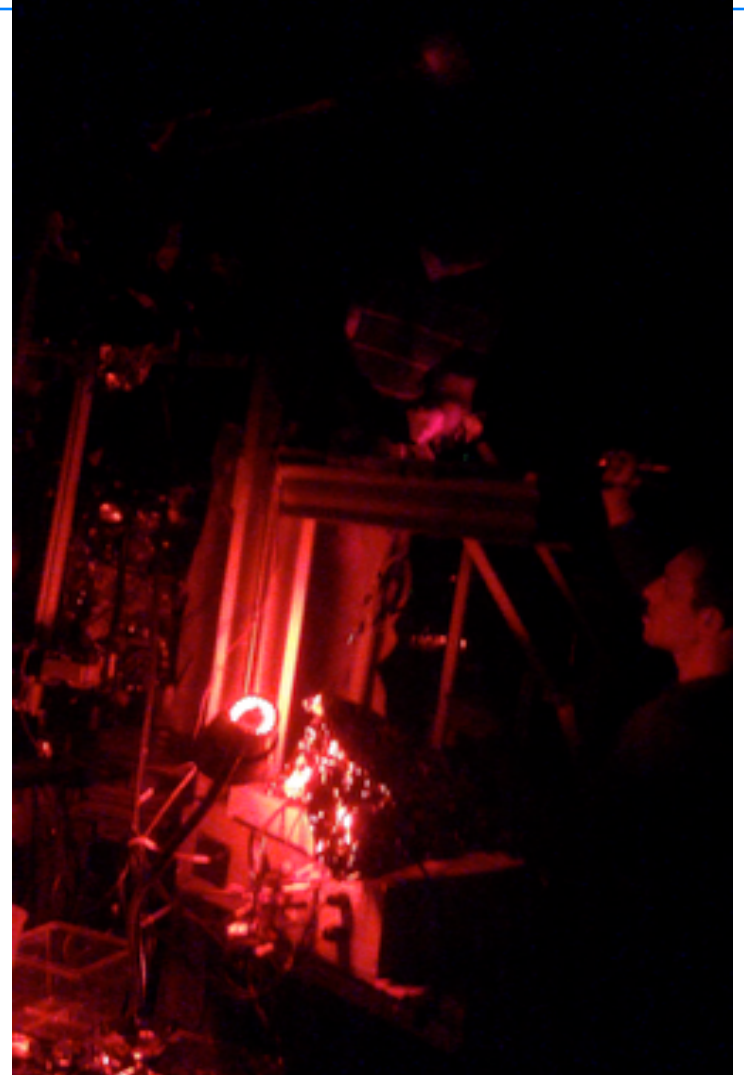
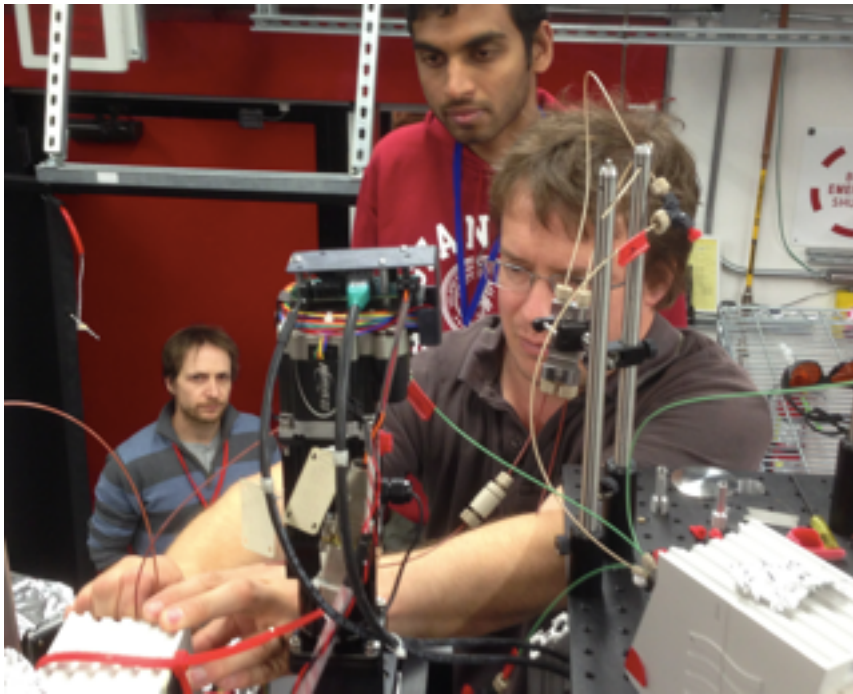
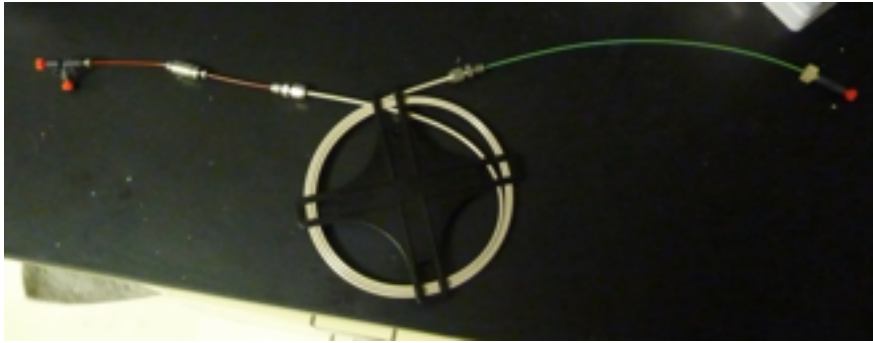


# Dark Complications





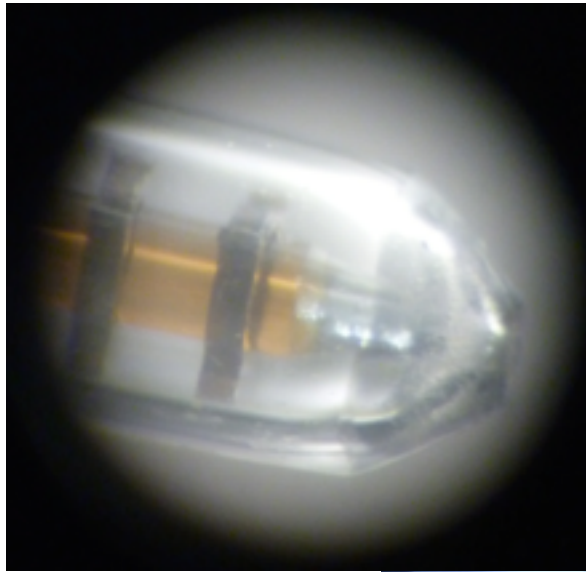
# Plumbing Experinxe: in dim red light





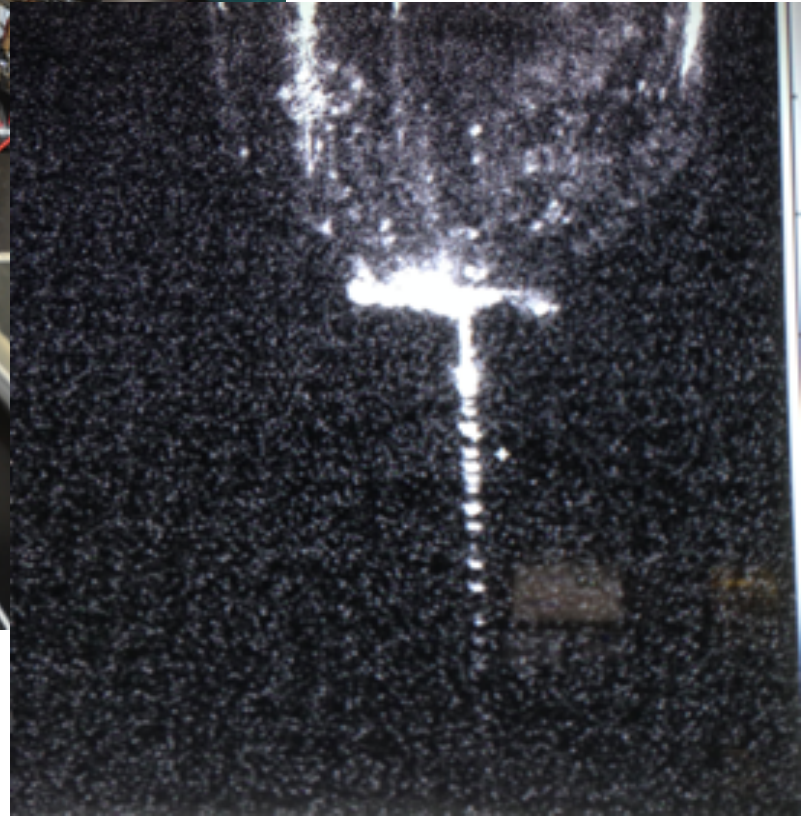
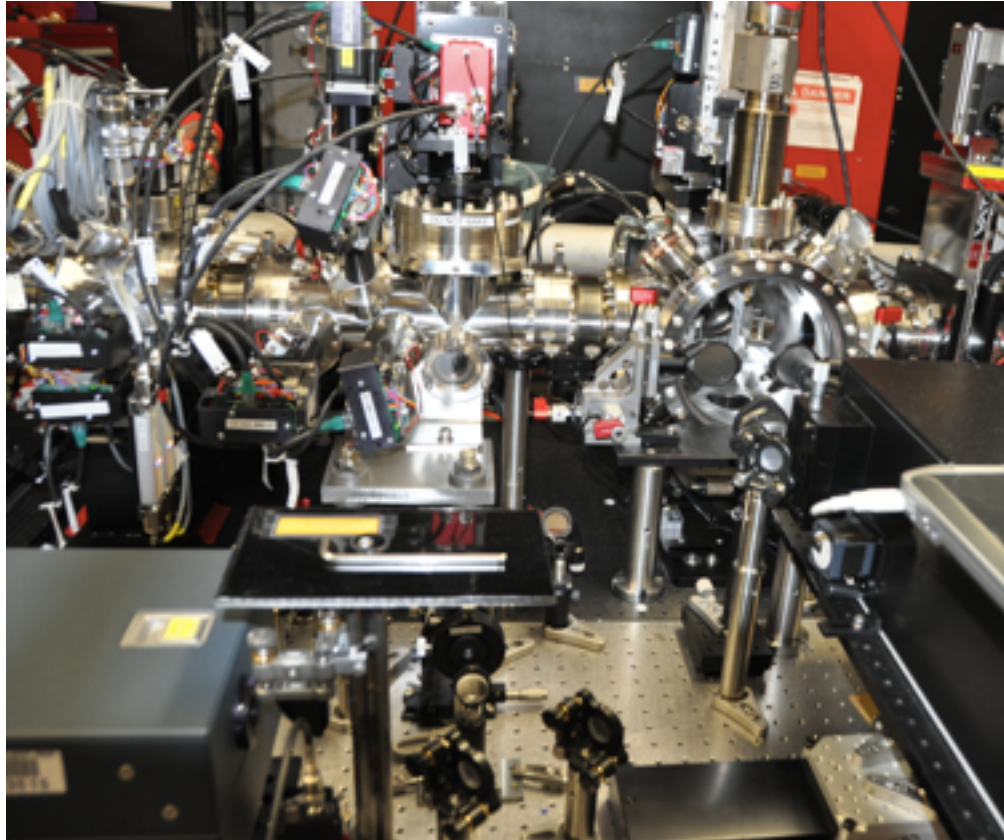


# Jet Control: Flying a Jet at 10m / sec



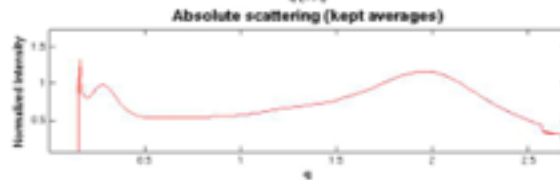
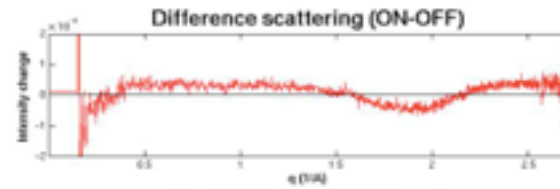


# Laser alignment and timing tool

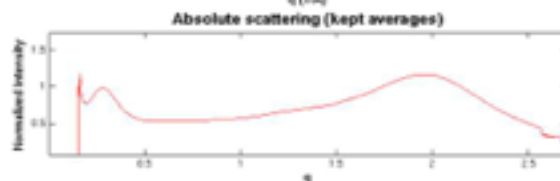
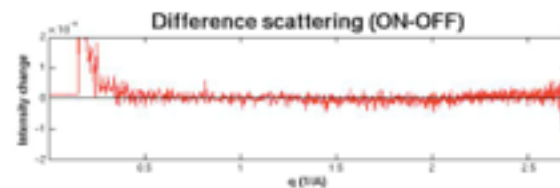




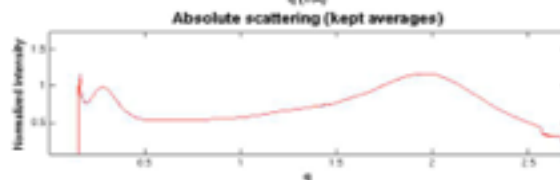
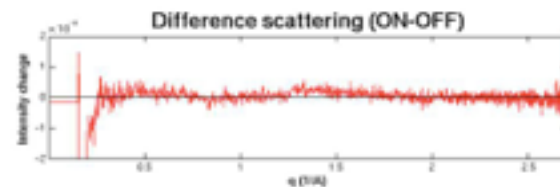
g nice signals measurments going



Run number: r0216  
Run length: 291/112 sec  
Time delay: 1e-06 sec  
Laser intensity: 22 uJ  
Normalization range: 2.1-2.2  
Dark kept: 30.03%  
Light kept: 30.03%  
Intensity capped: 29.35%

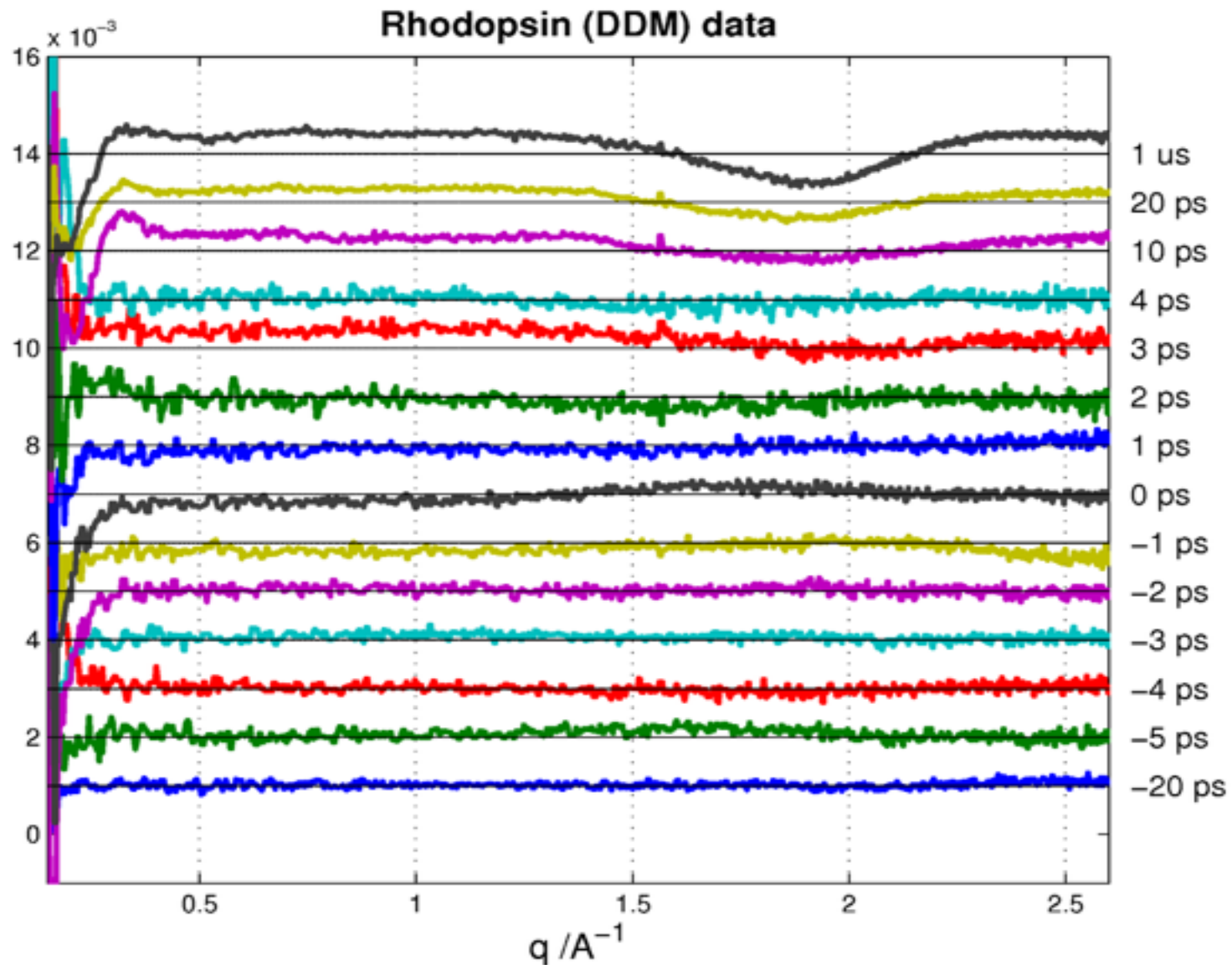


Run number: r0219  
Run length: 146/75 sec  
Time delay: -5e-12 sec  
Laser intensity: 22 uJ  
Normalization range: 2.1-2.2  
Dark kept: 35.23%  
Light kept: 35.23%  
Intensity capped: 12.65%

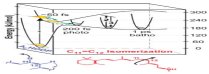


Run number: r0218  
Run length: 162/66 sec  
Time delay: 2e-11 sec  
Laser intensity: 22 uJ  
Normalization range: 2.1-2.2  
Dark kept: 28.1%  
Light kept: 28.1%  
Intensity capped: 23.2%



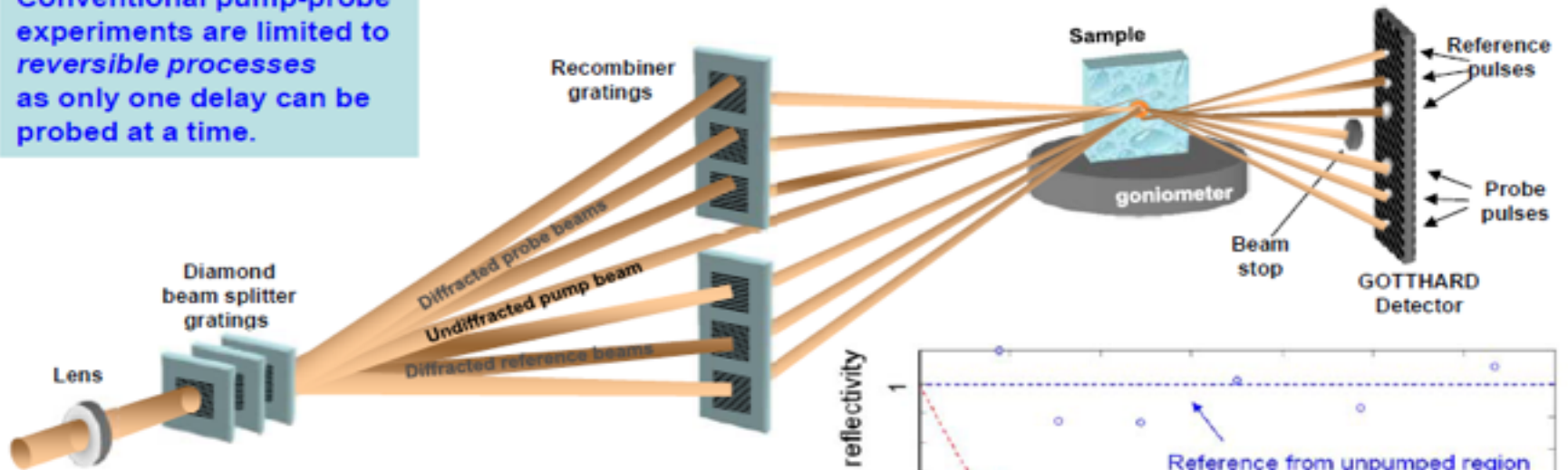


-20ps, 10ps, 20ps and 1us consists of three merged curves, illustrating the improvement one gets to the signal to noise ratio with redundancy in data on same timepoint



# Delay line for x-ray pump-probe experiments

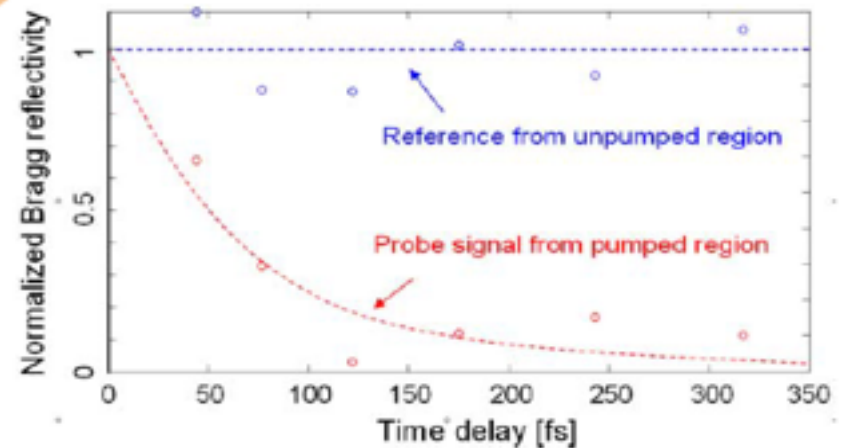
Conventional pump-probe experiments are limited to *reversible processes* as only one delay can be probed at a time.



A novel x-ray delay line based on diffraction gratings creates *several probe beams* with different delays.

Allows for observation of *irreversible processes* with femtosecond resolution.

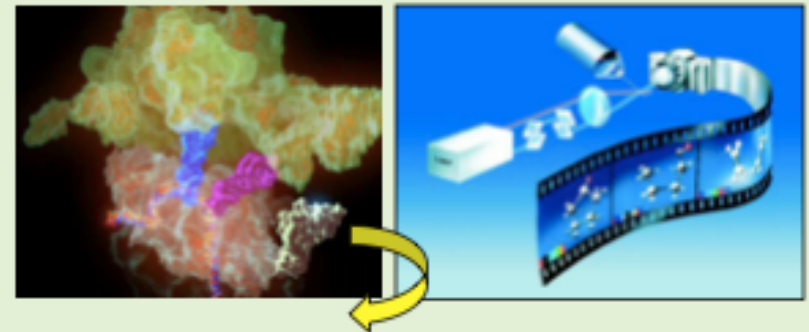
First „single-pump multi-probe“ measurements demonstrated at LCLS.



**Bi <111> Bragg reflectivity measured with XFEL radiation at 4.5 keV photon energy .**

# Thank you for your attention!!

**SwissFEL** fein und schnell  
bei extrem hoher Intensität



neue, direkte Einblicke in physikalische, chemische und biologische Prozesse unseres Alltags

ein Freier-Elektronen-Röntgen-Laser für die Schweiz