

# APLICACIONS BIOMÈDIQUES DE LA LLUM DE SINCROTRÓ

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## ¿Cómo funciona un sincrotrón?



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## La fuente de luz ALBA

Los **rayos X** son **ondas electromagnéticas**, como la luz visible, aunque tienen **longitud de onda** mucho más **corta**, o sea, una **frecuencia** más **alta** y **más energía** por cada fotón. Sus propiedades les hacen muy útiles para **estudiar la materia**.



#### El espectro electromagnético



#### Poder de penetración

Los rayos X interactúan débilmente con la materia. Lo hacen principalmente cuando están en resonancia con alguna transición atómica. El resto de elementos son transparentes. Esto permite **observar el interior** de los objetos.

#### **Transiciones atómicas**

La energía de los fotones de rayos X corresponde a las transiciones de los electrones entre los niveles atómicos, para la mayoría de materiales sólidos. Estos niveles determinan las **propiedades físicas y químicas** de los materiales, que se pueden estudiar con experimentos de **espectroscopia**.

#### Longitud de onda muy corta

La longitud de onda de los rayos X es comparable al tamaño de los átomos. La cual cosa permite observar su estructura mediante experimentos de **difracción**.

## Interacció de la llum amb la matèria



# MIRAS

SAMPLE



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### Chemical bonds – springs & mass





Globar vs Synchrotron light source





Globar vs Synchrotron light source











## Alzheimer Disease





Normal brain

Alzheimer's brain

Pet scans (glucose utilization)

**Cortex shrivels up:** Damaging areas involved in thinking, planning and remembering.

**Severe Hippocampus shrinkage** Damaging areas play a key role in

formation of new memories.

## Ventricles grow larger

# Amyloid peptides





Presence of amyloid plaques in the affected regions.



Plaques present in Alzheimer Disease brain



Fibers











Protein Aggregation Ratio: 1630/1650

Lipid Oxidation Ratio: 1740/total lipid



## Oxidation co-localizes with plaques





Brain with Plaques but without Alzheimer Disease symptoms





No co-localization of oxidation and plaques

# Main Conclusions



• Lipids in the plaques and surroundings are oxidized.



• Control brains, with plaques but without symptoms of Alzheimer, show no oxidation.

## Example: cultural heritage – paintings





Sitges in the Barcelona area Photo by Rich2012



Painting by Ferrer Bassa (1346) Saint Michael's Chapel in Barcelona







How to refurbish/restore the paintings? What are the origins of the dark spots?

Painting by Ferrer Bassa (1346) Saint Michael's Chapel in Barcelona





- The salts are directly related to the reaction compounds secreted by fungis.
- Black marks result from fungi attacks.
- > The dark colour observed is due to the presence of melanin secreted by the fungi.
- Melanin is water-soluble, and therefore, can be easily removed.
- > This treatment has been successfully applied in the restoration wall paintings.

Anal. Methods, 2016,8, 1637-1645



J Drug Discov Develop and Deliv. 2014;1(2): 8.



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**Fig. 3.** IR spectra of skin sample treated with bicosomes incorporating  $C_{12}Re(CO)_3$  at 1% for 24 h and at room temperature. (1) NH vibration of polypeptides and proteins of the skin, (2) CO vibration of proteins, (3) CN vibration of proteins, (4) CH<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>2</sub> stretching vibration of skin and bicosome lipids and (5, 6) symmetric and asymmetric stretching vibrations of  $C_{12}Re(CO)_3$  (A<sub>1</sub> and E respectively).

### Colloids and Surfaces B: Biointerfaces 131 (2015) 102–107

### Example: Drug Delivery in Dermatology





## Colloids and Surfaces B: Biointerfaces 131 (2015) 102–107

# MISTRAL:Soft Xray Transmision Microscopy



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## Soft Xray Transmision Microscopy





Select the cell

Transmission X-Ray Microscope

Select the region of interest

Tomogram -70, +70

Reconstruction

Visible/ Fluorescence Light Microscope

## Hepatocyte control cells

Mitochondria

Cytoskeleton

Nuclear Envelope

Mitochondrial Cristae

Nucleus

Endoplasmic Reticulum



A whole cell

Natural contrast

Without any addition of chemical compounds for fixation or staining

Without artifacts

Structural Changes In Cells Imaged by Soft X-ray Cryo-Tomography During Hepatitis C Virus Infection. Pérez-Berná AJ et al, ACS Nano. 2016 Jun 28



Accumulation of vesicles

Membranous web

Membranous vesicles

Membranous vesicles are tubes in different orientation 3D map

Neck-like structures connecting endoplasmic reticulum extrusions to the tubular network

Close Compartments for RNA replication Functional RNA replicase complexes

Structural Changes In Cells Imaged by Soft X-ray Cryo-Tomography During Hepatitis C Virus Infection. Pérez-Berná AJ et al, ACS Nano. 2016 Jun 28



# CLAES:X-ray absorption spectroscopy

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## X-ray absorption spectroscopy



- When an x-ray is absorbed by an atom, its energy is transferred to a core-level electron (*K*, *L*, or *M* shell) resulting in its ejection from the atom.
- The atom is left in an *excited state* with an empty electronic level (a *core-hole*).
- Any excess energy from the x-ray is given to the ejected *photoelectron*.



## XAS is an element selective technique

S K-edge ~2400 eV Cu K-edge ~9000 eV Ag K-edge ~25500 eV S L-edges ~160-230 eV Cu L-edges ~930 eV Ag L-edges ~3500 eV





The ejected photoelectron is backscattered by the neighboring atoms.

- local structure
- frequencies ~ bond distances

## An example studied in Claess: the spinach ferrodoxine



In collaboration with prof P. Postorino, University of Roma Sapienza

**Ferredoxins** are <u>iron-sulfur proteins</u> that mediate <u>electron</u> <u>transfer</u> in a range of metabolic reactions. Ferredoxin is involved in both cyclic and non-cyclic <u>photophosphorylation</u> reactions of <u>photosynthesis</u>. In non-cyclic photophosphorylation, ferredoxin is the last electron acceptor thus reducing the enzyme NADP<sup>+</sup> reductase. These biological "<u>capacitors</u>" can accept or discharge electrons, with the effect of a change in the oxidation state of the iron atoms between +2 and +3.







Am. Min. 95, 200 (2010)



# XANES

- Oxidation state
- Unoccupied electronic states
  - Spin state
  - Local structure

direct information about bond angles.





EXAFS

- Bond distances
- Coordination number
- Static and dynamic disorder

Am. Min. 95, 200 (2010)

# NCD: Non cristalline difraction Xaloc: Cristalline Difraction



### NCD

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### Xaloc

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## Liposomes

# Multilamelar Unilamelars









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