

EXAFS of an Element with Multiple Absorbing Sites

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Data collected at beamline X23B of the National Synchrotron Light Source at Brookhaven National Laboratories







- Oscillations caused by interference between outgoing and backscattered photoelectrons
- Provides information on local environment of specific heavy element
- Widely used to analyze materials with long-range order small or absent







Materials with Multiple Absorbing Sites

- Mixed materials
 - Partially cycled cathodes
 - Environmental samples
 - Advanced materials
- Pure materials with multiple crystallographic sites
 - Many transition-metal oxides
 - α-manganese



Local Structure of α -Manganese

Site type	Number in unit cell	
1	2	•
2	8	
3	24	
4	24	•
		•





Model

- Based on published x-ray diffraction (XRD) data
- Included paths out to 4.4 Å, but fit to only 3.2 Å (allows for spectral leakage)
- Included both direct and multiple scattering paths
- Constrained paths into two groups
 - Grouping did not affect best-fit values much, but did affect stability of fit
 - Chose grouping based on greatest stability and closest fit to data
 - Site 3 paths in one group, all other paths in second group
- Allowed ΔE_0 and S_0^2 to vary









Contribution by Site





Interference at Sites 1 and 2





Conclusions

- Accurate EXAFS analysis on materials with multiple crystallographic sites is possible
- Relative contribution of a site type to the signal is not directly proportional to the number of sites of that type present, due to interference effects
- We plan to analyze a temperature series of manganese in order to determine the precision of the technique