X-PDF Experimental Setup & Data Reduction Work-flow

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Point vs Area Detectors



NATIONAL LABORATORY Light Source II

PDF experimental setup



Data reduction workflow



Sample Types and environments

Capillaries filled with powder











Sample Types and environments





What to avoid when using capillary samples

1. Bad powder average: When there are not enough crystals oriented in all directions diffraction patterns become grainy.

- Pack the sample well
- Grind the sample well
- Spin the sample
- Use area detectors and integrate the entire ring

2. Preferred orientation: When powder particles in the capillary prefers to pack in certain direction (Ex: needle shape particles along the walls of capillary)certain rings become more intense than other rings.

- Loosely pack the sample
- Use a foil to vibrate the capillary to break preffered orientation





Sample Types

Polycrystalline thin films







Sample Environments



Sample Environments

Custom reaction cell





Microwave reactor



Multi-Solvent Liquid reaction cell



Oxidation/corrosion chamber (steam at 400°C and 1,500 psi)

Gas flow cell with resistive heater (800°C)



National Synchrotron



XPD Beamline at the NSLS-II







PDF Beamline at the NSLS-II









PDF Beamline at the NSLS-II



Multiple sample spinner

Automatic sample alignment system



