



# Practical approach to XANES data analysis:

## *How to understand local atomic structure, coordination chemistry and electronic state from XANES spectra*



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### XAFS is a *local sensitive*, *chemical selective* **probe**



*Subjective* (Absorber) point of view of the local atomic structure in your sample

XAFS is a *local sensitive*, *chemical selective* **probe**

which can provide **structural**, **electronic** and even **magnetic** information abouot specific elements (absorbers)

- Applicable to materials in **any aggregation state:** gas, liquid, solid, single crystals, powders, amorphous, nanostructures, etc....
- Measurable from **bulk** to the highest **diluted** samples (micro- and nano-molar)
- **Versatile** (bulk, surfaces, layered structures, quantum structures, etc...)
- (*relatively*) **simple** experimental set-up and easy data collection
- **Fast** (*min*) and **ultrafast** (*ps*) data collection
- **Directional sensitivity** (polarized XAS): structural anisotropy
- **Element selective Magnetic** state sensitive (**XMCD**)





## *Advantages of XANES based probes*

## *Compared to EXAFS*

- ➢ XANES signal is **higher** than EXAFS
- ➢ Weaker damping due to **structural disorder**
- ➢ Restricted **energy range**
- ➢ Simpler/faster data collection
- ➢ **sensitive to**
	- ➢ **Electronic structure** (empty DoS)
	- $\triangleright$  symmetry of the coordination geometry



# *XANES signal is dense of electronic, structural and magnetic and information*

#### XANES signal is stronger than EXAFS:

- less sensitive to data statistics, sample quality, beam intensity,
- can be measured on less concentrated samples,
- can be measured faster than EXAFS (time resolved experiments)

#### Damping of XANES signal due to structural disorder is weak:

• Extreme conditions experiments: High **T**, High **P**, High **H**....

#### Electronic structure (DoS) and structural topology:

- XANES features are especially sensitive to the valence state, coordination chemistry, ligand symmetry of the absorber.
- Can be used as fingerprint for chemical speciation in mixtures and inhomogeneous systems.

#### **Restricted energy range around the edge:**

- Measurements at low energies (Si, S, Cl, ...)
- Fast data collection (time resolved XAS)
- XANES Microprobes (mapping) with sub-micrometer resolution

#### Chemical selective Magnetic information

- X ray Magnetic Circular Dichroism (XMCD) signal is an element specific probe for magnetism
- Sum rules at  $L_{23}$  edges allow distinguishing orbital and spin contributions to the magnetic moment of the photoabsorber

#### XANES theory is complex

- lack of an analytical expression
- long computation time

analysis skills

• Good theoreticians and data

XANES signal is prone to *(relatively)* simple interpretation for *(relatively)* easy and fast (semi-)quantitative analysis

## **Deeper into the XANES region**



Local symmetry and XANES in Ti<sup>4+</sup> compounds

XANES **features** are strongly related to the coordination chemistry & geometry: Number, kind and symmetry of the ligands



XANES signal is prone to

#### **Edge position** depends on the **oxidation state** of the absorber

### XANES regions



Post-edge (XANES) **full multiple scattering (FMS)**

electronic state and local coordination geometry around the absorber

#### the onset of **continuous states**

 $E_{o}$  is a function of the absorber oxidation state. It may increase by several eV per oxidation unit

## Early research

The Pre-edge region

- $\triangleright$  Below the ionization continuum, transitions to bound states occur
- $\triangleright$  Each transition has a defined lines shape determined by the core-hole lifetime(Lorentzian) convoluted with the x-ray energy resolution (Gaussian)



### The Pre-edge region

electronic transitions to **empty bound states** near the Fermi level.

XANES signal is complementary to the **XPS**, probing the occupied density of states.



## **K** *pre-edges* in 3d metal oxides: intensity *vs* empty electronic states





*Pre-edge features come from transitions to bound electronic levels below the continuum threshold*



The XANES features of the same ions, even in the same oxidation Ti K edge Cu K edgestate, **may behave** differently in different compounds…

> … as a function of the absorber **oxidation state** and **coordination geometry**

The XANES features are **fingerprints for specific compounds**



### *pre-edge features (Fe examples)*





## *The Iron case: the average valence and coordination chemistry from the pre-edge peak shape/position*

American Mineralogist, Volume 86, pages 714-730, 2001

-favalite -----arctangent .....background normalized r

Energy (eV)

÷



**Centroid** → average Fe **valence**

## *The case of Fe in metallo-proteins: Ibuprofen/warfarin induce V to VI Fe coordination transition in HSA*





**O PLOS** ONE

The Five-To-Six-Coordination Transition of Ferric Human Serum Heme-Albumin Is Allosterically-Modulated by Ibuprofen and Warfarin: A Combined XAS and MD Study

Carlo Meneghini<sup>19</sup>, Loris Leboffe<sup>1,29</sup>, Monica Bionducci<sup>1</sup>, Gabriella Fanali<sup>3</sup>, Massimiliano Meli<sup>4</sup>, Giorgio Colombo<sup>4</sup>, Mauro Fasano<sup>3</sup>, Paolo Ascenzi<sup>2,5</sup>\*, Settimio Mobilio









Biophysics

### *Fe in archaean rocks*



Geophysics Geolgy

### Ti: *the average valence and coordination chemistry*



**coordination number** and **valence state** from the position & area of the pre-edge peaks

Farges F, Brown GE, Rehr JJ. Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta 1996; 60:<br>3023. أث



### *…. and Vanadium*





5101

New Methodological Approach for the Vanadium K-Edge X-ray Absorption Near-Edge Structure Interpretation: Application to the Speciation of Vanadium in Oxide Phases from **Steel Slag** 

Perrine Chaurand,\*,† Jérôme Rose,† Valérie Briois,‡ Murielle Salome,§ Olivier Proux,<sup>||</sup>



### *K edges of 3d metal oxides: the origin of the pre-edge features*



#### *K* edge + dipole selection rules  $= s \rightarrow p$  transitions

 $I_{s\rightarrow d}$  (quadrupole) ~  ${\bf 10^{\text{-} 2}}$   $I_{s\rightarrow p}$  (dipole)

Hybridization mixes *p-d* states allowing for dipole allowed transitions to *empty pcomponents* of hybrid *pd* levels





crystalline field splitting of *d* atomic orbitals

> $t_2$  $\stackrel{-}{=}$  $\frac{e}{\sqrt{2}}$

> > $T_d$

 $e_q$ 

 $\stackrel{t_{2g}}{=}$ 

 $O_h$ 

 $\overset{\mathsf{d}}{=}$ 



#### **Example:** hydrostatic pressure reduces TiO<sub>6</sub> distortions in  $BaTiO<sub>3</sub>$  and suppress ferroelectricity



#### *The Edge region: The edge position Shape and position* FeO  $Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>$ Fe metal  $\sim$  Rost–edge 7105 7110 7115 7120 7125 7130 7135 7140 7145 7150  $E(eV)$  oxidation state  $E_{\rho}^{\prime}$ *The shape of the edge* 1 Abs. [arb.un.] pre-edge ENERGY  $Ba<sub>2</sub>TiO<sub>4</sub>$ **EDGE** L<sub>3</sub>  $K_2TiSi_3O_9$  $(a)$ COEFFICIENT Ta  $0.5$ W  $Re$ ABSORPTION  $\boldsymbol{0}$ 4.95  $20eV$ 5 E [KeV]

16-26.09.2024 *L edges 4d, 5d*

#### The chemical shift (edge position) reveals the absorber oxidation state...





White lines and d-electron occupancies for the 3d and 4d transition metals

D. H. Pearson,\* C. C. Ahn, and B. Fultz

### Examples



- Transition is  $2p$  to 5d: Pt d-band full, so "no" intensity at edge.
- PtGe intermetallics: charge transfer from d-band of Pt to Ge, resulting in significant intensity at edge.
- Use as signature of Pt-Ge intermetallic formation.



CuAu thin films (unpublished)

### Edge region: fingerprints of chemical species

Chemical shift = oxidation state Edge shape = chemical environment





Energy (eV)

A. Vatravamurthy / Spectrochimica Acta Part A 54 (1998) 2009-2017

## features of the edge region…

#### reveal chemical species in mixtures

Environmental sciences



A. Vatravamurthy / Spectrochimica Acta Part A 54 (1998) 2009-2017

*chemical speciation of Sulphur in humic substances*

### *Chemical speciation in Natural samples: the problem*



Natural samples are intrinsically **disordered**, **multiphase**, **poorly know composition** chemical species



**natural sciences:** biology, geology, medicine, cultural heritage, chemistry (catalysis, reactions…), …

- Chemical lab: Elemental analysis
- XRD blind to the amorphous phases, local disorder, chemical defects, grain boundaries…

*The XANES features are fingerprints for specific compounds*

## *Analysis of mixtures: Linear Combination Analysis*

*(LCA)* 

*The XANES features are fingerprints for specific compounds*

$$
\mu^{th} = \sum_{j} \alpha_{j} \mu^{ref_{j}}
$$

$$
R^{2} = \sum_{i} (\mu^{exp}(E_{i}) - \mu^{th}(E_{i}))^{2}
$$

 $\alpha_i$  = atomic fraction of the chemical specie j



#### *also: Linear Combination Fit (LCF)*

### *XANES - LCA for Catalysis*

J.U Fit experimental data to linear combination of  $2.5E$ Ce(IV) oxide Normalized Absorption Ce(III) sulfate known reference  $2.0 +$ compounds 100 $\overline{F}$  $1.5 +$  $......$ 1.0<sup>F</sup> 80  $0.5$ % of Cerium  $0.0$ 60 5.70 5.72 5.74 5.76  $5.78/$  $Ce(IV)$ **Chatph Energy**, keV  $Ce(III)$ **TPR-XANES** of in 40 situ reduction of  $Ce_{0.7}Zr_{0.3}$  oxide  $\Box$ Normalized Absor 20 LC-XANES fit \*\*\*\*\* to determine Η 0 amount of 400 200 600 0  $Ce(III)$  and  $Ce(IV)$  present Temperature, °C 5.76 5.78 5.80 5.82 5.68 5.70 5.74 5.72 as function of Photon Energy, keV Simon R. Bare temperature

chemistry

### *Advanced materials: looking for magneto-electric coupling*



## *Advanced materials: looking for diluted magnetic units*





BaTiO<sub>3</sub> is **ferroelectric**: off center displacement of Ti<sup>4+</sup> ions produces a **permanent electric dipole** in TiO<sub>6</sub> molecules



doping with magnetic ions (Fe) may provide some magnetoelectric coupling and stabilize the ferroelectric phase

**Note**: XRD can't show Fe crystalline phase because of low ( $\ll 1\%$ ) Fe metal



Large Oxygen vacancies causes the Fe ions segregating as metallic  $Fe<sup>0</sup>$  phase, the sample is no more homogeneous at the short-range scale, wrong magneto-electric understanding

T. Chakraborty, C. Meneghini, G. Aquilanti, S. Ray, J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 25 (2013) 23600 T. Chakraborty, C. Meneghini, G. Aquilanti, S. Ray, Advanced Functional Materials (2014)

## Special Applications of XANES spectroscopy: µ-XANES & mapping

XAS vs XRF XRF= elemental sensitivity XAS= **elemental sensitivity + chemical speciation**



I. J.Pickering & G. N. George Proc. XAFS13 conference (2006)

M. Bonnin-Mosbah et al. / Spectrochimica Acta Part B 57 (2002) 711-725



**NOTE**: X-ray lenses and zone plates work in a reduced energy window, therefore the EXAFS region is often not accessible to micro and nano probes

Anal, Chem. XXXX, xxx, 000-000

**Characterization of a Degraded Cadmium Yellow** (CdS) Pigment in an Oil Painting by Means of **Synchrotron Radiation Based X-ray Techniques** 

Geert Van der Snickt,<sup>†</sup> Joris Dik,<sup>‡</sup> Marine Cotte,<sup>§,</sup>" Koen Janssens,\*<sup>,†</sup> Jakub Jaroszewicz,<sup>†</sup> Wout De Nolf,<sup>†</sup> Jasper Groenewegen,<sup>‡</sup> and Luuk Van der Loeff<sup>.</sup>

"Still Life with Cabbage" by James Ensor (ca.1921



CdS yellow colour in oil paints may degrade if exposed to light giving rise to white spots.

Chemical transformations giving rise to colour changes are mapped by µXANES

XRF SCAN AT 3.5427 keV

XRF SCAN AT 3.5450 keV

 $(13)$  $(12)$ 

 $(11)$ 

 $(10)$ 

 $(09)$ 

 $(08)$ 

 $(07)$ 

 $(06)$ 

 $(05)$ 

 $(04)$ 

 $(03)$  $(02)$ 

 $(01)$ 







3.57 3.62 Energy

01) yellow paint in sample, (02) white/transparent globules in sample, (03) CdS, (04) anglesite (PbSO<sub>4</sub>), (05) CdSO<sub>4</sub>{VPEG (SO<sub>4</sub>{VPEG (SO<sub>4</sub>{VPEG (SO<sub>4</sub>} (Phi - Valencia Copyre (04) CdS), (05) CdSO<sub>4</sub>, (06) CdSO<sub>4</sub>, (06

Cultural<br>heritage

## ID21-ID16B ESRF Microfocus beamline



Cultural neritural<br>heritage Bio-Remediation or: how to use Plants and (micro-)organisms employed to regulate pollutant mobility (i.e. heavy metals) within the ecosystems  $\frac{Bi_{O/G_{eo}}}{Si_{Co}}$ 



Bio-Remediation or: how to use Plants and (micro-)organisms employed to regulate pollutant mobility (i.e. heavy metals) within the ecosystems



G. De Giudici, D. Medas, P. Lattanzi, C. Meneghini, et al. to be submitted (Scienze) 16-26.09.2024

### New instruments  $\rightarrow$  new data analysis methods

## fast data collection →

huge datasets

### High data quality  $\rightarrow$ search for tiny effects





## Principal Component Analysis



$$
f(x,T) = \bar{f}(x) + \sum_{i} \alpha_i(T) C_i(x)
$$

 $C_i(x)$  = Eigenvectors of the covariance matrix



 $16$   $20.00$ 



## Principal Component Analysis



## Principal Component Analysis



## Chemical reactions



Inorg. Chem. 2020, 59, 9979 − 9989

#### Direct Mechanistic Evidence for a Nonheme Complex Reaction through a Multivariate XAS Analysis

Francesco Tavani,\* Andrea Martini, Giorgio Capocasa, Stefano Di Stefano, Osvaldo Lanzalunga, 16-26.09.2024 and Paola D'Angelo\*



Chemistry

Figure 4. Fe K-edge XANES spectra (a) and fractional concentration profiles (b) extracted by using the transformation matrix-based decomposition.

[https://pubs.acs.org/action/showCitFormats?doi=10.10](https://pubs.acs.org/action/showCitFormats?doi=10.1021/acs.inorgchem.0c01132&ref=pdf) [21/acs.inorgchem.0c01132&ref=pdf](https://pubs.acs.org/action/showCitFormats?doi=10.1021/acs.inorgchem.0c01132&ref=pdf)

## *Multiferroicity and Local structure in FeVO<sup>4</sup>*

 $\mathbb{R}$ 

JOURNAL OF SOLID STATE CHEMISTRY 4, 29-37 (1972)

Crystal Structure and Mössbauer Effect Investigation of FeVO<sub>4</sub>

#### **B. ROBERTSON**

Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, University of Saskatchewan, Regina Saskatchewan, Canada

AND E. KOSTINER Baker Laboratory of Chemistry, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850 PHYSICAL REVIEW B 80, 220402(R) (2009)

Fundamental<br><sup>naterial</sup> material science

Multiferroicity and spiral magnetism in  $FeVO<sub>4</sub>$  with quenched Fe orbital moments

A. Daoud-Aladine,<sup>1,\*</sup> B. Kundys,<sup>2</sup> C. Martin,<sup>2</sup> P. G. Radaelli,<sup>1,3</sup> P. J. Brown,<sup>4</sup> C. Simon,<sup>2</sup> and L. C. Chapon<sup>1</sup>

Magnetic transitions at  $T_{N_1} = 22$ K and  $T_{N_2} = 15$ K Ferroelectric below 15 K Heat capacity  $5^{T(K)}$  20  $T(K)$ 15 20 30 25 10 27  $($ J mol $^{\prime}$  K $^{\prime}$ 22  $-18.1$ ε  $17$ m P(µC  $12$ 18.0  $\widetilde{\circ}$ (a) 6. .5  $\frac{1}{2}$  6.0<br>= 6.0<br>= 5.6<br>= 5.1 Which is the role of role of local Electric polarization for  $5.6 +$ atomic structure? sample cooled in a positive  $E^+$  or negative  $E^-$  electric 4.7 field ( $\epsilon$ : dielectric constant) 10 20 30 40 5ъ  $T(K)$ Magnetization

## *Multiferroicity and Local structure in FeVO<sup>4</sup>*





microstructural distortions reveal changes in the SSE interactions along the  $Fe^{3+}O V^{5+}OFe^{3+}$  pathways



Changes of **Changes** of  $FeO<sub>6</sub> - VO<sub>4</sub>$ connectivity



#### Medium range order and ferroelectricity in  $Bi_5FeTi_3O_{15}$  ceramics



Fe  $Fe - C$ ac0c3b



J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 0 (2021) 000000 (11pp)

#### Lattice assisted dielectric relaxation in four-layer Aurivillius  $Bi_5FeTi_3O_{15}$  ceramic at low temperatures

Deepak Prajapat<sup>1</sup>, Akash Surampalli<sup>1</sup>, Irene Schiesaro<sup>2</sup>, S D Kaushik<sup>3</sup>, Carlo Meneghini<sup>2</sup>, Archna Sagdeo<sup>4,5</sup><sup>0</sup>, V G Sathe<sup>1</sup><sup>0</sup>, V Siruguri<sup>3</sup><sup>0</sup>, Edmund Welter<sup>6</sup> and V Raghavendra Reddy<sup>1</sup><sup>®</sup>

# **Thanks for…**



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