



# 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**



<u>Subjective</u> (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)
  - 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 <u>less concentrated</u> samples,
- can be measured <u>faster</u> 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 <u>valence state</u>, <u>coordination chemistry</u>, <u>ligand</u> <u>symmetry</u> of the absorber.
- Can be used as <u>fingerprint</u> for <u>chemical speciation in mixtures</u> and inhomogeneous systems.

#### <u>Restricted energy range around the edge:</u>

- 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 <u>element specific</u> probe for magnetism
- Sum rules at L<sub>2,3</sub> 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
- 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 <u>chemistry</u> & <u>geometry</u>:N<u>umber</u>, <u>kind</u> and <u>symmetry</u> 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

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

## Early research

The Pre-edge region

- Below the ionization continuum, transitions to bound states occur
- 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 <u>empty bound states</u> 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

Ti K edge



The XANES features of the <u>same</u> <u>ions</u>, even in the <u>same oxidation</u> <u>state</u>, **may behave** <u>differently</u> 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)





< Fe(II)

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



arctanger

-background

Energy (eV)

absorbance



**Area** → average Fe **coordination number** 

**Centroid**  $\rightarrow$  average Fe **valence** 

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



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OPEN O	ACCESS	Freely	/ available	online

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>1,9</sup>, Loris Leboffe<sup>1,2,9</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<sup>1</sup>









Biophysics

## Fe in archaean rocks



Geophysics

Geolgy

## Ti: the average valence and coordination chemistry



coordination number and valence state from the <u>position</u> & <u>area</u> of the pre-edge peaks

Cosmochim. Acta 1996; 60: Farges F, Brown GE, Rehr JJ. Geochim. 3023. ف



## .... 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



## Kedge + dipole selection rules = $s \rightarrow p$ transitions

 $I_{s \to d}$  (quadrupole) ~ **10**<sup>-2</sup>  $I_{s \to p}$  (dipole)

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









## **Example:** hydrostatic pressure reduces $TiO_6$ distortions in BaTiO<sub>3</sub> and suppress ferroelectricity



The decrease of B peak intensity signals the reduction of Ti atom displacement.

Above 10 GPa Ti must be at the center of a regular oxygen octahedron,

the hybridization of the Ti 3*d* electronic states with the 2*p* electronic states of the surrounding oxygen is at the minimum



Europhys. Lett., 74 (4), pp. 706–711 (2006) DOI: 10.1209/ep1/i2006-10020-2 J.P. Itié et al.



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





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.



16-26.09.2024

CuAu thin films (unpublished)

## Edge region: fingerprints of chemical species

Chemical shift = oxidation state



#### Edge shape = chemical environment



Energy (eV)

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

## features of the edge region...

### reveal chemical species in mixtures

Environmental sciences



A. Vairavamurthy / 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

$$\mu^{th} = \sum_{j} \alpha_{j} \mu^{ref_{j}}$$
$$R^{2} = \sum_{i} \left( \mu^{exp}(E_{i}) - \mu^{th}(E_{i}) \right)^{2}$$

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



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

## **XANES - LCA for Catalysis**

3.U Fit experimental data to linear combination of 2.5 E Ce(IV) oxide Normalized Absorption Ce(III) sulfate known reference 2.0 compounds 100 开 1.5 ..... 1.0 80 0.5 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* % of Cerium 0.0 . . . . . 60 5.72 5.70 5.74 5.76 5.78/ Ce(IV) Direton Energy, keV Ce(III) **TPR-XANES** of in 40 Ce<sub>0.7</sub>Zr<sub>0.3</sub> oxide Normalized Absor 20 LC-XANES fit \*\*\*\* to determine Η 0 amount of 400 600 200 0 Ce(III) and Ce(IV) present Temperature, °C 5.74 5.76 5.78 5.80 5.82 5.68 5.70 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: $\mu$ -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>4,µ</sup>Koen Janssens,\*,<sup>1</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  $\mu$ XANES

XRF SCAN AT 3.5427 keV

XRF SCAN AT 3.5450 keV

(13)

(11)

(10)

(09)

(08)

(07)

(06)

(05)

(04)

(03)

(02)

(01)







3.52 3.57 3.62 Energy



Cultural heritage

## ID21-ID16B ESRF Microfocus beamline



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



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)

## New instruments → new data analysis methods

## fast data collection $\rightarrow$

huge datasets

## High data quality → search for tiny effects





## **Principal Component Analysis**



$$f(x,T) = \overline{f}(x) + \sum_{i} \alpha_{i}(T) \frac{C_{i}(x)}{C_{i}(x)}$$

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



TO 20.03.202-



## **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, 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 21/acs.inorgchem.0c01132&ref=pdf

## Multiferroicity and Local structure in FeVO<sub>4</sub>

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 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 T(K) 15 20 30 10 27 (J mol<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup> 22 Ε 17 P(LC 12 ບົ (a)

Which is the role of role of local atomic structure?





## Multiferroicity and Local structure in FeVO<sub>4</sub>





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



**Changes** of  $FeO_6 - VO_4$  connectivity



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



TO 20.03.2027

Fe - Fe Fe - On 3.95 1.98 3.93 1.96 3.91 ୁ ଅ 1.94 R (Å) 3.89 1.92 3.87 1.9 3.85 100 200 0 100 200 300 400 0 300 400 T (K) T(K)

Fe - O<sub>1</sub> Fe - Fe

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

#### Lattice assisted dielectric relaxation in four-layer Aurivillius Bi<sub>5</sub>FeTi<sub>3</sub>O<sub>15</sub> 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>, V G Sathe<sup>1</sup>, V Siruguri<sup>3</sup>, Edmund Welter<sup>6</sup> and V Raghavendra Reddy<sup>1</sup>

## Thanks for...



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