

# Aplicaciones de la difracción de polvo a la identificación y caracterización de materiales

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# **Brief introduction to powder X-ray diffraction (XRPD)**

**MSPD** beamline

**Synchrotron XRPD benefits** 

Applications of XRPD to pigments, cements, ceramics or glass

**Identification of phases** 

Quantification of phases

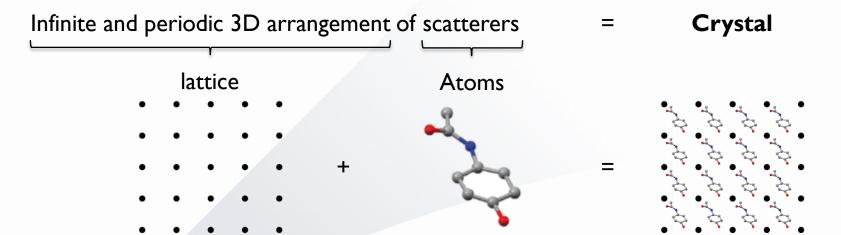
In-situ / time-resolved experiments

Summary and other possibilities

# X-ray powder diffraction: Introduction



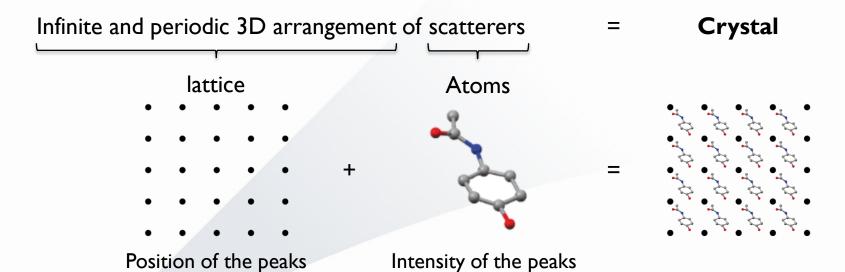
#### Solid state matter

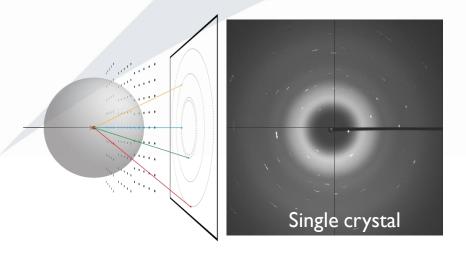


# X-ray powder diffraction: Introduction



#### Solid state matter





## W. L. Bragg formulation of X-ray diffraction

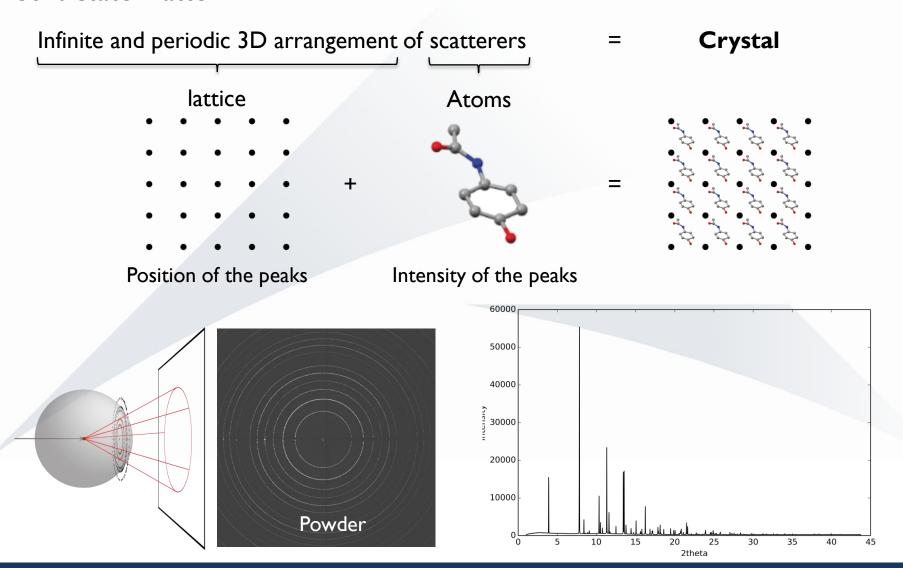
Crystalline solids produced intense peaks of reflected X-rays at certain specific wavelengths and incident angles. W. L. Bragg explained this result by modeling the crystal as a set of discrete parallel planes separated by a constant parameter d. The incident X-ray radiation would produce a Bragg peak if their reflections off the various planes interfered constructively.

Bragg condition: **2dsin** $\theta$ = **n** $\lambda$ 

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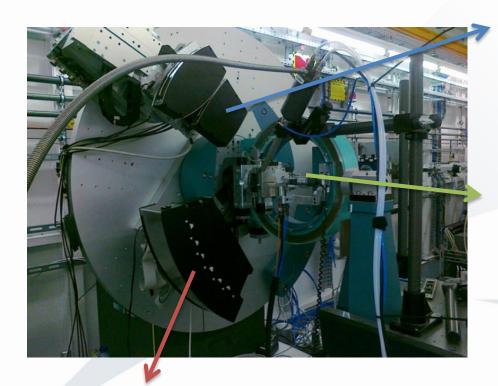
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#### **PD** endstation



## Multi Analyser Detector (MAD)

- 13 channels with 1.5° pitch
- Silll or Si220 Bragg reflection
- YAP scintillator + PMT
- 10 to 50 keV

#### **Sample environment**

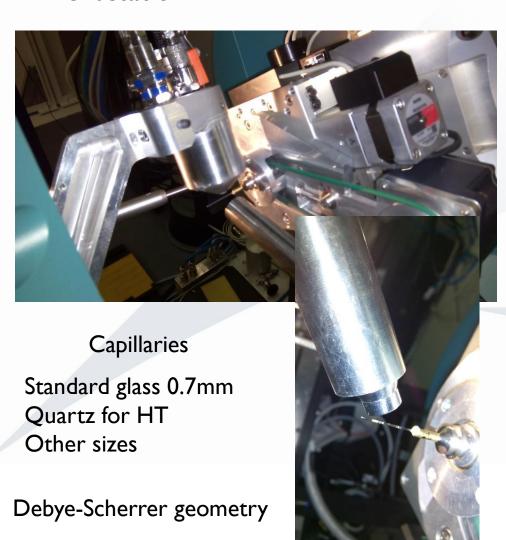
- Hot air blower (300-950°C)
- LN2 Cryostream (80-480K)
- LHe Cryostat (down to ~5K)
- Eulerian cradle
- Capillary flow cell

#### **MYTHEN-II** detector

- 6 modules (1280 channels, 50µm pitch)
- Sample to Det. dist. 550mm (aprox. 40° in 0.005° pitch)
- ms time resolution
- 8 to 30 keV



#### **PD** endstation

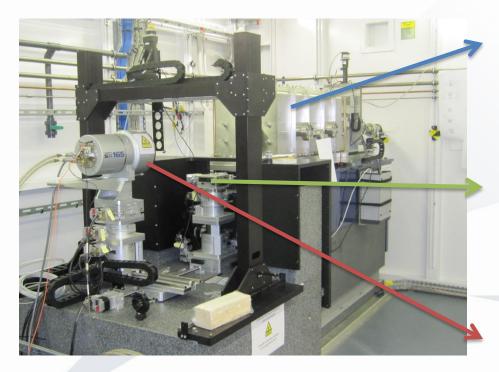




Free standing (transmission)



## **High pressure / microdiffraction endstation**



## Kirkpatrick-Baez (KB) focusing optics

- Spot size of 15 x 15μm FWHM at sample position (20-50 keV)

### Sample mounting/environment

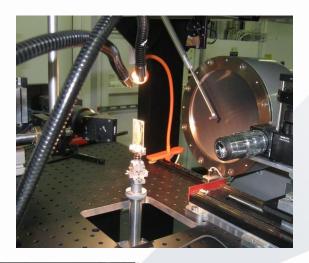
- XYZ stage
- Diamond anvil cells (& spectrometer)
- Online visualization system

#### **CCD** camera

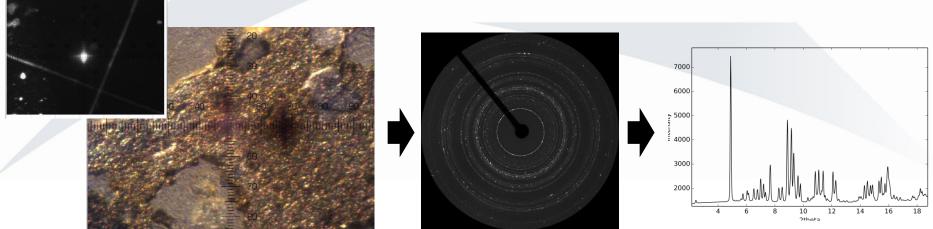
- SX165 (Rayonix)
- Round area (Ø165mm)
- 20 to 50 keV
- Dynamic range 16 bit



#### **Microdiffraction**



- Mounting of the sample(free standing, thin section,...)
- Selection of the measurement points with the online visualization system (spot ~15x15μm FWHM)
- Radial integration of the obtained image for the identification of substances



# Synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction benefits



## Why using Synchrotron?

Energy tunability (not limited to Cu, Mo, ...)

Broad range of energies (8-50 keV at MSPD)

High flux

Low natural beam divergence

**Detector systems** 

Small spot size

Accommodation of sample environments

Speed, control of radiation damage

High statistics

Good signal to noise

High angular resolution

Penetration of absorbing materials

Small amount of sample required

Time-resolved studies

# Synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction benefits



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# Difficulties that may be encountered (not only in synchrotron...)

Radiation damage

Preferred orientation / grain size

Homogeneity of the sample

Dose and energy control, fast measurements

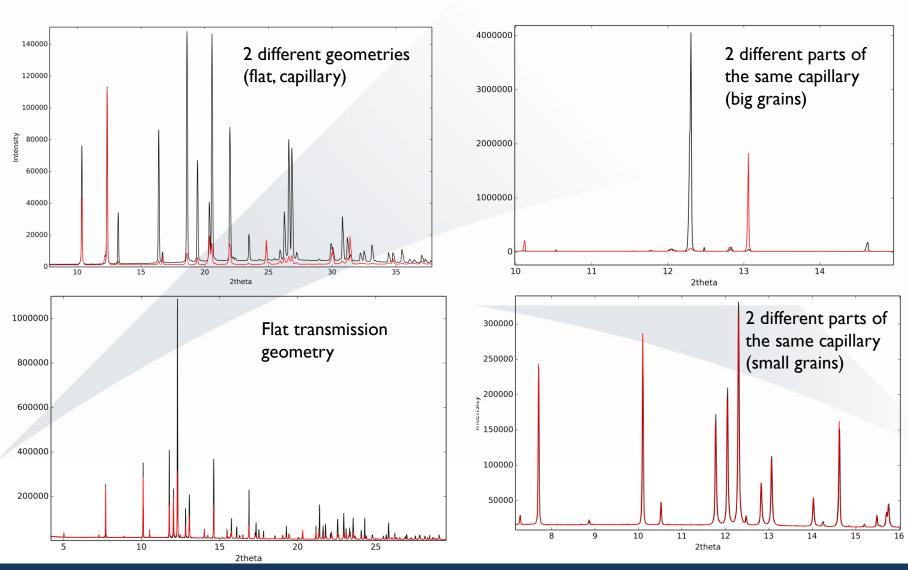
Debye Scherrer geometry (capillary)

Averaging of different sample parts, grinding, ...

# Synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction benefits



# Impact of preferred orientation / grain size





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**Quantification of phases** 

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## Example #1: Phase identification/quantification of a pigment product

## **Objective:**

Correlate the color properties of a pigment (obtained from different formulations or synthetic conditions) with structural parameters.

#### **SXRPD** is used to:

- Identify (and possibly quantify) the segregated phases after the pigment synthesis.
- Check for variations of the **cell parameters** (and cell volume) of the main component, related to possible small differences on the crystal structure.
- Compare between the different products.

## Steps:

- 1) Fill capillaries with the powder samples.
- 2) Measurement (12 min each sample).
- 3) Identification of phases: Match the peak positions to known substances that may be expected on the final product.
- 4) Rietveld fit: cell parameters, quantification.



About the quantification...

## Rietveld Quantitative Phase Analysis (RQPA)

Match the peak positions and intensities.

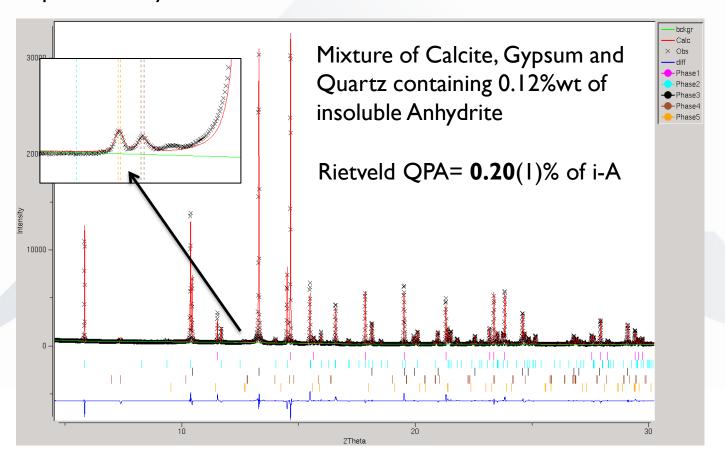
#### Considerations:

- Crystal structures must be known.
- Quantification of crystalline phases (relative to a total 100%)
- Low accuracy for minor components (<0.5%) which is directly related to the quality of the material, the crystal structure (model) used and the collected data.
- If a **good** RQPA can be performed, the addition of a known amount of an internal standard (well-known substance of similar composition and no amorphous content) can give the absolute wt% and thus quantify the content of amorphous/unidentified phases



## **Example #2: Rietveld Quantitative Phase Analysis**

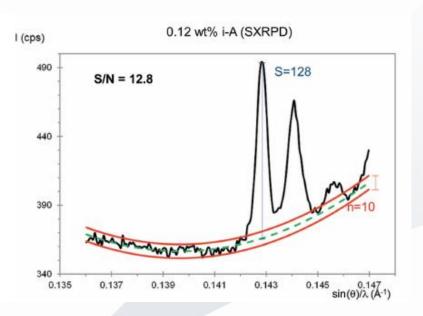
Match the peak positions and **intensities** to known substances that may be expected on the final product. Crystal structures must be known.



L. León-Reina et al. (2016) J. Appl. Cryst. 49

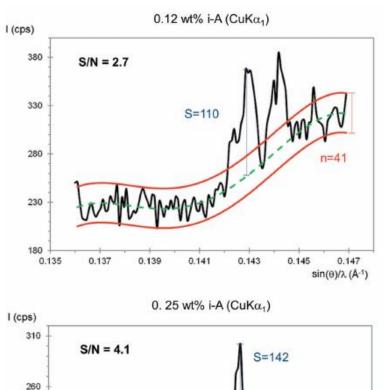


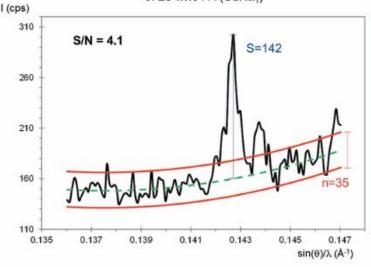
## LoD / Quantification



# Synchrotron:

- Lower LoD
- Better accuracy on RQPA



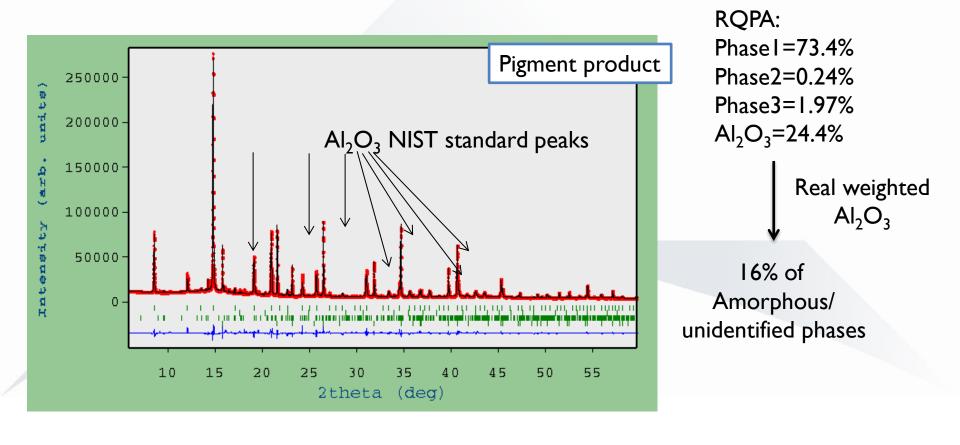


L. León-Reina et al. (2016) J. Appl. Cryst. 49



# Example #1 (cont.): Phase identification/quantification of a pigment product

RQPA with the addition of an internal standard.





## Example #3: In-situ / time-resolved study of ceramic glazes

## **Objective:**

Study of cobalt blue glazes production process for Italian Renaissance terracotta sculptures.

#### **SXRPD** is used to:

- Follow phase transformations and evolution with temperature. Fast measurements are required to follow these transformations.
- Compare between the different starting mineral mixtures.

## Steps:

- 1) Fill quartz capillaries with the powder samples.
- 2) Reproduce conditions of furnaces from XV-XVI century
- 3) Identification of phases: Match the peak positions to known substances that may be expected on the final product.



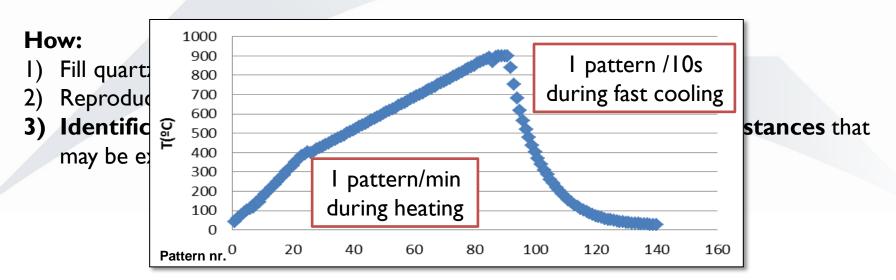
## Example #3: In-situ / time-resolved study of ceramic glazes

## **Objective:**

Study of cobalt blue glazes production process for Italian Renaissance terracotta sculptures.

#### What SXRPD can do in this case:

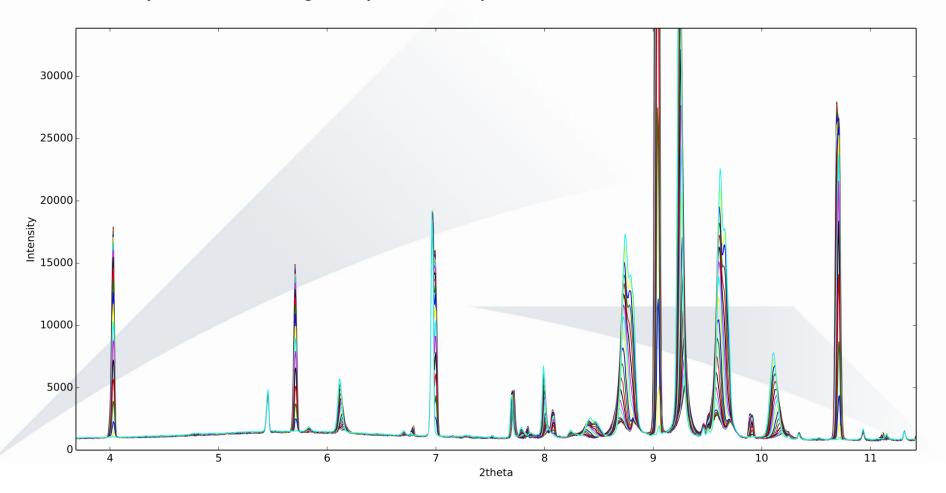
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A. Zucchiatti. Proposal 2015091398



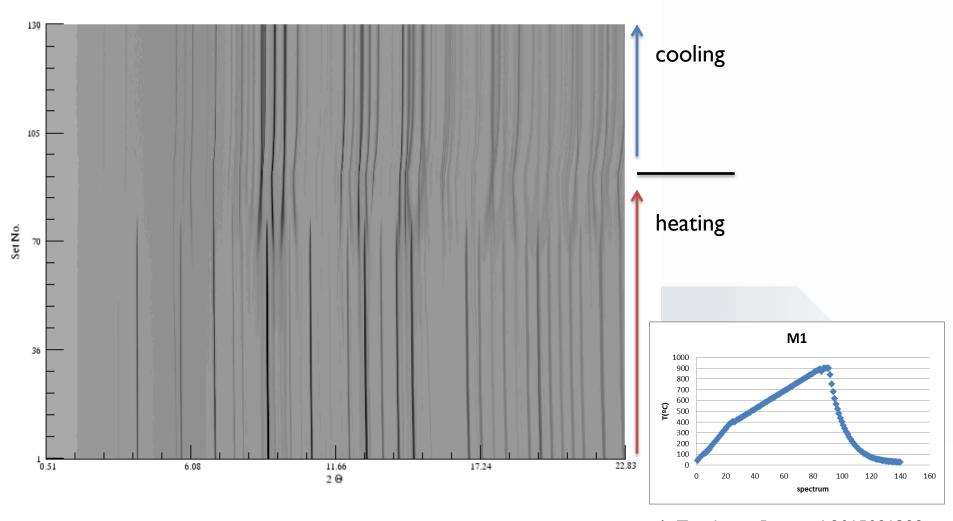
# In-situ study of cobalt blue glazes production process



A. Zucchiatti. Proposal 2015091398

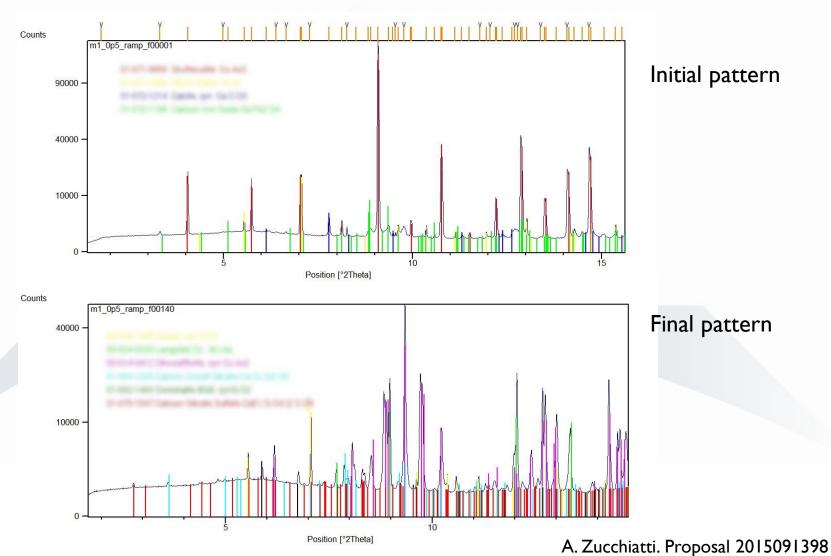


# In-situ study of cobalt blue glazes production process





# In-situ study of cobalt blue glazes production process





# Example #4: In-situ / time-resolved study of C<sub>4</sub>AF phase in different environments

## **Objective:**

Understand the hydration mechanisms of new eco-cements based on calcium sulfoaluminate which contain different polymorphs of ye'elimite with  $C_4AF$ .

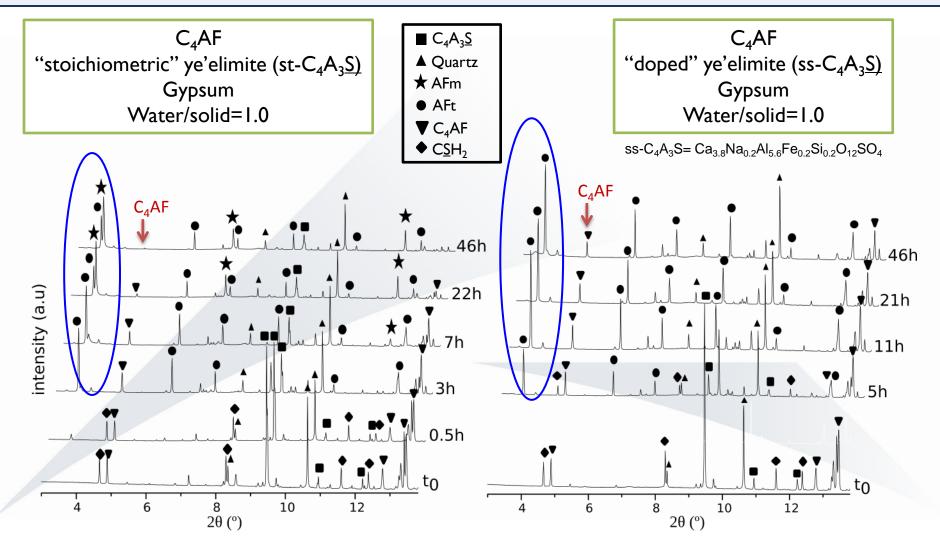
#### **SXRPD** is used to:

- Follow the hydration process in time.
- Minimize microabsorption effects (useful for quantification) by using high energy SR.
- Compare between the different starting compositions.

### **Steps:**

- 1) Fill capillaries with the mixtures solid-water.
- 2) Measurements of 15 minutes to get good s/n ratio.
- 3) Identification of phases: Match the peak positions to known substances and follow the evolution.
- 4) RQPA





The dissolution of C<sub>4</sub>AF was inhibited by the presence of the doped **ss-ye'elimite** and for this reason only small quantities of AFm were quantified

Cuesta A et al. (2015), Constr. Build Mater., 101, 818-827.



## **Example #5: Micro-XRPD to identify materials**

## **Objective:**

Study the changes in the methods of production and materials of stained glass grisailles from different historical periods and its relation to the conservation state of the materials.

#### **SXRPD** is used to:

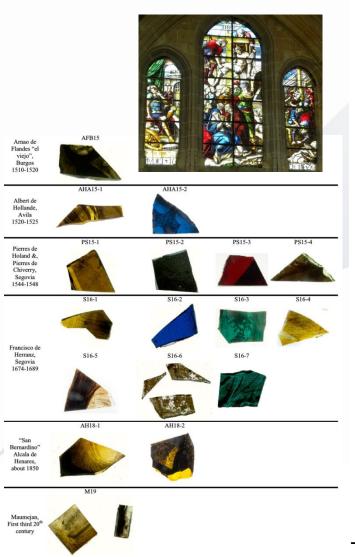
- Measure selected points of the sample with a small beam ( $15 \times 15 \mu m$ ) to get the information of these specific regions.
- Measure samples that are highly absorbing (contain Pb)

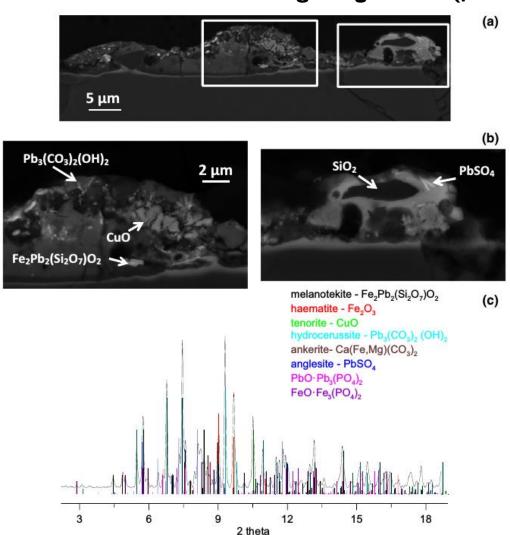
## **Steps:**

- I) Polished thin cross sections (in this case  $200\mu m$ ) of the stained glasses are mounted on the measurement stage.
- 2) Selection of the measurement points with the on-axis visualization system
- 3) Collection of the patterns with the 2D detector and radial integration of the images to obtain ID powder patterns
- 4) Phase identification.



# Materials, techniques and conservation of historical stained glass grisailles (µXRPD)





T. Pradell et al. (2016) International Journal of Applied Glass Science, 7, 41–58



## Summary of applications and possibilities of SXRPD

- Single measurement of powder samples
- Time-resolved experiments
- Point-selection/mapping of free standing samples

Phase identification

Phase quantification

**Structural studies** 

Unit cell
Crystal structure determination

Microstructural studies

Crystallite size/strain (not-absolute, sample comparison)



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# Thank you!

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MSPD beamline team

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M.A. García-Aranda (ALBA Scientific Director)

Aplicaciones industriales del Sincrotrón ALBA en cementos, pigmentos, cerámicas y vidrios Cerdanyola del Vallès, 6May 2016



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