

Understanding the Electronic Structure of Matter in Liquid Form Using Soft X-Ray XANES and RIXS

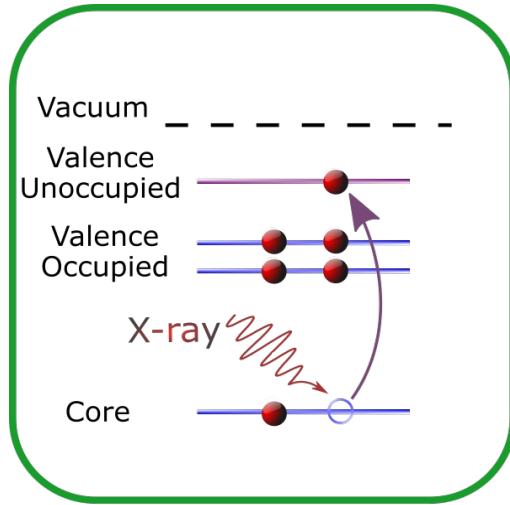
Kaan Atak

HESEB Webinar, 20 October 2020

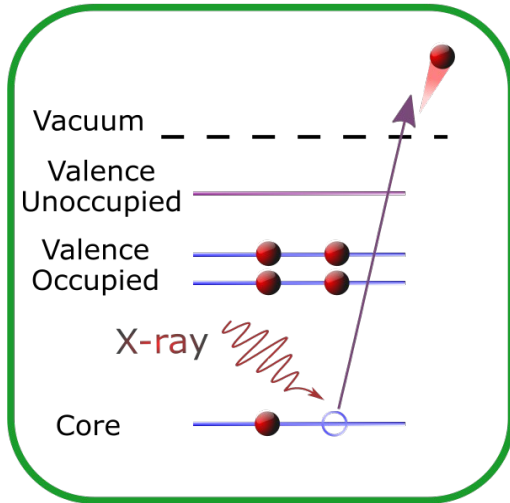
Outline

- Soft **X**-ray **A**bsorption **N**ear **E**dge **S**pectroscopy and **R**esonant **I**nelastic **X**-Ray **S**cattering:
 - Theory
 - Methodology
- Various Applications

Core-level absorption

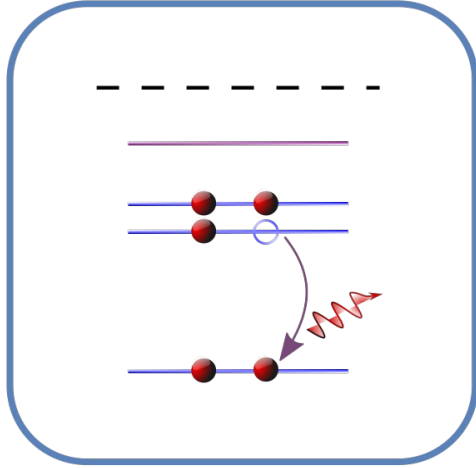


Resonant X-ray absorption
(XAS/XANES)

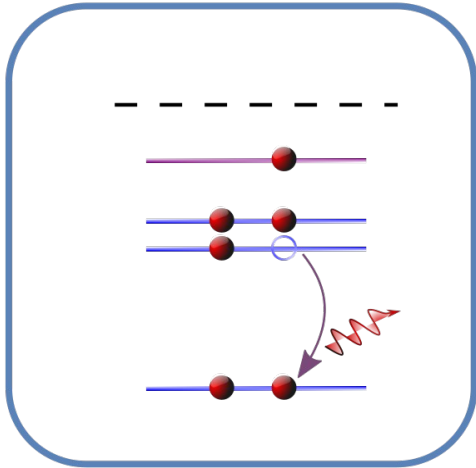


Core-level photoemission

Radiative decay

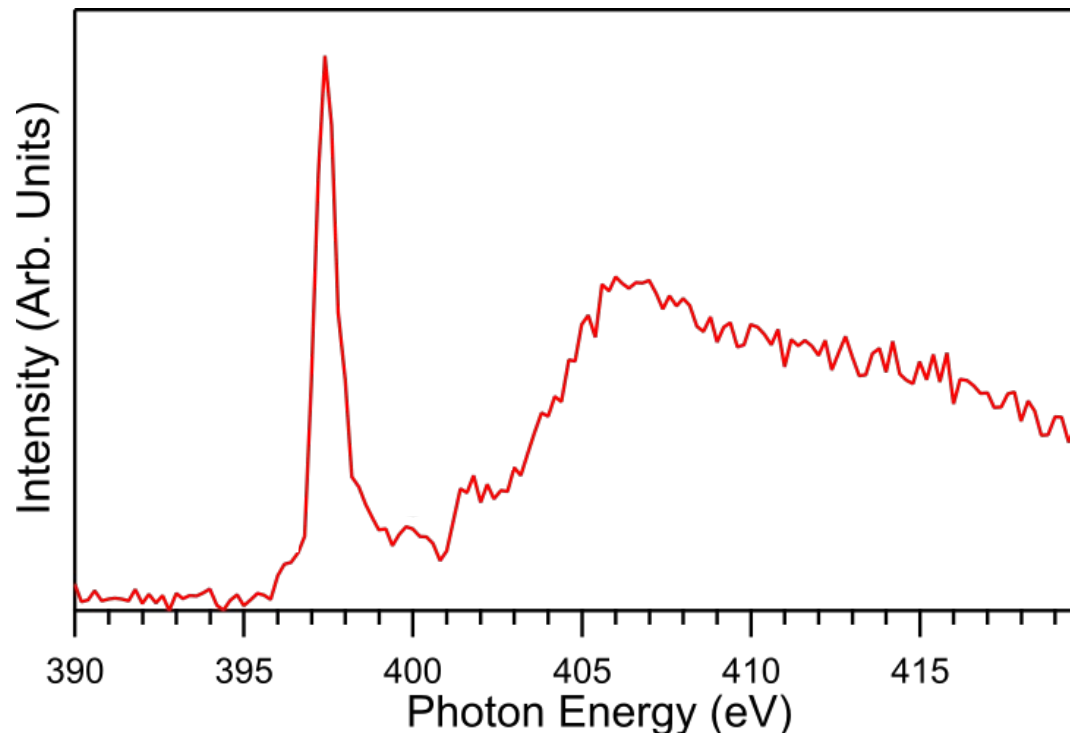


Non-resonant X-ray emission
(XES)



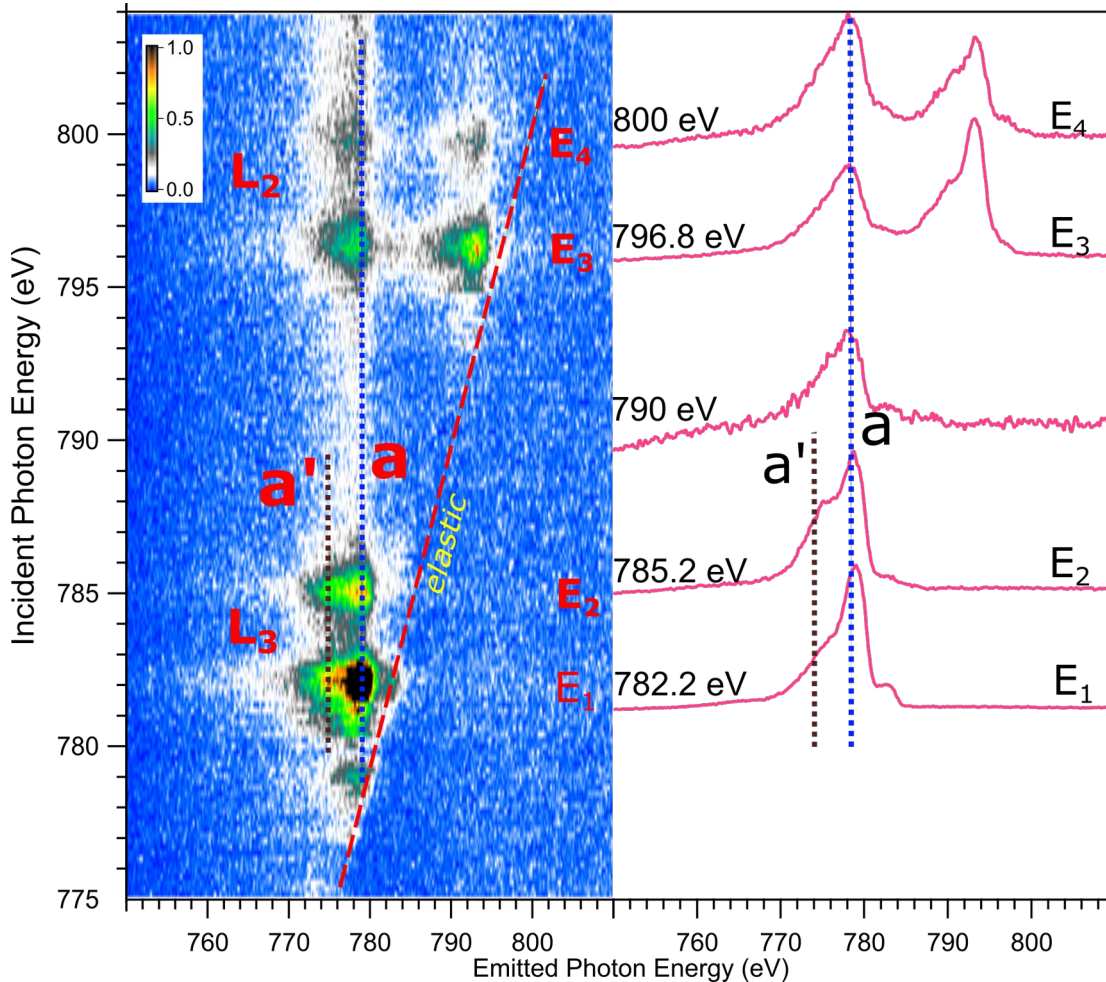
Resonant inelastic X-ray scattering
(RIXS)

A typical XANES spectrum



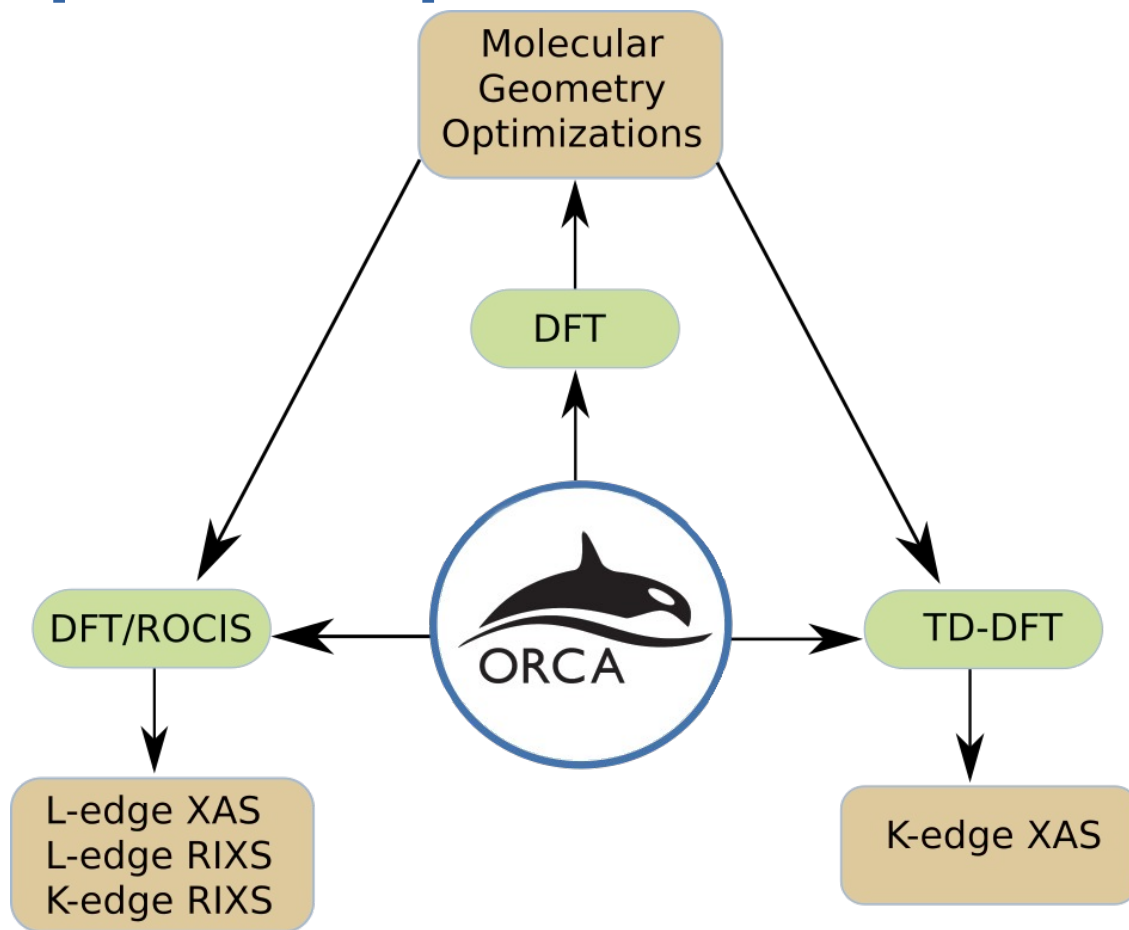
- photon-in photon-out
- near-edge features and chemical shifts provide information
- various measurement modes: transmission, TFY, PFY

A typical RIXS spectrum



- Raman vs. Fluorescence features
- Emission pattern dependent on excitation energy
- Resonance occurs where absorption is strong

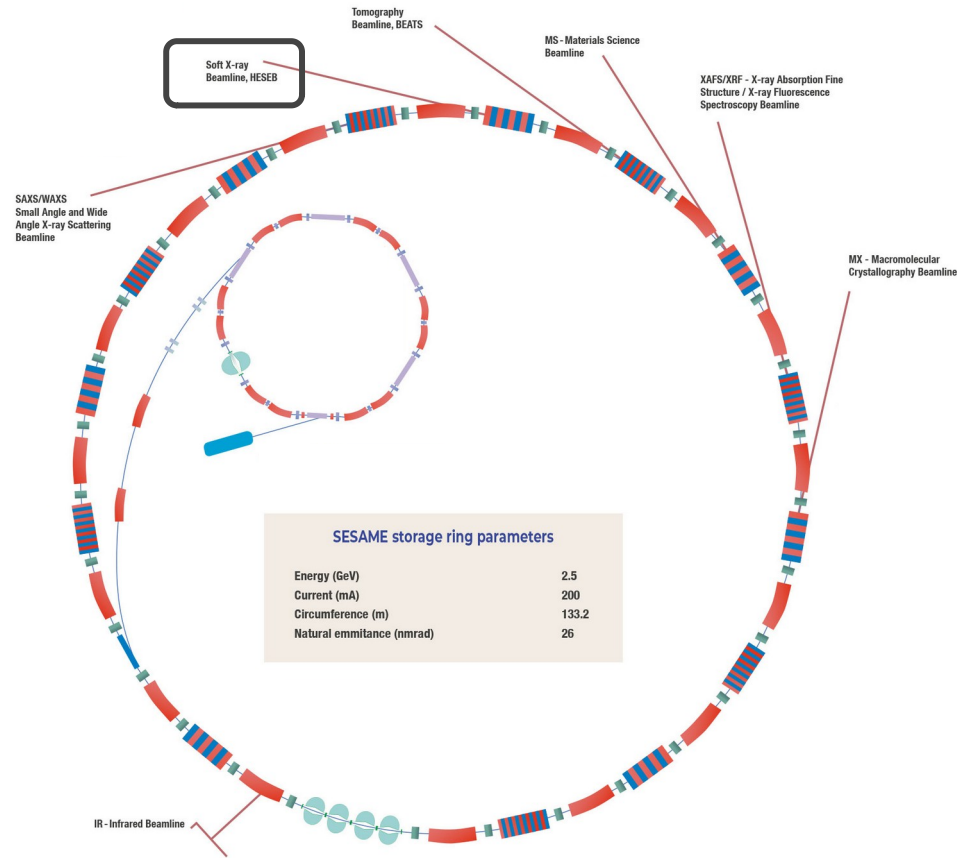
First principles computational methods



WIREs Comput Mol Sci, 2018, Vol 8, 1759

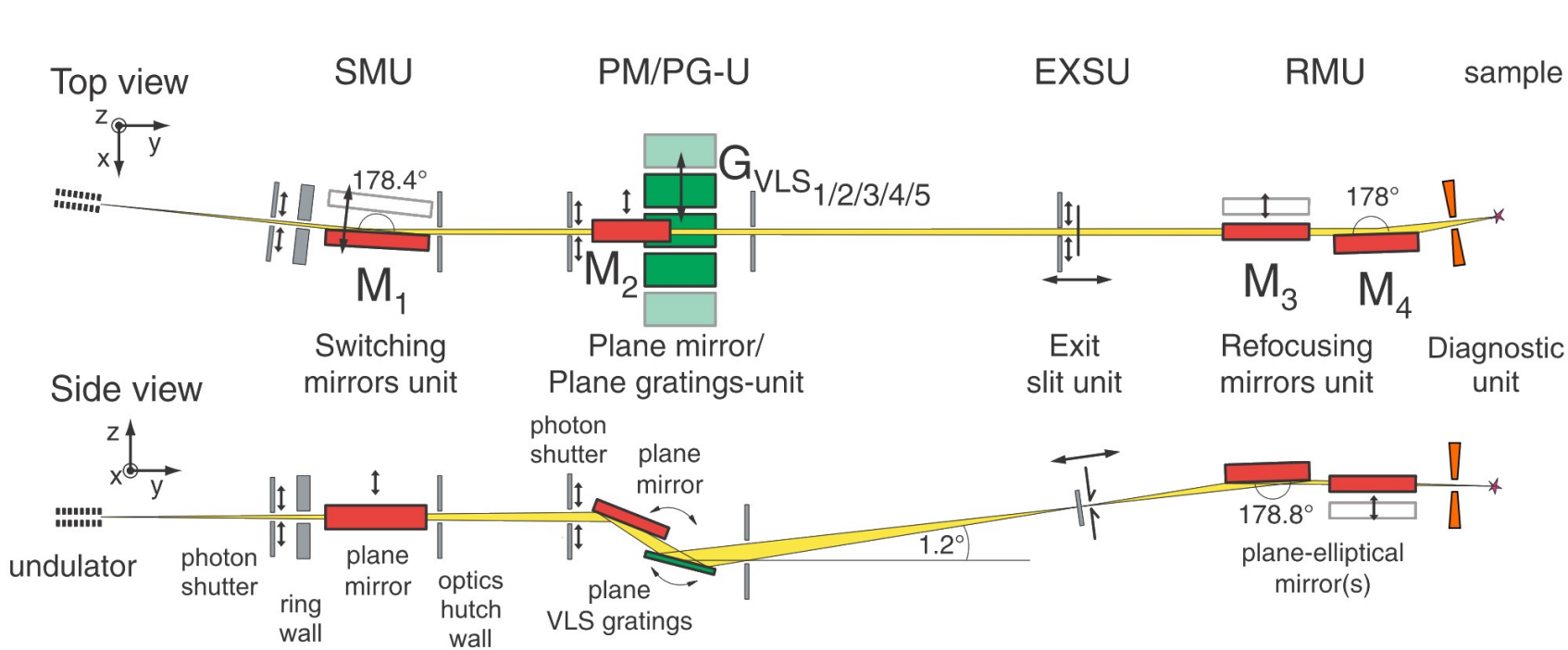
S.S.N.Lalithambika, <http://dx.doi.org/10.17169/refubium-2725>

A third generation synchrotron and a soft X-ray beamline



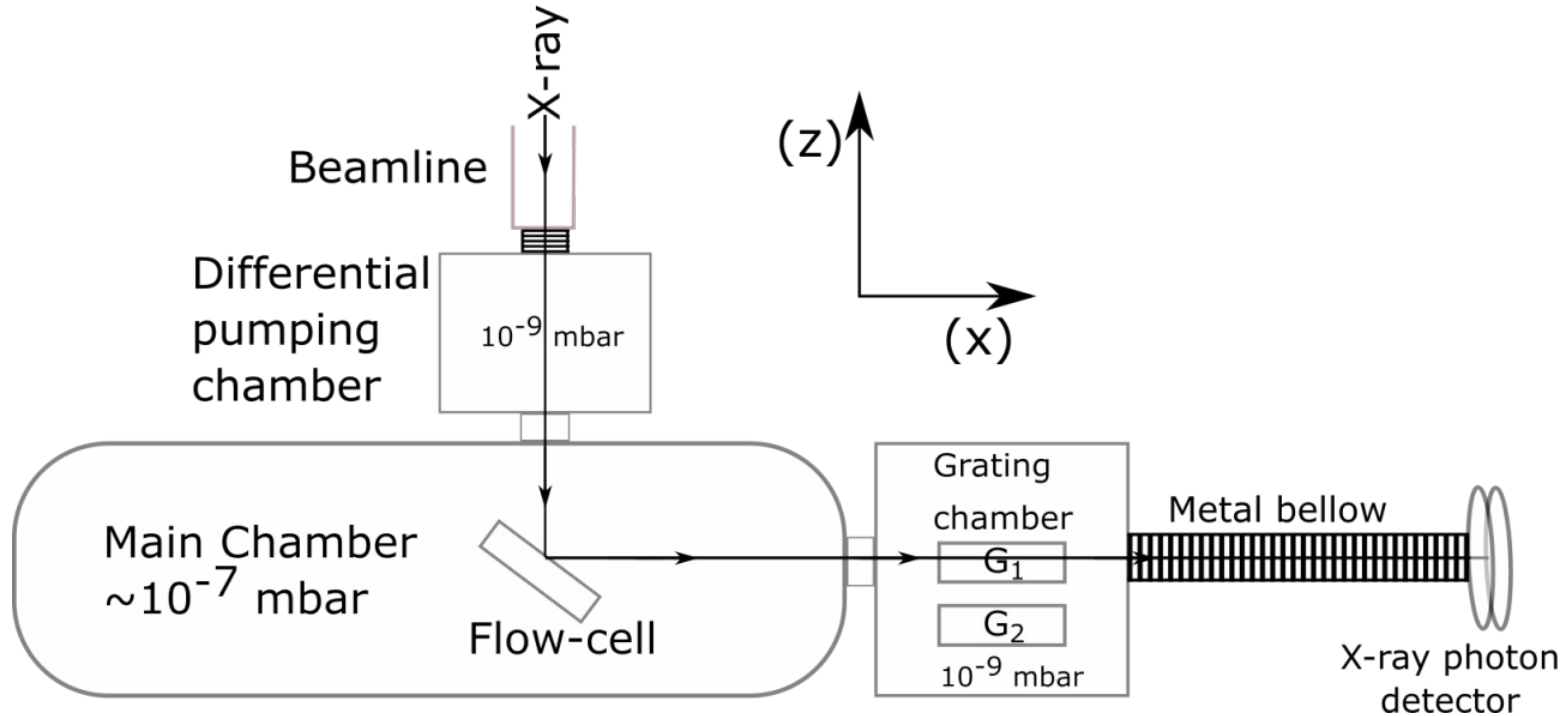
<https://www.sesame.org.jo/sites/default/files/2017-11/machine2.jpg>

Layout of a soft X-ray beamline (P04 - Petra III)

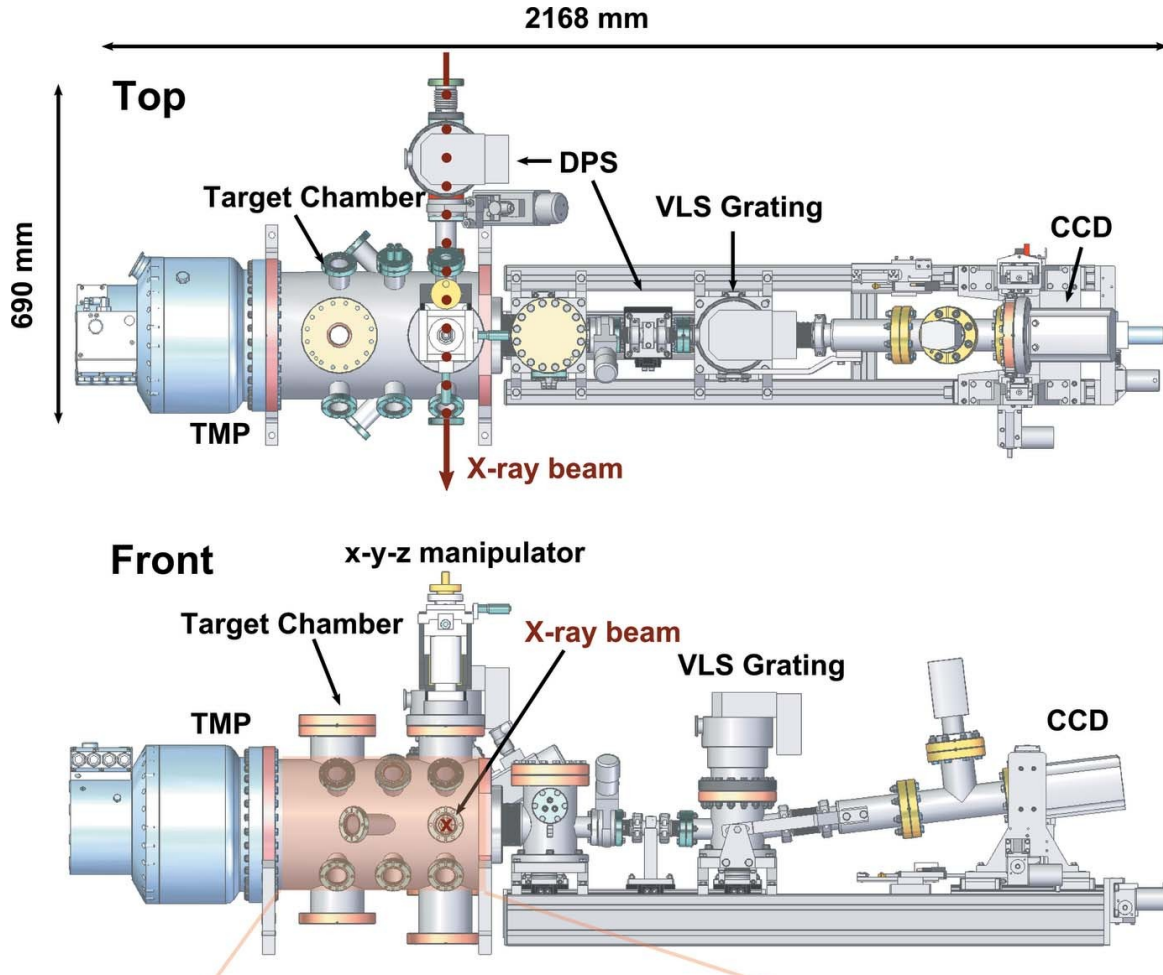


X-rays meet the sample

A typical endstation capable of XANES/RIXS applied to liquids

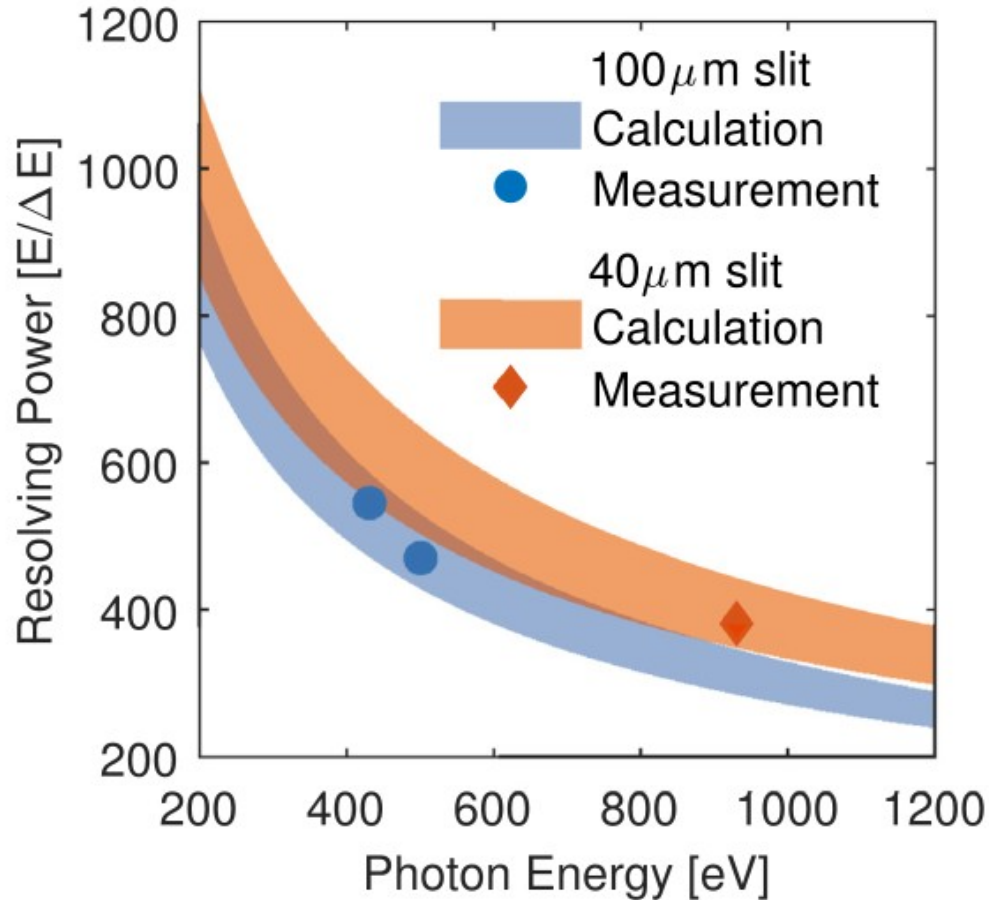


ChemRIXS



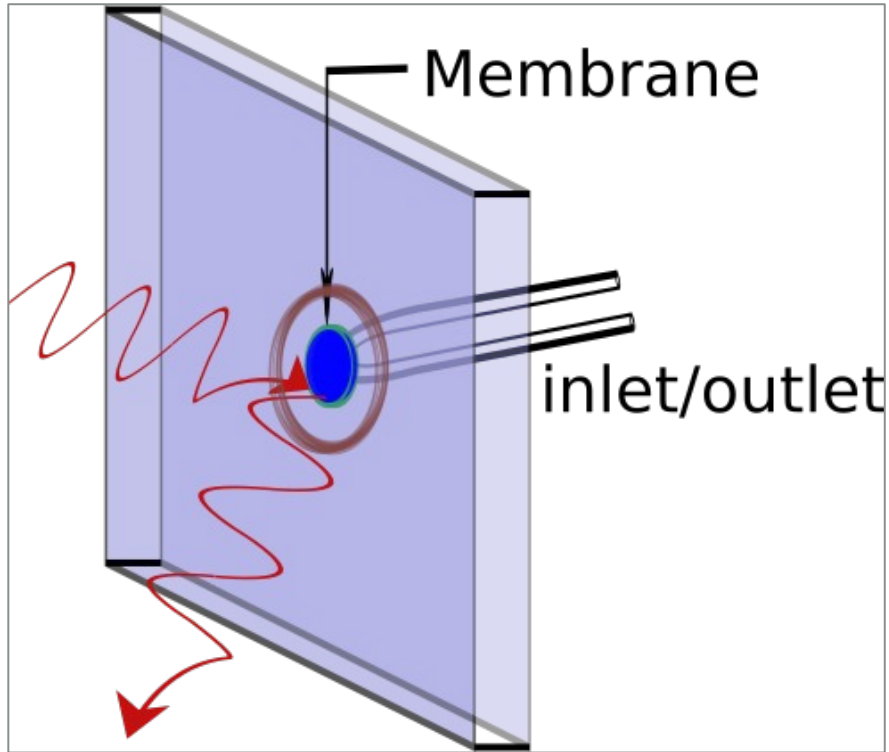
- Compact and mobile
- Low cost (~300k)
- Acceptable resolution

Resolution



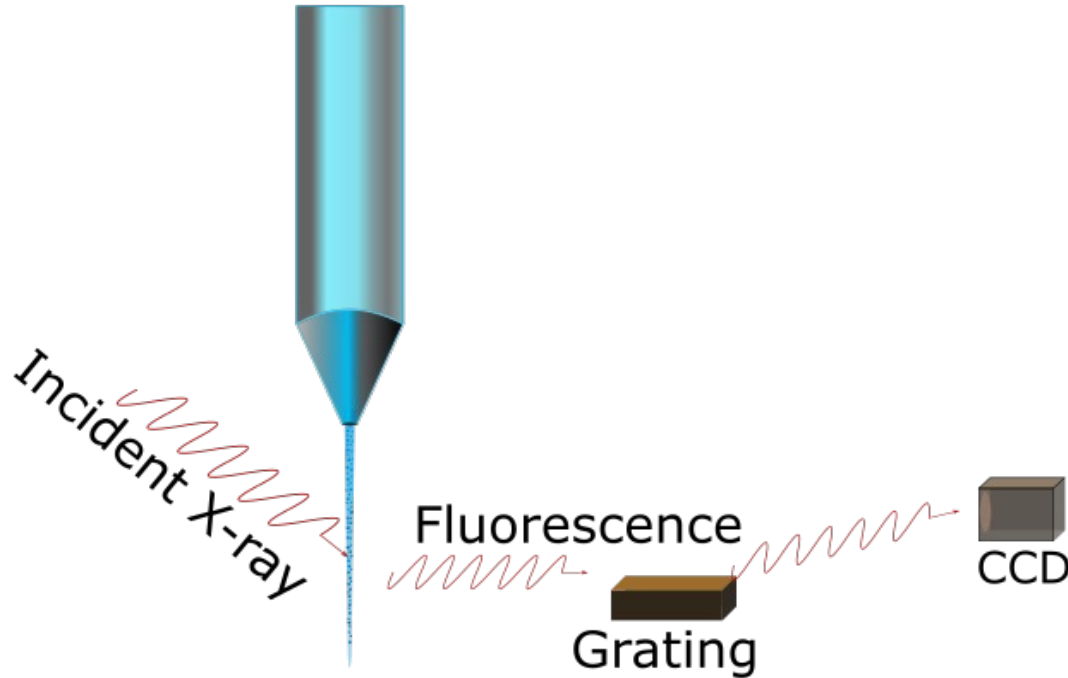
- proportional to detector arm length
- inversely proportional to grating line width and camera pixel size

The liquid flow-cell technique



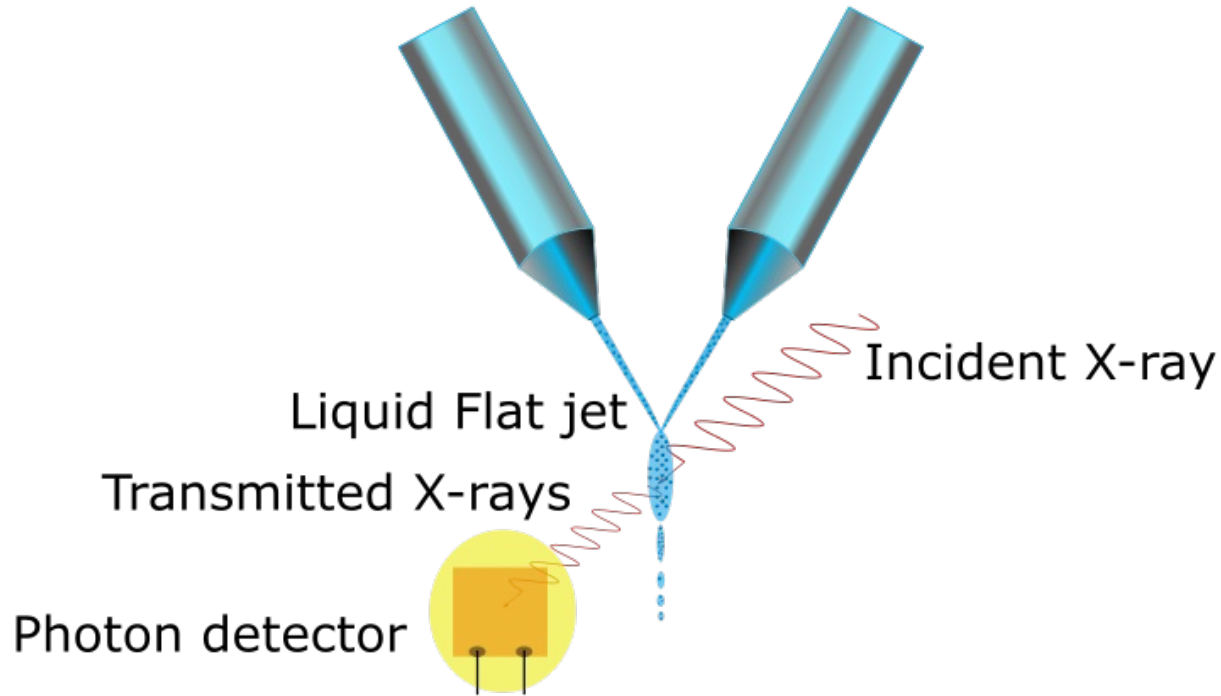
- allows for absorption measurements using fluorescence yields
- fresh sample is flown minimizing sample damage
- suitable for samples in small amounts

The liquid micro jet technique



- allows for absorption measurements using fluorescence yields
- lack of membranes resolve sample-membrane interaction issues
- fresh sample is flown effectively nullifying sample damage
- suitable for samples in larger amounts

The flat jet



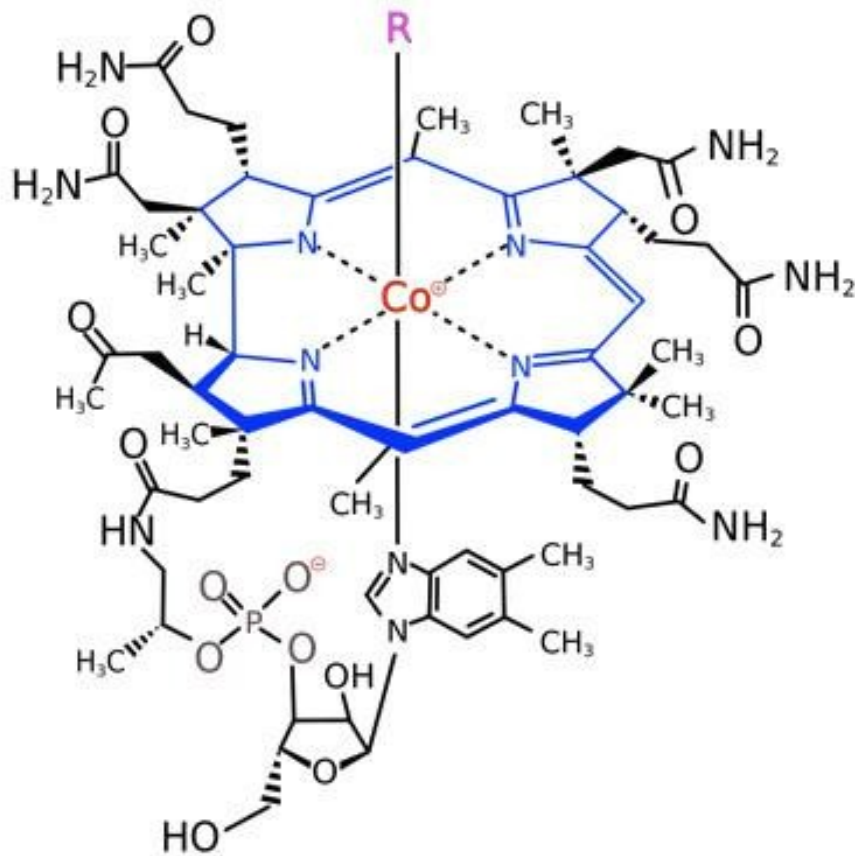
- allows for a “true” absorption measurement in the transmission mode
- resolves the issues arising from the deviations between fluorescence and transmission mode absorption

What type of questions can liquid state XANES/RIXS address?

We have an active site in a functional molecule, it has a central atom (such as a TM):

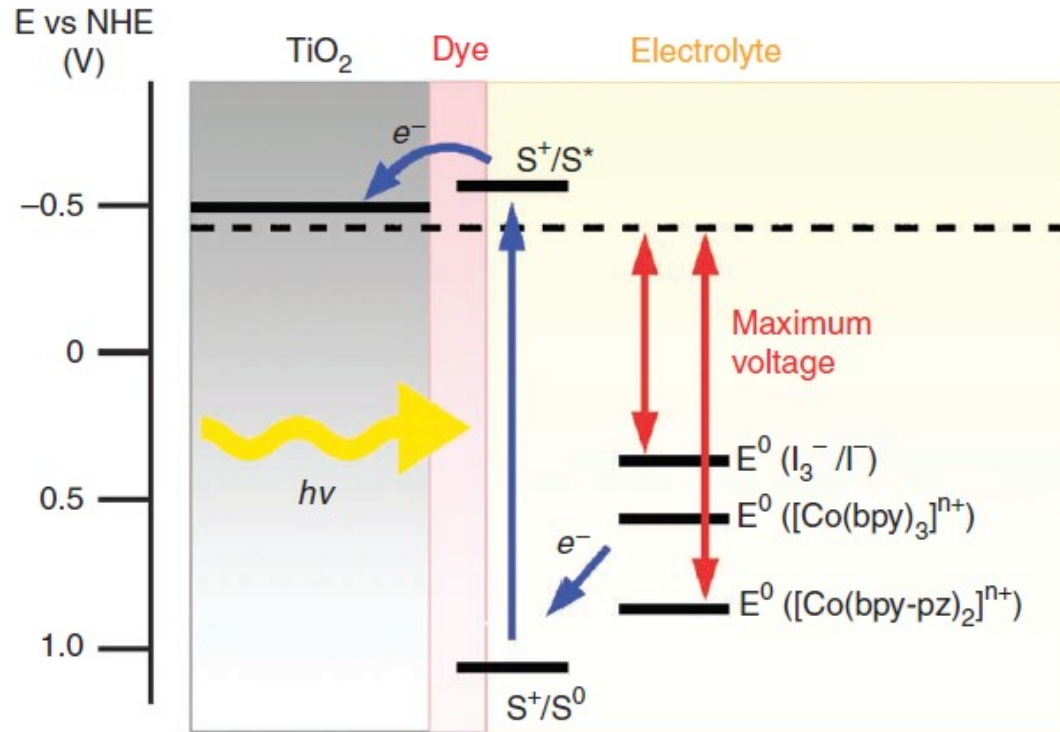
- What type of bonding does it exhibit? (pi, sigma,...)
- What is its coordination with neighboring atoms?
- What is its oxidation state?
- What is its spin state?
- Does the surrounding liquid have a chemical effect?
- How about electronic transitions such as d-d or charge transfer?
- ...

A biologically relevant Co TM-complex: Cobalamin (B12)

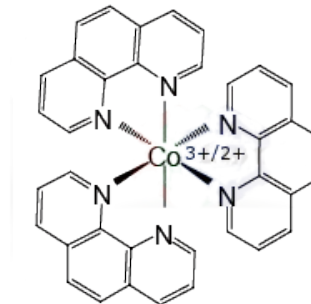
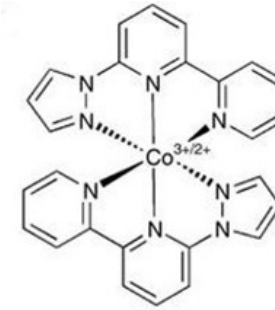
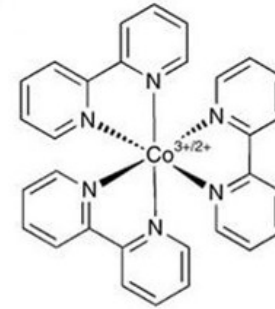


- The central Co³⁺ ion is vital for biological activity
- The alpha position (R) can bind to (CN⁻, OH, CH₃, and 5-deoxyadenosyl) ligands

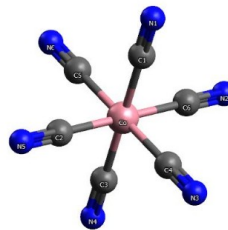
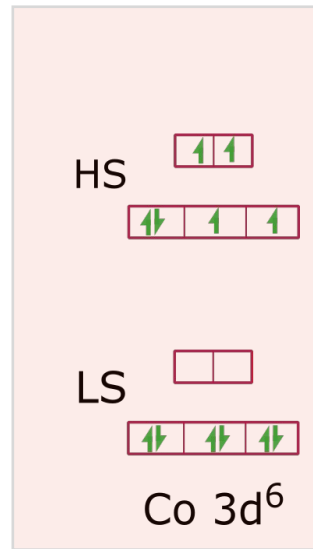
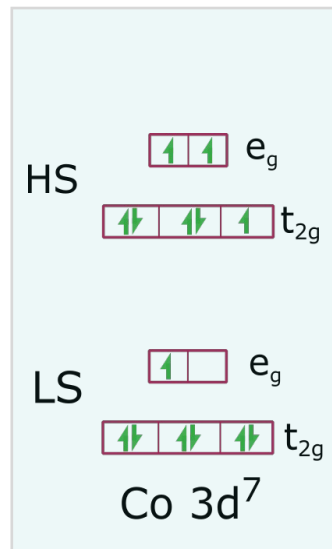
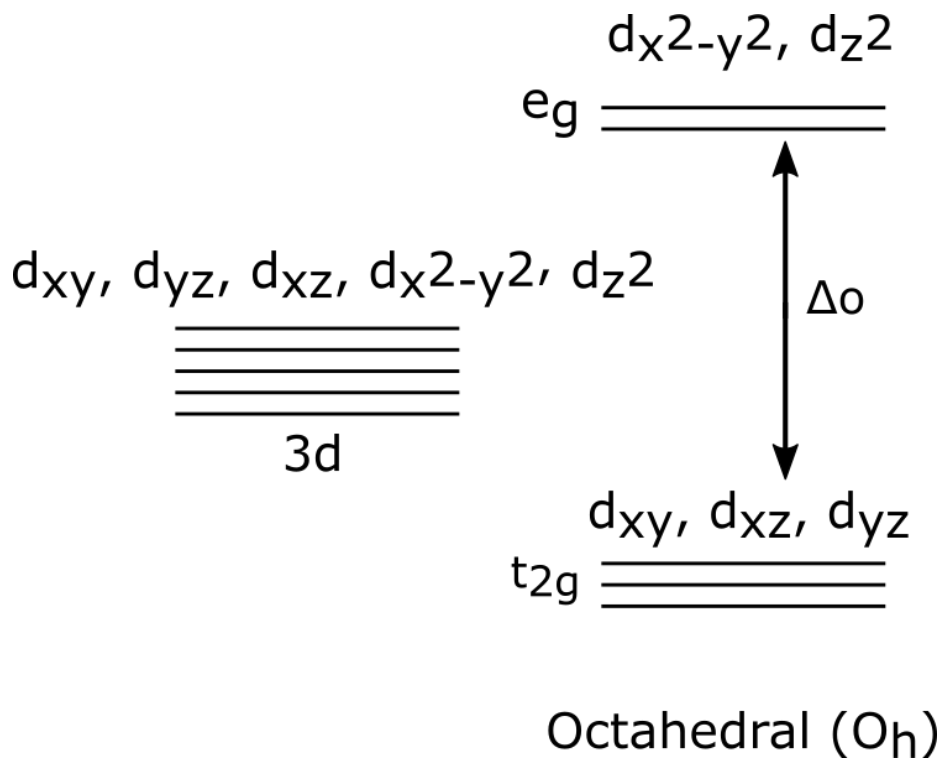
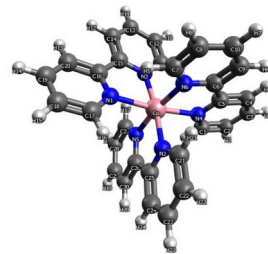
Cobalt TM-complexes in catalysis: electron mediators in a dye sensitized solar cell



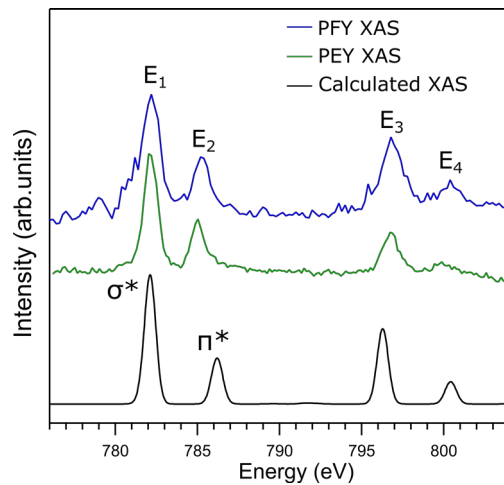
Nature Communications 3, 631 (2012)



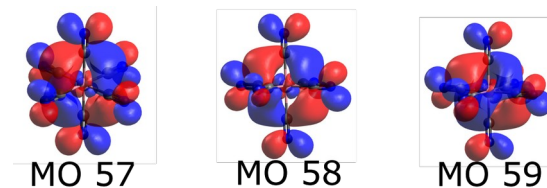
Octahedral splitting in strong ligand field



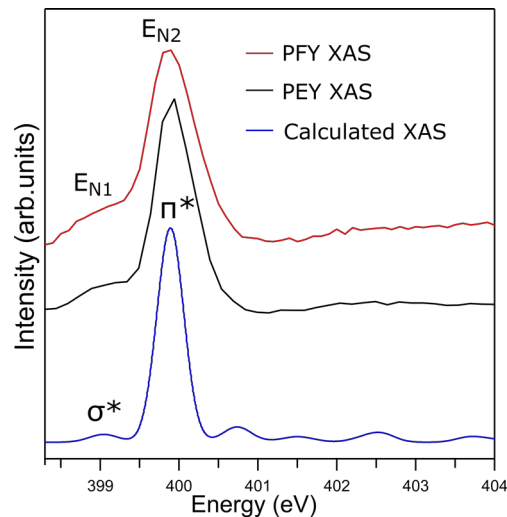
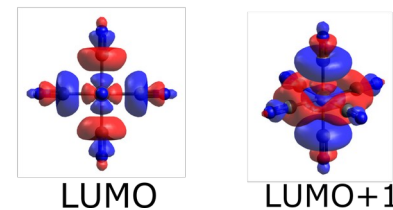
Aqueous $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$



π^*

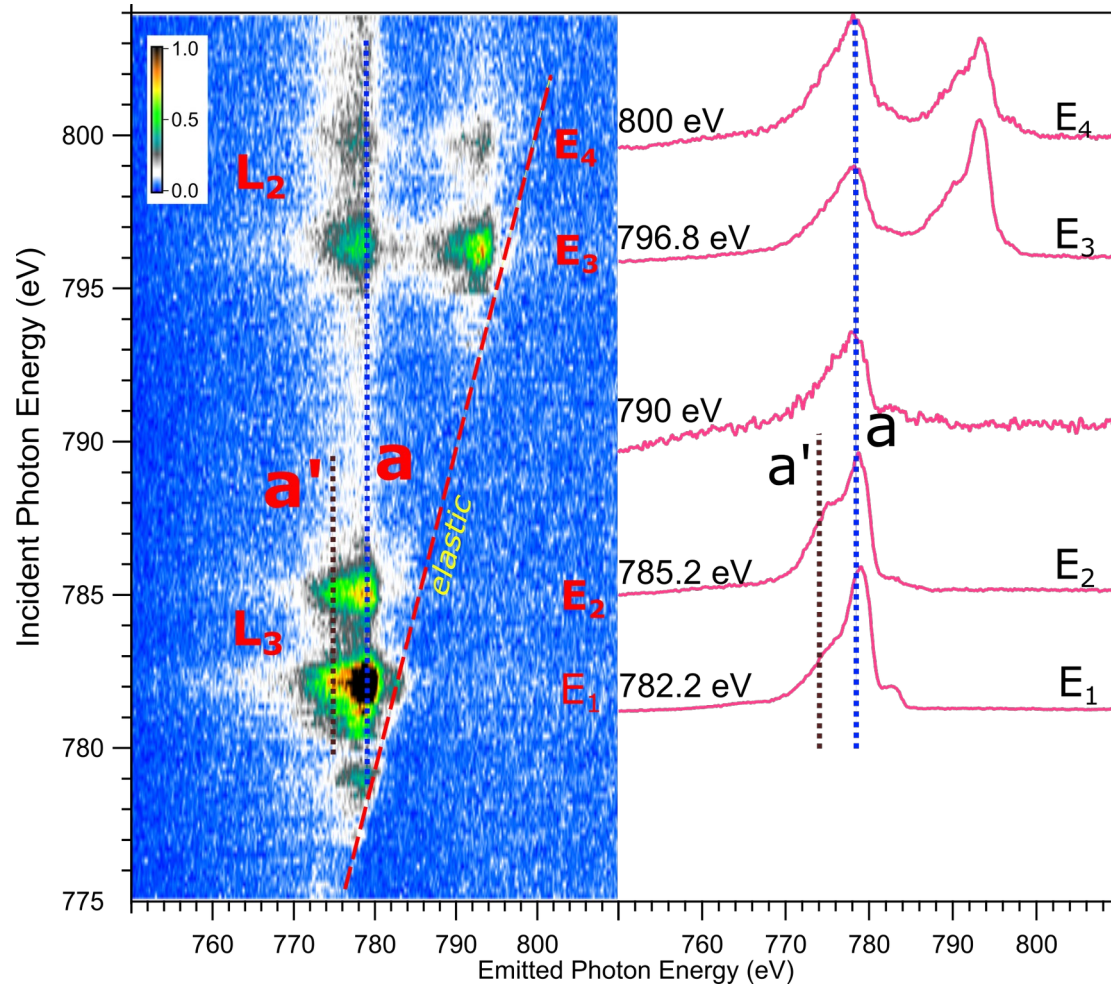


σ^*



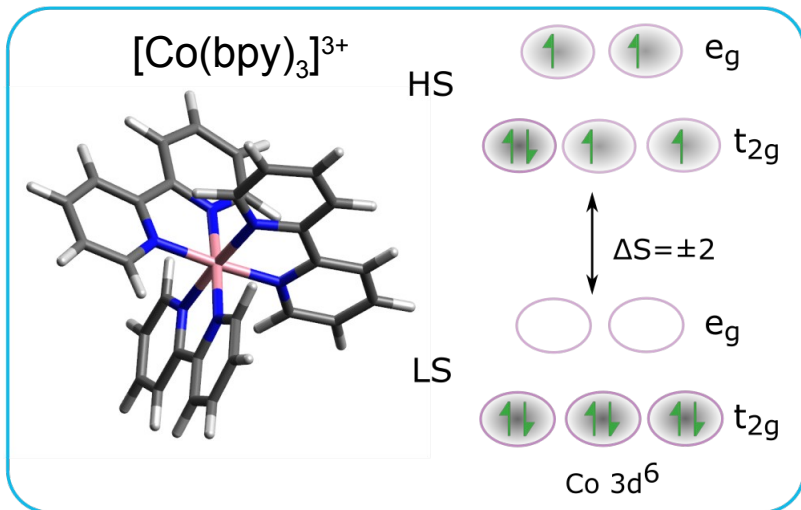
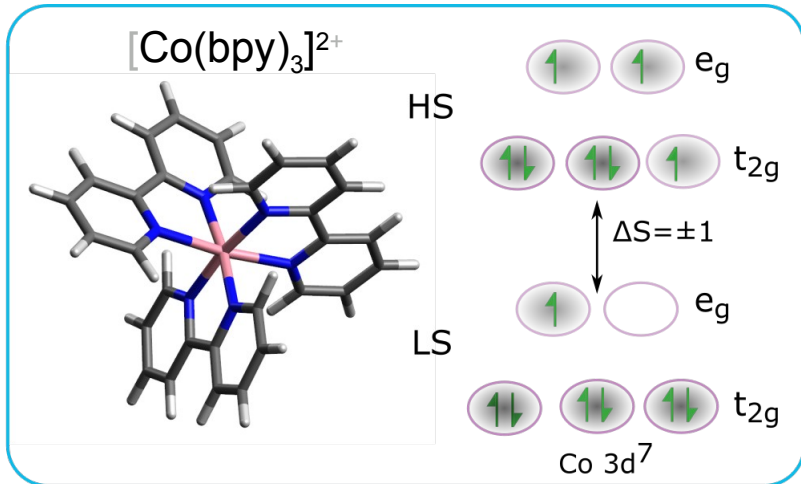
- The characteristic π^* peak shows the mixing of Co 3d t_{2g} orbitals with $2\pi^*$ orbitals of CN^- .
- The orbital characters are obtained by Löwdin population analysis.
- LUMO and LUMO+1 have 60% Co contribution, MOs #57-59 have 20% metal character.

Aqueous $[\text{Co}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}$



- Emission channel $3d \rightarrow 2p$, fluorescence **a** and **a'**
- $3d\ t_{2g}^6$ closed shell nature of the nature.

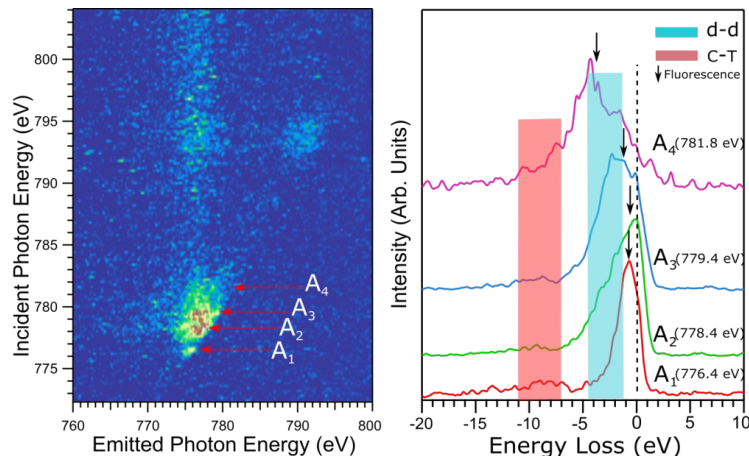
Aqueous $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$ and $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{3+}$



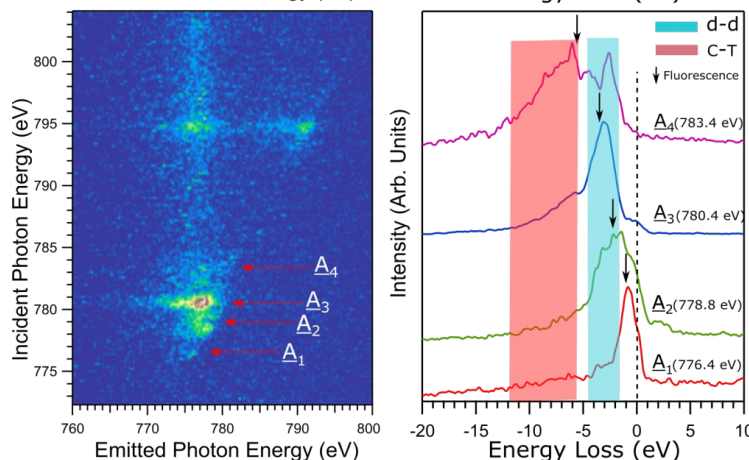
- $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$ - two spin possibilities for the valence d^7 configuration. LS with $t_{2g}^6 e_g^1$ and HS with $t_{2g}^5 e_g^2$
- The uneven occupation in the e_g level causes strong Jahn-Teller distortions for LS case
- $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{3+}$ - three different spin possibilities. LS with t_{2g}^6 and e_g^0 HS with t_{2g}^4 and e_g^2

Co L-edge RIXS of $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$ and $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{3+}$

$[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$

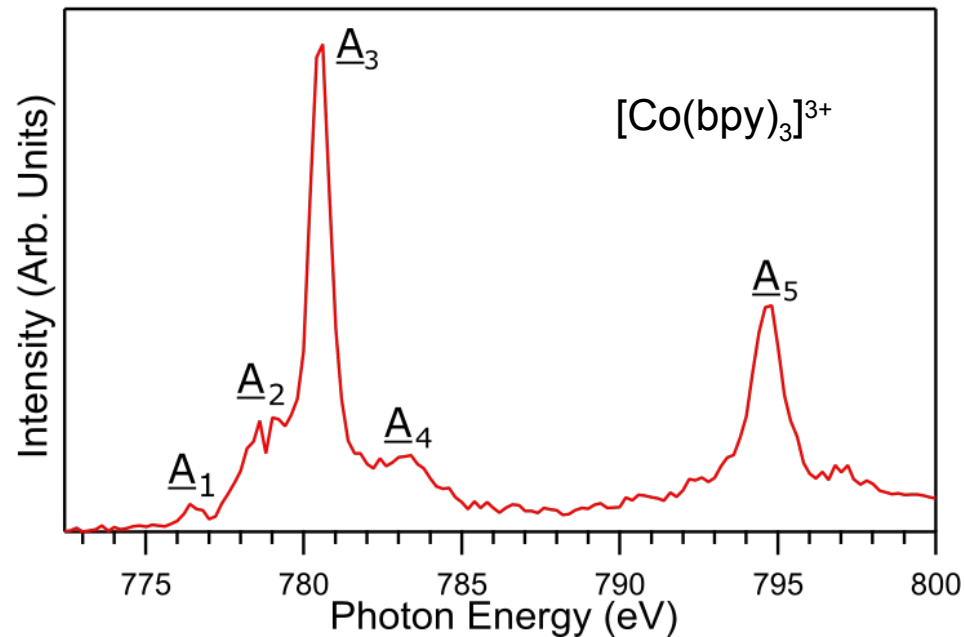
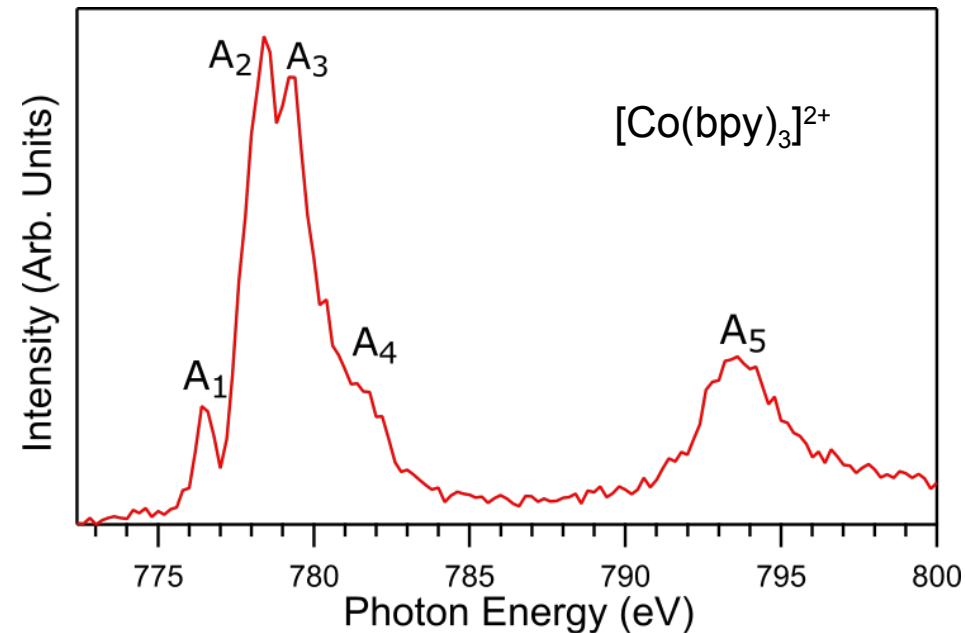


$[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{3+}$



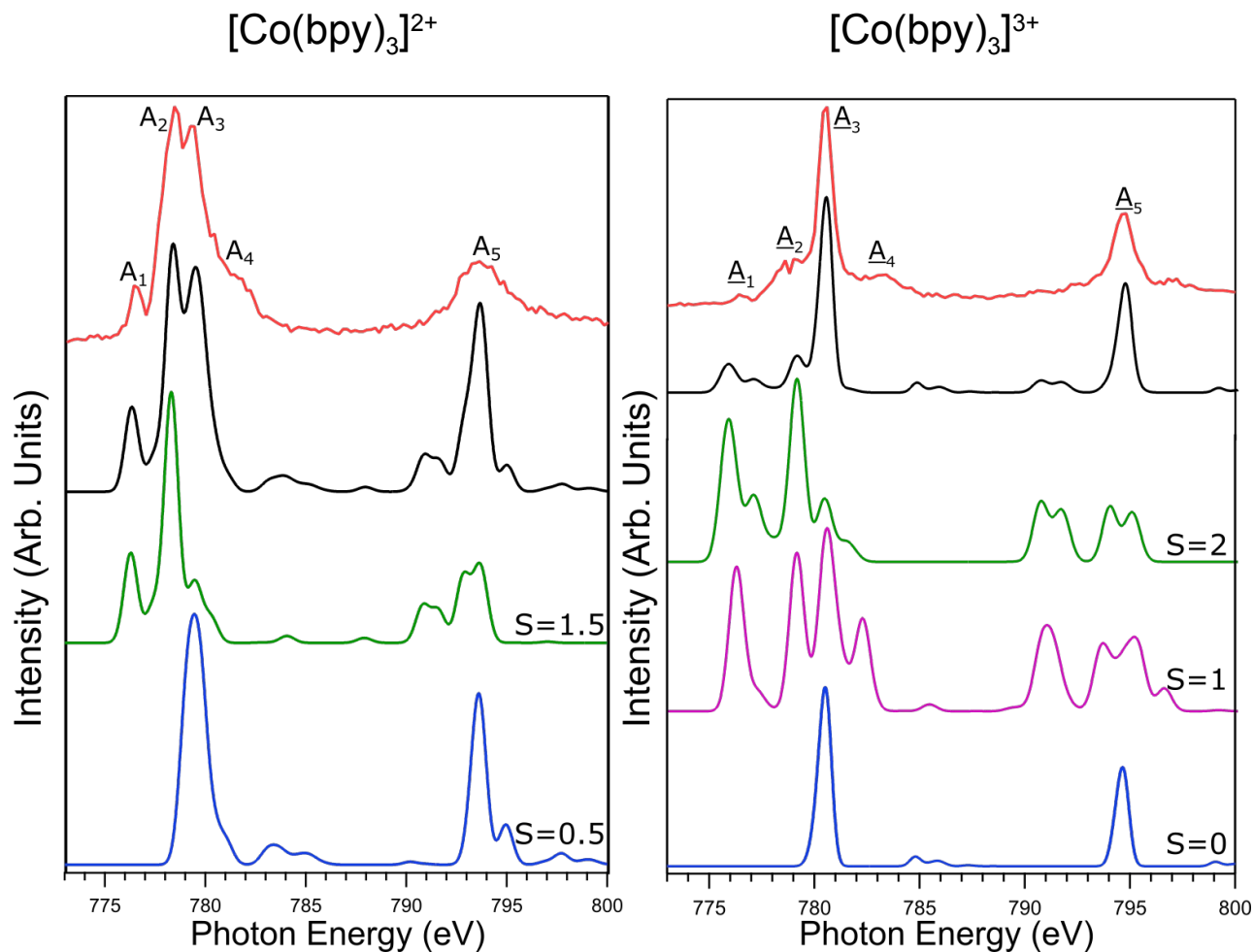
- Co L-edge RIXS maps showing dd and CT emission following a $2p \rightarrow 3d$ excitation
- In the $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$ case, both possible spin states are open shell
- The $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{3+}$ case, spin state is not purely LS (zero spin), a HS component must be considered

Co L-edge PFY-XA spectra



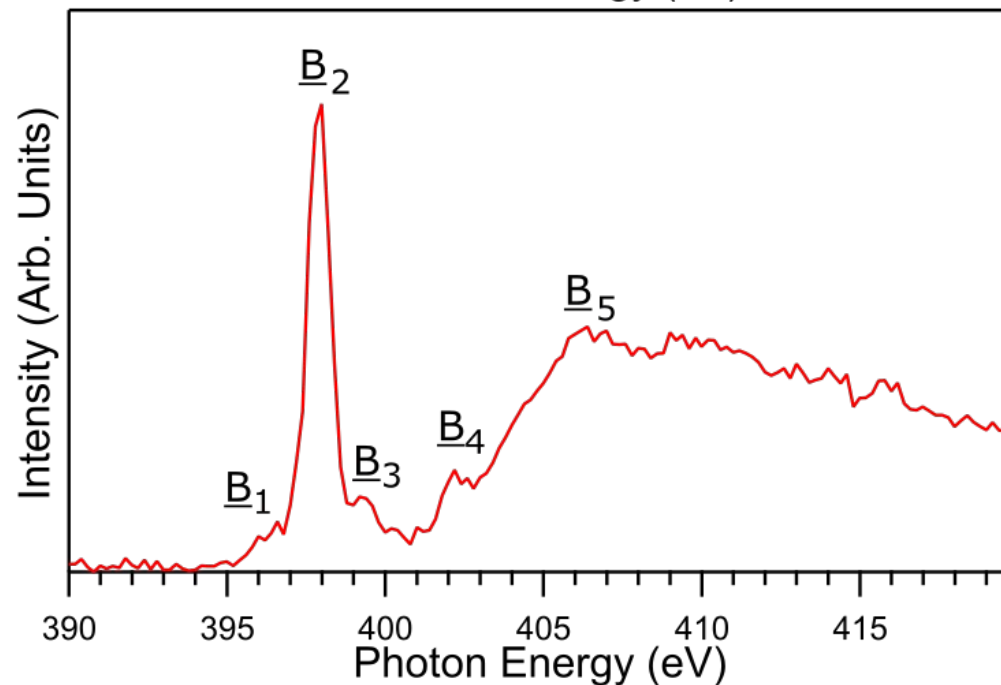
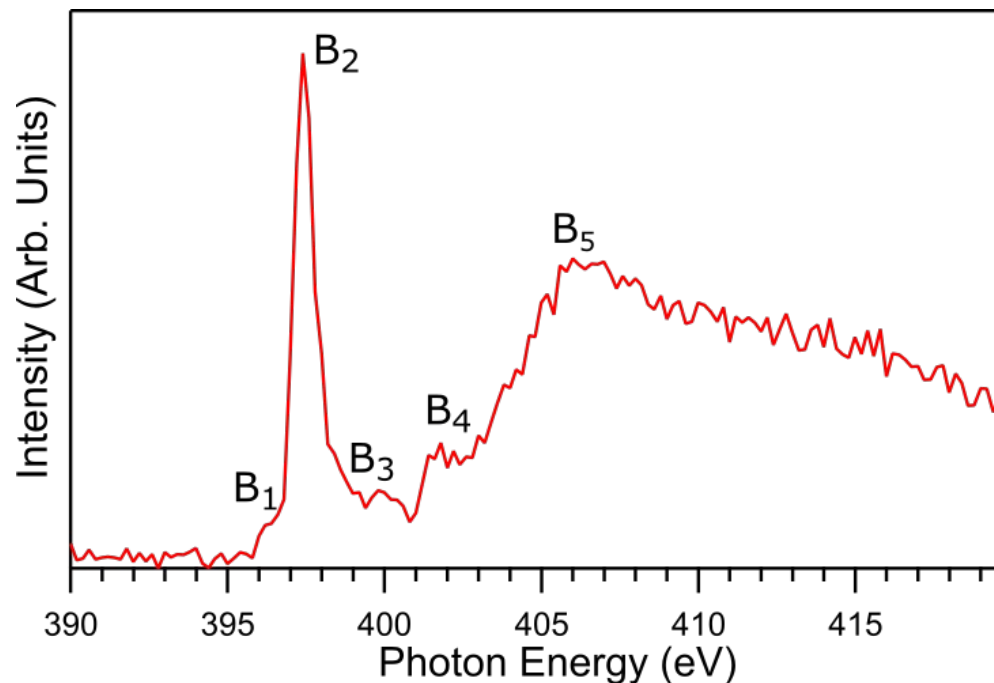
- ✓ Partial fluorescence yield mode X-ray absorption (PFY- XA) spectra obtained by integrating the Co L-edge RIXS maps

Co L-edge PFY-XA spectra comparison with theory



➤ DFT/ROCIS level theory suggests multiple spin states to consider for both $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$ and $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{3+}$

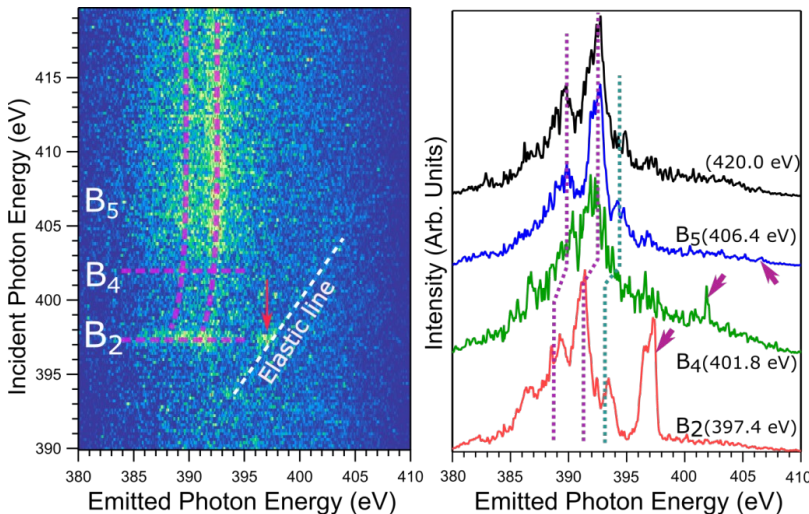
N K-edge PFY-XA spectra



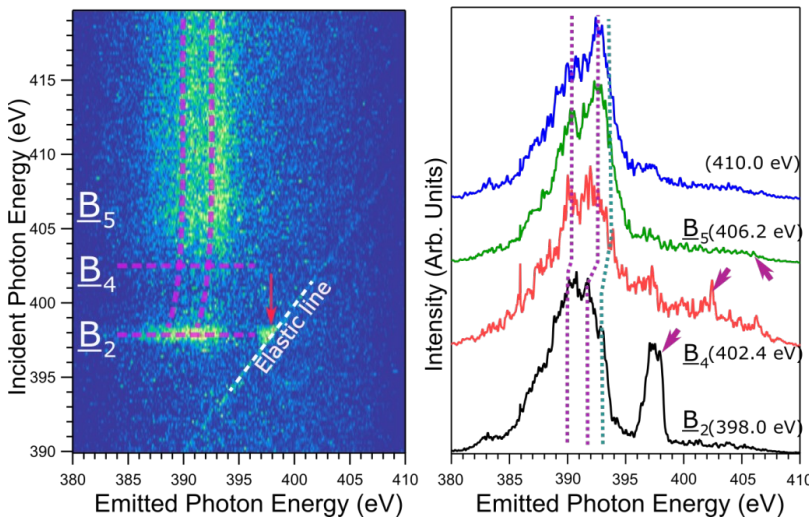
- ✓ PFY- XA spectra obtained by integrating the N K-edge RIXS maps

N K-edge RIXS of $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$ and $[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{3+}$

$[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$

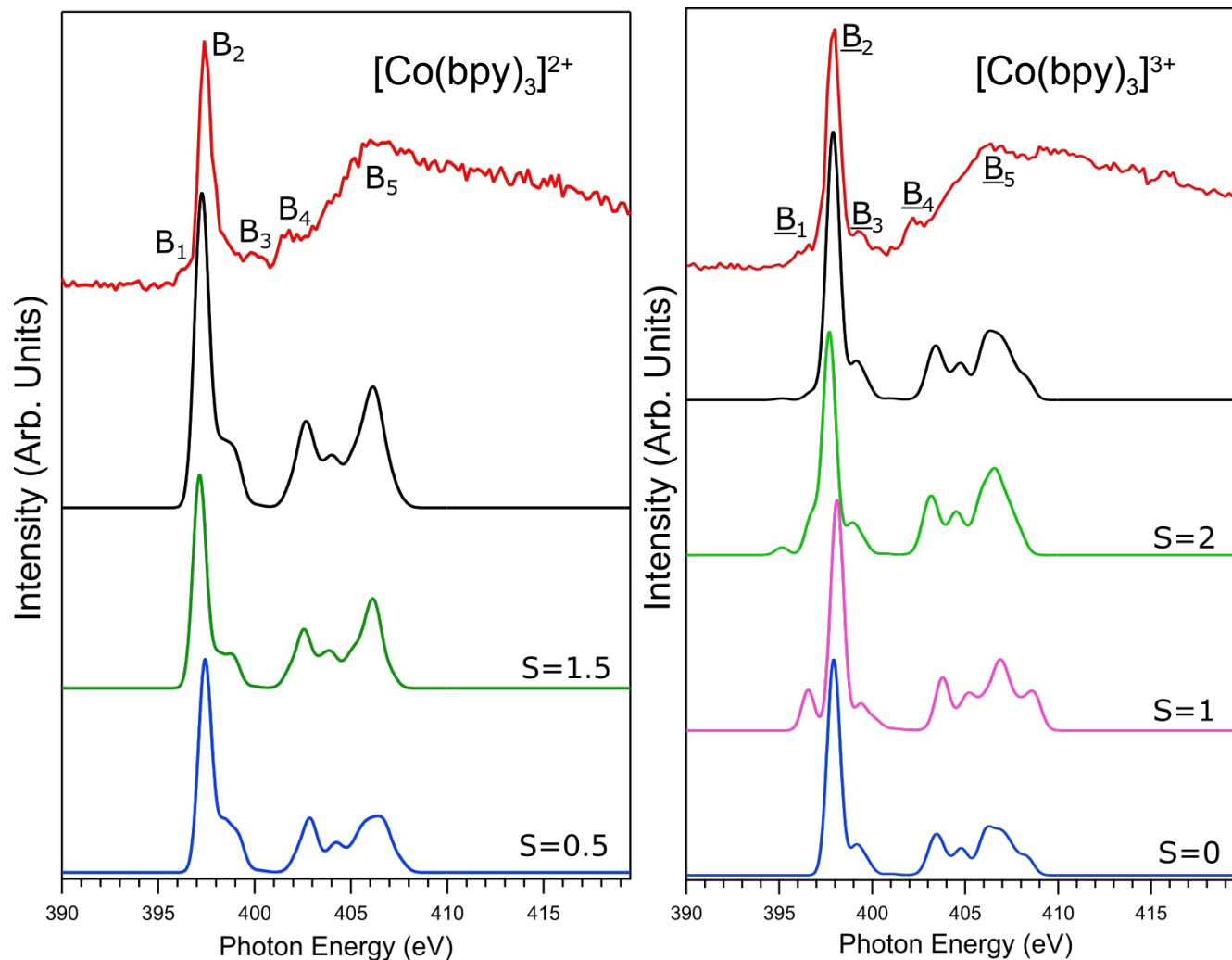


$[\text{Co}(\text{bpy})_3]^{3+}$



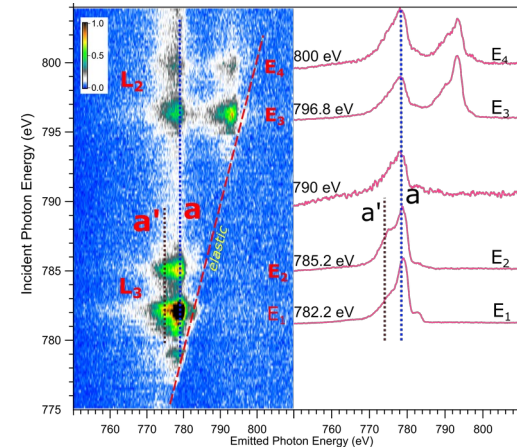
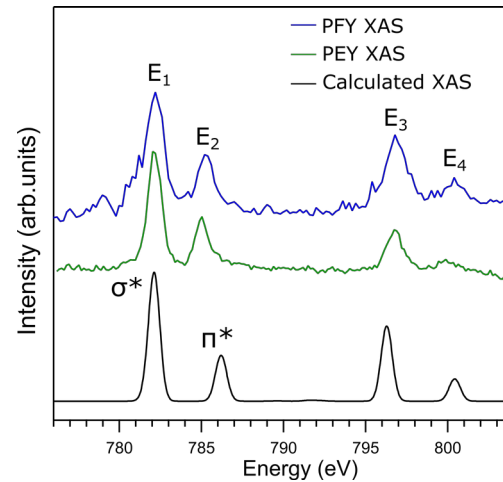
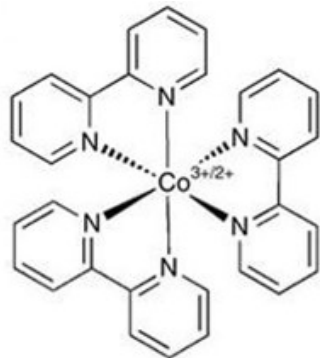
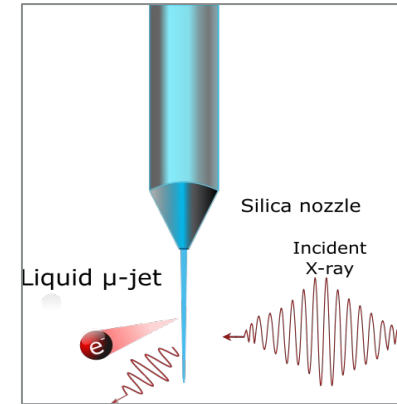
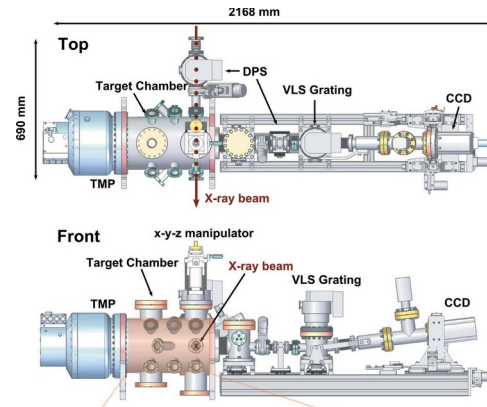
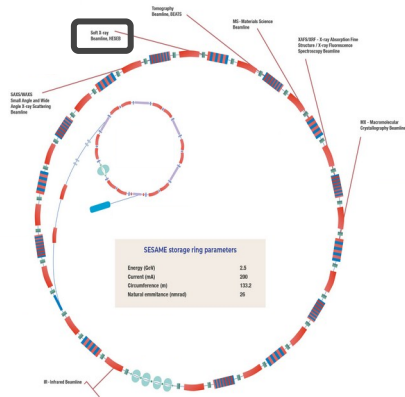
- RIXS/X-ray emission after ligand $1s \rightarrow 2p$ excitation
- Main emission from **ligand 2p orbitals**
- A special feature is seen on the high energy emission side marked by dotted blue line
- Both systems exhibit fluorescence features above B₄ and B₄

N K-edge PFY-XA spectra comparison with theory



- Sensitivity towards metal spin state is minimum from the ligand side
- B_2 and \underline{B}_2 – N $1s \rightarrow \pi^*$ characteristic C=N π^* unoccupied orbitals
- B_5 and \underline{B}_5 – σ^* shape resonance

Summary





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