# Sample environment development and "sample" environment

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# Outline

- Specialised sample environments for *in situ* chemistry applications
- "sample" environment the pitfalls and opportunities with H containing materials
- Applying for beamtime
- Examples to illustrate differences between neutron and X-ray scattering



# Specialised sample environments for *in situ* chemistry



#### In situ battery cells

 Modular 'coin cell' design, collaboration with Sheffield and Stockholm Universities.



 Wound 'Swiss Roll' design, collaboration with Oxford and Uppsala Universities.



~15cm

Wound laminate of cathode,

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anode, current collectors and porous separator.

#### In situ chemical reaction cells

A number of the development projects have been designed to exploit the high countrate of GEM and Polaris to monitor chemical reactions in-situ.....



Supercritical hydrothermal cell (Korea+ISIS+Oxford).



In-situ microwave synthesis (Glasgow+ISIS).



#### In situ gravimetric analysis

The IGAn enables the mass of a sample to be measured during a chemical process while collecting in-situ neutron powder diffraction data. The temperature and gas environment around the sample can be controlled remotely.





Temperature range: -170 to 480°C Pressure range: 0 to 20 bar Example gases:  $H_2/D_2$ ,  $NH_3/ND_3$ ,  $O_2$ ,  $CO_2$ ...



#### In situ electric fields

Centrestick to allow diffraction studies to be performed under applied electric field.....



- 4≤*T*(K)≤500K (approx.)
- Maximum 30kV.
- Switchable polarity
- Current limiter.
- Future development of computer control and waveform generator.









#### In situ conductivity measurements

In-situ cell to allow the simultaneous monitoring of electronic/ionic conductivity during powder diffraction measurements up to high temperatures (~1200K).





Extension of this project to allow measurement of conductivity and Seebeck coefficient for diffraction studies of thermoelectric materials  $\rightarrow$ 





#### High pressure developments

Current high pressure programme uses versions of the Paris-Edinburgh cell (~80mm<sup>3</sup>,  $p_{max}$ ~10GPa).

Programme of developments to extend temperature range (high and low) accessible at high pressures.

Also exploring the use of Diamond Anvil Cell (DAC) technology - potential to reach ~50GPa.



Demonstration using <0.1 mm<sup>3</sup> of Ge within a large DAC.....





Collaboration with :

- CSEC, Edinburgh. Univ.
- Geophysical Lab., Washington.
- Université P. et M. Curie, Paris
- ESS, Lund



# Self-propagating high T synthesis

35°

time

25°

35°

2theta

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- Titanium silicon carbide Ti<sub>3</sub>SiC<sub>2</sub>
  - Hot isostatic pressing expensive
- Self-propagating High-temperature Synthesis (SHS)
  - here: Thermal Explosion Synthesis, TES
- 3 Ti : 1 Si : 2 C, 20 g pellet in furnace 2.0.1° Heating from 850 C to 1050 C at 100 Kgmin

2theta

Acquisition time 500 ms (300 ms) 2.**3**e4

-130250 D.P. Riley, E.H. Kisi, T.C. Hansen, A. Hewat, J. Am. Ceramic Soc. 85 (2002) 2417-2424

0. te4

time

# SHS pre-ignition

- Ti  $\alpha$ - $\beta$  transition
  - starting at 870 C
- Pre-ignition:
  - TiC<sub>x</sub> growth during 1 min
- Melting (?) in 0.5 s





## SHS intermediate phase

- Intermediate phase
  - TiC, Si substituted
  - formed in 0.5 s, 2s delay
  - Heating up to 2500 K
  - afterwards decay in 5 s





## SHS intermediate phase

- Product Ti<sub>3</sub>SiC<sub>2</sub>
  - starts after 5 s incubation
  - time constant about 5 s





#### Long term development of sample environment

- Technology transfer with X-ray sources as sample sizes approach those routinely used in X-ray experiments (< 10 mm<sup>3</sup>)
- Integrate with data acquisition software
- Event-mode counting the ideal match for in-situ experiments









# "sample" environment – the pitfalls and opportunities with H containing materials



# Acknowledgements







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# **EPSRC**

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council





Science & Technology Facilities Council Rutherford Appleton Laboratory



# Why is hydrogen important?



Hydrogen-containing materials feature in nearly all the major global challenges, which is reflected in National Research Council and EU research spending.







#### Structural investigation of hydrogenous systems



Single Crystal X-ray Diffraction (SCXD)

Excellent for light elements and well defined geometries – e.g. organics, and where H atoms less important or less well-defined Less good for heavier atom systems (materials), "unusual" hydrogen bonds (even multi-condition SCXD)



Single crystal neutron diffraction (SCND)
Good for H positions in complex crystal structures
Requirement for large crystals, fairly long counting times, phase transformations can cause problems



Deuteration and powder neutron diffraction (PND) Potentially of wide application Often chemically challenging, sometimes incomplete, can alter properties



# Scattering properties of H and D

Neutron scattering lengths and cross sections										
Isotope	conc	Coh b	Inc b	Coh xs	Inc xs	Scatt xs	Abs xs			
H		-3.7390		1.7568	80.26	82.02	0.3326			
1H	99.985	-3.7406	25.274	1.7583	80.27	82.03	0.3326			
2H	0.015	<b>6.67</b> 1	4.04	5.592	2.05	7.64	0.000519			
3H	(12.32 a)	4.792	-1.04	2.89	0.14	3.03	0			

+ive v -ive scattering length  $\checkmark$ Low absorption cross sections  $\checkmark$ Coherent scattering cross sections  $\checkmark$ <sup>1</sup>H has large  $\sigma_{inc} \rightarrow$  background  $\times$ <sup>2</sup>H low in abundance  $\rightarrow$  expensive  $\times$ 



#### H v D in neutron powder diffraction







#### H v D in neutron powder diffraction







#### H v D in neutron powder diffraction







# H Groundwork 2007-2009 ChemComm • Sample size

Chemical Communications

www.rsc.org/chemcomm

Number 21 | 7 June 2009 | Pages 2953-3124



P. F. Henry, M. T. Weller, C. C. Wilson. *J. Appl. Cryst.* 2009, **42(6)**, 1176-1188

M.T. Weller, P.F. Henry, V.P. Ting, C.C. Wilson. *Chem. Commun.* 2009, 2973-2989

- H content: up to 70 at.%
- Instrument at ILL
- Counting time
- •Data collection strategies





## Examples of published work



M.T. Weller, P.F. Henry, M.E. Light. *Acta Cryst. B* 2007, **63(3)**, 426.



D.M.S. Martins *et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2009, **131(11)**, 3884.





P.F. Henry, M.T. Weller, C.C. Wilson, *Chem. Commun.* 2008, 1557. J.A. Armstrong *et al. Am. Mineral.* 2010, **95(4)**, 519.





 V. P. Ting et al. Phys. Chem. Chem.
 F. Tonus et al. Chem. Commun. 2009, 2556.

 Phys. 2010, **12(9)**, 2083.
 F. Tonus, et al. J. Mater. Chem. 2010, **20(20)**,

 b
 Image: Chem. Chem. 2010, 20(20),

 4103.
 Image: Chem. 2010, 20(20),







# KOs<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> high scattering angle vs. T



#### Cycled sample

#### As prepared



# KOs<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>.nH<sub>2</sub>O incoherent contribution





• R. Galati, R.W. Hughes, C.S. Knee, P. F. Henry, M.T. Weller. J. Mat. Chem. 2007, 17(2), 160-163.

• R. Galati, C. Simon, C.S. Knee, P.F. Henry, B.D. Rainford, M.T. Weller. *Chem Mater.* 2008, 20, 1652-1659.

• R. Galati, C. Simon, P. F. Henry, M. T. Weller. *Phys. Rev. B* 2008, 77, 104523.



## Alkali metal pyrochlore Osmates

Osmate  $\beta$ -pyrochlores found to be superconducting but T<sub>c</sub> variable with sample preparation with TGA showing 0.1 H<sub>2</sub>O content responsible for 0.5K fall in T<sub>c</sub>.







# NTE in ReO<sub>3</sub>

- Simple cubic structure
  - DO<sub>9</sub> type
  - **-** Pm-3m
  - *a* = 3.74 Å
- Based on a perovskite with empty Asite
- Phonon modes should give rise to NTE
- Mixed literature
- Calculations predict NTE to 300K+
- Re-investigation using PND

T. Chatterji, P.F. Henry, R. Mittal, S.L. Chaplot. *Phys. Rev. B* 2008, **78**, 134105.







#### ReO<sub>3</sub> sample preparation dependence



## Interpretation

- Hydrogenous species disrupt M<sub>3</sub> phonon mode
  - Known in Prussian Blues
- Most water is surface water
- Actual intercalated species unknown
  - Raman
  - Infra-Red
- Role of static oxygen disorder?
  - Reported in Rodriguez et al. J. Appl. Phys. 2009, 105, 114901.
- Bronzes can be formed
  - Metallic
  - High lustre
  - Cubic or orthorhombic

Results show even 'simple' systems are not well understood and small amounts of intercalants can have large effects on observed properties.





# Data quality / counting time



M. T. Weller, O. J. Weber, P. F. Henry, A. M. Di Pumpo, T. C. Hansen, *Chem. Commun.*, 2015, **51**, 4180-4183



#### Use incoherent scattering as a direct probe

V.P. Ting, P.F. Henry, M. Schmidtmann, C.C. Wilson, M.T. Weller. *Chem. Commun.* 2009, 7527.



V.P. Ting, M. Schmidtmann, P.F. Henry, S. Dann, C.C. Wilson, M.T. Weller. *Med. Chem. Commun* 2010, 1(5), 345.





#### Gypsum: Monochromatic



## Gypsum: t.o.f. ISIS



Effect is similar to that seen for an absorbing sample



# Variation of $\sigma_{\text{inc}}H$ with $\lambda$





Neutron scattering lengths and cross sections										
Isotope	conc	Coh b	Inc b	Coh xs	Inc xs	Scatt xs	Abs xs			
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1H	99.985	-3.7406	25.274	1.7583	80.27	82.03	0.3326			
2H	0.015	6.671	4.04	5.592	2.05	7.64	0.000519			
3H	(12.32 a)	4.792	-1.04	2.89	0.14	3.03	0			

- Large change with incident wavelength
  - Is it linear?
  - Chemical environment contribution?
  - Implications for t.o.f. instrument

Howard et al. J. Appl. Cryst (1987) **20**, 120-122. Koetzle & McMullan (1980) research memo C-4. Brookhaven national laboratory

Frost (1989) ILL 'stage' (unpublished)



# Suppress / remove incoherent scattering



#### Empirical correction as a function of $E(\lambda)$











High peak brilliance good for TOF but also High time-average brilliance good for CW







- Use distance to separate higher order monochromator reflections in TOF at the detector
- Develop new monochromator materials
- Access wider Q range
- Tune Q resolution





- Combine several current CW instrument capabilities in one simultaneous measurement
- No wavelength contamination
- Lower instrument background
- New science possibilities



16







Polarisation analysis to remove incoherent background



# To deuterate or not to deuterate?

- If you are <u>sure</u> that deuteration changes nothing deuterate
- <sup>1</sup>H v <sup>2</sup>H scattering length contrast ideal deuteration is an essential tool here (selective and complete)
- Partial site deuteration is worse than using <sup>1</sup>H sample
- <sup>1</sup>H v <sup>2</sup>H when looking at kinetics, dynamics or structure/phase transitions in Hbonded systems is non-trivial as an 'equivalence' issue
- Beware the 'costs' of deuteration
  - Expensive
  - Smaller samples
- Prefer to spend time and money on
  - Optimising existing neutron instrumentation + counting strategies
  - Building new, optimised neutron instrumentation
  - Optimising sample geometry and sample environment



# Applying for beamtime



#### Neutron sources worldwide



## Major neutron sources in Europe



# How to apply for beam time in Europe

Large Neutron user facilities in Europe with open user programmes

- ILL: <u>https://www.ill.eu/users/applying-for-beamtime/</u>
- ISIS: <u>http://www.isis.stfc.ac.uk/apply-for-beamtime/apply-for-beamtime2117.html</u>
- FRM-II (MLZ): <u>http://www.mlz-garching.de/englisch/user-office/getting-beam-time.html</u>
- PSI: <u>https://www.psi.ch/sinq/beamtime-applications</u>
- LLB: <u>http://www-llb.cea.fr/en/Web/avr2000\_e.php</u>
- HZB: <u>https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/user/beamtime/index\_en.html</u>

AEKI, IFE, TU Delft, NPI, PIK and Dubna offer user access

Most smaller sources are open for direct contact with instrument team to arrange beam time. However, no travel or subsistence support is available



## Major neutron user facilities outside Europe

Australia

 ANSTO: <u>http://www.ansto.gov.au/ResearchHub/Bragg/Users/Requestingbeamtime/ind</u> <u>ex.htm</u>

#### Americas

- SNS/HFIR: <u>https://neutrons.ornl.gov/users</u>
- NIST: <u>https://www.ncnr.nist.gov/call/current\_call.html</u>

#### Japan

• J-PARC: <u>https://j-parc.jp/researcher/MatLife/en/applying/index.html</u>

Non-European sources tend not to have travel support for experiments All sources base beam time on scientific merit (with some national balancing)



# Examples to illustrate differences between neutron and X-ray scattering



# X-ray cf. neutron for diffraction

#### X-rays

Small samples Strong sample absorption High energy (1 Å = 12.4 keV)Low penetration depth Light elements hard to detect Scattering power highly Q dependent Neighbouring elements cannot be discriminated High availability (lab) Cannot distinguish isotopes Magnetic structures not easily probed

#### Neutrons

Large samples Low sample absorption Low energy (1 Å = 81.81 meV) High penetration depth Light elements scatter well Scattering power almost Q independent Neighbouring elements can be discriminated Low availability (large scale facility) Isotopes can be distinguished Magnetic structures easily probed



# X-ray and electron scattering form factor

- Scatter from electrons
- Larger z elements have higher scattering power
- Atoms vibrate leading to lower scattering power at high Q







# Neutron form factor

- Neutrons scatter primarily from the nucleus and form factor is almost Q-independent
  - Atom vibrations still reduce scattering at high Q
- The neutron can also interact with unpaired electrons to probe magnetism
  - Q-dependent form factor
  - Magnetic reflections are most intense at low Q





# Illustration of X-ray and neutron Q dependent scattering



Note peak intensity differences – complementary information Main peak in X-ray data (left) almost zero intensity in neutron pattern (right) Scattering to higher Q in neutron data (form factor) NB. Sample for X-ray and neutron from same synthesis batch



#### X-ray vs neutron scattering power



https://www.ncnr.nist.gov/resou rces/n-lengths/



# Neighbouring Element Discrimination



KCl Fm-3m a = 6.29 Å K z = 19 Cl z = 17 But K<sup>+</sup> = Cl<sup>-</sup> = 18 e<sup>-</sup>

Without care KCl indexes from X-ray data on a cell that is ½ that from neutron data as elements are identical to X-rays as both have 18 e<sup>-</sup>

The non-linear relationship of neutron scattering length between neighbouring elements is crucial



# Scattering contrast isotopes



# Example: Origin of Negative thermal expansion in Sc<sub>2</sub>(WO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>



- Resolved co-operative atomic displacements
- First example using PND
- 10 years later same experiment possible without ISND on upgraded instrument HRPD

M.T. Weller, P.F. Henry, C.C. Wilson. *J. Phys. Chem. B* 2000, **105(51)**, 12224-12229





# Penetration depth (neutrons)

A rose in a lead box X-rays cannot penetrate the box Neutrons pass through the lead and scatter from hydrogenous materials in the flower







# X-rays and Neutrons are Complementary Probes for Diffraction



Neutron diffraction is used for problems that X-rays cannot address or inadequately address



## Summary: further reading



CHARACTERISATION METHODS IN INORGANIC CHEMISTRY







<text>

Giacovazzo *et al.* Chapter 1 Pecharsky & Zavalij Chapters 1-9

