

# IDEAS for collaborative research exploiting the colours of synchrotron light at Elettra

# Lisa Vaccari



diffracted x-ra

X-ray Absorption

Spectroscopy

**XAFS** 

x-ray

MCX

**Xpress** 

XAFS





### Environmental Sciences at TwinMic beamline



TwinMic XRF SYRMEP IUVS

Nano Innovation Structural Biology XRD1 XRD2 MCX Xpress XAFS Absorption and Phase contrast X-ray images with sub-micron resolution coupled with elemental mapping (low energy X-ray Fluorescence)



Novel features of asbestos body morphology and composition in human lung tissues



E=2019 eV, 50µm x 50 µm, 100 x 100 pixels, 15s/pixel LEXRF, 4 SDDs

L. Pascolo, et al. Particle and Fibre Toxicology 2011, 8:7 L. Pascolo, et al. Scientific Reports 2013, 3.



XAFS

### Life Sciences at TwinMic beamline

### Nanotoxicology

Assessment of toxic effects of nanomaterials at subcellular level in cells and tissues



P. Marmorato, et al., Cellular distribution and degradation of Cobalt Ferrite Nanoparticles in Balb/3T3 Fibroblasts, Toxicology Letters, 2011, 207 - 2, 128.



TwinMic

XRF

SYRMEP

IUVS

SISSI

Nano

Innovation

Structural

Biology

XRD1

XRD2

MCX

**Xpress** 

XAFS

International Atomic Energy Agency

Atoms for Peace

### Extending the energy range: XRF beamline

### SR-TXRF and XANES of air particulates from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia





Abdallah A.Shaltout et al., Synchrotron radiation total reflection X-ray fluorescence (SR-TXRF) and Xray absorption near edge structure (XANES) of fractionated air particulates collected from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Microchemical Journal 137, 2018, Pages 78-84



Operated in partnership with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), X-Ray Fluorescence is a highly versatile beamline that covers the energy range 1KeV-14KeV



### X-ray micro-computed tomography From 2D to 3D at SYRMEP

### Cell tracking studies for imaging brain tumors in rats



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The SYRMEP (SYnchrotron Radiation for MEdical Physics) beamline has been designed for µ-CT in the 8-35 keV range. Research in medical diagnostic radiology, material science and life science applications.

A. Astolfo et al., Nanomedicine: Nanotech., Biology and Medicine, Vol. 9, Issue,2013

Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) is the most common and aggressive primary brain tumor in humans. Glioma cells exposed to colloidal Gold Nano Particles (GNP) were implanted into the brain of adult male Wistar rats under general anesthesia.

Aim of the cell tracking monitor the dynamic of tumour growth follow the migration of tumour cells understand the dynamic of metastasis spread



Control



Animal injected with marked cells







### **Clinical studies at SYRMEP**



### **Clinical Mammography**





### CONVENTIONAL unit Synchrotron Radiation







# From macro to micro capability Sensitive and selective UV-Raman spectra at micrometric lateral resolution

# Vibrations to reveal chemistry IUVS beamline



B. Rossi et al, Synchrotron based UV Resonant Raman scattering for material science, in Molecular and Laser Spectroscopy, Volume 2 (eds V. P. Gupta, Y. Ozaki), Publisher: Elsevier 2020 in press.



### Vibrations to reveal chemistry at IUVS



#### Non-invasive characterization of STRUCTURE and DYNAMICS of biological systems under physiological conditions

I2

TwinMic XRF SYRMEP IUVS Nano Innovation Structural Biology XRD1 XRD2 MCX Xpress

#### -> DNA and THEIR ASSEMBLIES



F-11

Structure of human telomere G-quadruplex in the presence of a model drug along the thermal unfolding pathway Bianchi F. et al, Nucleic Acids Research, Vol. 46 - 22, pp. 11927-11938 (2018)

Conformational stability of DNA in hydrated ionic liquid by synchrotron-based UV resonance raman

Bottari C. et al. Proceedings of SPIE - The International Society for Optical Engineering, Vol. 11086 - 110860Q, pp. 1-8 (2019)



#### Aqueous solvation of glutathione probed by UV resonance Raman spectroscopy

Catalini S. et al. Journal of Molecular Liquids, Vol. 283, pp. 537-547 (2019)

Frontiers of UV resonant raman spectroscopy by using synchrotron radiation: the case of aqueous solvation of model peptides Rossi B. et al., Proceedings of SPIE - The International Society for Optical Engineering, Vol. 11086 - 110860N, pp. 1-10 (2019)



### Life Sciences at SISSI-Bio – the microscale



Synchrotron Radiation FTIR microscopy provides biochemical information on bio-samples, with micrometric lateral resolution



Far-filed microscopy Lateral resolution is diffraction limited



### Life Sciences at SISSI-Bio – the microscale



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Nano Innovation Structural Biology XRD1 XRD2 MCX Xpress XAFS

#### **Tissue Analysis**

Label-free morpho-chemical analysis A quantitative alternative to traditional histology

#### Key studies

- Cancer diagnosis and treatment
- Neurodegeenrative disorders
- Vibrational characterization of male and female gametes
- Nanotoxicology
- Rare diseases

Differential protein folding in lung tissues exposed to asbestos





#### Plasmonic devices for protein conformational studies

An ultrasensitive plasmonic platform for protein-binding studies.



Bridging CD and structural studies (XRD, SAXS, NMR, cryo-EM)

Structural Biology Lab NanoInnovation Lab

#### Cellular and sub cellular studies

#### Label-free cellular biology A complement to traditional cell-based assyas

#### Key studies

- Cell death, cytotoxicity and viability assays
  - Cellular response to chemicals and exogenous stresses
  - Possibility for dynamic studies on live cells
- In-situ cell sorting in accordance with the cell-cycle stage
- Microbiology





### **SISSI-Bio** The Nanoscopy endstation

From micro





### Bridging Nano-chemistry and 3D morphology

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G. Fiocco et al., "Synchrotron radiation micro-computed tomography for the investigation of finishing treatments in historical bowed string instruments: issues and perspectives", European Physical Journal Plus. **133**, 525-34 (2018)



### Bridging Nano-chemistry and 3D morphology

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G. Fiocco et al., "Synchrotron radiation micro-computed tomography for the investigation of finishing treatments in historical bowed string instruments: issues and perspectives", European Physical Journal Plus. **133**, 525-34 (2018)



### X-ray micro-computed tomography From 2D to 3D at SYRMEP

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#### 3D RECONSTRUCTION at SYRMEP Fragment of cello made by Andrea Guarneri (17<sup>th</sup> century)

Ground

(~20 μm) **Wood** 

coat

G. Fiocco et al., "Synchrotron radiation micro-computed tomography for the investigation of finishing treatments in historical bowed string instruments: issues and perspectives", European Physical Journal Plus. **133**, 525-34 (2018)



### Bridging Nano-chemistry and 3D morphology

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G. Fiocco et al., "Synchrotron radiation micro-computed tomography for the investigation of finishing treatments in historical bowed string instruments: issues and perspectives", European Physical Journal Plus. **133**, 525-34 (2018)



### Bridging Nano-chemistry and 3D morphology

**3D RECONSTRUCTION at SYRMEP** TwinMic XRF SYRMEP IUVS SISSI Nano Innovation Structural Biology XRD1 XRD2 0000 MCX Xpress XAFS



G. Fiocco et al., "Synchrotron radiation micro-computed tomography for the investigation of finishing treatments in historical bowed string unstruments; issues and perspectives", European Physical Journal Plus. 133, 525-34 (2018)



### Bridging Nano-chemistry and Mechanobiology: NanoInnovation Lab



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XRD1

XRD2

MCX

**Xpress** 

XAFS

CELL MECHANOSENSING Polymeric and carbon-based biocompatible materials are used as tunable scaffold for cell growth to study **cell mechanosensing and mechanotransduction** in the context of diverse diseases (aortic valve (AV) interstitial cells in AV calcific disease; breast cancer cells





Advanced Biosystems 2019, 3

NANOINDENTATION HISTOLOGY Mechanical compliance of human aortic valve leaflets measured via AFM (isobar-like layout) to complement classical histological staining





Biomaterials 2018, 181







Biomaterials 2018, 181



Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste

### Pharma at Elettra

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Structural Biology Laboratory

XRD1 XRD2 MCX beamlines Drug (API molecule) target-based drug design

Drug (API molecule) characterization

Drug (solid state – powder) p*re-formulation and formulation:* Definition of processes and quality control methods, stability and compatibility, scale up, regulatory and legal documents

Drug (solid state – powder) *manufacturing*: From incoming goods quality to end-product quality.





### XRD2 beamline

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**TwinMic** XRF SYRMEP IUVS SISSI Nano Innovation Structural Biology XRD1 XRD2 MCX **Xpress** XAFS



Source SCW [fulfills the needs of both Xpress and XRD2]

> Energy range 8-25 keV



Indian Institute of Science Bangalore

#### Drug (API molecule) target-based drug design





### XRD1 beamline

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Source wiggler

Energy range 4-21,5 keV

Drug (API molecule) characterization

**Phytoalexins** produced in plants act as toxins to the attacking organism.

When a plant cell recognizes a pathogen, a short-term response and a delayed long-term specific response are launched.

Long-term resistance, involves communication pathways that in turn involve plant hormones such as jasmonic acid, ethylene, abscisic acid or salicylic acid.

The reception of the signal leads to global changes within the plant, which induce genes that protect from further pathogen intrusion, including enzymes involved in the production of phytoalexins.



RETURN TO ISSUE < PRFV ARTICLE

NFXT >

#### Regio- and Diastereoselective Synthesis and X-ray Structure Determination of (+)-2-Deoxyoryzalexin S from (+)-Podocarpic Acid. Structural Nonidentity with Its Nominal Natural Isolated Enantiomer

Francesca Leonelli<sup>\*†</sup>, Valentina Latini<sup>†</sup>, Andrea Trombetta<sup>†</sup>, Gabriele Bartoli<sup>†</sup>, Francesca Ceccacci<sup>†</sup>, Angela La Bella<sup>†</sup>, Alessio Sferrazza<sup>†</sup>, Doriano Lamba<sup>‡</sup>, Luisa M. Migneco<sup>†</sup> and Rinaldo Marini Bettolo<sup>\*†</sup>



🛖 ACS Publicatio



### MCX beamline

Structural

Biology

XRD1

XRD2

MCX

**Xpress** 

XAES



X-rays at sample Energy range 6-22 keV Photon flux 10<sup>11</sup> photons/sec Beam size at sample 10x1 mm<sup>2</sup> - 0.3x0.3 mm<sup>2</sup> Energy resolution ΔE/E 2x10<sup>-4</sup>

400 (T/gm) 200 100 C2/cPZQ Form B Form C

Drug (solid state – powder) *manufacturing*: From incoming goods quality to end-product quality

#### BACKGROUND:

C-l2/c

**PZQ** (Praziquantel) is the only available drug to treat Schistosomiasis, a recurrent disease in developing countries caused by water contaminated with parasitic worms (Schistosomes).

**Praziquantel** utilization is limited by the **high therapeutic dose needed**, resulting in large tablets and capsules difficult to be swallowed.

**STUDY**: Find a new soluble form (crystalline polymorph) of Praziquantel with different physical properties

European J

European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics Volume 127, June 2018, Pages 19-28



A new soluble and bioactive polymorph of praziquantel

Debora Zanolla <sup>a</sup>, Beatrice Perissutti <sup>a</sup>, <sup>R</sup>ia Nadia Passerini <sup>1</sup>, Michele R. Chierotti <sup>1</sup>, Dritan Hasa <sup>4</sup>, Dario Volnovich <sup>a</sup>, Lara Gigli <sup>a</sup>, Nicola Demitri <sup>6</sup>, Silvano Geremia <sup>a</sup>, Jennifer Keiser <sup>f</sup>, Paolo Cerrela Vioglio <sup>6</sup>, Beatrice Albertini <sup>b</sup>

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https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpb.2018.01.018

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## Xpress – high pressure diffraction beamline

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Hard x-ray diffraction beamline with monochromatic energy 25 keV (fixed). In-situ high pressure measurements (50 GPa) using diamond anvil cells. Ruby fluorescence for in-situ pressure monitorning.

Routinely used for powder diffraction, recently single crystal high pressure diffraction capablilities are shown (P. Lotti et al., J. Synchrotron Rad (2020)).

Will be soon upgraded with a Pilatus6M detector (2021).



### Xpress – high pressure diffraction beamline

TwinMic XRF SYRMEP IUVS SISSI Nano Innovation Structural Biology XRD1 XRD2 MCX **Xpress** XAFS

Most users are from condensed matter physics background. Investigations are on pressure induced structural phase transitions, metallization, isostructural transitions/novel electronic states etc, but also on creating novel materials.

Recently there is an increasing activity on porous materials.

- Stability under pressure
- Guest host interaction : how pores can host the guest molecules under pressure and thus modify the properties.
- Pressure-induced intercalated molecoles undergo further reactions (bonding to host, polymerization) under varying conditions (laser irradiation, pressure cycling, heating etc) to yield unique novel material with nanochannels inside!



Polymerizion of  $C_8H_6$  in the 12 Å channels of the large-pore aluminosphoshate VF-zeolite under high temperature-high pressure conditions of about 0.8 GPa and 140 °C.

The resulting conductive polymer/insulating host composite consists of disordered predominantly transpolyphenylacetylene chains in the pores of the host structure.



### in-situ and operando measurements at XAFS

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Source Bending Magnet

Energy range 2.4-27 keV

K edges: S - Ag L edges: Y - Bi



Analytical Detection of Polysulfides in the Presence of Adsorption Additives by Operando X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy







R. Dominko et al., Phys. Chem C 119, 19001 (2015)



diffracted x-ra

X-ray Absorption

Spectroscopy

**XAFS** 

x-ray

MCX

**Xpress** 

XAFS





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## Thank for your attention

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