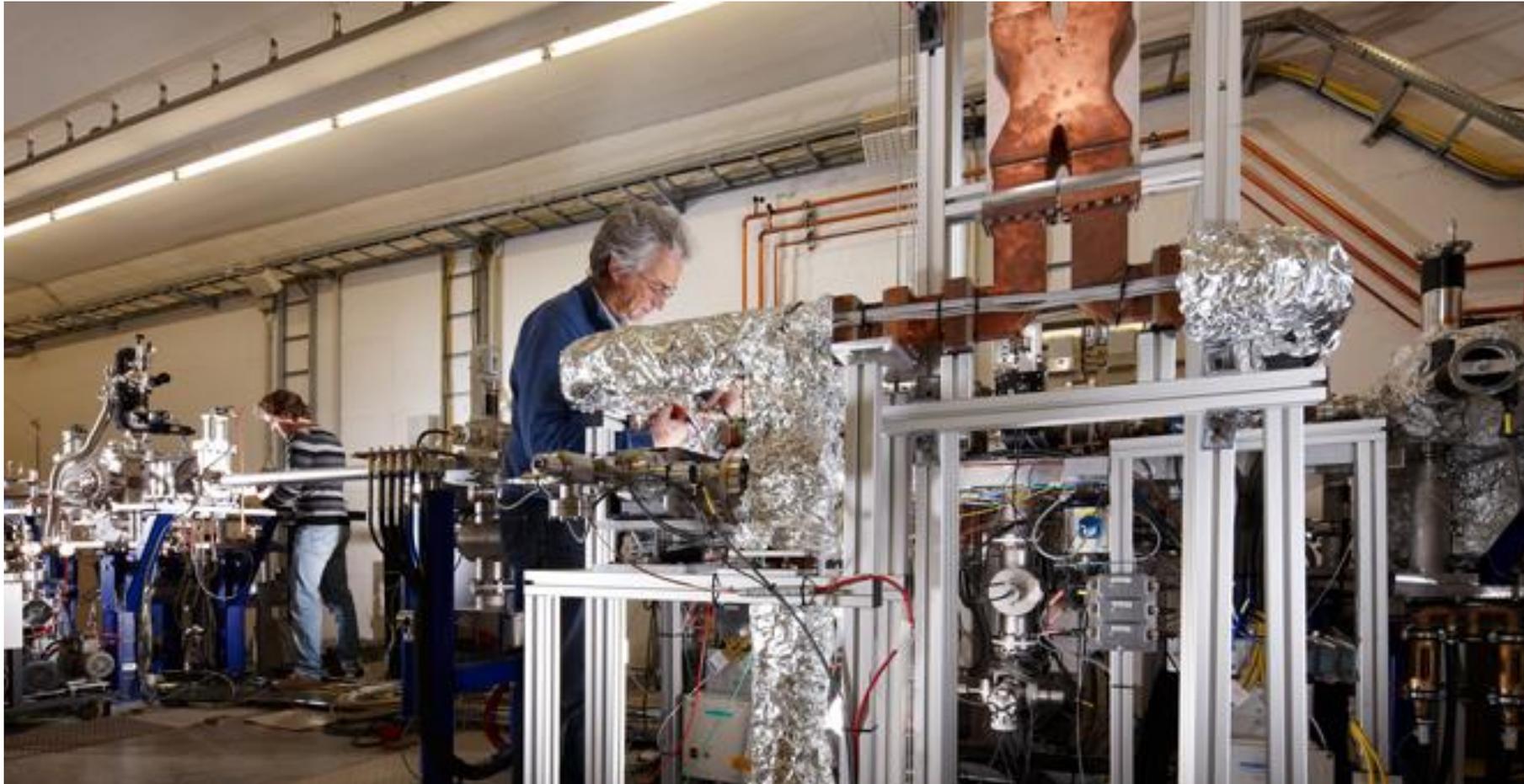


High energy electron diffraction

UED@REGAE

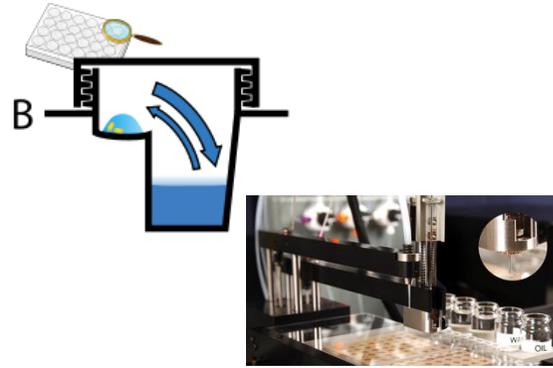


Workflow for High-throughput X-ray crystallography

High degree of automation opens new experimental capabilities



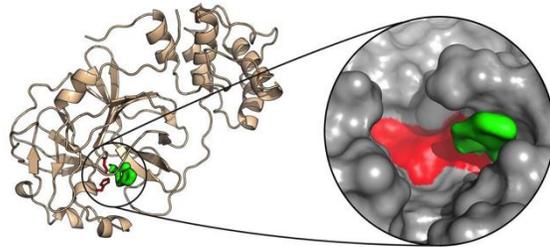
Protein production and purification



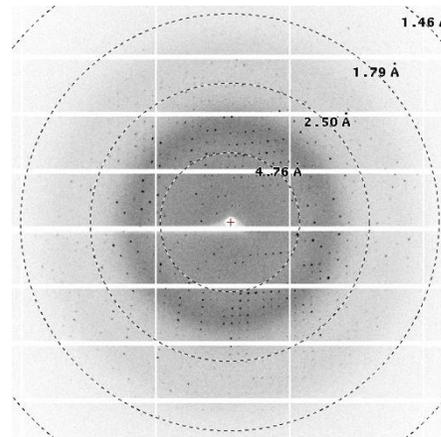
Protein crystallization



Crystal harvesting and flash-freezing



Structure refinement and ligand identification



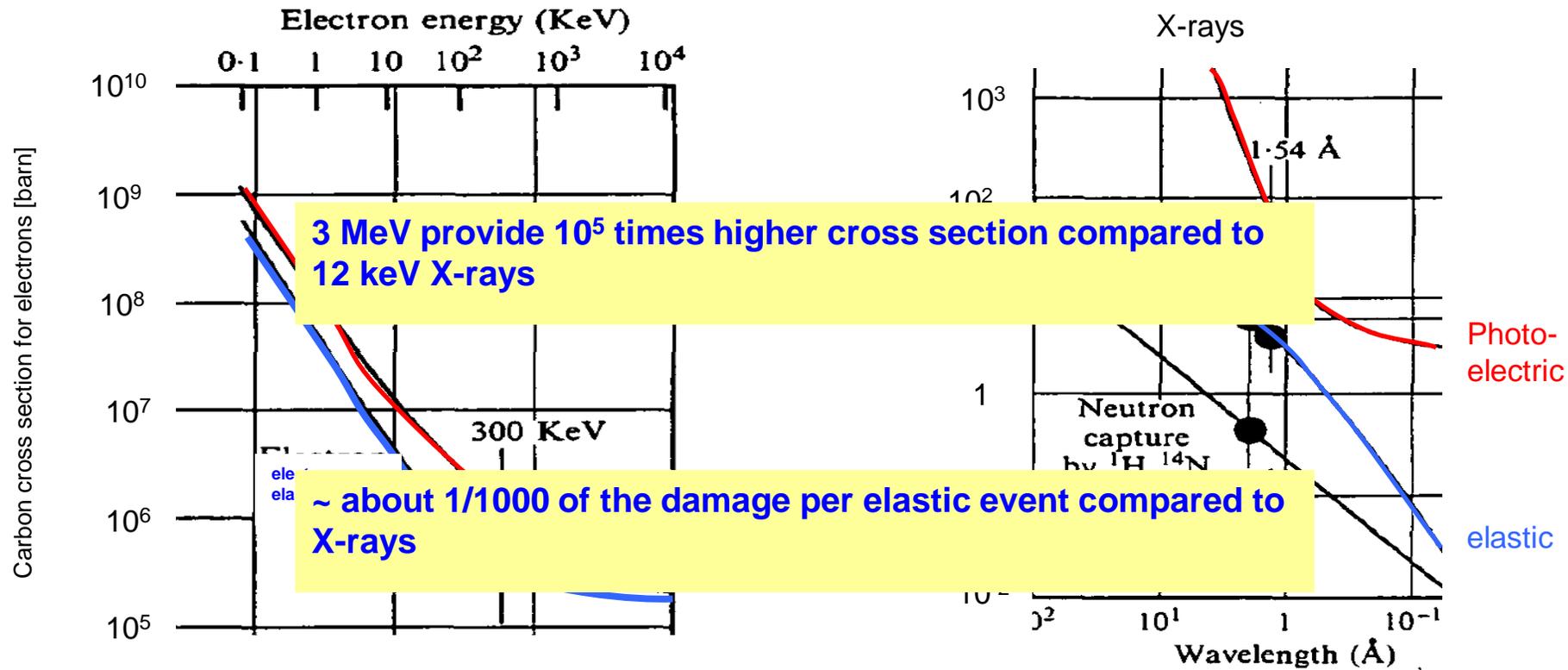
Data processing



Synchrotron X-ray data collection

Comparison of X-rays with electrons

Stronger interaction with significantly reduced radiation damage



Cross section for 3 MeV electrons:
~ 2 x 10⁵ barn (10⁻²⁴ cm²)

Cross section for 12 keV X-rays
~ 3 barn (10⁻²⁴ cm²)

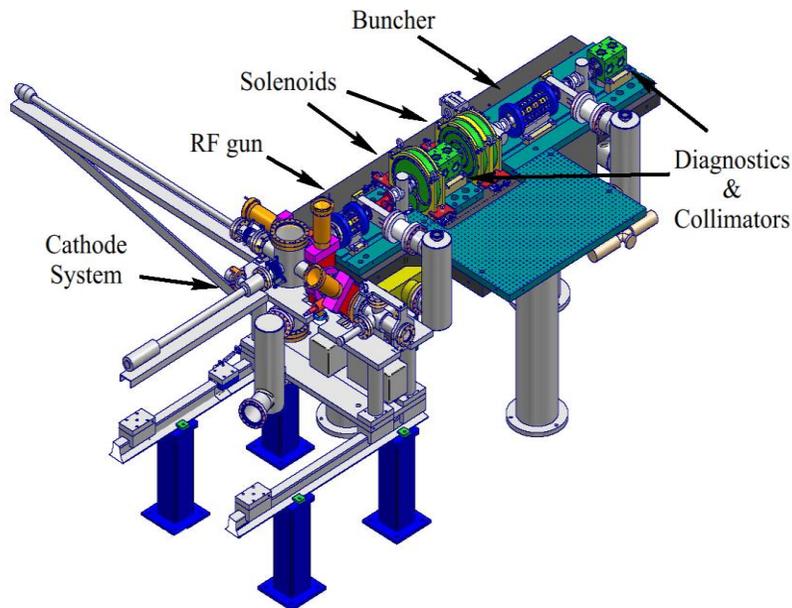
Henderson, R. Q. *Rev. Biophys.* **28**, 171–193 (1995).

Science case for REGAE

High-resolution time-resolved structural investigations of ultrathin low-Z samples.

REGAE's electron beam parameters:

- Energy: 2.5 - 5 MeV
- Bunch charge: 100 fC
- Pulse duration: > 20 fs
- Beam size at sample position: 500 x 500 μm^2
- Coherence lengths: ~ 1 nm (rms)
- Repetition rate: 50 Hz (in future: 100 Hz)



General advantage of 3 MeV electrons over X-rays

- $\sim 10^5$ x larger elastic cross section
- Radiation damage reduced by ~ 1000 times
- Better visibility of hydrogen atoms
- Photon equivalent of 100 fC electron pulse are about 10^{11} photons at 12 keV

-> ideally suited for structural investigations of ultrathin low-Z materials

Challenges with electron diffraction

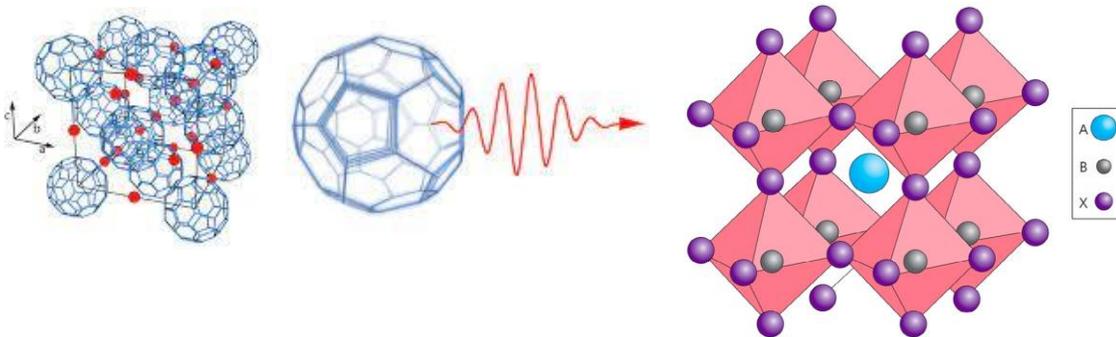
- Bunch charge effects preventing microbeam experiments
- Sample thickness limited to < 1 μm
- Experiments require ultra high vacuum (UHV)
- Sample preparation and delivery is most challenging, in particular for liquids and hydrated biological samples

Science case for REGAE

Material Science applications

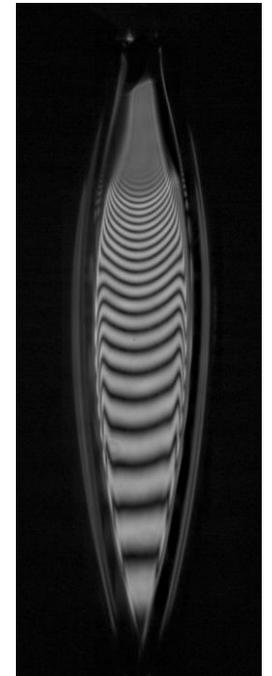
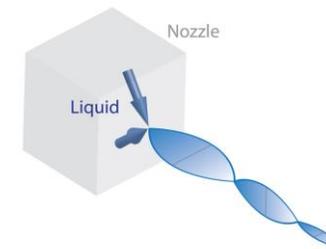
Quantum materials / Solar cells

- fs time resolved 3D structure determinations of quantum materials
- Time resolved pair-distribution-function PDF experiments
- *Experimental methods: single crystal and powder diffraction with laser excitation*
- Long term: *in-situ* studies of low-Z battery materials with MeV-electron reaction microscope



Molecular water Science

- Structural dynamics of water at different temperatures, e.g. super cooling, and with different laser excitation schemes (THz, IR, VIS, UV).
- Better visibility of hydrogen atoms compared to X-rays
- *Sample delivery as thin sheet liquid jets*



work by G. Esperenza / H. Chapman DESY

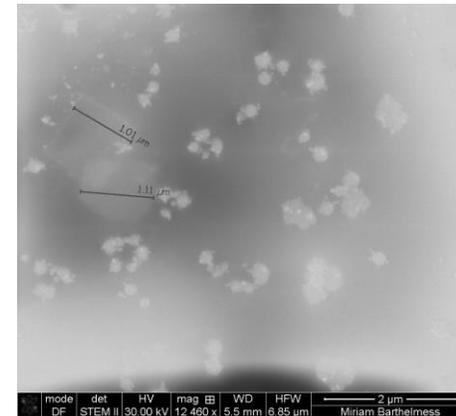
Science case for REGAE

Diffraction experiments from biological samples with microsecond time resolution

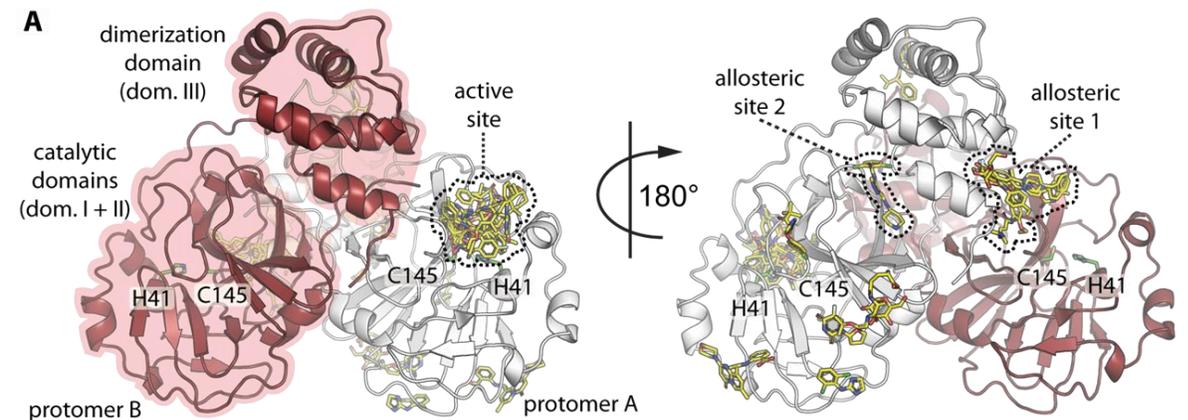
Life science applications:

- Time resolved diffraction experiments with laser excitation including THz with reduced radiation damage compared to X-rays
- High-throughput compound screening experiments for drug discovery with 1/1000 of sample required compared to X-rays
- Structure determinations from nano- and microcrystals benefitting from reduced radiation damage effects (damage free structures from metal-containing enzymes)

-> these experiments require a micrometer size electron beam with a large coherence lengths.



SARS-CoV2 main-protease microcrystals on a SiN-membrane - Ready for micro-electron diffraction experiments at REGAE

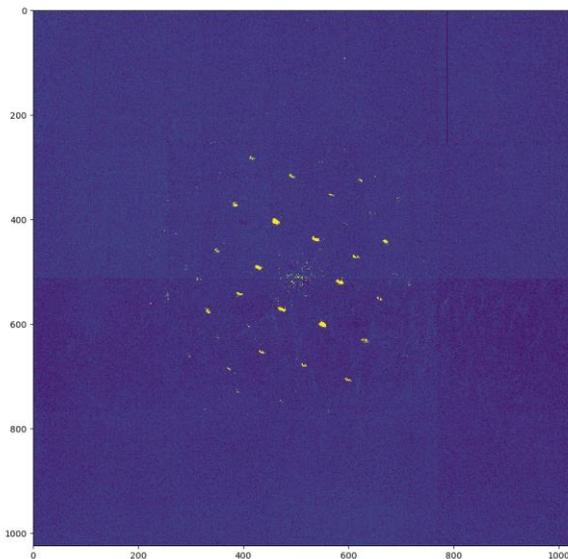


Recent improvements

significantly improved signal-to-noise ratio

Installation of a Jungfrau 1 M detector

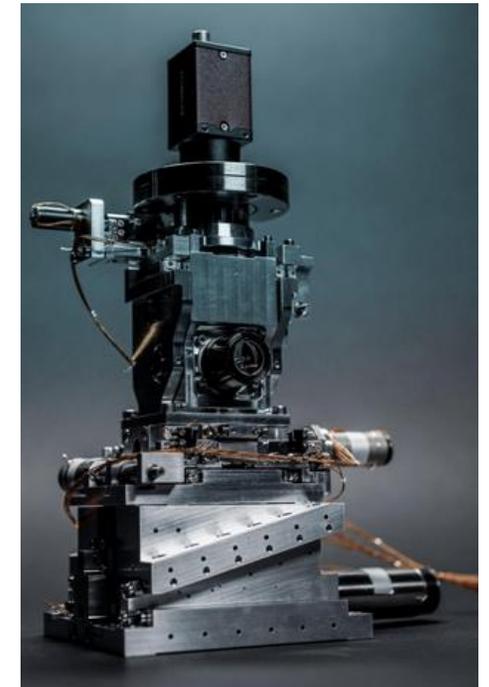
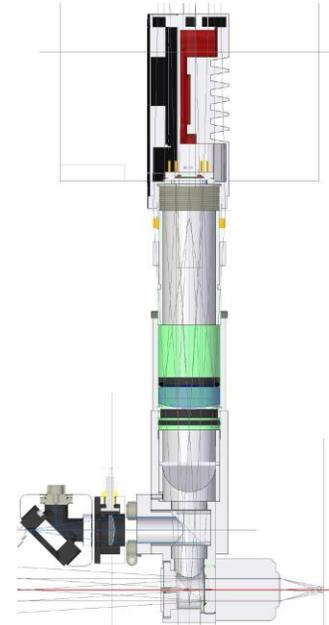
- So far: scintillator-based converting detectors in combination with a CCD camera
- Direct electron detection 1 Mega pixel detector
- UHV compatible, directly attached to the vacuum system. Collaboration with PSI, Switzerland.



**Single shot
diffraction pattern
from a 50 nm thick
single crystalline
gold crystal
recorded with a
Jungfrau 1M
detector installed at
REGAE.**

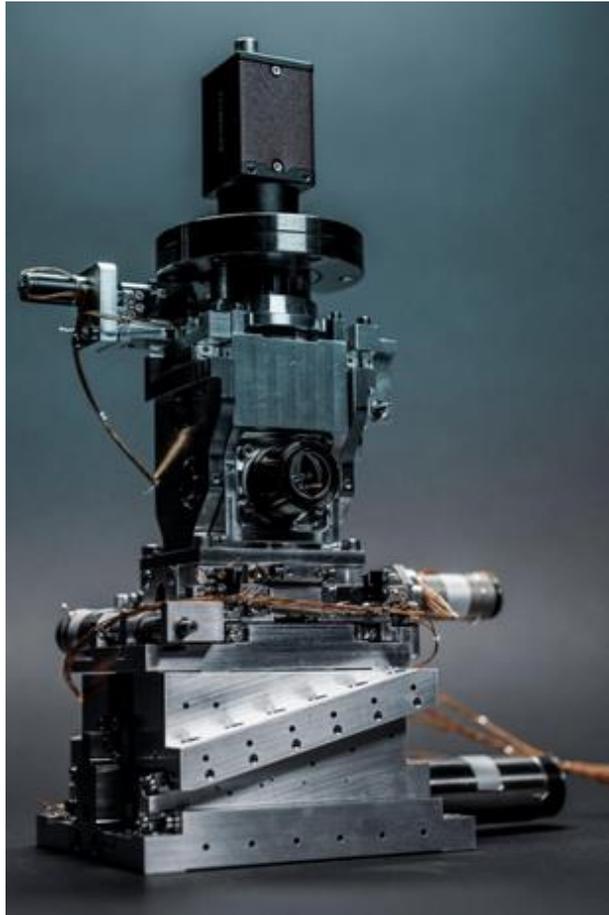
Inline sample (on-axis) viewing microscope

- High optical resolution for sample visualization
- Central drill-hole for electron beam along the optical axis
- Option for through-the-lense laser excitation

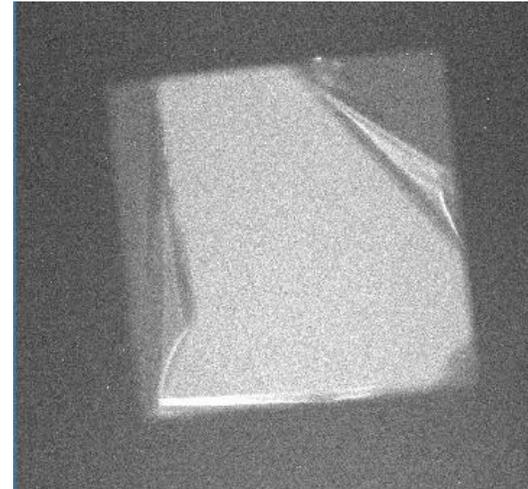


Beam and sample visualisation with UHV on-axis microscope

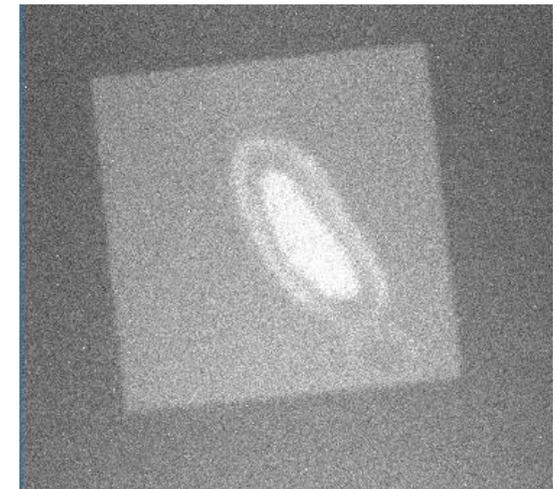
Simultaneous electron diffraction and VIS-microscopy



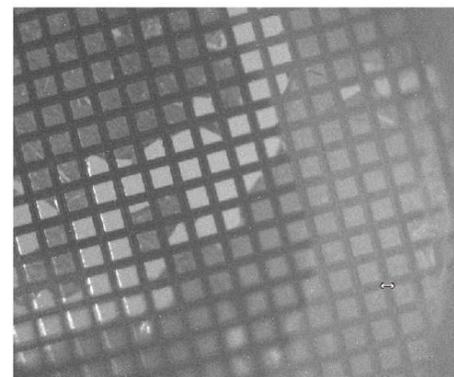
REGAE electron beam on YAG-screen



Au-coated SiN membrane damaged by pump laser beam



Laser induced melting zone on a Au-coated SiN membrane

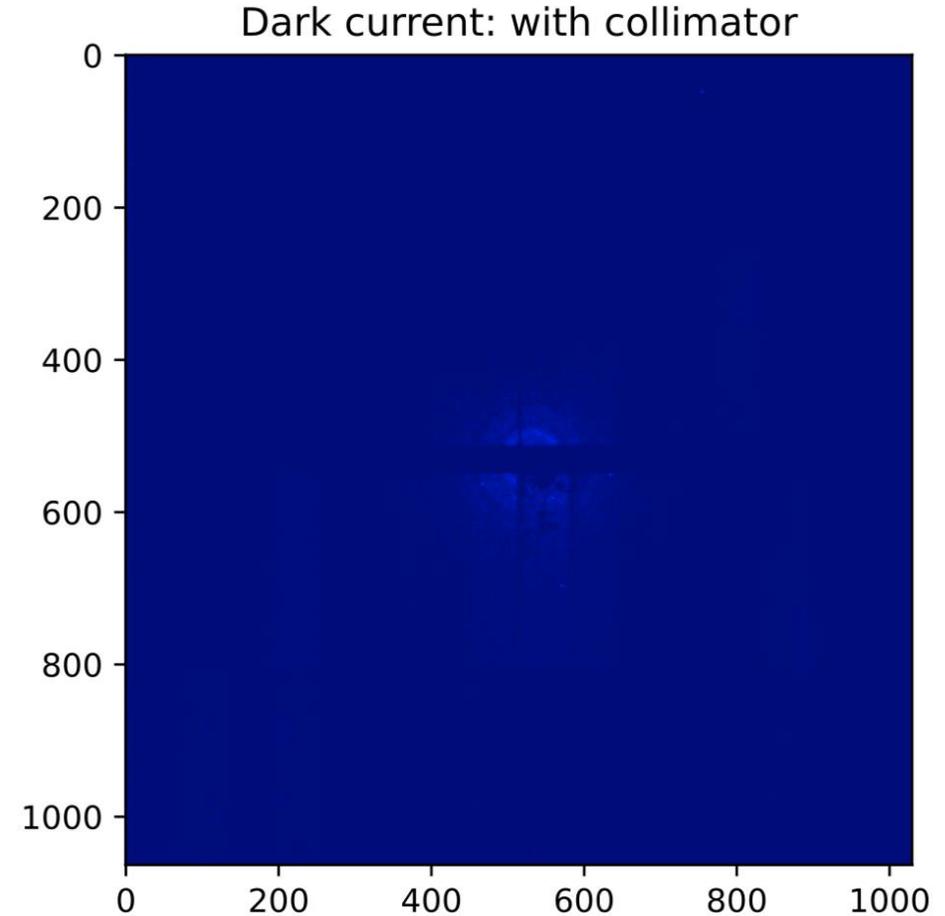
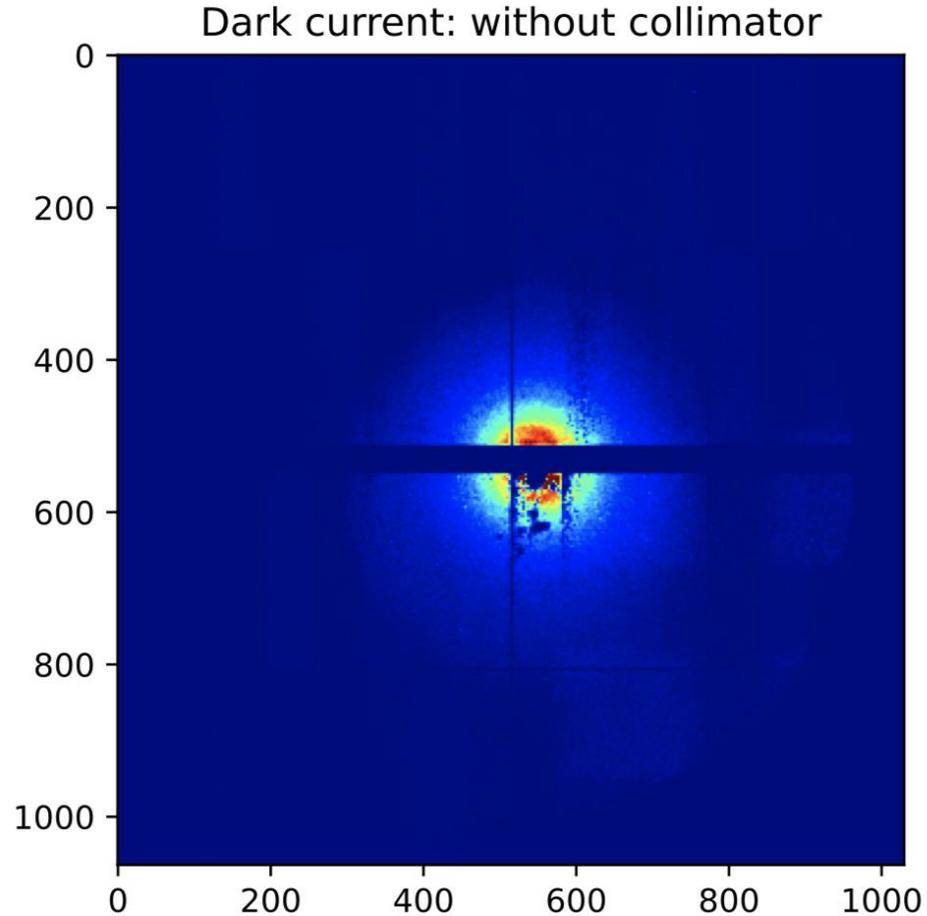


TEM-grid microscope image

field of view: $\sim 1,1 \times 1,1$ mm

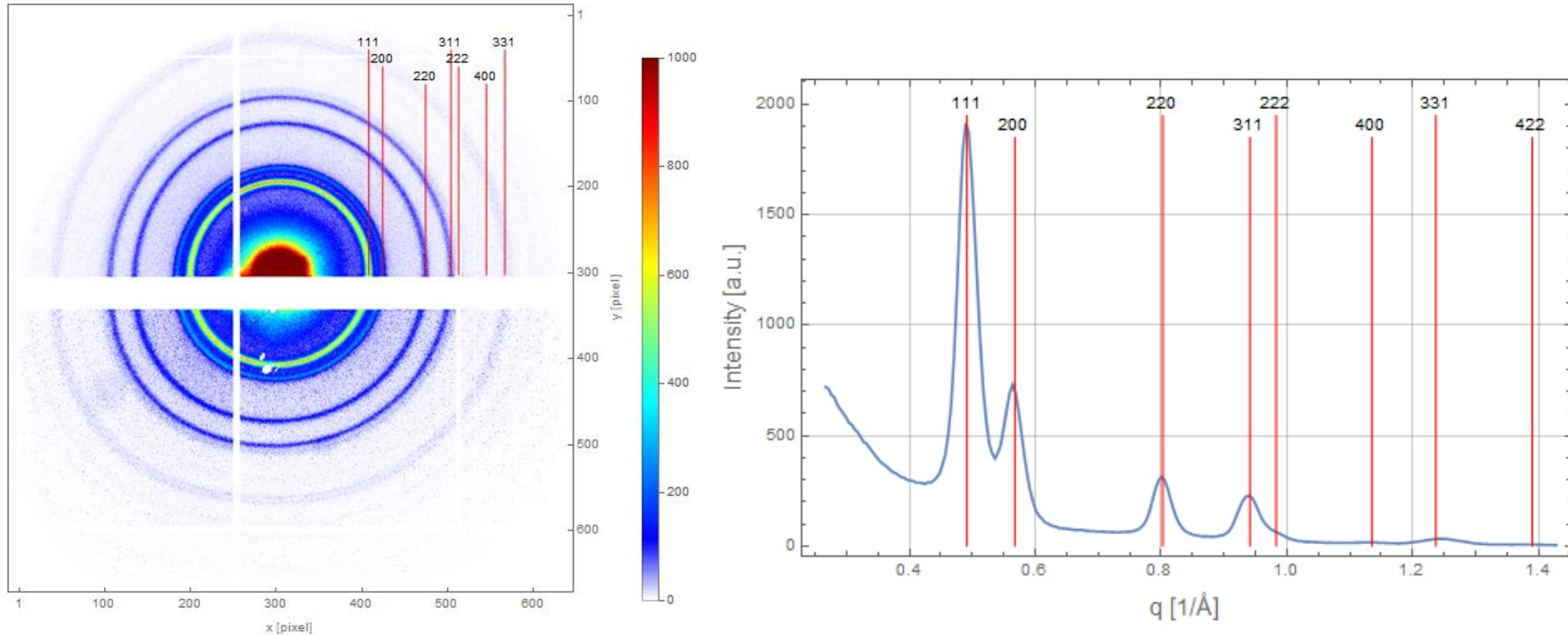
Reduced dark current with collimator setup

Significant improvement in particular at small diffraction angles



Powder diffraction experiments

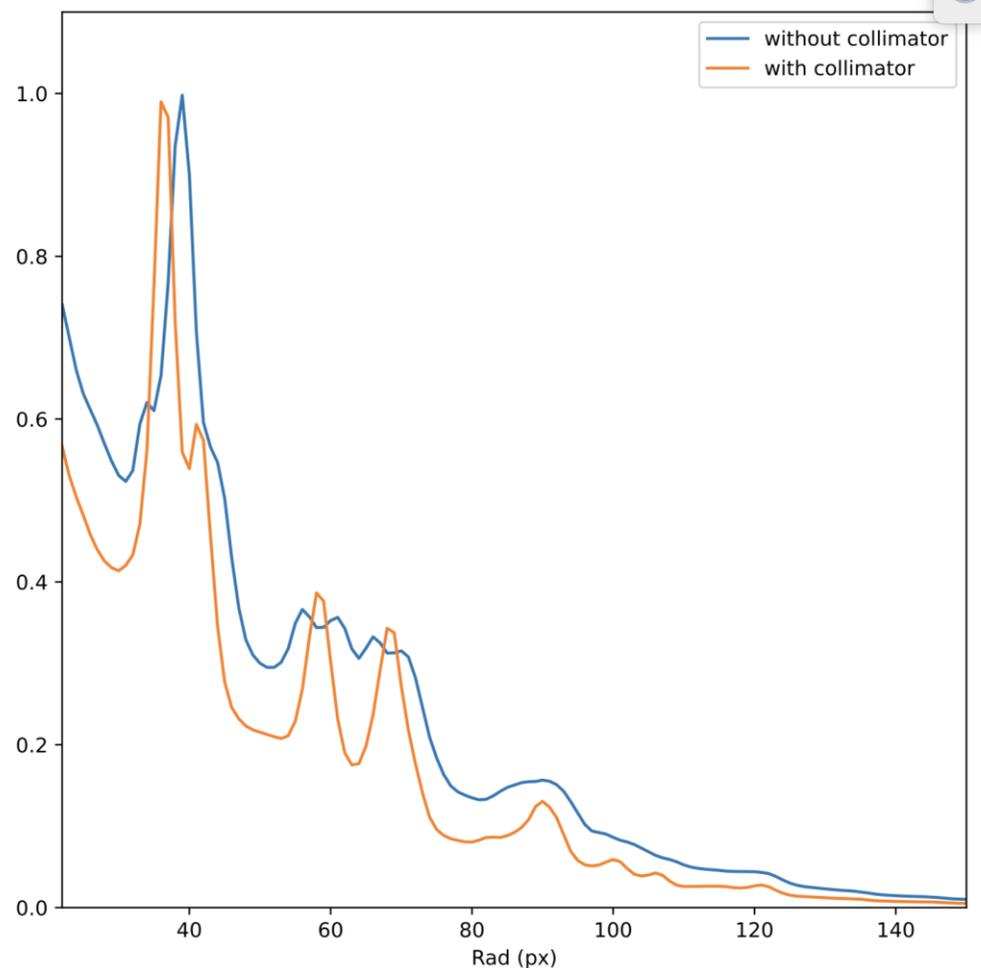
Significantly improved signal to-noise-ratio with Jungfrau 1M detector



250 averaged diffraction patterns recorded from a 100 nm Ni foil with 50 Hz repetition rate on the Jungfrau detector

improved q-resolution with collimator

Improved signal-to-noise-ratio caused by reduction of beam jitter?



- 1000 averaged diffraction patterns from a 100 nm Ni foil
- recorded with Jungfrau 1M detector at 50 Hz frame rate
- Background scattering mainly originating from 70 SiN membrane

Laser-induced recrystallization of gold

Preperation for time-resolved diffraction experiments

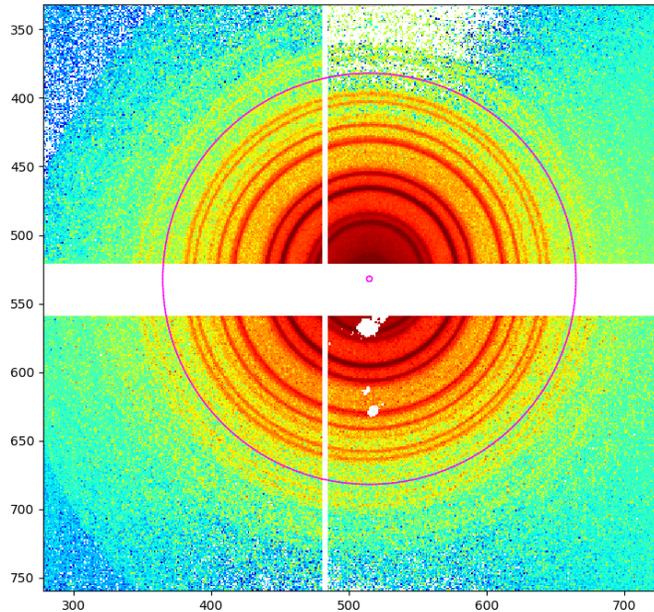
- **Sample: 30 nm Au foil on SiN membrane**

- Electron beam parameters:

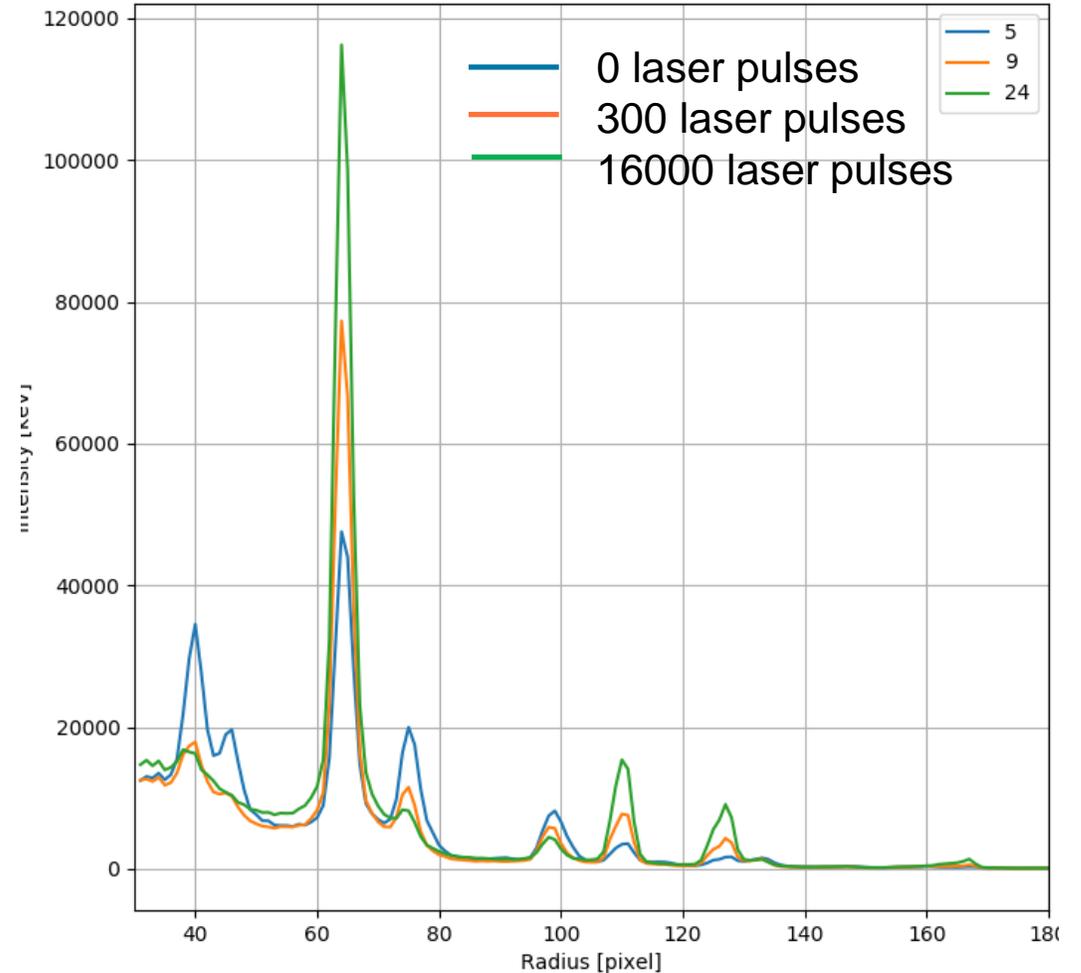
- energy: 3 MeV
- pulse length: 600 fs

- Laser parameters:

- length: 600 fs
- wavelength: 400 nm
- laser power per shot: 12 uJ



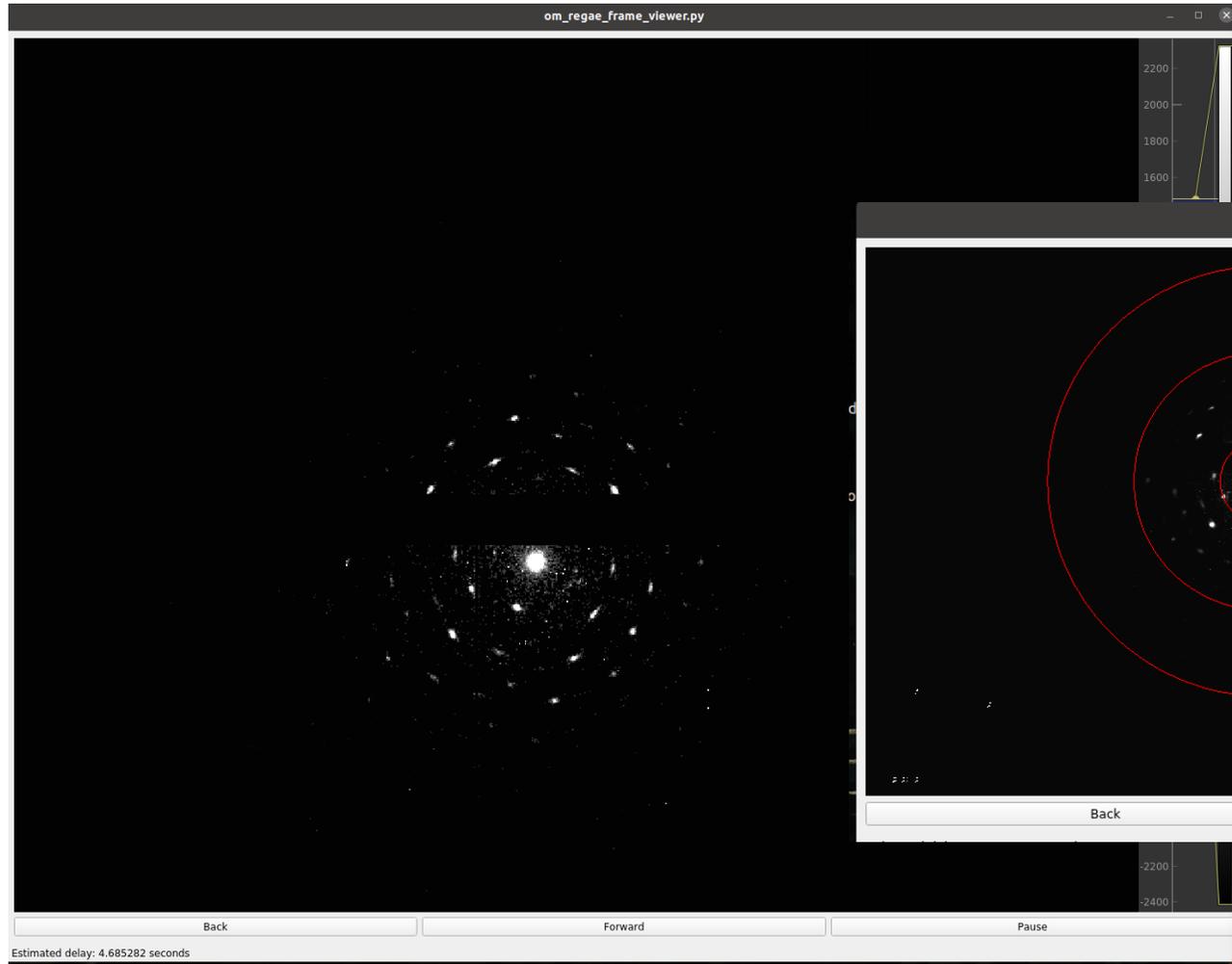
Sum of 100 single shot electron diffraction images



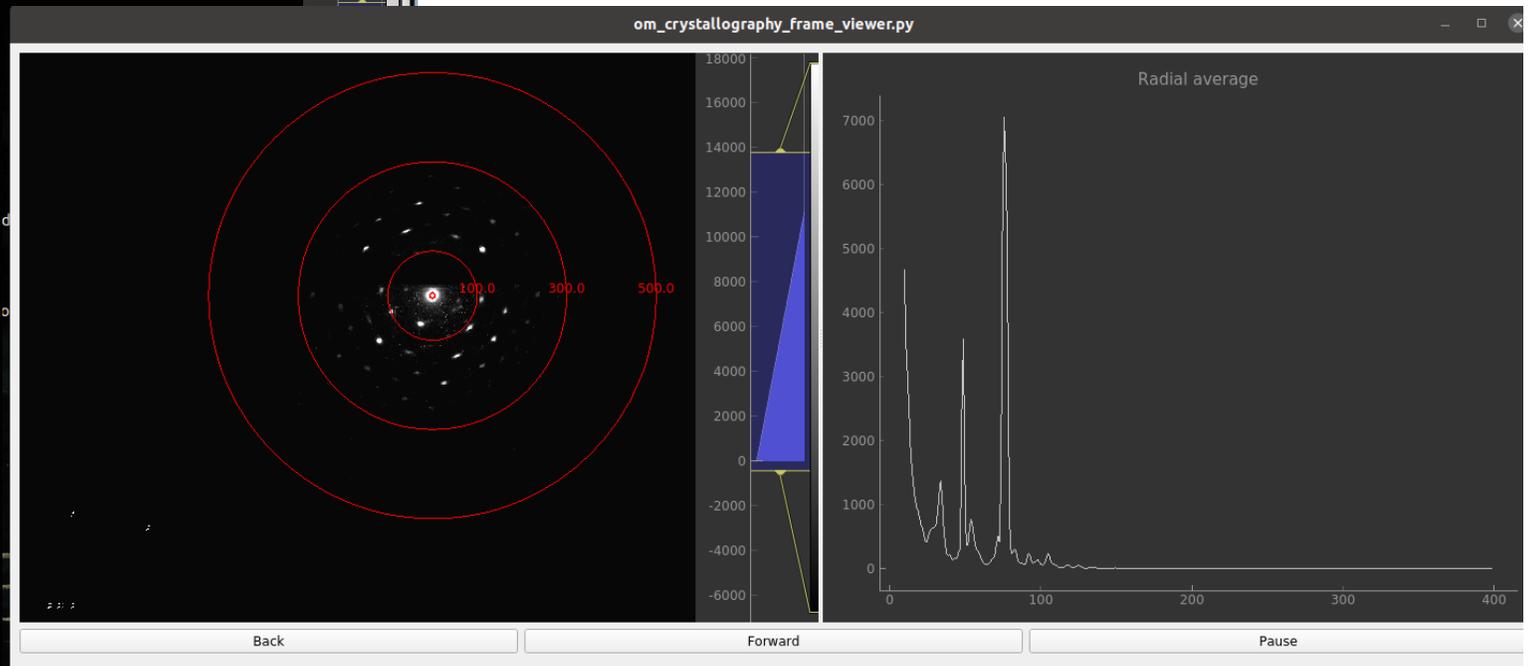
Radially averaged diffraction patterns (based on 100 individual diffraction images)

Single crystal diffraction

50 nm single crystalline gold foil – single shot diffraction pattern @ 50 Hz



,real time' frame viewer and data analysis at REGAE



New sample preparation laboratory

Advanced sample preparation in direct proximity to the experiment

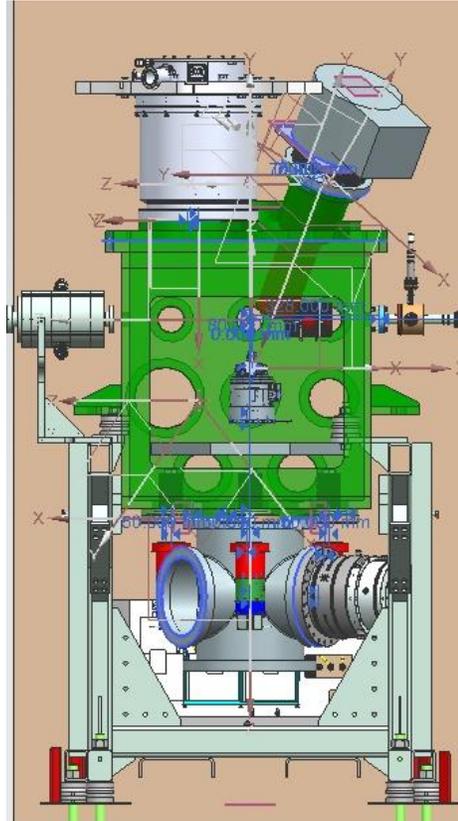


Planned hardware upgrades of REGAE

New diffraction setup with high-precision goniometer, cryogenic sample cooling, and robotic arm

Hardware upgrades:

- New sample chamber with extended experimental capabilities (design finished)
- High-precision goniometer for diffraction experiments (first hardware components received)
- Option for cryogenic sample cooling (bio-sample and quantum materials)
- Load-lock system with robotic arm for fast exchange of cryogenically cooled samples
- Integration of a liquid jet setup
- Long term: Installation of a microscopy setup for time-resolved MeV electron tomography.



New sample chamber for REGAE for different experimental setups



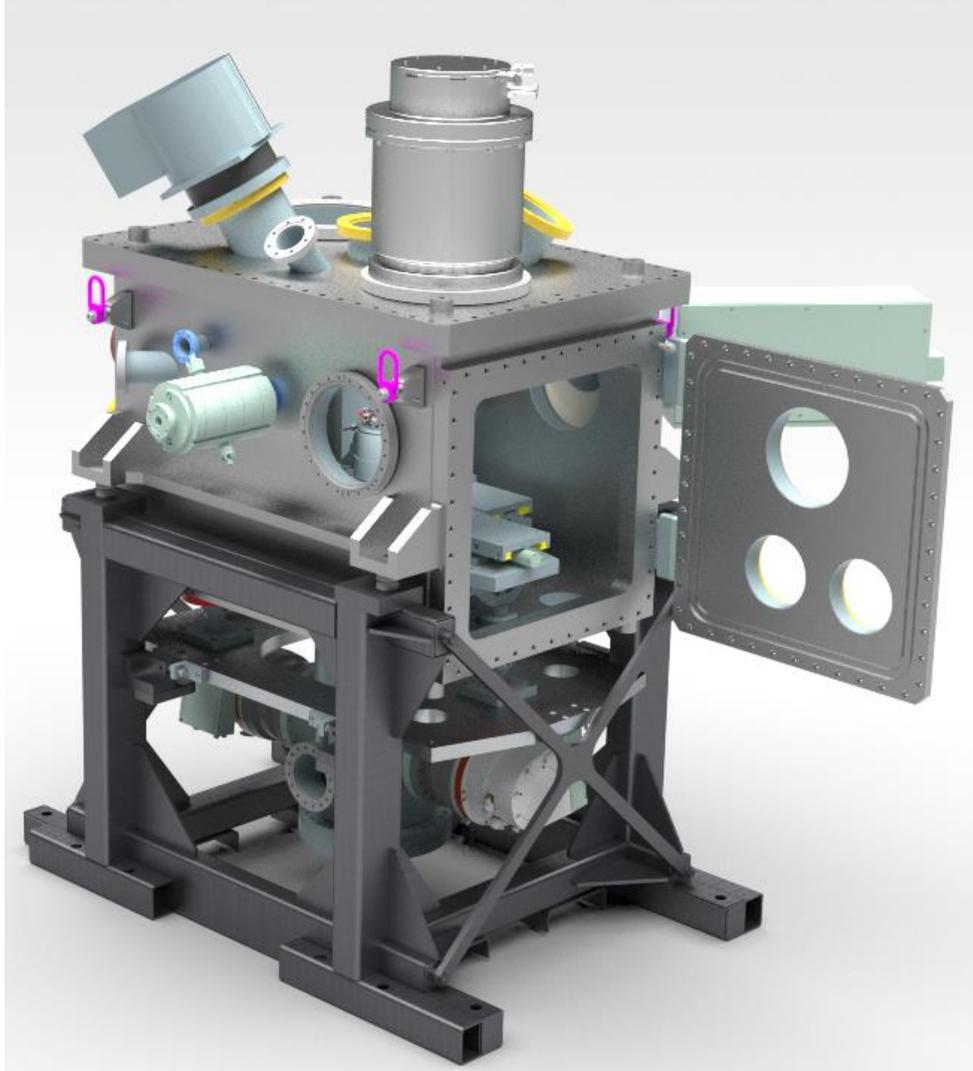
Universal robots UR5E robotic arm for fully automatic sample exchange



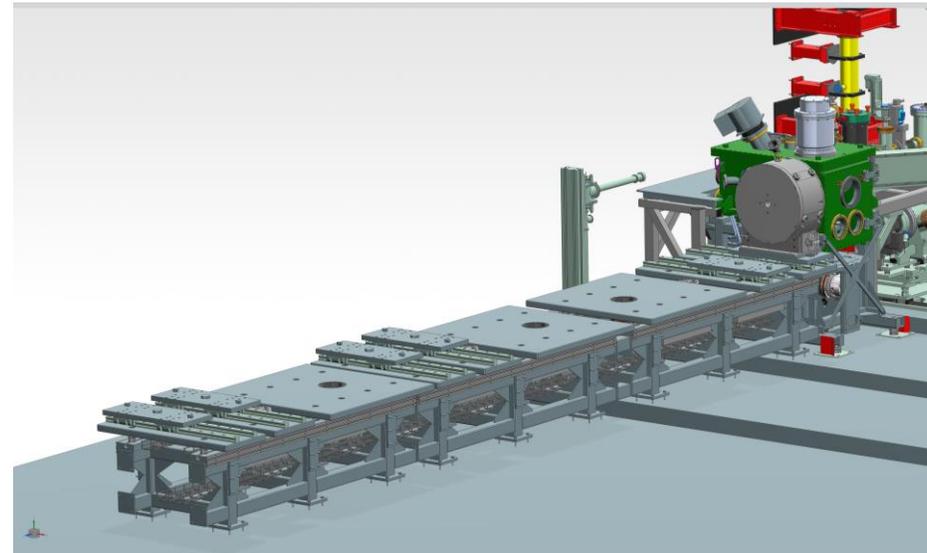
e-Roadrunner UHV compatible goniometer

New sample chamber for REGAE

Space for three experimental setups



- Two standard setups:
 - For solid samples (crystallography)
 - For liquid samples (sheet jet)
- Space for one user specific setup
- reduced vibration due to decoupling of vacuum system and inner parts
- Vacuum system capable for handling of liquid jets
- Different laser pump options
- Cryostat for sample colling down to 10K



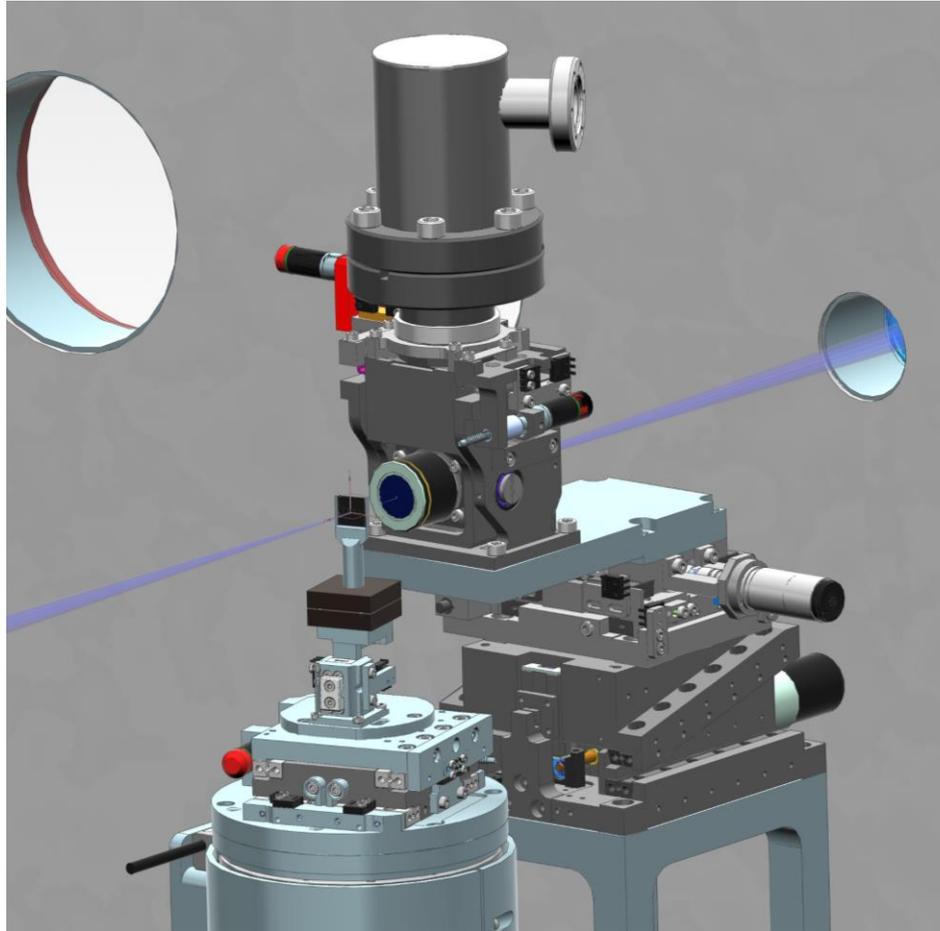
New diffraction setup for solid state samples

High-precision eRoadrunner goniometer

- **Fully UHV compatible**
- **High-precision rotation axis:**
 - Full 360 degree rotation
 - Servo motor operated
 - SOC: 1 μm
 - Angular resolution: 0.0001 degree
- **Centering stage:**
 - 12 mm travel range in x,y,z
 - Positioning accuracy: 1 μm
 - Through-the-lens laser excitation for pump-probe experiments

Future upgrade plans:

- Cryogenic sample cooling to 10 K
- Robotic sample loading through load-lock system

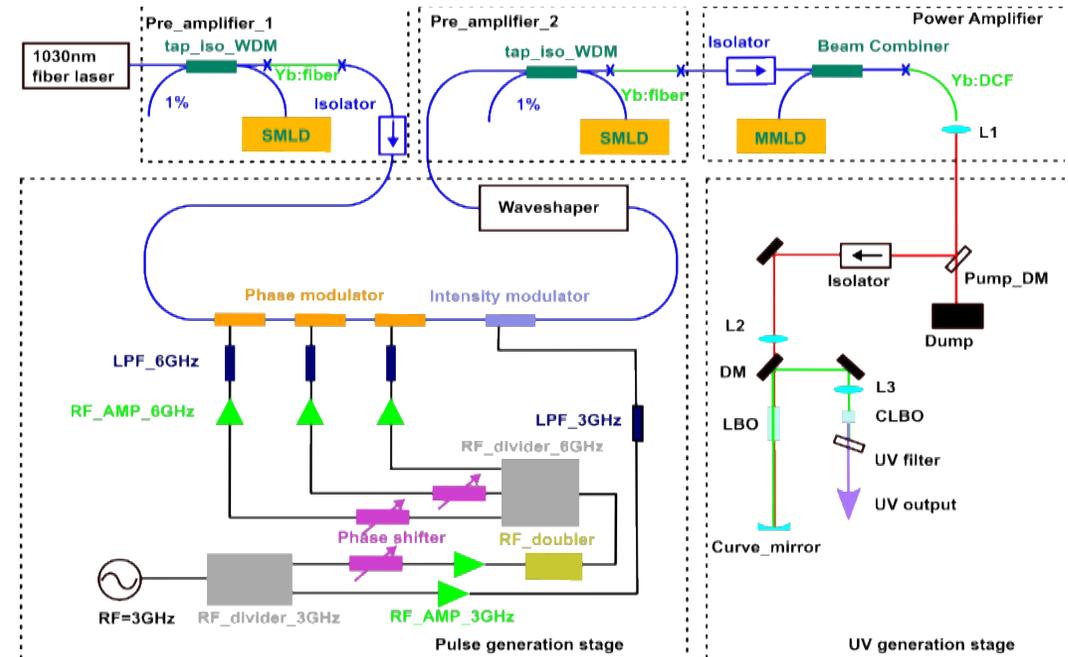
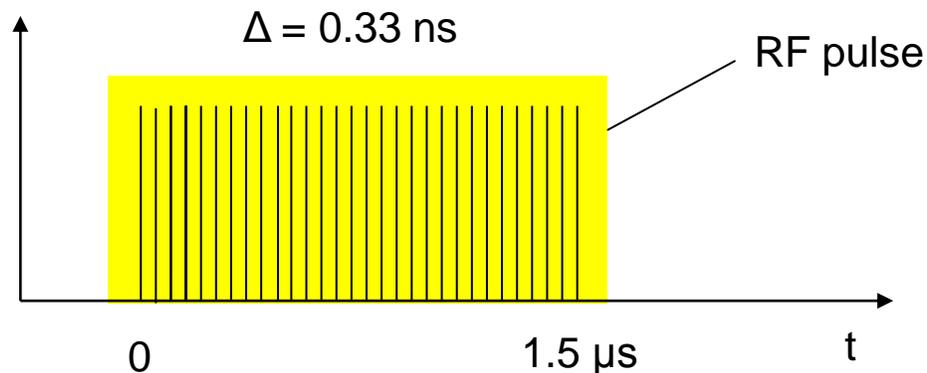


3 GHz laser for coherent micro-beam experiments

1.5 microsecond bunch trains with 100 fC

Coherent micro-beam mode with 3 GHz laser

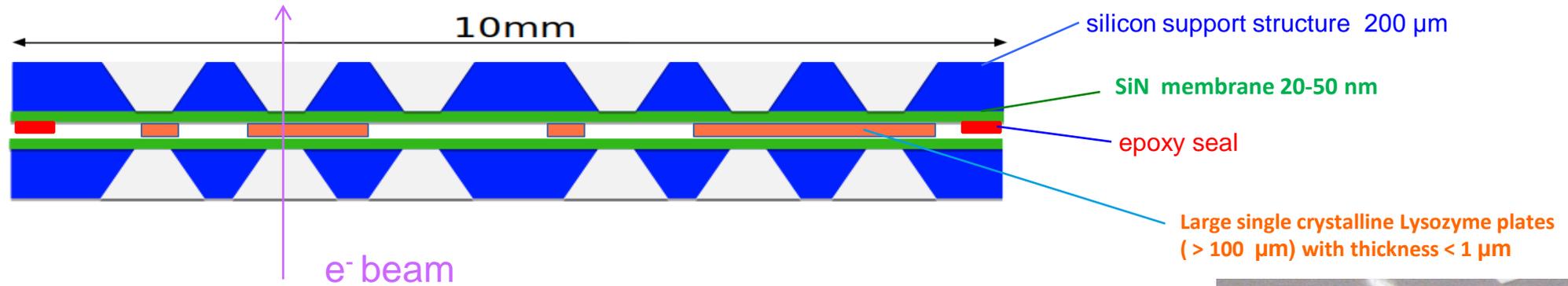
- For electron diffraction with protein crystals and electron microscopy requiring a coherent (> 10 nm) micrometer size electron beam (~ 1 μm)
- 1.5 μsec bunch trains with 100 fC consisting of ~ 4500 low charge micro bunches avoid bunch charge effects
- in collaboration with Ingmar Hartl (FS-LA), to be ready for installation in October 2021 Δ



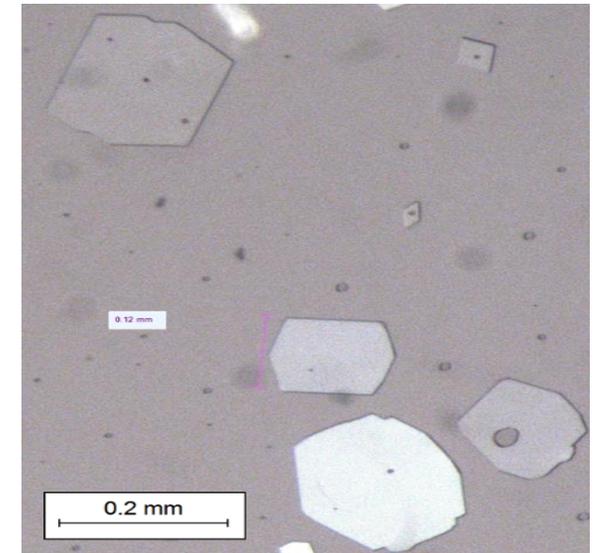
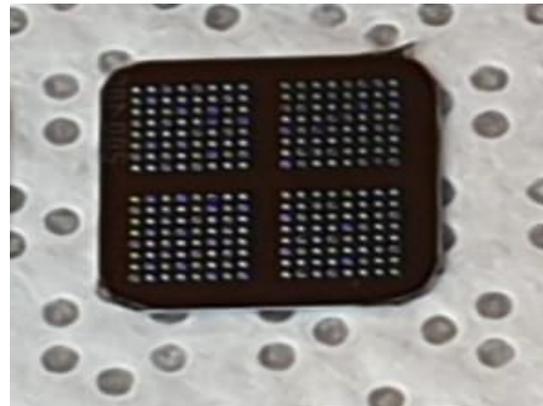
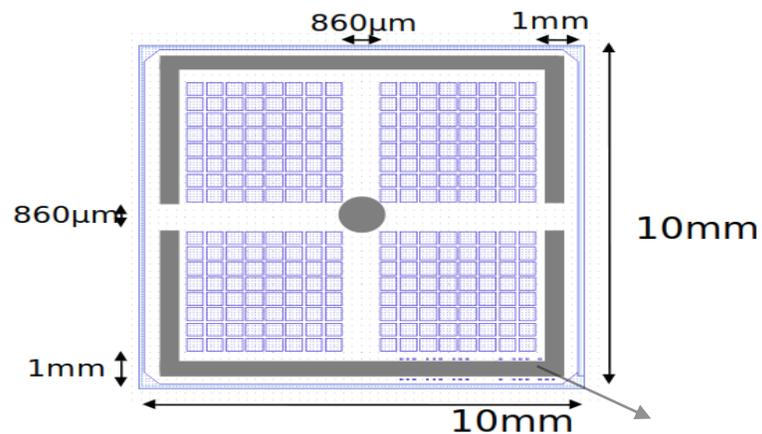
Crystalline protein samples for MeV-UED experiment

Sealed sandwich structure: keeps crystals hydrated

Side view:



Top view:



REGAE Time plan

First friendly user experiments in 2023

- First time resolved diffraction experiments with laser excitation April 2022
- Implementation of 3 GHz laser May 2021
- First diffraction experiments with biological samples June 2022
- Installation of new experimental chamber and related hardware upgrades August 2022
- First friendly user experiments spring 2023
- Implementation of cryogenic sample and robotic sample exchange spring 2023
- Implementation of microscopy setup planned for 2024

People involved & Tanks to ...

Joined effort between DESY's M and FS divisions

Vincent Hennicke	mechanical engineer
Max Hachmann	scientist (machine operation)
Ana Rodriguez	scientist (real time data analysis)
Sadegh Bakhtiarzadeh	scientist (laser operation)
Klaus Flöttmann	scientist (machine operation)
Hossein Delsim-Hashemi	scientist (machine operation)
Tim Pakendorf	mechanical engineer
Lars Gumprecht	mechanical engineer
Pontus Fischer	software engineer
Jan Meyer.	software engineer
Alke Meents	scientist (diffraction experiments)
Miriam Barthelmess	scientist (sample preparation)
Leticia de Melo Costa	scientist (sample preparation)
Patrick Reinke	scientist (sample preparation, diffraction)
Christoph Mahnke	FS-LA scientist (laser operation)
Ingmar Hartl	FS-LA
Henry Chapman	FS-CFEL
Wim Leemanns	M

Support from many other M- and FS groups

