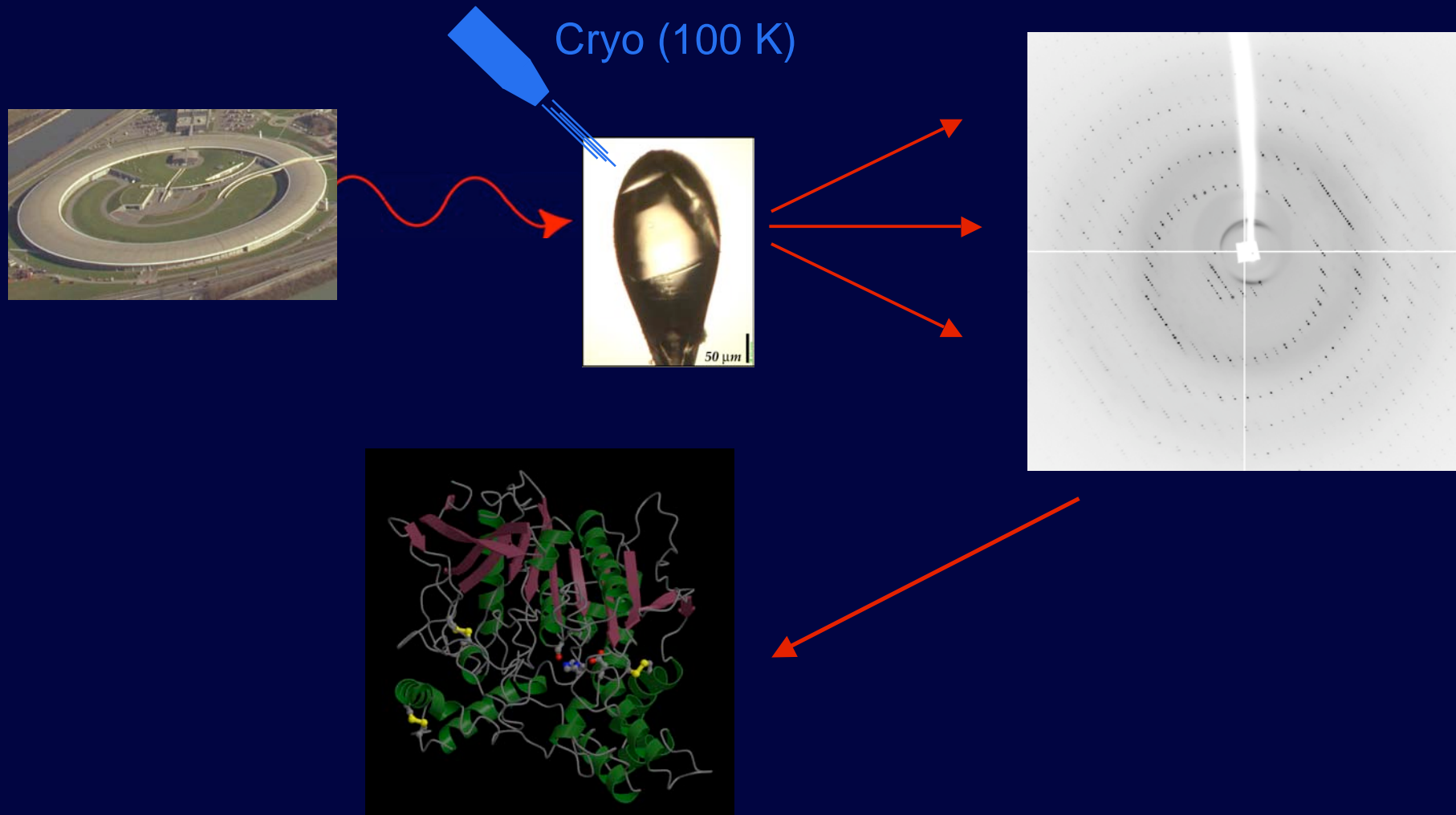


X-ray radiation damage to crystalline proteins

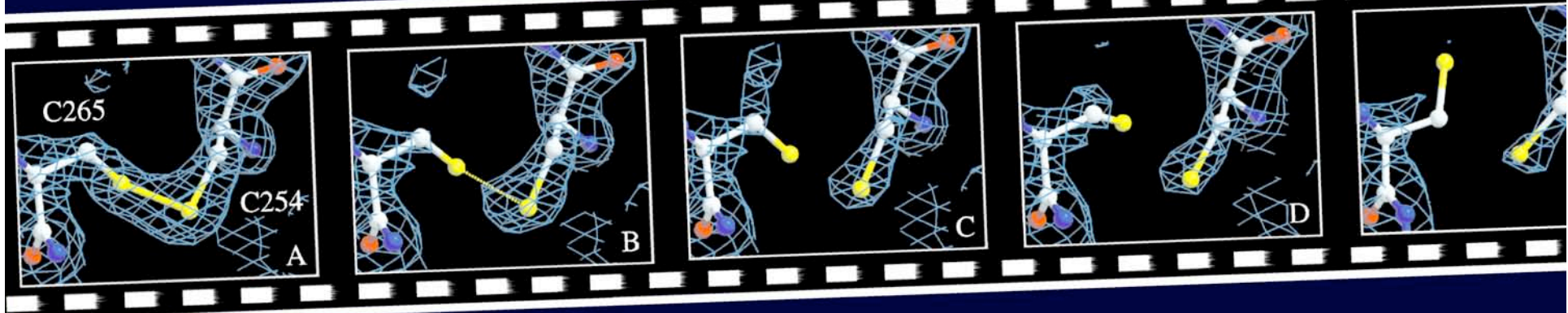
Martin WEIK
Institut de Biologie Structurale
Grenoble

Protein X-ray crystallography



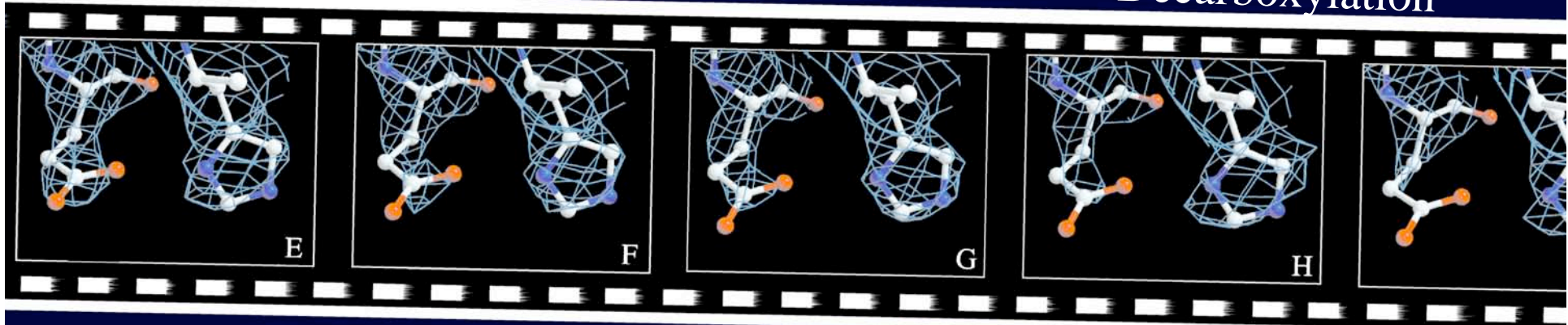
Synchrotron radiation is a powerful tool, but price must be paid

Disulfide breakage



Radiation damage to proteins

Decarboxylation



Outline

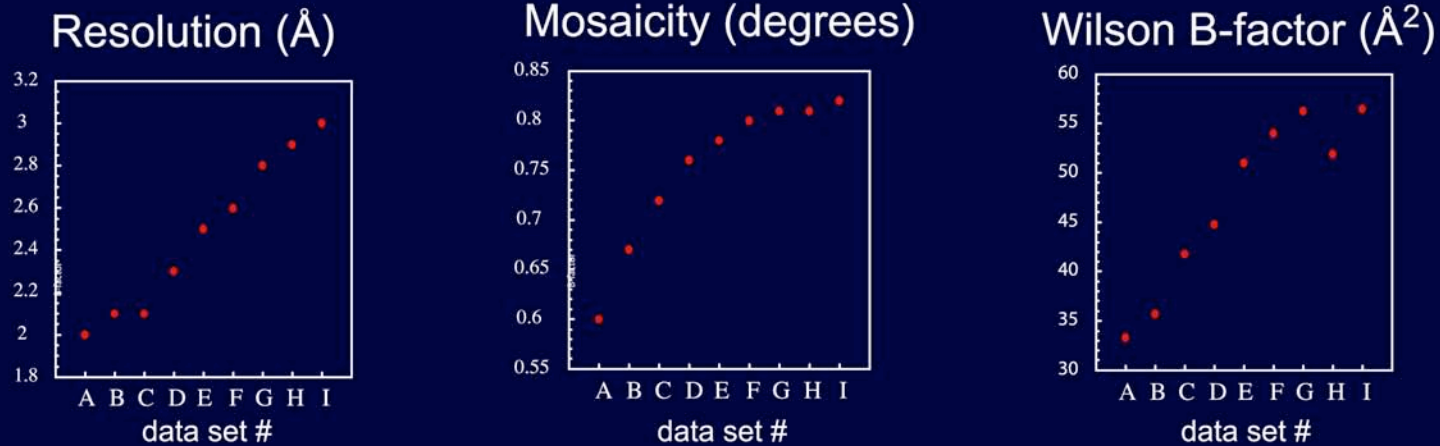
- Radiation damage
 - global indicators
 - specific structural damage
 - primary or secondary damage?
 - influence on specific damage of : pKa, solvent access., chemical environment
- Actives sites are most radiation sensitive - biological information altered
 - bacteriorhodopsin, malate dehydr, cholinesterase, DNA photolyase, IrisFP
 - redox proteins (e.g. metalloproteins)
 - online spectroscopy complements crystallography
- Practical issues
 - is there a dose-rate effect?
 - critical dose? how to calculate it?
 - how to minimize radiation damage?
 - wavelength-dependence of radiation damage?
 - radiation damage and MAD
 - how to use it?
 - T-dependence of raddam and beamheating
 - raddam in SAXS experiments
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 - radiolysis of substrate analogue of acetylcholinesterase

Outline

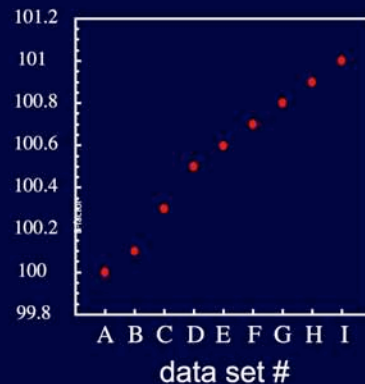
- Radiation damage
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Global indicators of radiation damage

Gonzalez & Nave (1994) *Acta Cryst. D* **50**, 874



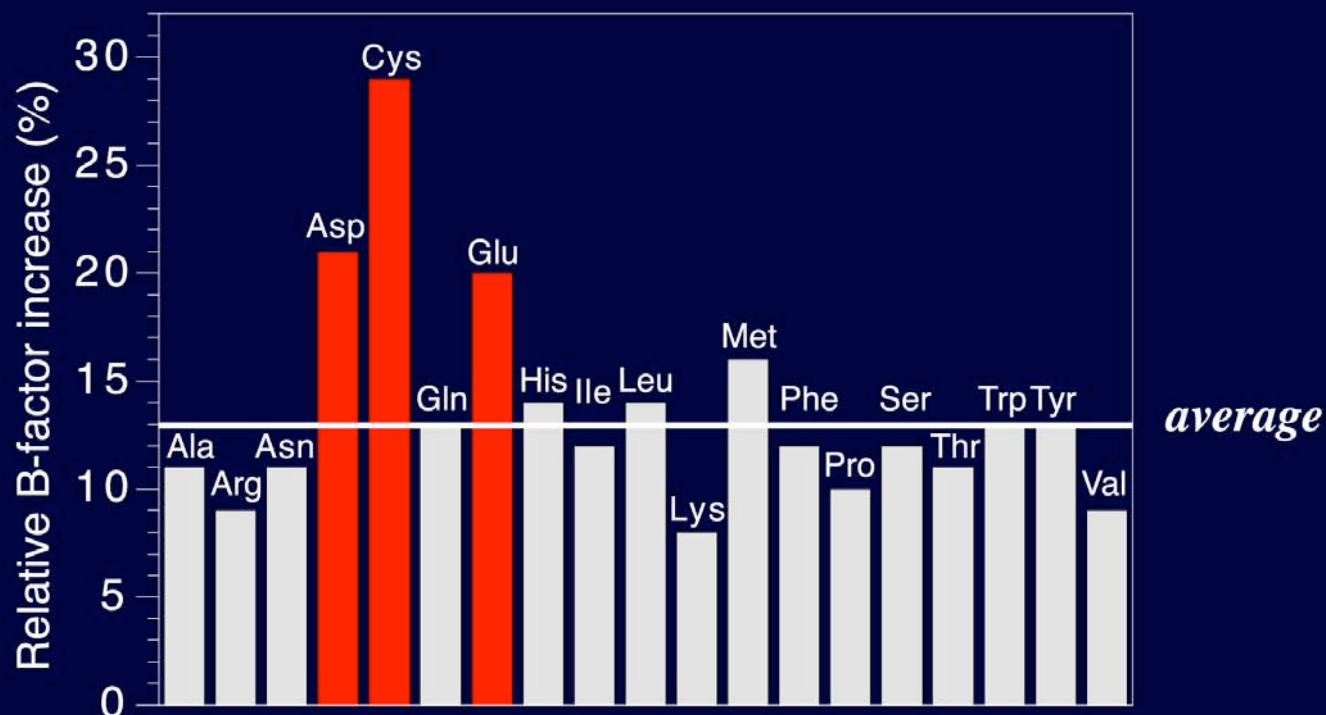
Relative unit cell volume (%)



Ravelli & McSweeney (2000) *Structure* **8**, 315

Ravelli *et al.* (2002) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **9**, 355

Relative B-factor increase per residue type



Most affected by radiation damage :

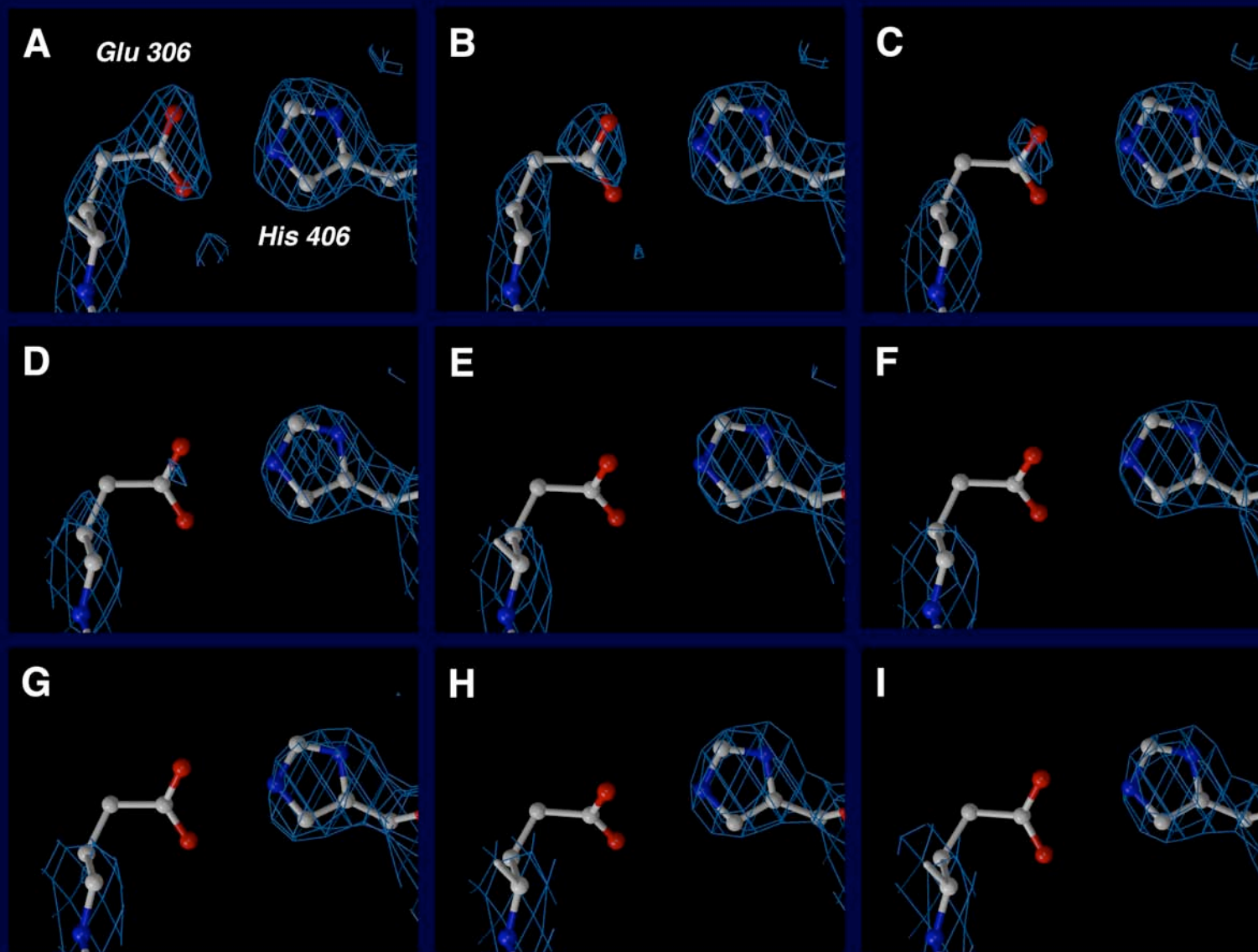
- Cysteine residues
- Acidic residues (Glu, Asp)

Specific structural damage ?

Data collection series

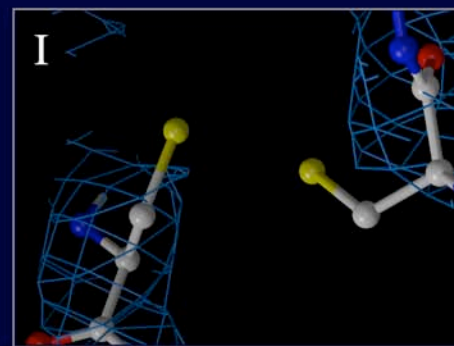
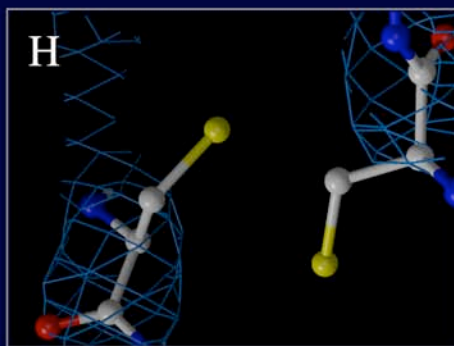
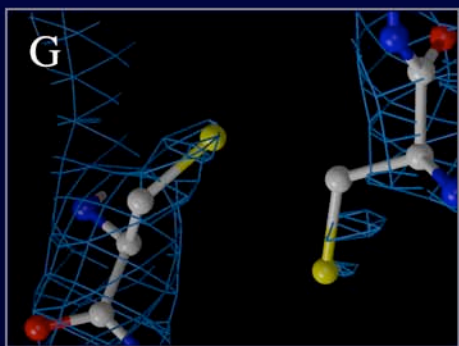
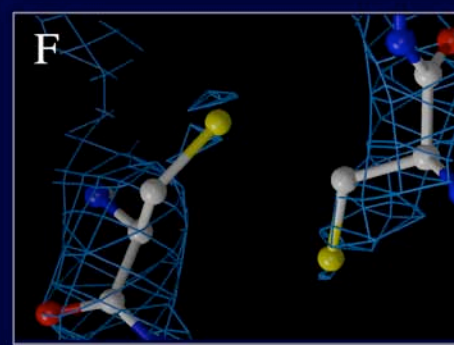
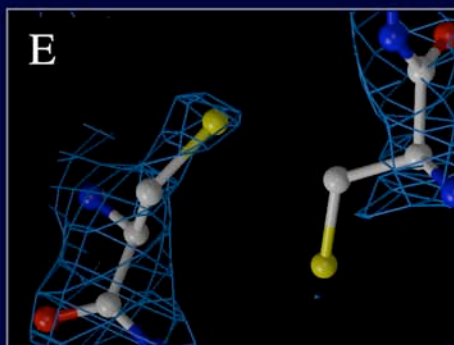
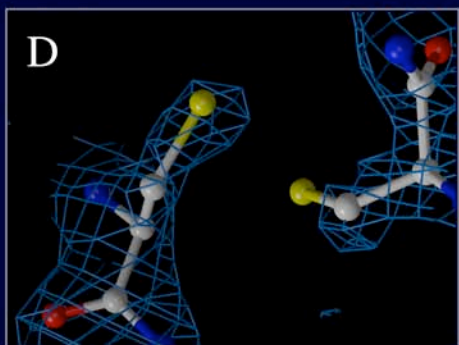
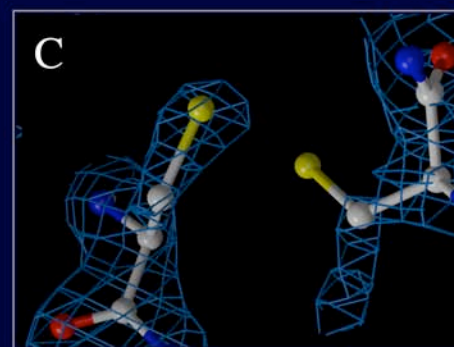
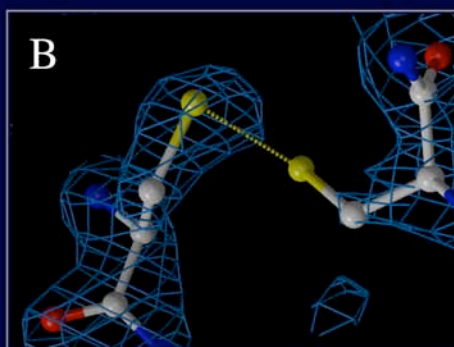
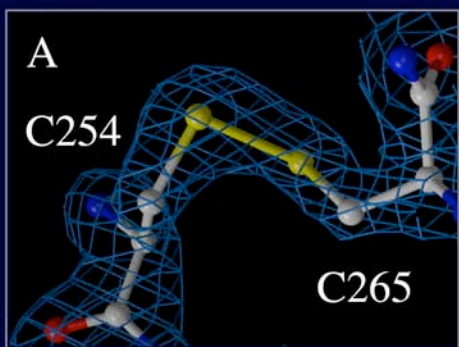
- crystals of acetylcholinesterase (AChE)
- ESRF undulator beam line ID14 - EH4
- 9 complete data sets (A - I) at 100 K
- dose: 10^7 Gy/data set
(for comparison: natural dose for humans: 0.002 Gy/year
lethal dose for humans: 5 Gy)

Carboxyl groups lose definition (ACHE, Glu306)

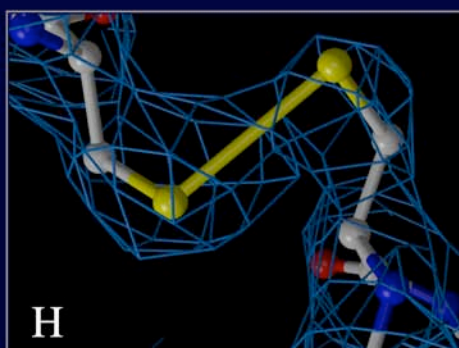
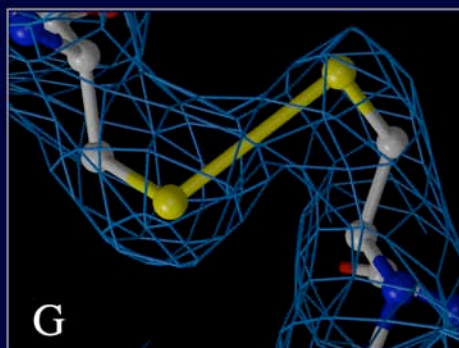
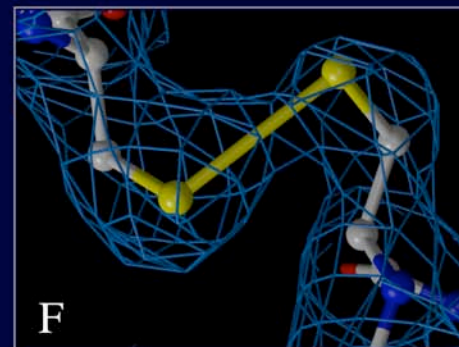
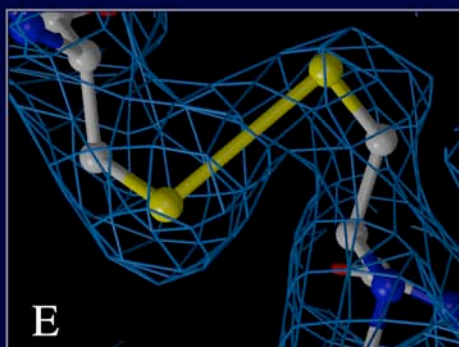
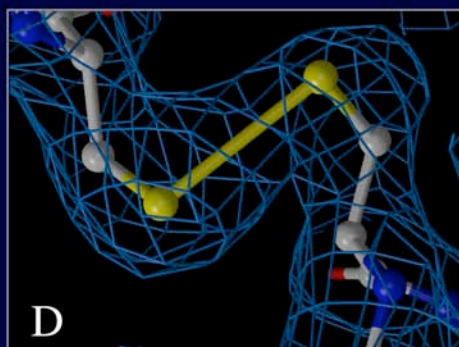
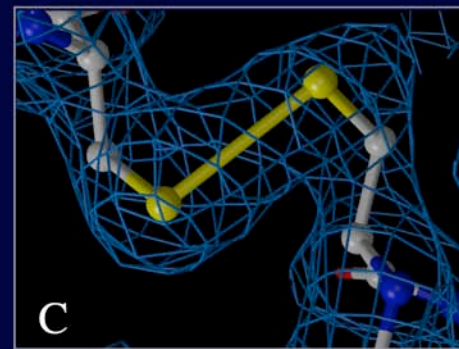
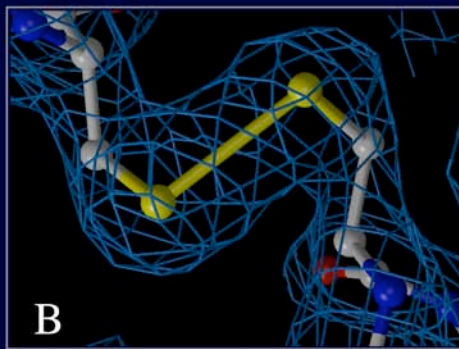
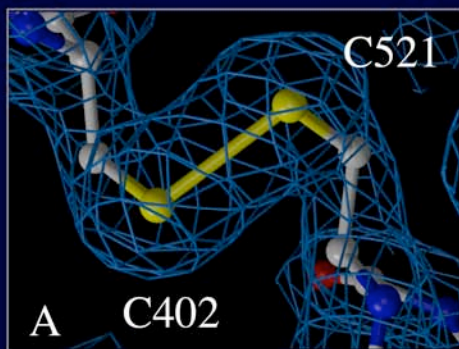


Decarboxylation ?

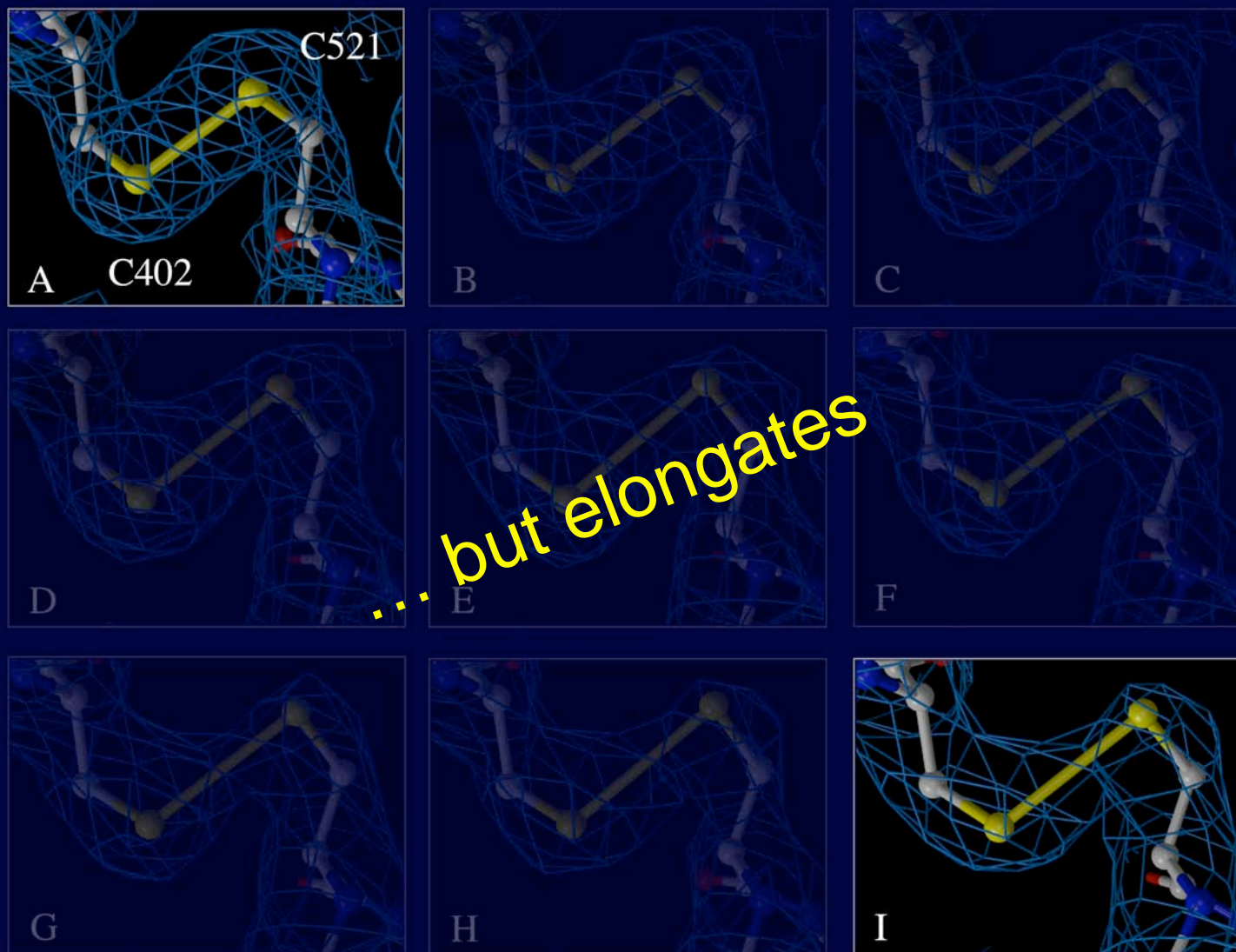
Disulfide bond C254 - C265 breaks in AChE



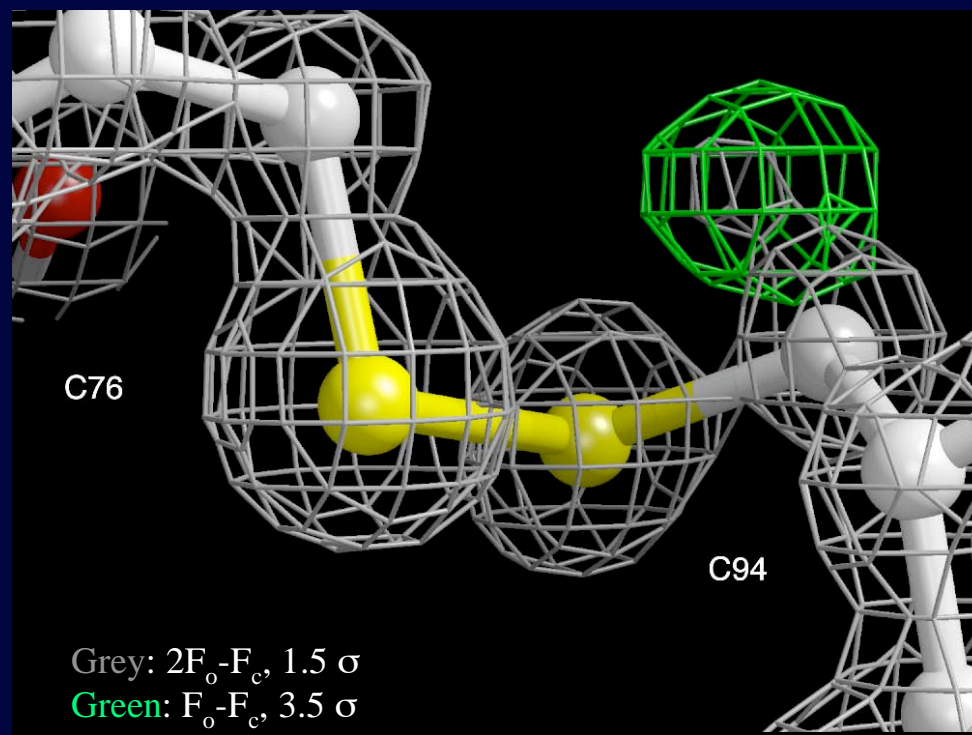
Disulfide bond C402 - C521 does not break ...



Disulfide bond C402 - C521 does not break ...



New rotamer position for C94 in HEWL

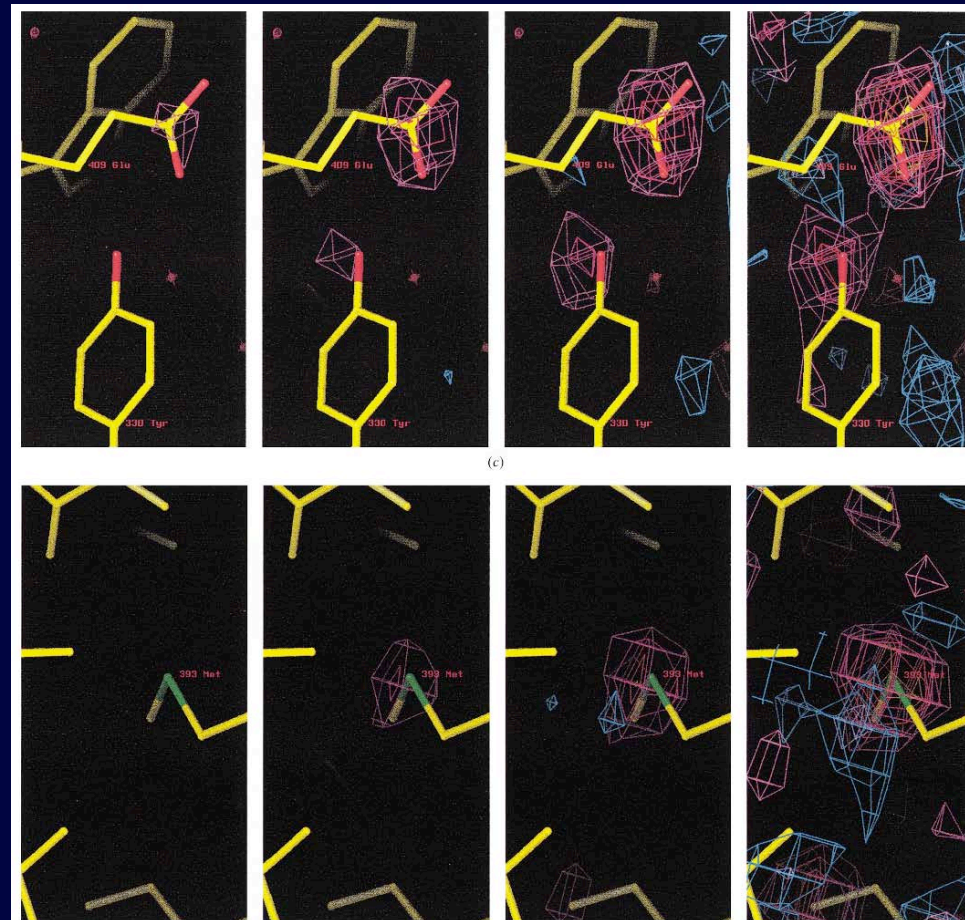


Damage to a Tyr and a Met in myrosinase

Glu409

Tyr330

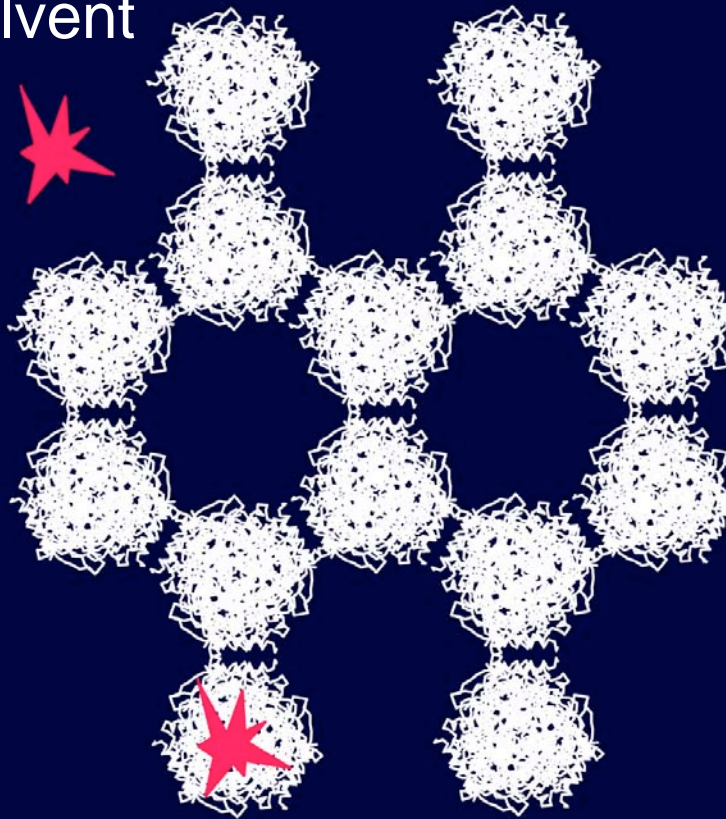
Met393



Specific damage: primary or secondary event?

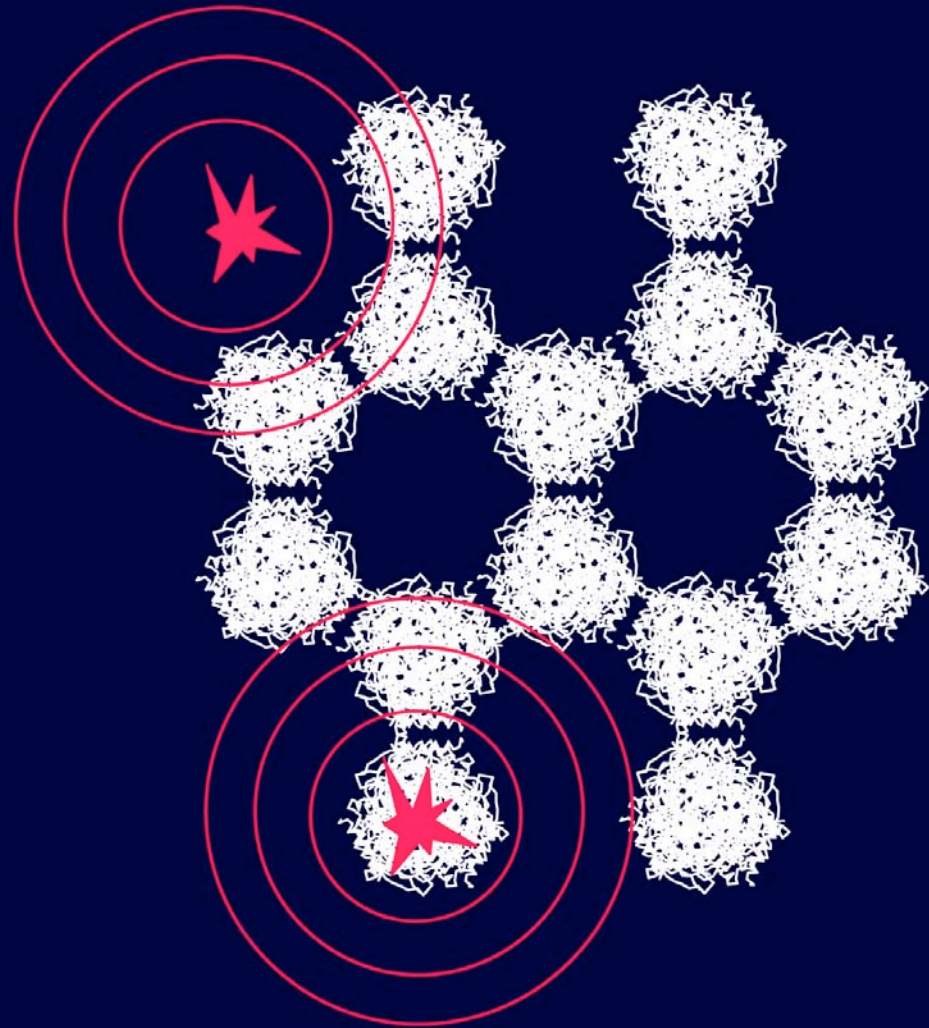
Primary damage

solvent



protein

Secondary damage



Primary events at 12.7 keV ($\lambda=0.98$ Å)

Murray *et al.* (2005) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **12**, 268

- 98% of incident photons don't interact at all
- 2% interact:

Elastic (Thomson) scattering (diffraction): 8%

Compton scattering: 8%

Photoelectric effect: 84%

each photoelectron produces 500 ionization events

Cross sections:

•

•

•

•

H

C

N

O

S

secondary damage

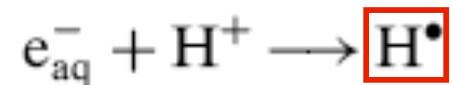
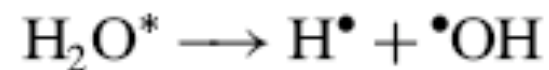
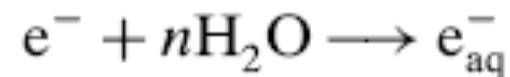
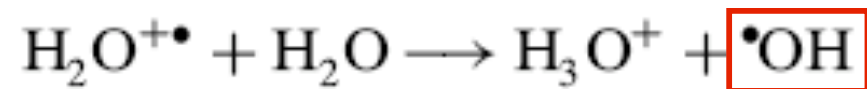
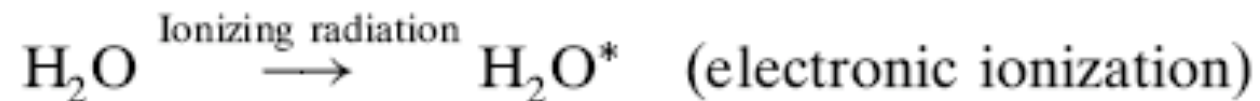
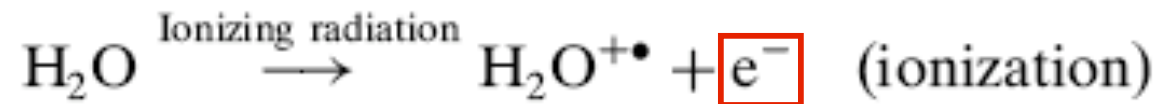
Ravelli *et al.* (2005) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **12**, 276

Specific damage is mostly secondary event

... because:

- only a few photons are absorbed per unit cell and per data set
- differential sensitivity for chemically identical groups (see disulfides)
- specific damage is temperature-dependent

Radiolysis of water



Temperature-dependence of radical mobility

$T < 115 \text{ K}$: e^- are mobile in amorph. ice

$T > 115 \text{ K}$: e^- and H^\bullet are mobile in amorph. ice

Fisher and Devlin (1995) J. Phys. Chem. **99**, 11584

$T > 130 \text{ K}$: e^- , H^\bullet and OH^\bullet are mobile in cryst. Ice

Symons (1999) Progr. Reaction Kinetics and Mechanisms **24**, 139

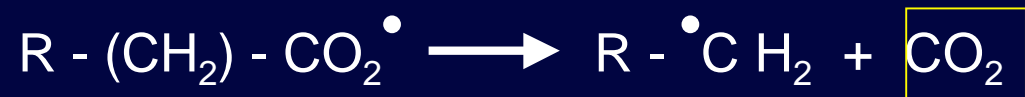
$T > 110 \text{ K}$: e^- , H^\bullet and OH^\bullet are mobile in amorph. Ice

Sevilla, private comm.

Only electrons are mobile at 100 K

Decarboxylation of Glu/Asp

Oxidation of Glu/Asp by e^- hole



Sevilla *et al.* (1979) *J. Phys. Chem.* **83**, 2887.

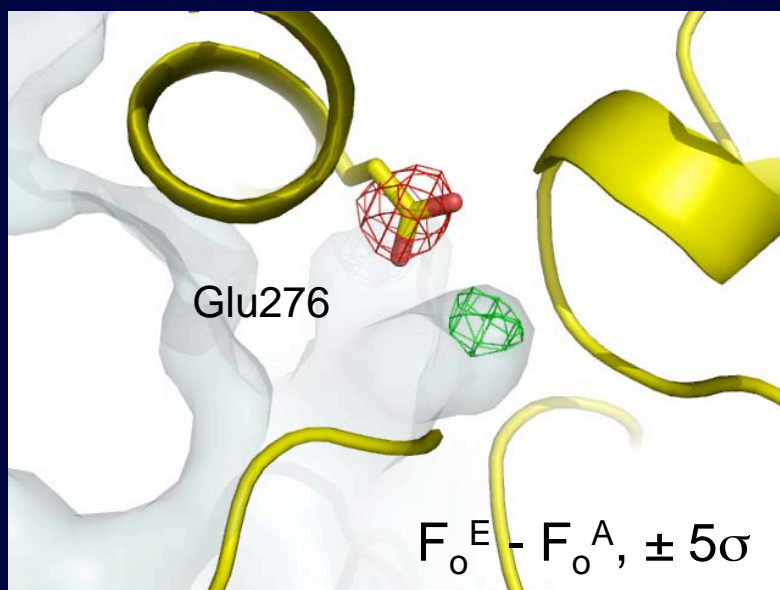
Ravelli & McSweeney (2000) *Structure* **8**, 315



CO_2 formation

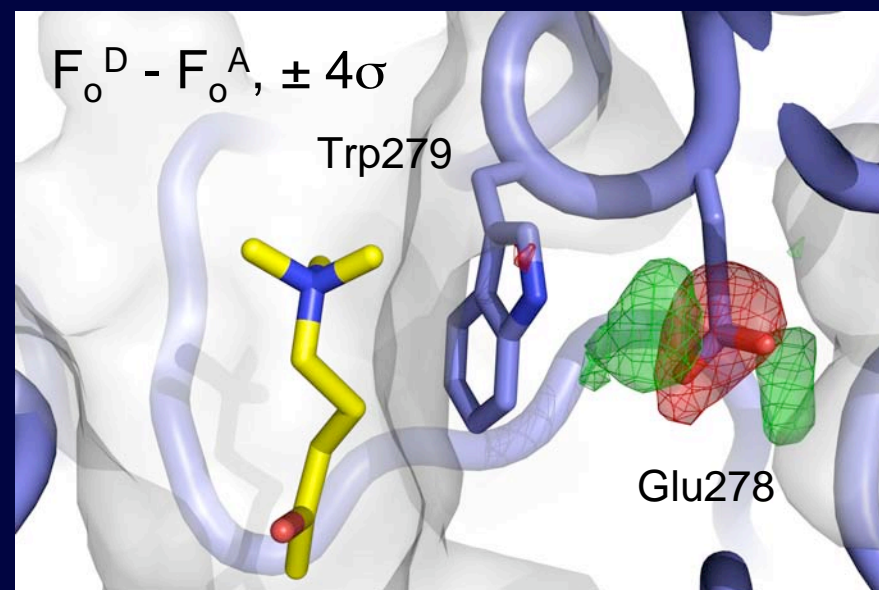
Can we see CO₂ in electron density maps ?

Human butyrylcholinesterase



J.-Ph. Colletier, PhD thesis

T. californica acetylcholinesterase



Colletier *et al.* (2008) *PNAS* 105, 11742

Possibly ...

Gas formation after RT annealing

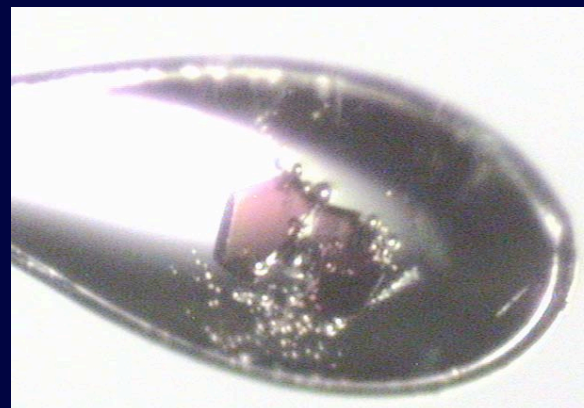
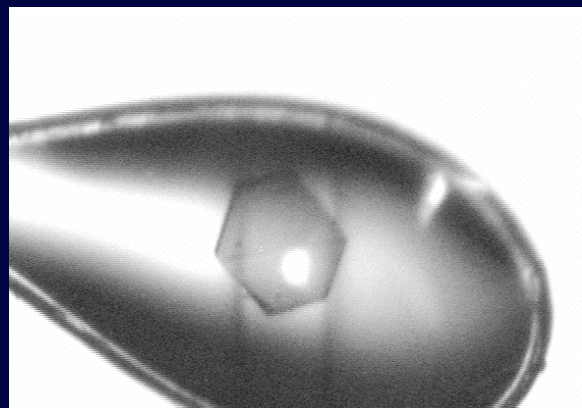
After irradi. at 100 K

After irradi. at 100 K
+ RT annealing

protein X



Mb



CO_2 ? H_2 ?

Evidence for H₂ formation during X-irradiation in protein crystals

Gas chromatography of bubbles: 80% of bubbles is H₂

Meents *et al.* (2010) *PNAS* 107, 1094

Disulfide bond breakage



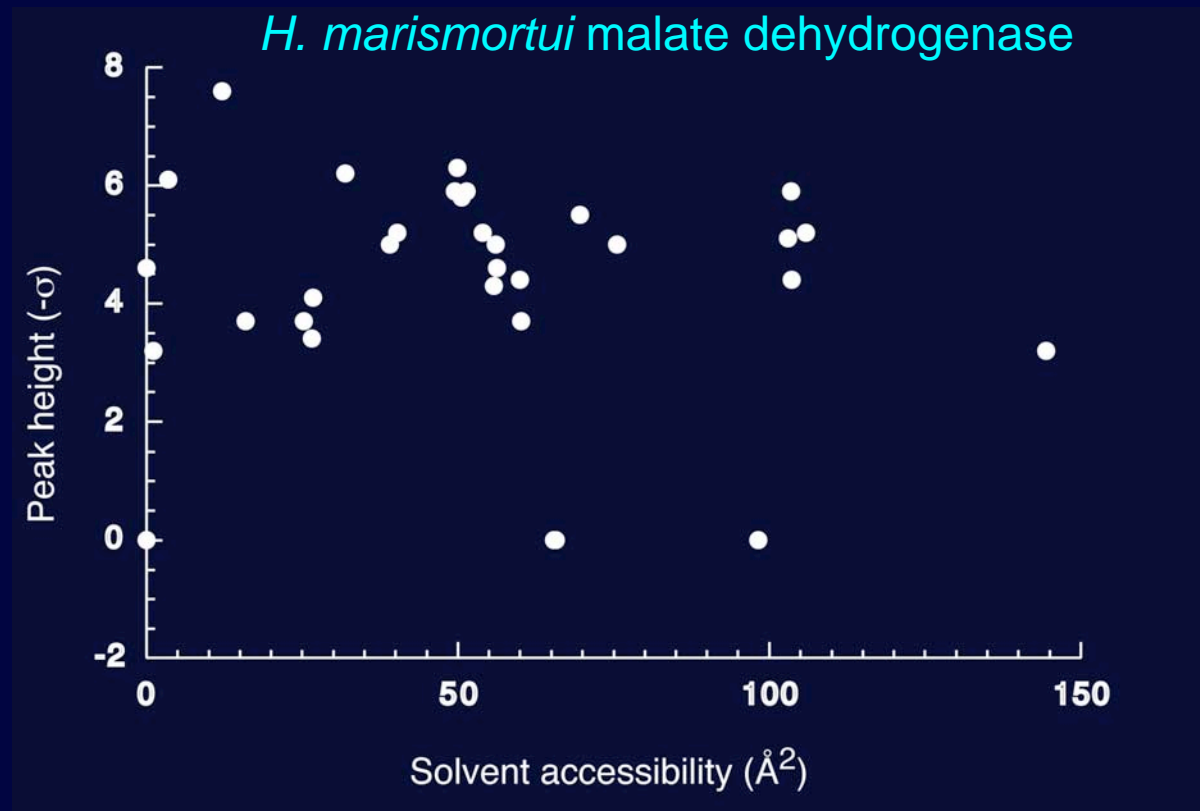
Disulfide-radical signatures

Entity	S-S distance (calculated)	Absorption max. (in proteins)
HSSH	2.1 Å	-
HSSH ^{•-}	2.8 Å	425 - 440 nm
HSSH ₂ [•]	3.5 Å	400 nm

Favaudon *et al.* (1990) *Biochemistry* **29**, 10978
Bergés *et al.* (2000) *Nukleonika* **45**, 23

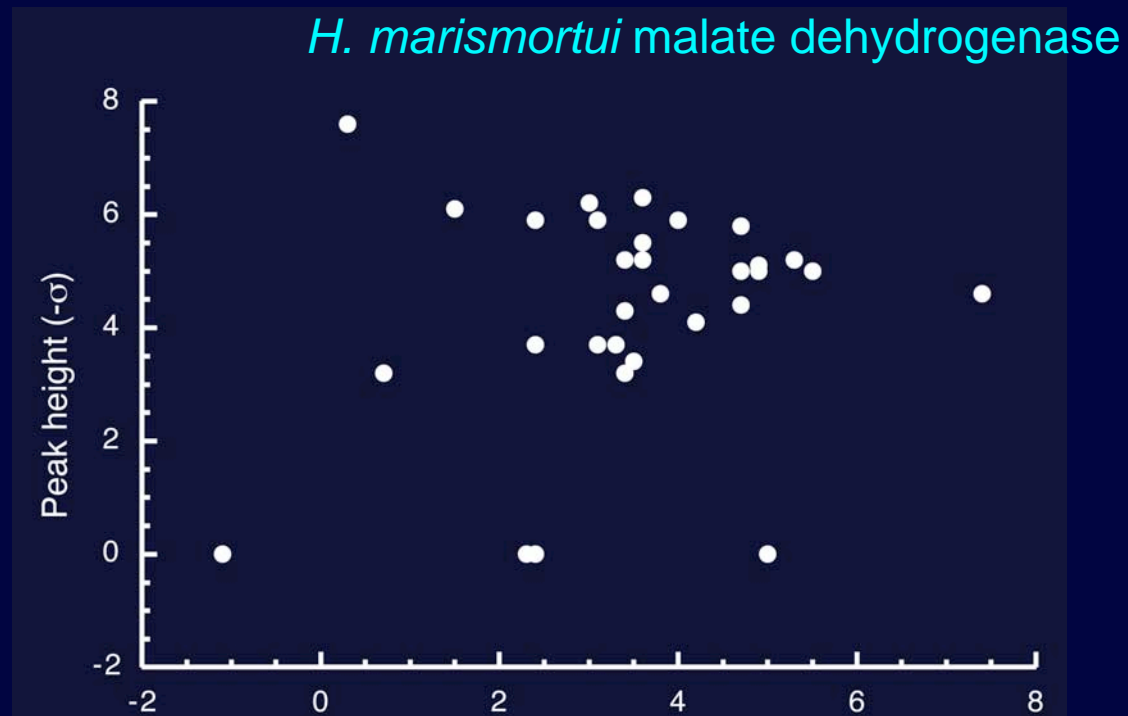
Influence on specific damage of ...

... solvent accessibility of carboxyl groups



No correlation between solvent accessibility and radiation-sensitivity

... calculated pK_a of carboxyl groups



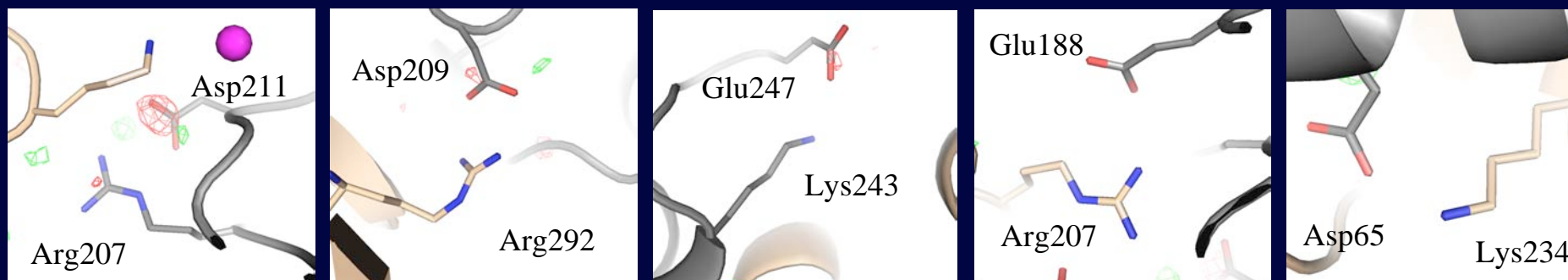
No correlation between pK_a and radiation-sensitivity

(see also Ravelli & McSweeney (2000) *Structure* **8**, 315)

Fioravanti *et al.* (2007) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **12**, 84

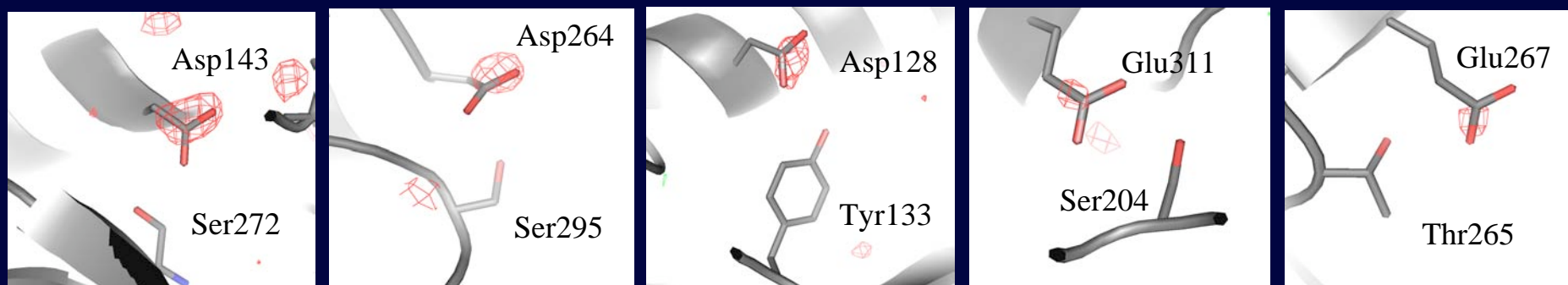
... chemical environment of carboxyl groups

Low damage to Glu/Asp involved in salt bridges



$$F_o^C - F_o^A, \pm 3.5\sigma$$

Higher damage to Glu/Asp if H-bonded to Ser/Tyr/Thr



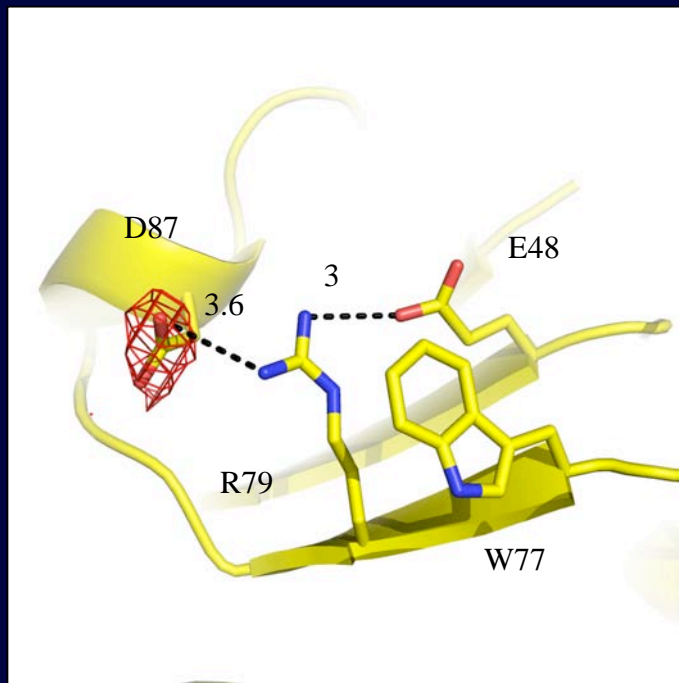
H. marismortui malate dehydrogenase

Fioravanti *et al.* (2007) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **12**, 84

... chemical environment of carboxyl groups

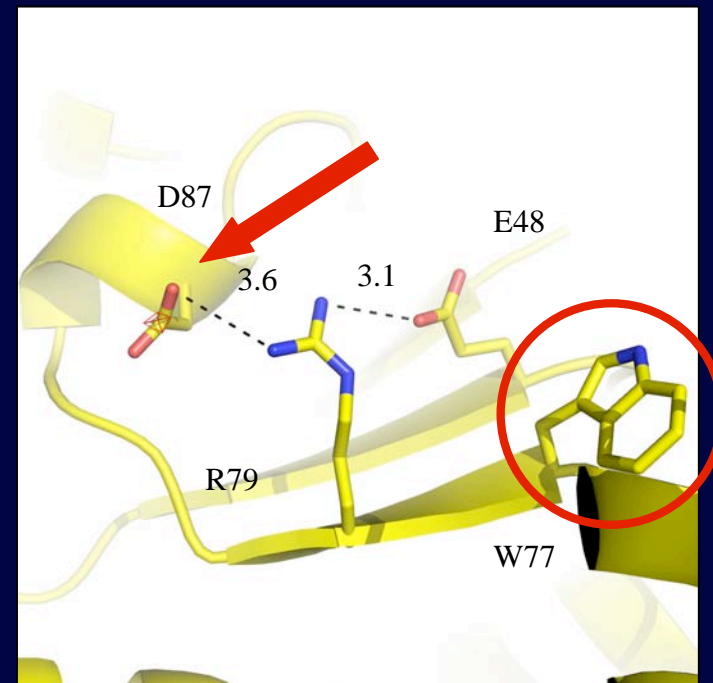
T. thermophilus lactate dehydrogenase, N. Coquelle, PhD thesis

Wild type



Proximity of Trp
influences radiation damage to Asp

Ternary complex



$$F_o^4 - F_o^1, \pm 0.1 \text{ e}^-/\text{\AA}^3$$

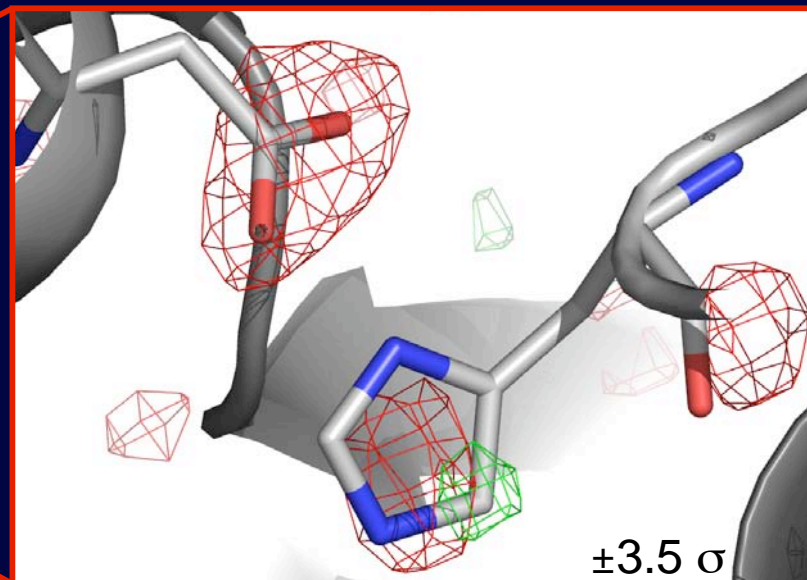
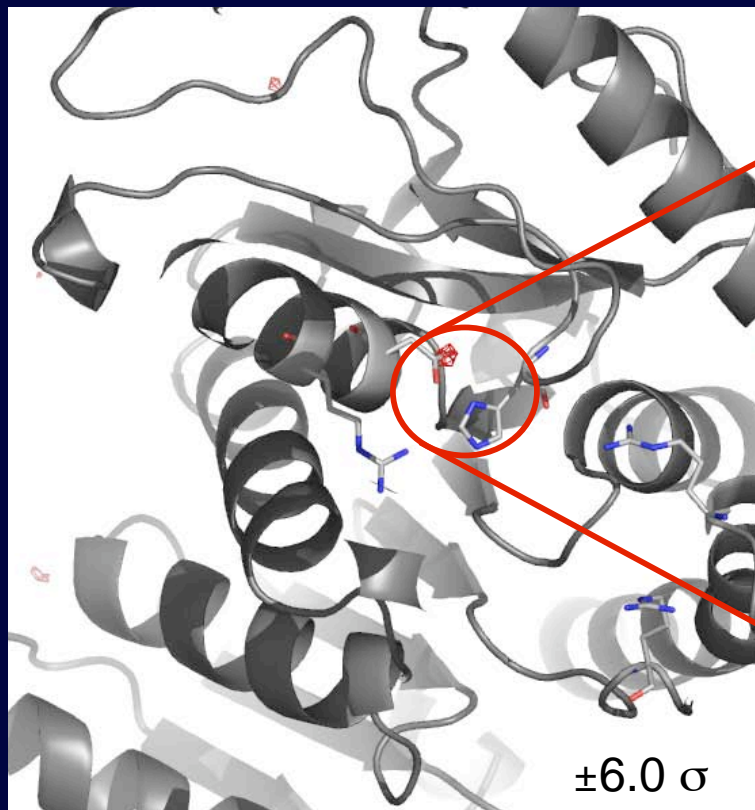
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- Radiation damage
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Active site damage: *HmMalDH*

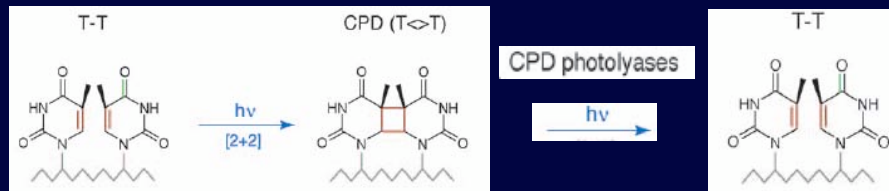


Asp168 (deprotonated) in active site
most sensitive

DNA photolyase

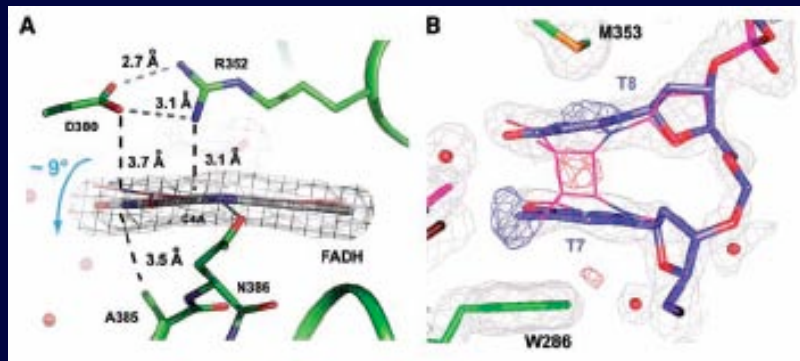
Mees *et al.* (2004) Science 306, 1789

UV induced DNA damage



Essen (2006) COSB 16, 1

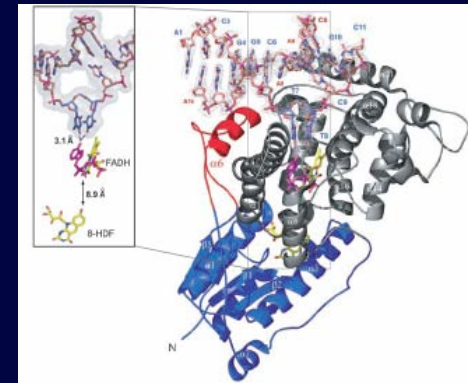
X-ray induced structural changes



FADH cofactor

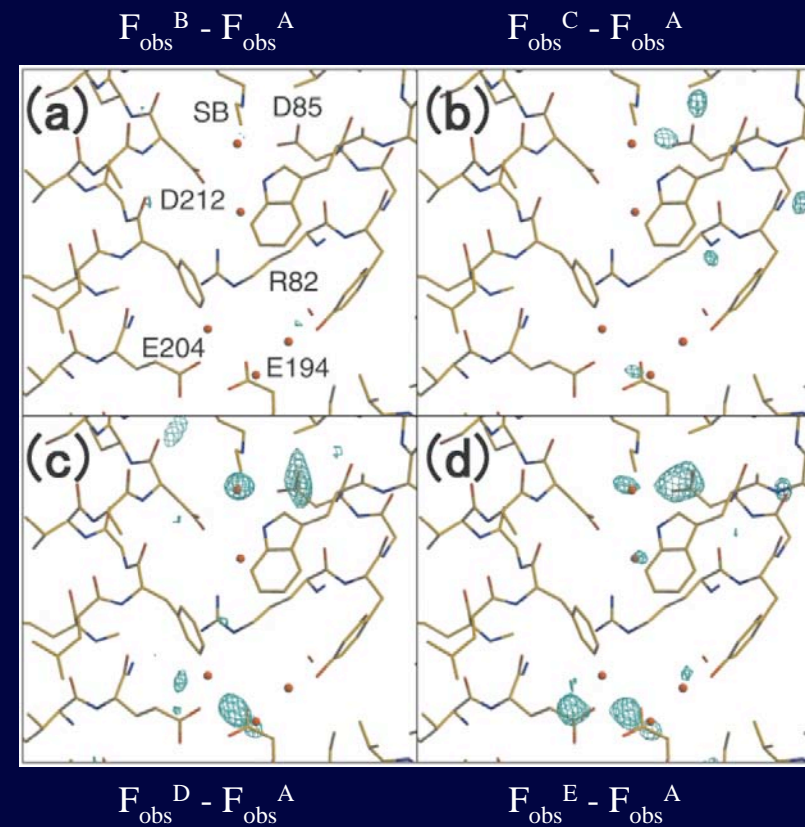
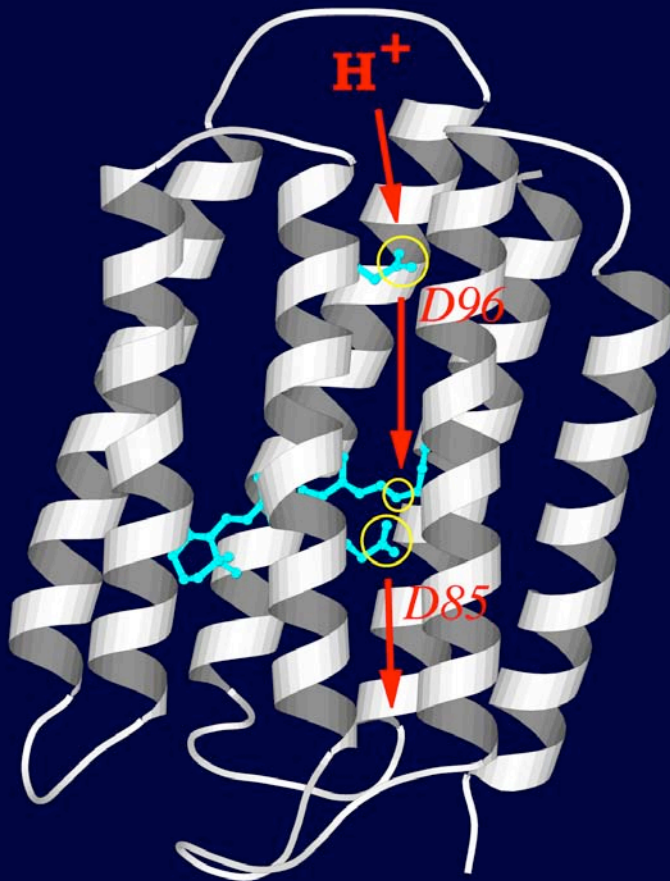
CPD repair

DNA photolyase/CPD-DNA complex



Active site damage: bacteriorhodopsin

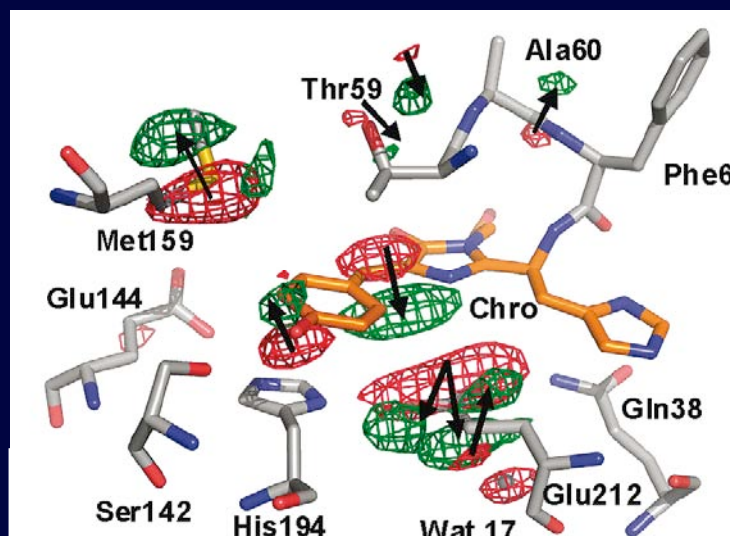
Matsui *et al.* (2002) J. Mol. Biol. **324**, 469



Asp85 (deprotonated) in active site
most sensitive

Active site damage: fluorescent protein IrisFP

Adam *et al.* (2009) JACS **131**, 18063



X-ray induced (reversible) structural change of chromophore conformation

Radiation-induced alterations to other enzymatic active sites

Alphey *et al.* (2003) ... photoreduction of the redox disulfide using synchrotron radiation ... *J Biol Chem.* 278, 25919

Roberts *et al.* (2005) Oxidized and synchrotron cleaved structures of the disulfide redox center ... *Protein Sci* 14, 2414

➡ insight into mechanistic redox processes

Dubnovitsky *et al.* (2005) Strain relief at the active site ... induced by radiation damage. *Protein Sci.* 14, 1489

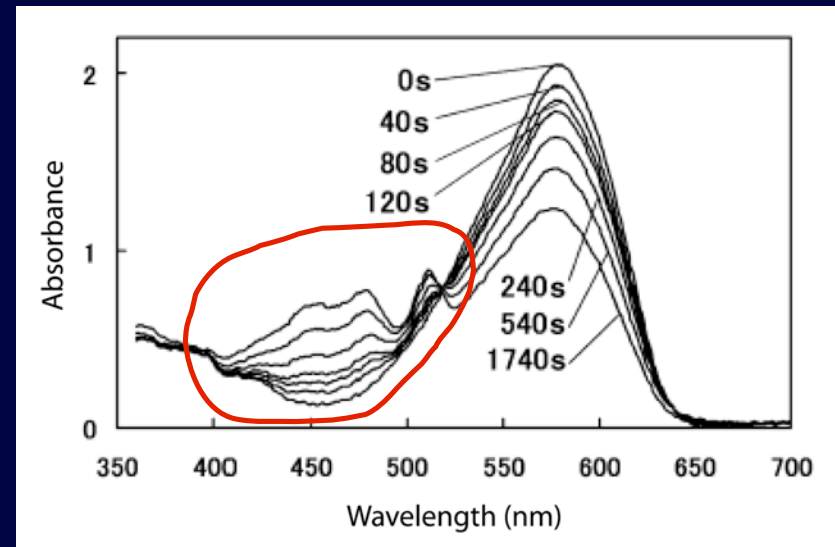
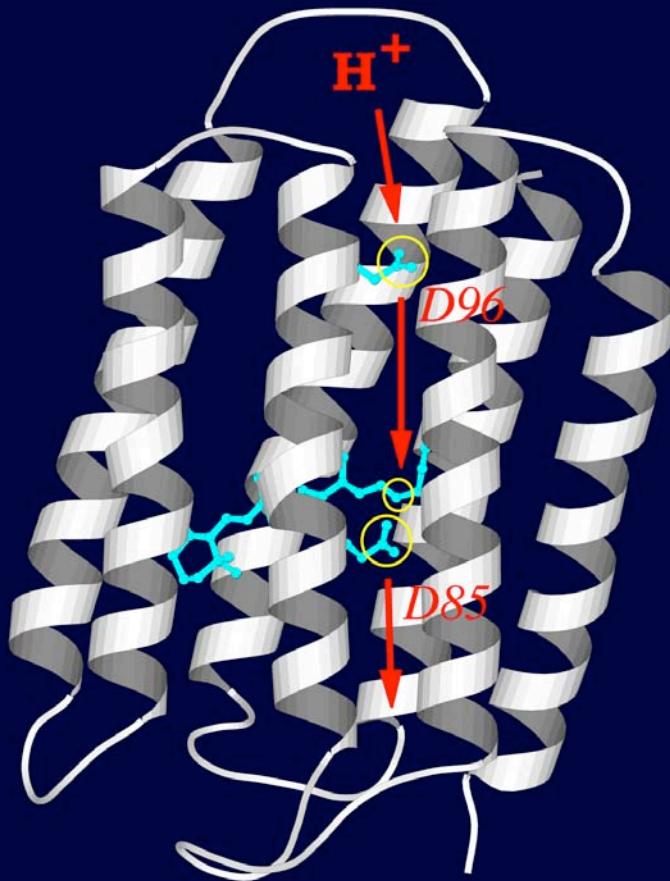
➡ release of active site strain during X-irradiation

Active sites are very radiation-sensitive

do careful control experiments
before drawing biological conclusions

'Spectroscopic' damage to chromophore in BR

Matsui *et al.* (2002) J. Mol. Biol. 324, 469



- Formation of an inactive orange species
- 'Spectroscopic' damage occurs before structural damage

Online spectroscopy
as a complementary tool
to monitor radiation damage:

UV-vis

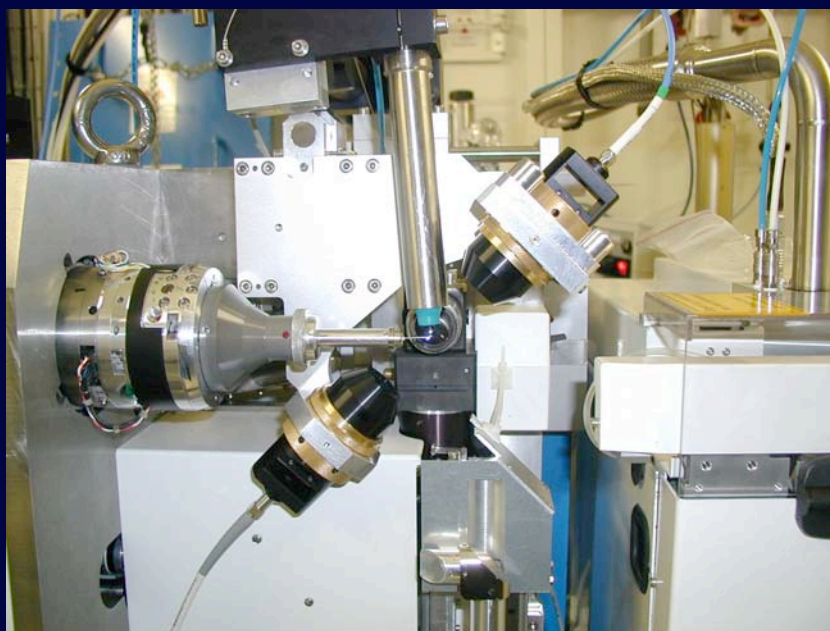
Raman

XAS



see talk by
Antoine Royant

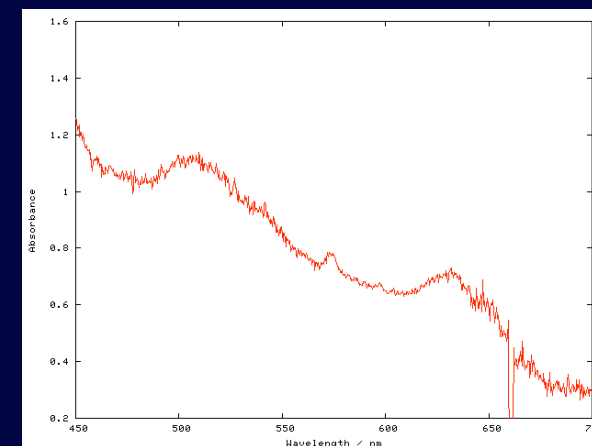
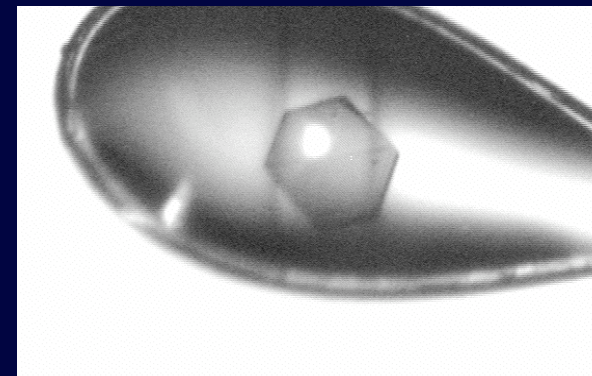
Online UV-vis microspectrophotometer on ID14-4 (ESRF)



ESRF: McGeehan *et al.* (2009) *JSR* 16, 163

SLS: Owen *et al.* (2009) *JSR* 16, 173

X-ray induced Fe reduction
in MetMb crystals at 100 K



Ostermann, Parak & Weik

Metal centers are reduced within seconds before full data set is collected

X-ray induced reduction of metalloproteins

Schlichting *et al.* (2000) The catalytic pathway of cytochrome P450cam at atomic resolution. *Science* **287**, 1615

Berglund *et al.* (2002) The catalytic pathway of horseradish peroxidase at high resolution. *Nature* **417**, 463

Adam *et al.* (2004) Structure of superoxide reductase ... upon X-ray-induced photo-reduction. *Structure* **12**, 1729

Baxter *et al.* (2004) Specific radiation damage illustrates ... structural changes in the photosynthetic RC. *JACS* **126**, 16728

Yano *et al.* (2005) X-ray damage to the Mn₄Ca complex in single crystals of photosystem II ... *PNAS* **102** 12047

Echalier *et al.* (2006) Activation and catalysis of the di-heme cytochrome c peroxidase ... *Structure* **14**, 107

Pearson *et al.* (2007) Tracking X-ray-derived redox changes in crystals ... *J Synchrotron Radiat* **14**, 92

Beitlich *et al.* (2007) Cryoradiolytic reduction of crystalline heme proteins ... *J Synchrotron Radiat* **14**, 11

Kuhnel *et al.* (2007) Structure and quantum chemical characterization of chloroperoxidase compound 0 ... *PNAS*. **104**, 99

Corbett *et al.* (2007) Photoreduction of the active site of the metalloprotein putidaredoxin by SR. *Acta Crystallogr D* **63**, 951

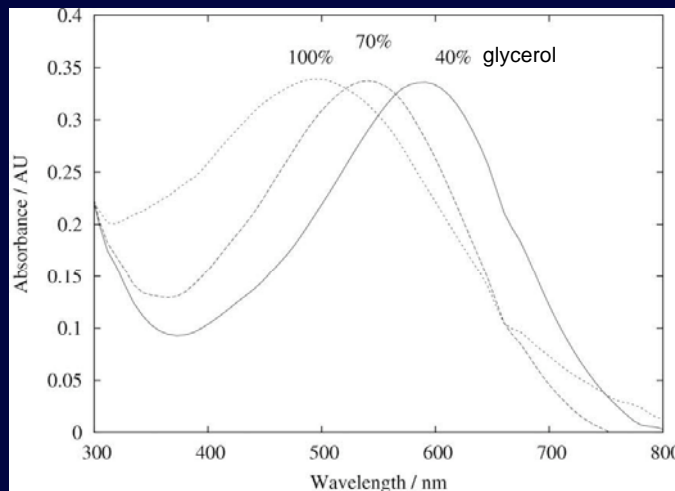
Hough *et al.* (2008) Crystallography with online optical and X-ray absorption spectroscopies. *J Mol Biol.* **378**, 353

At ESRF:

rolling access applications for beamtime with online microspec every 6 months

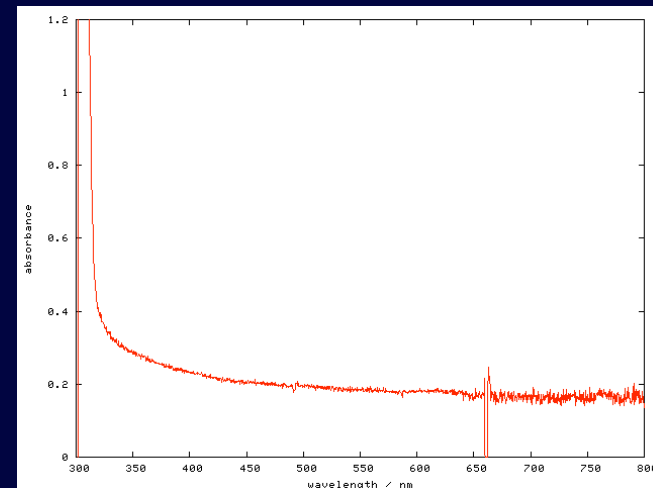
Two other spectroscopic radical signatures often observed with online microspectrophotometry

500 - 600 nm: Hydrated electrons



McGeehan *et al.* (2009) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* 16, 163

400 nm: Disulfide radical anion

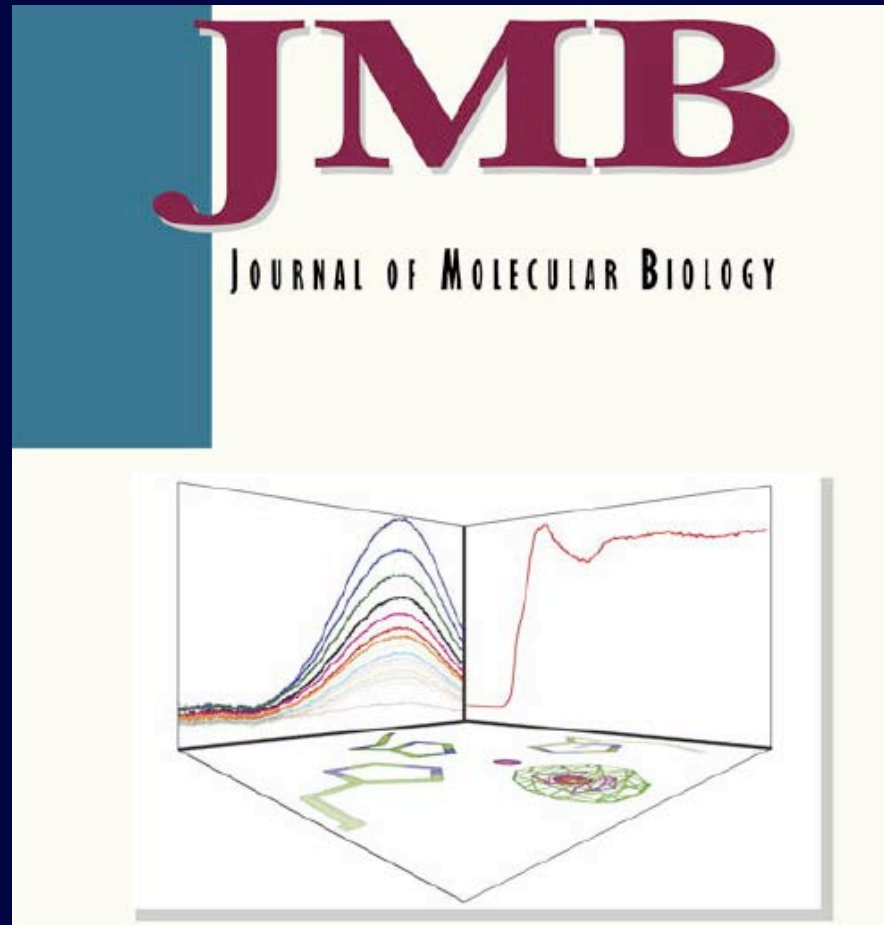


Weik *et al.* (2002) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* 9, 342

peak: glycerol, PEG
no peak: MPD, glucose

Combining XAS, UV-vis and crystallography (SRS Daresbury, UK)

Hough *et al.* (2008) *J Mol Biol.* **378**, 353



‘Crystallography with online optical and X-ray absorption spectroscopies demonstrates an ordered mechanism in copper nitrite reductase’

Outline

- Radiation damage
 - global indicators
 - specific structural damage
 - primary or secondary damage?
 - influence on specific damage of : pKa, solvent access., chemical environment
- Actives sites are most radiation sensitive - biological information altered
 - bacteriorhodopsin, malate dehydrogenase, cholinesterase, DNA photolyase
 - redox proteins (e.g. metalloproteins)
 - online spectroscopy complements crystallography
- Practical issues
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Important physical quantity in radiation damage context:

absorbed dose = absorbed energy / mass

$$1 \text{ Gray (Gy)} = 1 \text{ J / kg}$$

The higher the absorbed dose, the greater the damage

Don't mix up with **incident photo flux**: photons / s

Is there a dose-rate effect (at 100 K) ?

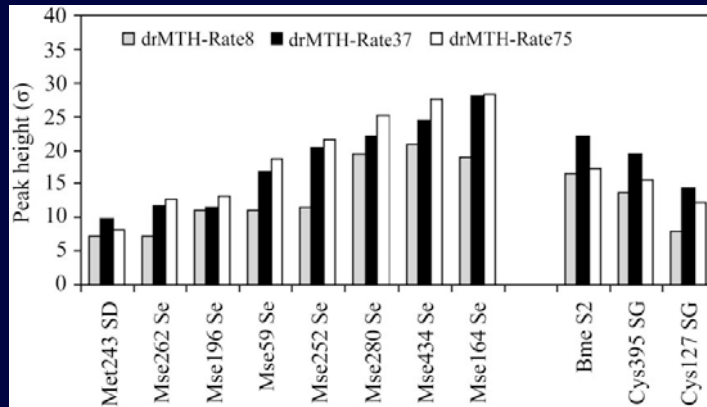
If **global indicators** of radiation damage are considered:

(mosaicity, unit-cell volume increase, R_{merge} ...)

No: Sliz *et al.* (2003) *Structure* **11**, 13
S.-Leiros *et al.* (2006) *Acta Cryst.* **D62**, 125

Yes: 10x higher dose-rate - 10% shorter crystal life time
Owen *et al.* (2006) *PNAS* **103**, 4912

If specific **structural damage** is considered: **Yes, but small**



S.-Leiros *et al.* (2006) *Acta Cryst.* **D62**, 12

Conclusion: at 100 K dose-rate effect is small compared to absorbed-dose effect

But : significant dose-rate effect at room temperature

Southworth-Davies *et al.* (2007) *Structure* **15**, 1531

Which absorbed dose kills your crystal?

Calculated *Henderson* limit

(estimated from EM observations)

Limit reached in:

2.5 months on home source

24hrs at 2nd generation synchrotron

5 min at 3rd gen. synchrotron undulator BL

(Murray et al (2004) JAC 37, 513)

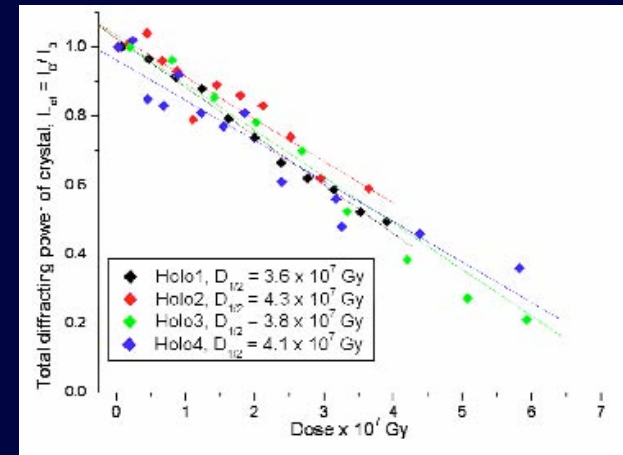
Dose required

to reduce diffracted intensity by half:

$$D_{1/2} = 2 \times 10^7 \text{ Gy}$$

Experimental *Garman* limit

(determined from X-ray data)



$$D_{1/2} = 4.3 \times 10^7 \text{ Gy}$$

$$D_{\text{In}2} = 3 \times 10^7 \text{ Gy (recommended)}$$

Henderson (1990) *Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B* **241**, 6

Owen et al. (2006) *PNAS* **103**, 4912

Important: calculate absorbed dose ...

... with RADDOSE

- Input:
- protein and buffer composition and crystal content
 - X-ray beam energy, dimensions and flux
- Output:
- absorption coefficient
 - exposure time after which a critical dose is absorbed

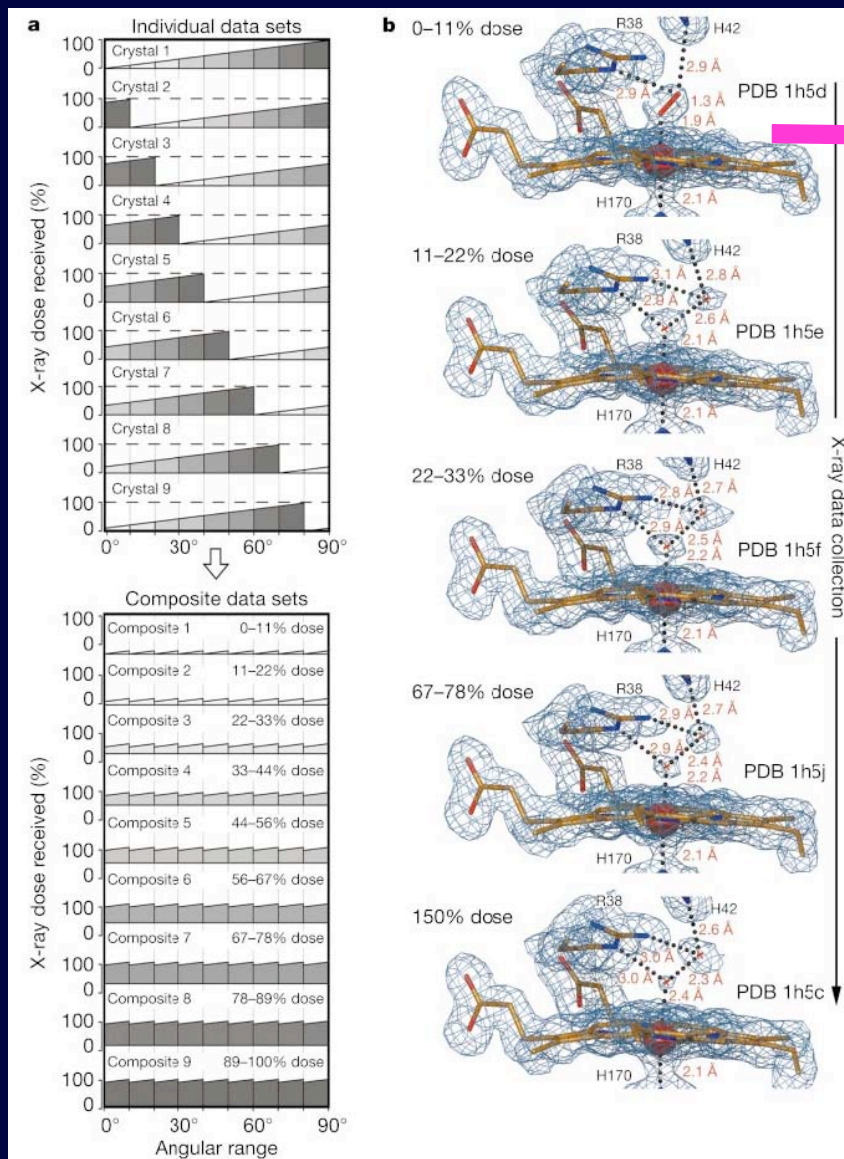
Murray *et al.* (2004) *J. Appl. Cryst.* **37**, 513

Paithankar *et al.* (2005) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **16**, 152

Get program from: Raimond Ravelli (r.b.g.ravelli@lumc.nl)
Elspeth Garman (elspeth@biop.ox.ac.uk)

Minimize raddam: Composite data sets

Spread of X-ray dose over many crystals



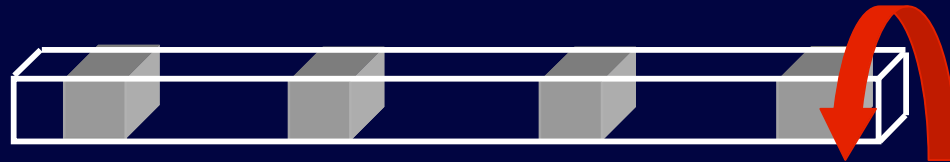
Oxidized redox intermediate
in HRP

Reduction by
X-ray - generated electrons

Berglund *et al.* (2002) *Nature* **417**, 463

Minimize raddam: Composite data sets

Spread of X-ray dose over different parts of a long crystal



Adam *et al.* (2004) *Structure* **12**, 1729

Important observation: Raddam limited to irradiated area (at 100 K)

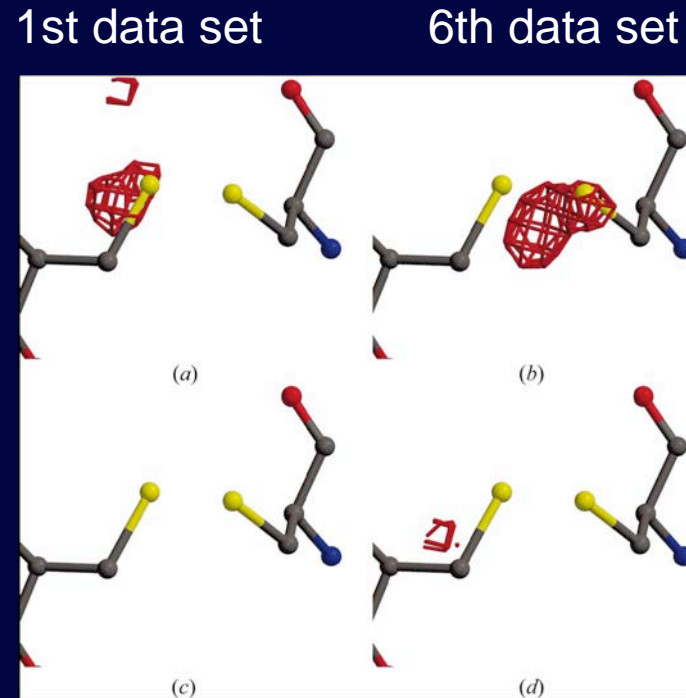
Schulze-Briesse *et al.* (2005) *J. Synchrotron Radiat.* **12**, 261

Scavenger: **Vitamin C** keeps your crystal fit

Murray & Garman (2002) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **9**, 347

Crystal without ascorbate

Crystal with 1 M ascorbate



Cys76-Cys94 disulfide bond in HEWL

Further effective scavengers:

Nicotinic acid and **DTNB** (Kauffmann *et al.* (2006) *Structure* **14**, 1099)

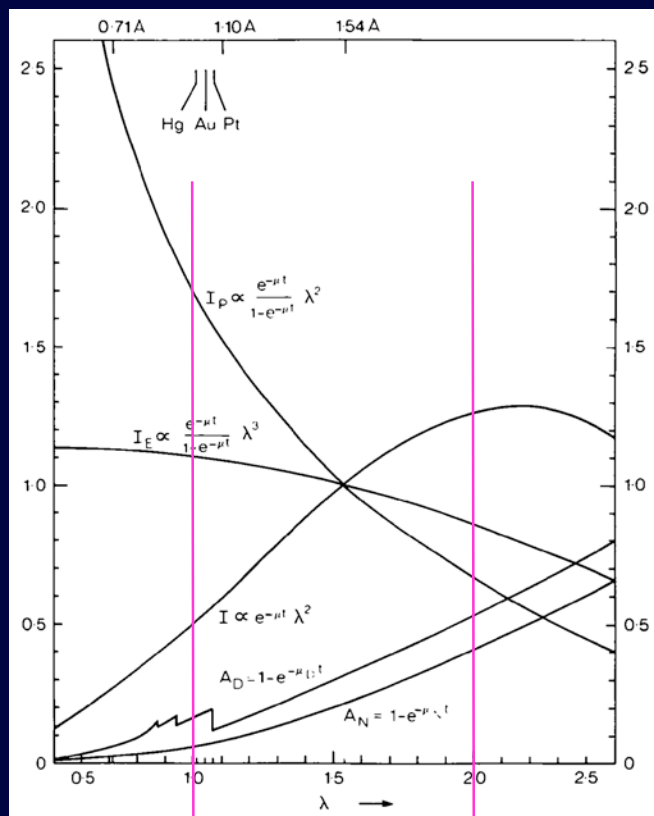
Quinone, **TEMP**, **reduced DTT** (Southworth-Davies & Garman (2007) *JSR* **14**, 73)

Potassium hexacyanoferrate (Macedo *et al.* (2009) *JSR.* **16**, 191)

Is radiation damage wavelength-dependent?

Theoretically: **yes** (slightly)

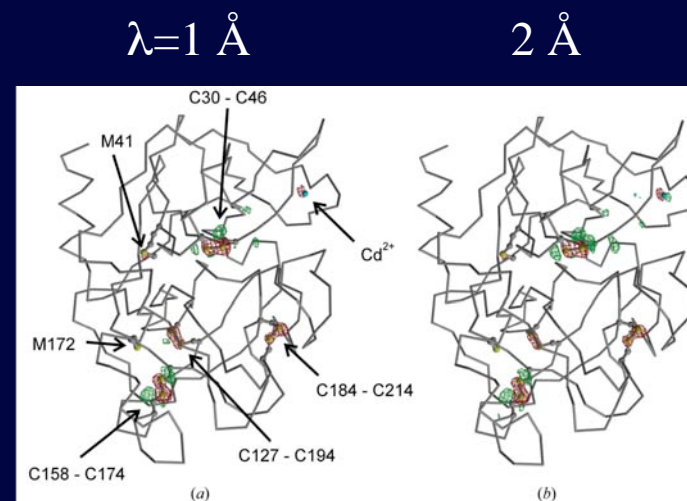
Experimentally: **no**



$\lambda = 1 \text{ Å}$

2 Å

Arndt (1984) *J. Appl. Cryst.* **17**, 118



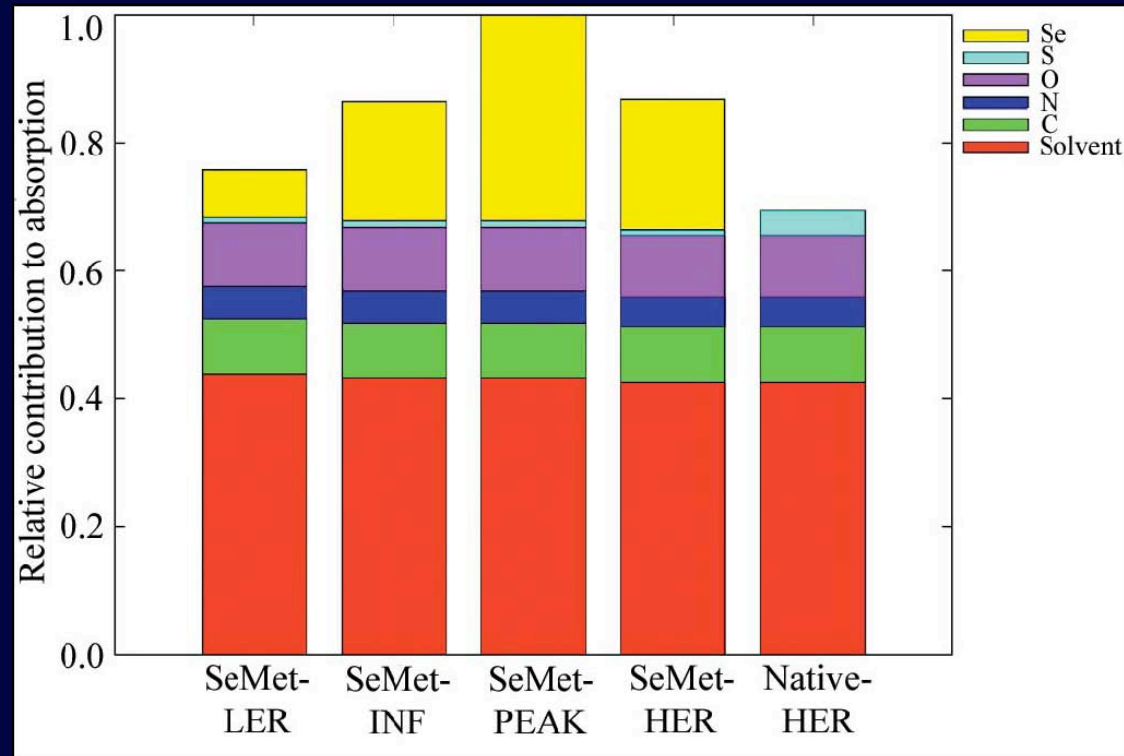
Weiss *et al.* (2005) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **12**, 30

Shimizu *et al.* (2007) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **14**, 4

Same qualitative and quantitative damage ...

... if far from any absorption edge

Absorption of SeMet protein crystal



Dose efficiency 34% higher at LER compared to peak wavelength

Murray *et al.* (2005) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **12**, 268

Related comment: Back soak heavy-atom soaked crystals

Radiation damage: particularly harmful in MAD

... because:

- high absorption of anomalous scatterers (e.g. Se) used for phasing
- induces non-isomorphism (e.g. unit-cell volume increase)

Radiation damage can swamp anomalous signal: minimize dose

Rice *et al.* (2000) *Acta Cryst. D* **56**, 1413

Gonzalez *et al.* (2005) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **12**, 285



Ravelli *et al.* (2005) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **12**, 276

Olieric *et al.* (2007) *Acta D* **63**, 759.

How to use radiation damage ?

RIP : Radiation damage-induced phasing

Ravelli *et al.* (2003) *Structure* **11**, 217

Low-dose data set A  X-ray burn  Low-dose data set B
($1 \cdot 10^7$ Gy)

Radiation-induced structural changes used then for phasing (similar to SIR)

See also UV-RIP : UV-induced damage used for phasing

Nanao & Ravelli (2006) *Structure* **14**, 791

Radiation damage and crystallographic software

XDS: [Zero dose extrapolation](#) (Diederichs *et al.* (2003) *Acta Cryst. D* **59**, 9033)

SHELX: [RIP](#) (Nanao *et al.* (2003) *Acta Cryst. D* **61**, 1227)

BEST: [Data collection strategy](#) (Bourenkov & Popov (2006) *Acta Cryst.* **62**, 58)



see talk by
Sasha Popov

Temperature dependence of radiation damage

$T < 100 \text{ K}$
(He - cooling - 40 K)

Specific and non-specific
protein damage

small/no
dependence
(max 2 - 4-fold reduction)

Reduction
of metal sites

large
dependence
(30-fold reduction)

Chinte *et al.* (2007) *Acta Cryst. D* 63, 486
Meents *et al.* (2007) *Acta Cryst. D* 63, 302
Corbett *et al.* (2007) *Acta Cryst. D* 63, 951
Meents *et al.* (2010) *PNAS* 107, 1094

$T > 100 \text{ K}$
(N₂ - cooling)

large
dependence

??

Weik *et al.* (2006) *Protein Sci.* **10**, 1953
Borek *et al.* (2007) *JSR* 14, 24
Colletier *et al.* (2008) *PNAS* 105, 11742

Crystal heating by X-ray beam?

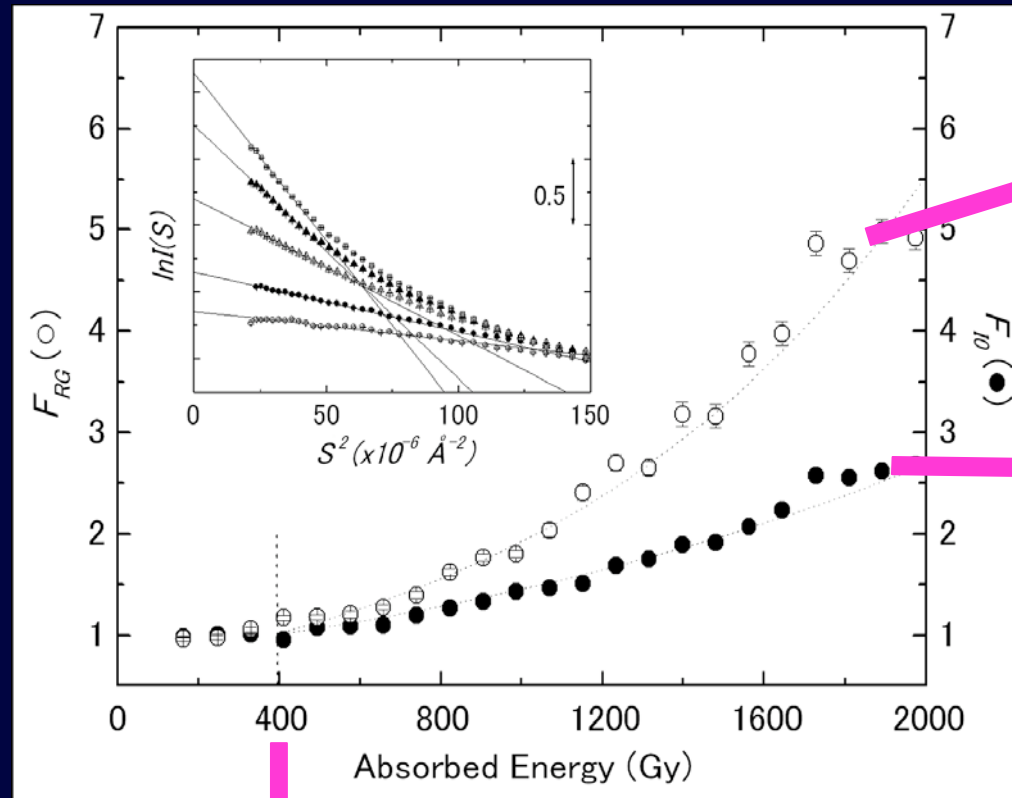
Around 5 K

at 100 K on 3rd generation synchrotron undulator BL

Experimentally: Snell *et al.* (2007) *JSR* 14, 109

Theoretically: Mhaisekar *et al.* (2005) *JSR* 12, 318

Radiation damage in SAXS experiments



Radius of gyration increases

Aggregation occurs

400 Gy: critical dose

Kuwamoto *et al.* (2004) *J. Synchrotron Rad.* **11**, 462

Outline

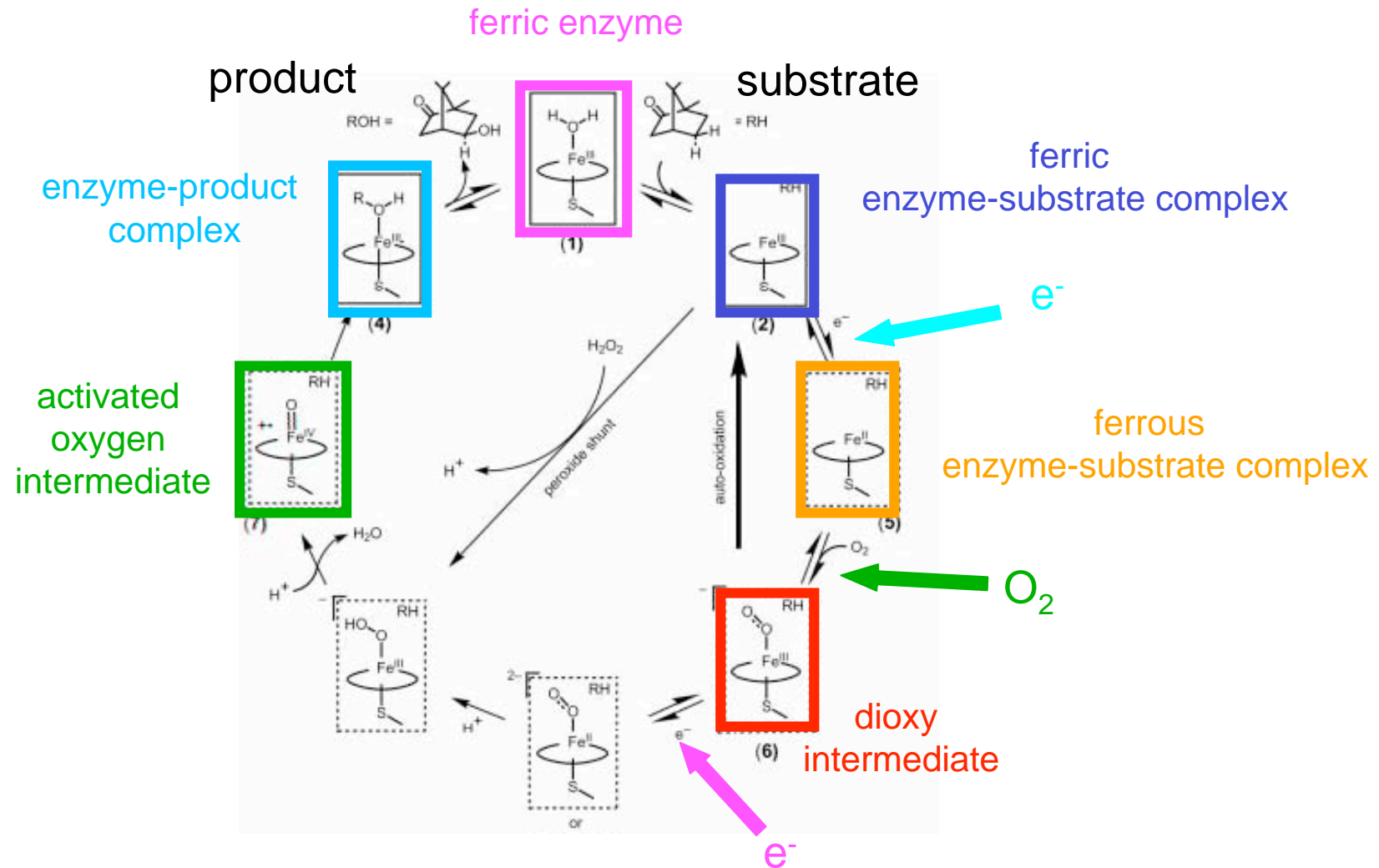
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Metastable species on the P450cam reaction pathway

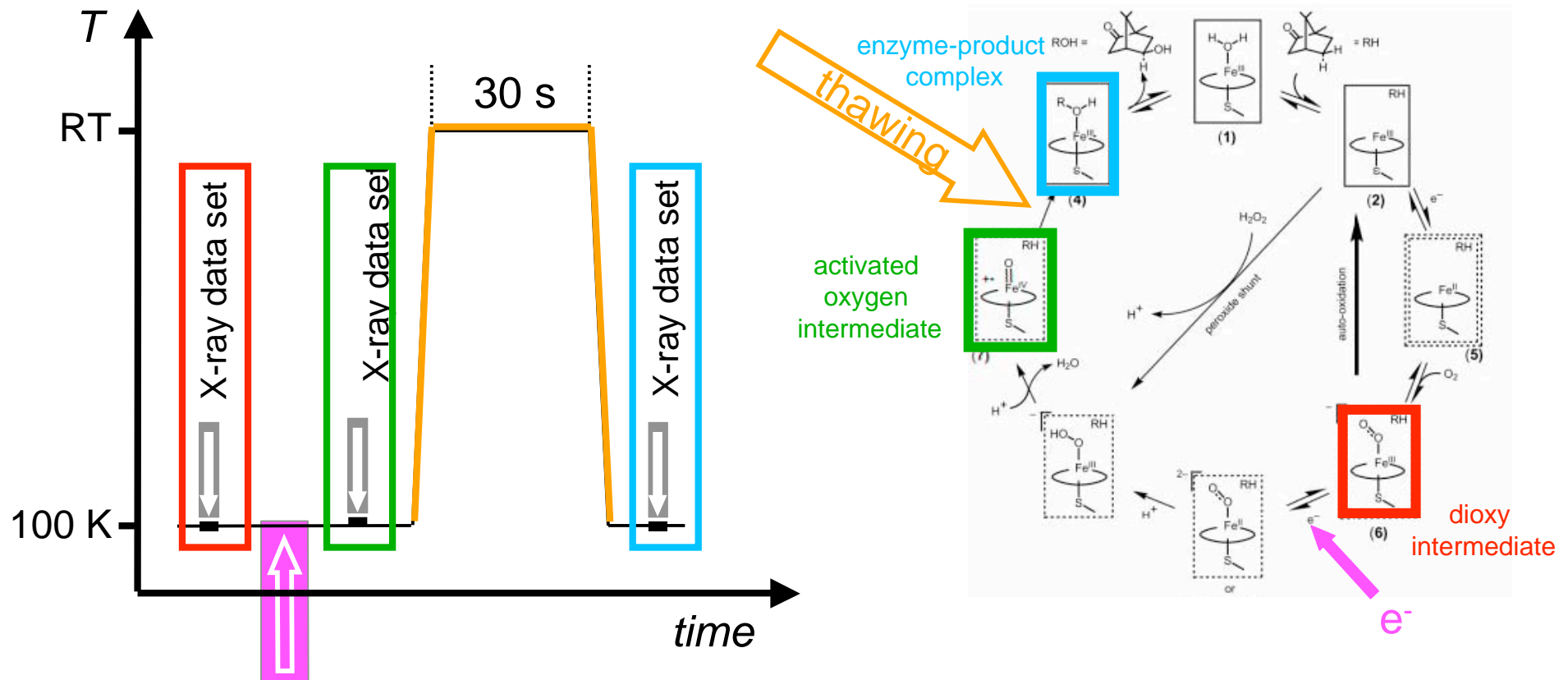
Schlichting, Berendzen, Chu, Stock, Maves, Benson, Sweet, Ringe, Petsko & Sligar (2000) Science 287, 1615



Cytochrome P450cam catalyses hydroxylation of camphor: $2e^-$ redox reaction

Metastable species on the P450cam reaction pathway

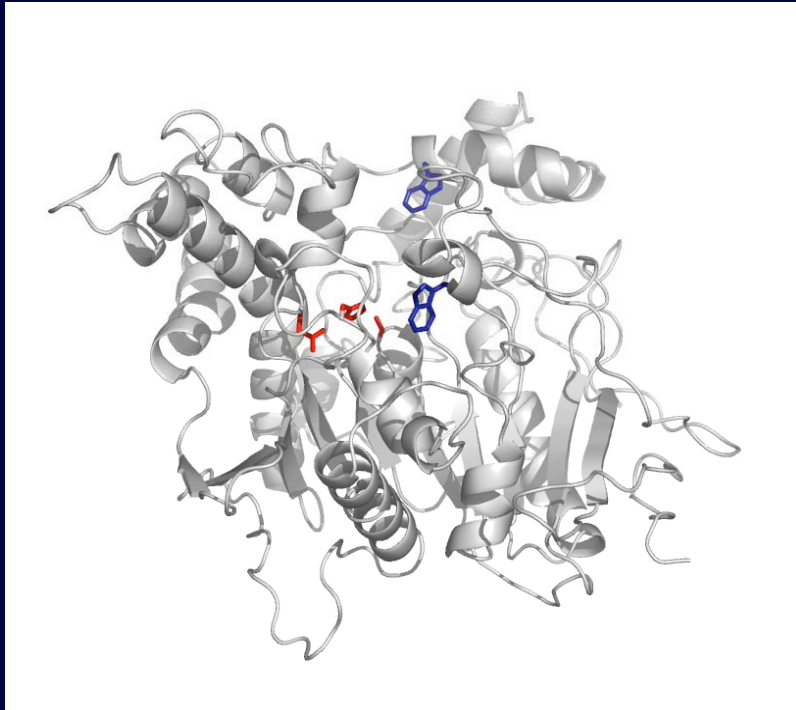
Schlichting, Berendzen, Chu, Stock, Maves, Benson, Sweet, Ringe, Petsko & Sligar (2000) Science 287, 1615



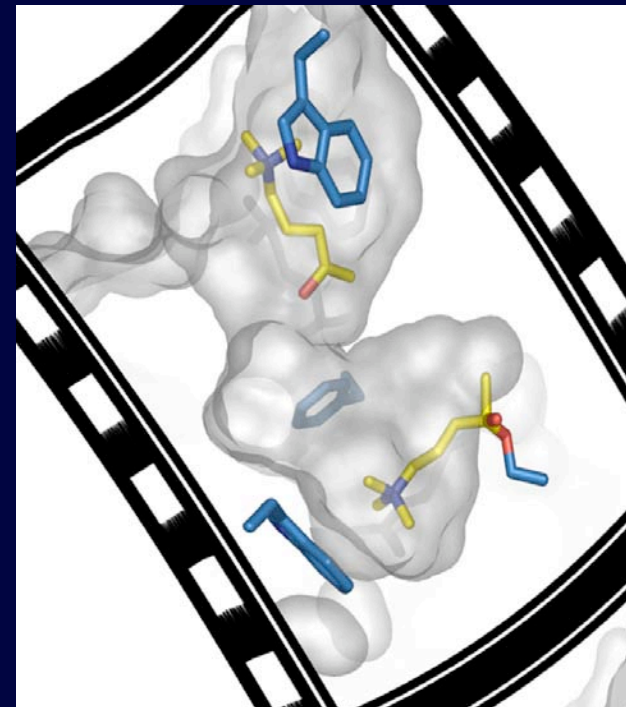
Electron generation by X-irradiation (1.5 Å) for 3h

Thawing: increasing protein and substrate flexibility, backbone flip

Radiolysis of substrate analogue in acetylcholinesterase



- hydrolyses acetylcholine into choline and acetate in CNS
- involved in Alzheimer disease
- very rapid enzyme: turnover 20 000 s⁻¹



Colletier *et al.* (2006) *EMBO J.* **25**, 2746

Radiolysis of substrate analogue in acetylcholinesterase

Consecutive data sets at 100 and at 150 K :
(ID14-4, ESRF)

100 K: A, B, C, D

cumul. dose: $0.92 \cdot 10^7$ Gy

150 K: A, B, C

cumul. dose: $0.95 \cdot 10^7$ Gy

= 1/3 *Garman limit* ($3 \cdot 10^7$ Gy)

Owen *et al.* (2006) PNAS 103, 4912

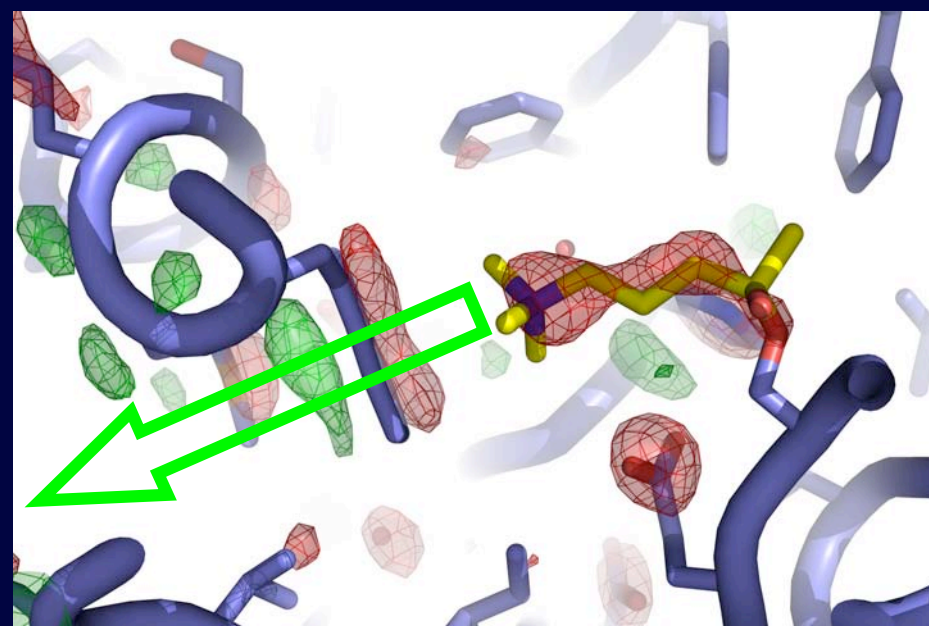
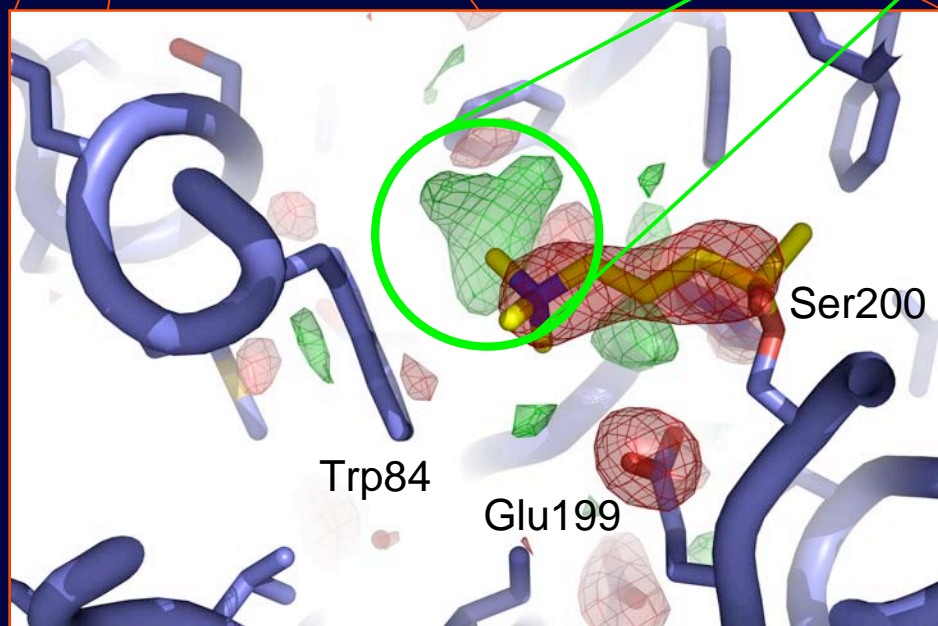




choline reorientation
Backdoor movement

100 K

150 K

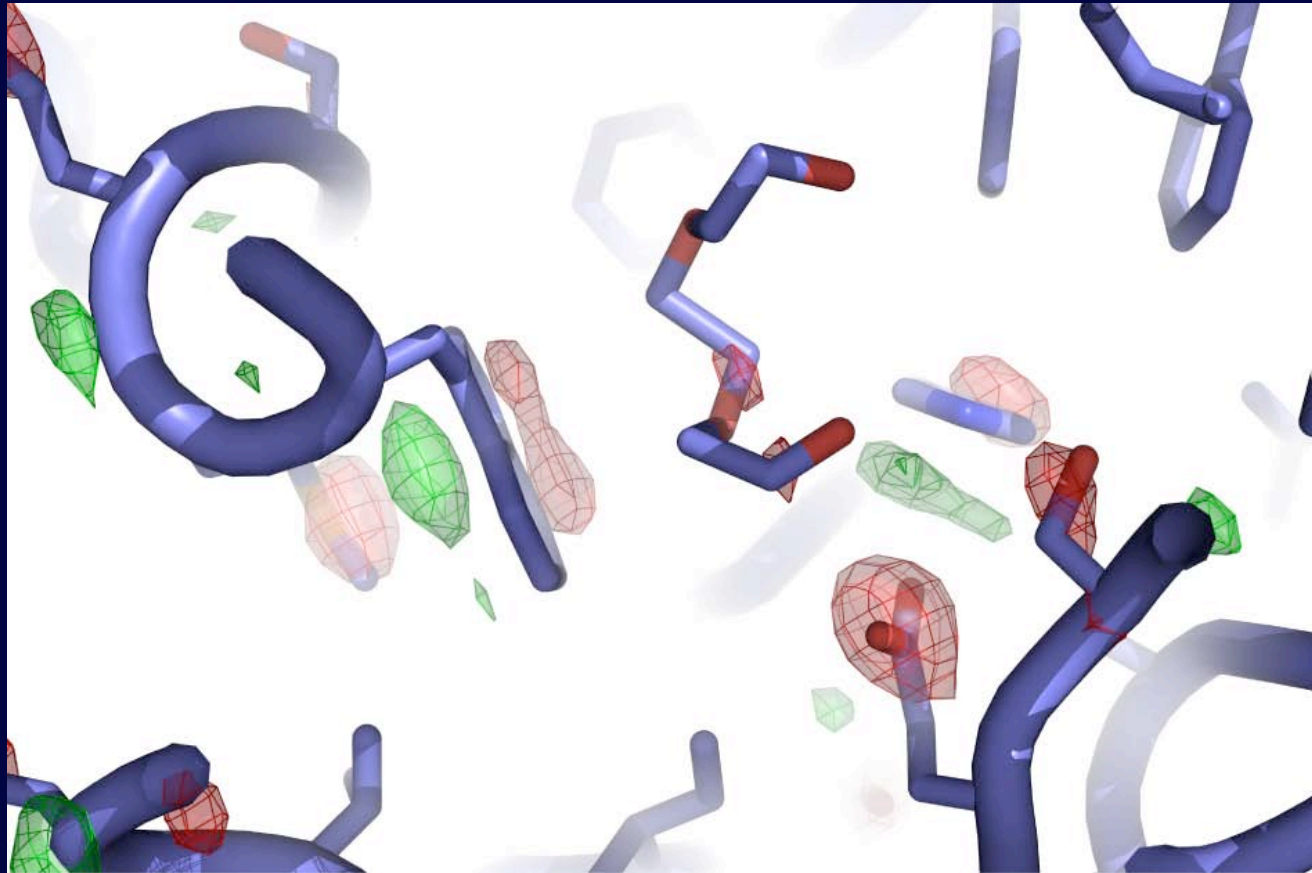


$$F_o^{100 D} - F_o^{100 A} (+, - 4\sigma)$$

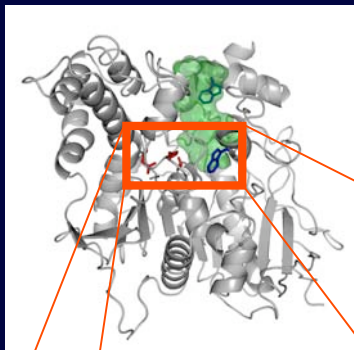
$$F_o^{150 C} - F_o^{150 A} (+, - 4\sigma)$$

Colletier, Bourgeois, Sanson, Fournier, Sussman, Silman & Weik (2008) *PNAS*, 105, 11742

Radiation damage control - native AChE at 150 K



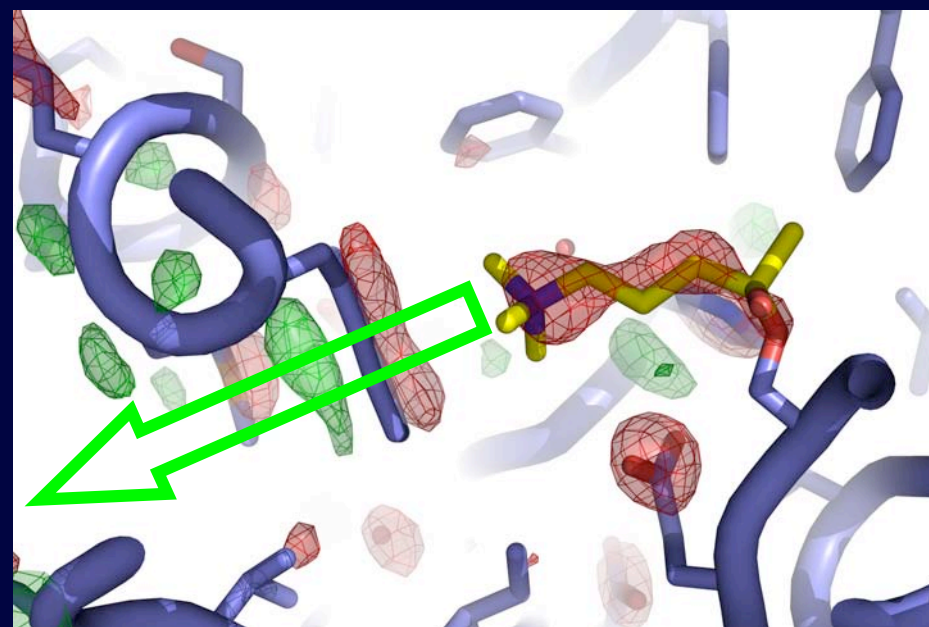
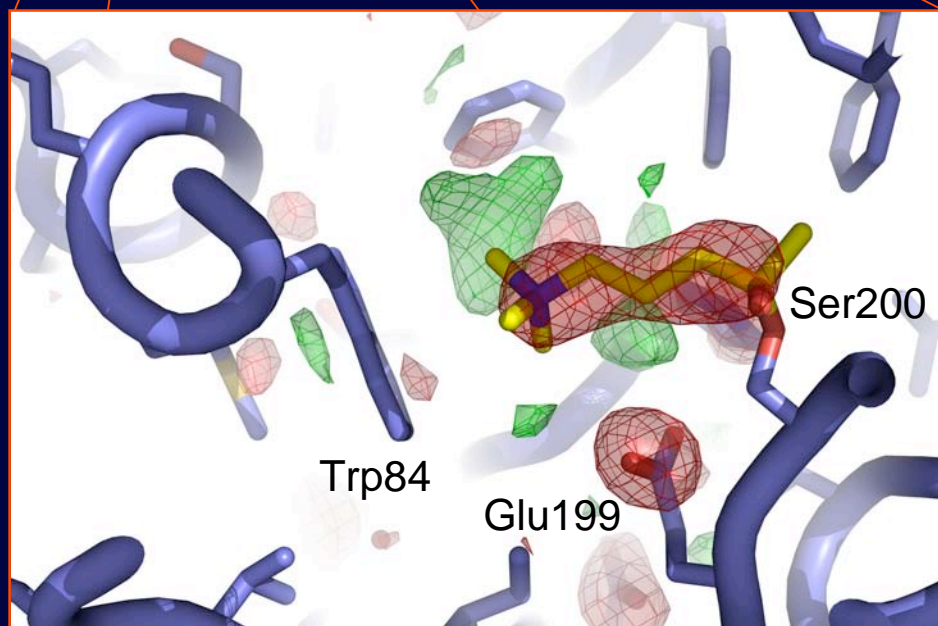
$$F_o^{150\text{ C}} - F_o^{150\text{ A}} (+, - 4\sigma)$$



Backdoor movement

100 K

150 K



$$F_o^{100D} - F_o^{100A} (+, - 4\sigma)$$

$$F_o^{150C} - F_o^{150A} (+, - 4\sigma)$$

Colletier, Bourgeois, Sanson, Fournier, Sussman, Silman & Weik (2008) *PNAS*, 105, 11742



Summary

- Synchrotron radiation produces specific damage even at 100 K
 - decarboxylation of Glu/Asp
 - disulfide bond breakage or elongation
 - damage to Tyr, Met ...
- Specific damage is mostly secondary effect
- Active sites are particularly radiation-sensitive, metalloproteins get reduced
- Great tool: combination of X-ray crystallography and online spectroscopy
- Practical issues:
 - (absence of major) dose-rate effect, dose limits, λ (in)dependence, scavengers, raddam and MAD, RIP, T-dependence, raddam in SAXS
- specific radiation damage and T-controlled crystallography to study biology

Merci à ...

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Ian Carmichael

Univ. Paris Sud

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Jacqueline Bergès

ESRF: Raddam BAG

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(now Univ. Alberta)



Benoit Sanson



Antoine Royant



Philippe Carpentier



Dominique Bourgeois