

## "X-rays and their interaction with matter"



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## OUTLINE

## "X-rays and their interaction with matter"

- 1 Synchrotron radiation properties
- 2 Waves and photons
- 3 Scattering processes
- 4 Optical properties
- 5 Absorption



## ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM A Light for Science





The synchrotron radiation delivered by insertion devices is a polarized electromagnetic wave with polarization vector  $\varepsilon$  parallel to the electric field E and lying in the synchrotron orbit plane.





## SYNCHROTRON RADIATION PROPERTIES

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#### High brillance

- Easy focusing, fast detection

Short Wavelengths

- Comparable with atomic distances

#### Energy resolution and tuning

- Core-hole electron transitions energies Polarization
- Magnetic and electronic symmetries Time structure
- Pump probe experiments

#### Coherence

- Photon correlation spectroscopies

Quantum matter



## **QUANTUM PROBES**

Neutron and x-ray magnetic scattering are a powerfull probe to study the electronic interactions at atomic scale in bulk and nanostructured materials



### Neutron scattering (Cold-Thermal)

- Bulk sensitivity (low absorp., ~10 cm)
- Amplitudes: Nuclear/Magnetic ~ 1
- High E-resolution
- Unpolarized source
- Soft interaction neutron-sample
- Well established sample environment

### X-ray scattering (3-30 keV)

- Surface sensitivity (high absorp., ~10  $\mu$ m)
- Amplitudes: Charge/Magnetic ~ 10<sup>5</sup>
- High Q-resolution
- Polarized source
- Easy Focusing
- Hard probe (T-heating, sample damage)...



## **X-RAYS / MATTER INTERACTIONS**

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## **X-RAYS METHODS**





## CLASSICAL AND QUANTUM VISION

### **Electromagnetic waves**

Far from the emission sources Large length scales and forces strengths Classical electromagnetism

## Photons

Near the emission sources Atomic length scales Quantum mechanics





- Maxwell equations
- Optics laws:
  - Reflection
  - Refraction
  - Diffraction

- Plank laws
- Quantum electrodynamics
- Absorption/emission processes
- Elastic and inelastic scattering



## PHOTONS AS PARTICLES OR WAVES A Light for Science





## Assumption of quantum mechanics:

(i) Particle is represented mathematically by a wavefunction,  $\psi(\underline{r})$ (ii) Probability of finding a particle in a (infinitesimal) volume dV is  $|\psi(\underline{r})|^2 dV$ 

### Infinite plane wave:

 $\psi(\underline{z}) = e^{ikz} = \cos(kz) + i \sin(kz)$ 

 $|\psi|^2 = \psi\psi^* = e^{ikz}e^{-ikz} = 1$ 

1 particle per unit volume everywhere!

### Spherical wave:

 $\psi(\underline{r}) = b/r e^{ikr}$  $|\psi(\underline{r})|^2 = b^2/r^2$ Density of particles falls as  $1/r^2$ 



### Flux of particles

I = No. of particles incident normally on unit area per second =

- = particle density x velocity
- $= |\psi|^2 x v = |\psi|^2 \hbar k/m$  (m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>)



## TOTAL CROSS SECTION

### **Definition: Total cross section**





### **DIFFERENTIAL CROSS SECTION**



## **X-RAYS SCATTERING BY A FREE ELECTRON** A Light for Science

•The electric field  $E_{in}$  of the incident x-rays forces the motion of the electron which radiates a spherical wave  $E_{rad}$ .

Electron at rest: Electric Force F=Eq

Radiated spherical field E<sub>rad</sub> :

- proportional to the electron acceleration
- anti-phase with respect Ein
- decreases with  $cos(\psi)$

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}_{\mathrm{rad}}(R,t)}{\mathbf{E}_{\mathrm{in}}} = -\left(\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 mc^2}\right)\frac{\mathrm{e}^{i\mathbf{k}R}}{R}\cos\psi$$

Thomson scattering length:

$$r_0 = \left(\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 mc^2}\right) = 2.82\times 10^{-5}~\text{\AA}$$





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### ELASTIC SCATTERING BY TWO ELECTRONS

Interference between scattered X-rays observed in the direction **k**' and at large distances (far field limit), with  $|\mathbf{k}| = |\mathbf{k'}| = 2\pi/\lambda$ .

 $\Box The incident wave$ **k**arrives at the second electron at**r** $<sub>n</sub> with a phase shift <math>\phi_{inc}$  $\Box The phase difference between the two scattered X-rays is \Delta \phi = ($ **k**-**k** $') \cdot$ **r**=**Q** $\cdot$ **r** 

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\Omega} = \frac{|\psi_{\mathrm{sc}}|^2}{|\psi_0|^2} L^2 = 2r_0^2 \left[1 + \cos(\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{n}})\right]$$

Elastic scattering cross section





### POLARIZATION DEPENDENCE OF THOMSON SCATTERING

The differential cross section for the Thomson scattering depends from the incident and scattered photon polarizations

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right) = r_0^2 \left|\hat{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}'\right|^2 \quad P = \left|\hat{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}'\right|^2 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{synchrotron: vertical scattering plane} \\ \cos^2 \psi & \text{synchrotron: horizontal scattering plane} \\ \frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \cos^2 \psi\right) & \text{unpolarized source} \end{cases}$$





## RANDOM DISTRIBUTION OF TWO ELECTRONS A Lig

The scattering intensity depends from the relative orientation of scattering vector Q and the vector  $r_n$ .

Scattering intensity (two electrons)

 $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = 2r_0^2(1 + \cos(\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{r}))$ 

Scattering intensity (two electrons): orientational average

$$\langle \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \rangle_{\mathbf{or.av.}} = 2r_0^2 (1 + \langle e^{(i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r})} \rangle_{\mathbf{or.av.}})$$

$$\langle e^{(i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r})}\rangle_{\mathbf{or.av.}} = \frac{\sin(Qr)}{Qr}$$





## SCATTERING BY MANY ELECTRONS

In general if we have a random distribution of electrons, the scattering function is obtained sum coherently all the individual terms



$$\begin{split} \psi^{sc} &= \sum_{n} \psi_{n}^{sc} = \sum_{n} -r_{0} \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}_{n}}}{R_{n}} \\ &\approx \frac{1}{L} \sum_{n} -r_{0} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{R}_{n}} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{n} -r_{0} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot(\mathbf{R}_{0}+\mathbf{r}_{n})} \\ &= \frac{1}{L} \sum_{n} -r_{0} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}_{n}} \end{split}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = r_0^2 |\sum_n e^{i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r}_n}|^2$$

## SCATTERING BY ONE ATOM: THE FORM FACTOR A Light for Science

The form factor is related to the Fourier transform of charge density distribution:

$$f^{0}(\mathbf{Q}) = -r_{0} \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) e^{i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r}} d\mathbf{r} = \begin{cases} Z & \text{for } \mathbf{Q} \to 0\\ 0 & \text{for } \mathbf{Q} \to \infty \end{cases}$$

The Q dependence is due to the fact that the Thomson scattering is produced by all atomic electrons, which have a spatial extent of the same order of magnitude as the X-ray wavelength.





### SCATTERING BY TWO ATOM

The scattering of two atoms which have a spatial extent of electron distribution of the same order of magnitude as the X-ray wavelength.

$$\langle I(\mathbf{Q}) \rangle_{\text{orient. av.}} = f_1^2 + f_2^2 + 2 f_1 f_2 \langle e^{i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \rangle_{\text{orient. av.}}$$





## SCATTERING FROM A MOLECULE

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## SCATTERING FROM SOLIDS

Cristalline solids exhibit long range structural order and sit on a regular array. Amorphous materials present a degree of randomness in the position of the atoms and the structural order, if present at all, can only be described in a statistical sense.

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Radial density} \\ \mbox{2D} & N(r)/2\pi r dr \\ \mbox{3D} & N(r)/4\pi r^2 dr \end{array}$ 

Radial distribution function  $g(r)=\rho(r)/\rho_{at}$ 

 $g(r) \rightarrow 1 \qquad \rho(r) \rightarrow \rho_{at}$ 

The radial distribution function can be obtained from the Fourier transform of the observed intensity as a function of wavevector transform Q.





## **X-RAY DIFFRACTION**

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### X-rays diffraction by atoms















## SCATTERING FROM CRYSTAL LATTICES A Light for Science

A two-dimensional crystal structure is built from the convolution of a lattice and a basis.



The Structure factor could be written as a product between the lattice sum and the unit cell structure factor.

$$F^{crystal}(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_{\mathbf{R}_n + \mathbf{r}_j}^{\text{All atoms}} f_j(\mathbf{Q}) e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_n + \mathbf{r}_j)} = \underbrace{\sum_{\mathbf{n}}^{\text{Lattice}} \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_n}}_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_n} \underbrace{\sum_{j}^{\text{Unit cell}} f_j(\mathbf{Q}) e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j}}_{\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_n}$$



## LATTICE SUM AND LAUE CONDITIONS A Light for Science



Maximization of the lattice sum

$$\sum_{\mathbf{n}} e^{i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{n}}} \mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{n}} = 2\pi\times\text{ integer}$$

Definition of reciprocal space

$$\mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j^* = 2\pi \ \delta_{ij} \qquad \mathbf{G} = h \ \mathbf{a}_1^* + k \ \mathbf{a}_2^* + l \ \mathbf{a}_3^*$$
$$\mathbf{a}_1^* = \frac{2\pi}{v_c} \mathbf{a}_2 \times \mathbf{a}_3 \qquad \mathbf{a}_2^* = \frac{2\pi}{v_c} \mathbf{a}_3 \times \mathbf{a}_1 \qquad \mathbf{a}_3^* = \frac{2\pi}{v_c} \mathbf{a}_1 \times \mathbf{a}_2$$

Laue condition for x-ray diffraction

 $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{G}$ 

$$\mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{n}} = 2\pi(hn_1 + kn_2 + ln_3)$$

## EQUIVALENCE OF BRAGG AND LAUE CONDITIONS A Light for Science

Bragg condition for x-ray elastic diffraction:

the path length difference between the incident k and reflected k' waves is an integer multiple of their wavelength  $\lambda$ .

The Bragg and Laue conditions are equivalent:

- G<sub>hkl</sub> is perpendicular to the planes with Miller indices (hkl).
- $|G_{hkl}|$  is equal to the inverse of lattice spacing  $d_{hkl}$  of (hkl) planes





#### - The Laue's condition

the scattering intensities are non-vanishing when the scattering vector Q=k-k' coincides with a reciprocal lattice vector  $G_{hkl}$ :



#### -The Bragg's law

*interference condition between an incident and a reflected waves by a periodic arrangement of atoms.* 

$$n \ \lambda = 2 \ d_{hkl} \ sin \theta_B$$





## THE STRUCTURE FACTOR

- The Structure factor F(hkl) describes the interference between the resultatant waves diffused from each atom in the unit cell for any given reciprocal lattice vector Q=G<sub>hkl</sub> i.e.:

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{Bragg} = N \frac{(2\pi)^3}{v_0} \sum_{hkl} \delta(\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{G}_{hkl}) |F(hkl)|^2$$

$$N^{\circ} unit cell \quad unit cell volume \quad Laue's condition$$

N° unit cell

Laue s condition

$$F(hkl) = \sum_{s} f_{s} e^{i\mathbf{G}_{hkl}\cdot\mathbf{d}_{s} - W_{s}}$$

Structure factor: information about the atom distribution inside the unit cell

$$f_s = \int_{atom} \rho_s(\mathbf{r}') e^{-i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r}'} d\mathbf{r}'$$

 $f_s$  = atomic scattering amplitude for the atoms s related to the Fourier transform of the atomic electron density



## UNIT CELL STRUCTURE FACTOR

Example: FCC lattice

Composed by four atoms at (000),  $(\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}0)$ ,  $(0\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2})$  and  $(\frac{1}{2}0\frac{1}{2})$  unit cell positions

$$F_{hkl}^{fcc} = f(\mathbf{G}) \sum_{j} e^{i\mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{r}_{j}}$$
  
=  $f(\mathbf{G})(1 + e^{i\pi(h+k)} + e^{i\pi(k+l)} + e^{i\pi(l+h)})$   
=  $f(\mathbf{G}) \times \begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } h, k, l \text{ are all even or all odd} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ 



Example: AsGa (Zinc-blende)

convolution of a FCC lattice and a "motif" of two atoms at (000) and  $(\frac{1}{4})$ 

$$\begin{split} F_{hkl}^{\text{GaAs}} &= (1 + \mathrm{e}^{i\,\pi(h+k)} + \mathrm{e}^{i\,\pi(k+l)} + \mathrm{e}^{i\,\pi(l+h)}) \\ &\times (f^{Ga}(\mathbf{G}) + f^{As}(\mathbf{G})\mathrm{e}^{i\,2\pi(h/4+k/4+l/4)}) \end{split}$$
 
$$F_{200}^{\text{GaAs}} &= 4(f^{\text{Ga}}(2,0,0) - f^{\text{As}}(2,0,0))$$



### COHERENT ELASTIC SCATTERING PROCESSES A Light for Science

Scattering processes conserve the number of photons If the photon energy is conserved, the scattering is elastic



## INELASTIC SCATTERING BY FREE ELECTRONS

Compton scattering:

Inelastic collision between a photon and an electron at the rest in which the energy is transferred from the photon to the electron.

The scattering is incoherent because the the photon change its wavelength!



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## INELASTIC SCATTERING BY FREE ELECTRONS

The inelastic scattering dominates at high Q vectors and for low Z elements

Thomson scattering intensity approach  $Z^2$  when  $Q \rightarrow 0$ Compton scattering approaches Z when  $Q \rightarrow \infty$ 



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### PHOTON ABSORPTION AND WAVELENGTHS

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The absorption of electromagnetic radiation change with the wavelength and depends from the characteristic properties of photon/matter interaction.



## PHOTON INTERACTION WITH BOUND ELECTRONS A Light for Science

Photons are adsorbed or re-emitted by atomic electrons at discrete energies. Determination of elemental composition by its electromagnetic response.





## **X-RAY ABSORPTION EDGES**

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X-rays energies are able to extract atomic electrons from the atomic core! The element-specific energies of the discontinuous jumps in the x-rays absorption spectra are called absorption edges.



## ABSORPTION/EMISSION PROCESSES

Absorption and emission processes are tools for basic analysis of the electronic structure of atom, molecules and solids over different energy scales.

### **Photo-electric absorption**

Photon absorbed and electron emitted in the continuum



### **Fluorescent emission**

An electron from the outer shell fill the hole and emit a photon



### Auger electron emission

The atom relax into the ground state by emitting an electron



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## BOUND ELECTRONS AND DISPERSION CORRECTIONS A Light for Science

Because the electrons are bound in atoms with discrete energies, a more elaborate model than that of a cloud of free electrons must be invoked.

The scattering amplitude includes two energy dependent term  $f'(\omega)$  and  $f''(\omega)$  which are called "dispersion corrections".

$$f(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = f^{0}(\mathbf{Q}) + f'(\omega) + i f''(\omega)$$

The dispersion corrections are derived by treating atomic electrons as harmonic oscillators. The absorption cross section  $\sigma_a$  is a superposition of oscillators with relative weights, so-called oscillator strengths,  $g(\omega_s)$ , proportional to  $\sigma_a(\omega = \omega_s)$ .





### RESONANT SCATTERING: CLASSICAL OSCILLATOR MODEL

We suppose the electron be subject to the electric field  $E_{in}$  of an incident X-ray beam and to a damping term proportional to the electron velocity  $\Gamma \dot{x}$  which represents dissipation of energy.





### BOUND ELECTRONS: THE CLASSICAL FORCED OSCILLATOR MODEL

The amplitude of the forced oscillations:

$$x_0 = -\left(\frac{e \,\mathrm{E}_0}{m}\right) \frac{1}{(\omega_s^2 - \omega^2 - i \,\omega\Gamma)} \qquad \Gamma = \omega_s = 0$$

 $\Gamma$ = damping factor  $\omega_s$ = resonant frequency

The radiated field  $E_{rad}$  is proportional to the acceleration of the electron  $\ddot{x}(t-R/c)$  at the detector position R and at retarded time t'=t-R/c:

 $\ddot{x}(t-R/c) = -\omega^2 x_0 e^{-i\omega t} e^{i(\omega/c)R}$ 



Real and imaginary part of dispersion correction to the scattering factor

$$f'_{s} = \frac{\omega_{s}^{2}(\omega^{2} - \omega_{s}^{2})}{(\omega^{2} - \omega_{s}^{2})^{2} + (\omega\Gamma)^{2}}$$
$$f''_{s} = -\frac{\omega_{s}^{2}\omega\Gamma}{(\omega^{2} - \omega_{s}^{2})^{2} + (\omega\Gamma)^{2}}$$

 $\Gamma = 0.1 \omega_{s}$ 





### SCATTERING AND DIFFRACTION INDEX

Scattering and refraction are alternative ways to view the same physical phenomenon.

The existence of resonant scattering terms arising from the dispersion corrections can therefore be expected to lead to a frequency dependence of the refractive index n.

$$n^2 = 1 + \left(\frac{e^2\rho}{\epsilon_0 m}\right) \frac{1}{(\omega_s^2 - \omega^2 - i\,\omega\Gamma)}$$

For  $\omega << \omega_s => n>1$  visible light For  $\omega >> \omega_s => n<1$  x-rays

Notice that if  $\omega >> \omega_s >> \Gamma$ 

$$n \approx 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2 \rho}{\epsilon_0 m \omega^2} = 1 - \frac{2\pi \rho r_0}{k^2}$$





## **REFRACTION: VISIBLE LIGHT VS X-RAYS**

Snell law:  $n_1 cos\alpha = n_2 cos\alpha'$ 

**Visible light** 



**Optic lenses** 









X-rays lenses



Refraction index for X-rays:

n=1-δ+iβ

 $δ(air)~10^{-8}$   $δ(solids)~10^{-5}$  $β~10^{-8} << δ$ 





## **REFLECTION OF X-RAYS**

The critical angle for the total reflection:



High quality mirrors are required for x-rays focusing and a large radius tangential focusing

Ex: silicon mirror with toroidal shape Distance from source p=76m, Distance mirror object q=26m  $\theta$ =2.7 mrad  $\rho_{sagital}$ =27 cm  $\rho_{tang}$ =27 km





### **REFRACTIVE INDEX AND ABSORPTION**

The attenuation of x-rays in a medium depends from the imaginary part  $\beta$  of refraction index:

$$e^{i \, \mathbf{k} \mathbf{z}} \qquad e^{i \, n\mathbf{k} \mathbf{z}} = e^{i \, (1-\delta)\mathbf{k} \mathbf{z}} e^{-\beta\mathbf{k} \mathbf{z}} \qquad \qquad \beta = \frac{\mu}{2 \, \mathbf{k}}$$
  
Including dispersion corrections:  
$$n \equiv 1 - \frac{2\pi \, \rho_a \, r_0}{\mathbf{k}^2} \left\{ f^0(0) + f' + i \, f'' \right\}$$
  
and:  
$$m \equiv 1 - \frac{2\pi \, \rho_a \, r_0}{\mathbf{k}^2} \left\{ f^0(0) + f' + i \, f'' \right\}$$
$$= 1$$
  
$$n \equiv 1 - \frac{k}{4\pi \, r_0} \sigma_a$$
  
Optical theorem  
$$n = 1 \qquad n = 1 - \delta + i \, \beta$$



## **ABSORPTION CROSS SECTION**

The absorption cross section can be measured by a transmission method.



## BEYOND FREE ELECTRON APPROXIMATION A Light for Science

The transitions from core electron levels to empty states produce in the absorption spectrum simple threshold structures in the case of isolated atoms or modulated structures well above the threshold when the atom is embedded in a crystalline environment.





## **EXAFS AND NEAR-EDGE STRUCTURE**



$$\chi(\mathbf{q}(\mathcal{E})) = \frac{\mu_{\chi}(\mathcal{E}) - \mu_0(\mathcal{E})}{\mu_0(\mathcal{E})}$$

$$\frac{\hbar^2 q^2}{2m} = \mathcal{E} - \hbar \omega_{\rm K}$$

#### In transmission:

$$T = \frac{I_1}{I_0} = \mathrm{e}^{-\mu(\mathcal{E})d}$$

$$\begin{split} \mu(\mathcal{E}) &= \mu_A(\mathcal{E}) + \mu_{\chi}(\mathcal{E}) \\ &= \mu_A(\mathcal{E}) + \mu_0(\mathcal{E}) \left[ 1 + \chi(\mathbf{q}) \right] \end{split}$$

#### In fluorescence:

$$I_{\rm f} = I_0 \epsilon \left(\frac{\Delta\Omega}{4\pi}\right) \frac{\mu_{\chi}(\mathcal{E})}{\mu(\mathcal{E}) + \mu(\mathcal{E}_{\rm f})} \left[1 - \mathrm{e}^{-(\mu(\mathcal{E}) + \mu(\mathcal{E}_{\rm f}))d}\right]$$



## LIGHT POLARIZATIONS

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#### Linear dichroism

Produced by the preferential absorption of one of the two orthogonal photon polarization



Linearly oriented polimers When the electric field is parallel to the preferential molecular axis, it is absorbed

#### **Circular dichroism**

Produced by the preferential absorption of one of the two circular photon polarization



Combination of  $\lambda/4$  and linear polarized filters have the different effect on circular polarization. Circular dichroism is found also in chiral molecules which select only one circular polarization (ex. sugar)



### **CIRCULAR MAGNETIC DICHROISM**

Quantum description of a a circular polarised photon beam:

RCP and LCP eigenstates of  $J_z$ 



The sum rule for the conservation of angular momentum in electronic transition produces a difference in the absorption of RCP and LCP photons.

Ex.: Dipole electric transitions in Oxigen selection rule:  $\Delta l \pm 1$ (odd function for coordinate exch.)

Transition allowed:  $\Delta m$ =+1 for RCP  $\Delta m$ =-1 for LCP



## CIRCULAR MAGNETIC DICHROISM EXPERIMENTS A Light for Science



The difference between  $\Delta \mu = \mu^+ \Box \mu^-$  is enhanced across the absorption edge because the electronic transitions to final states are strongly magnetically polarized



### CIRCULAR MAGNETIC DICHROISM SUM RULES A Light for Science

Thole et al., Phys. Rev .Lett. 68 (1992) 1943; Carra et al., Phys. Rev .Lett. 70 (1993) 694

Orbital and spin magnetic moment determination in 3d electron systems





### X-RAYS A POWERFUL NANOPROBE

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