100 ps time-resolved solution scattering utilizing a wide-bandwidth X-ray beam from multilayer optics


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100 ps time-resolved X-ray solution-scattering capabilities have been developed using multilayer optics at the beamline NW14A, Photon Factory Advanced Ring, KEK. X-ray pulses with an energy bandwidth of \( \Delta E/E = 1-5\% \) are generated by reflecting X-ray pulses (\( \Delta E/E = 15\% \)) through multilayer optics, made of \( W/B_4C \) or depth-graded \( Ru/C \) on silicon substrate. This tailor-made wide-bandwidth X-ray pulse provides high-quality solution-scattering data for obtaining photo-induced molecular reaction dynamics. The time-resolved solution scattering of \( CH_3I_2 \) in methanol is demonstrated as a typical example.

Keywords: time-resolved solution scattering; photodissociation reaction; liquidography; multilayers.

1. Introduction

Studying photo-induced reactions in the solution phase with subnanosecond time-resolution offers opportunities for understanding fundamental molecular reaction dynamics in chemistry and biology. Time-resolved X-ray diffraction using 100 ps X-ray pulses from a synchrotron source can elucidate the molecular geometry involved in photo-induced reaction pathways. Time-resolved X-ray diffraction experiments at the ID09B beamline of the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (Plech et al., 2002, 2004; Wulff et al., 2004, 2006; Mirloup et al., 2004; Ihee, 2009) have been used for solution-scattering experiments at the ID09B beamline of the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (Plech et al., 2002, 2004; Wulff et al., 2004, 2006; Mirloup et al., 2004; Ihee, 2009). Significant improvements in the signal-to-noise ratios of the experimental data have been reported for photochemical reactions of halogen compounds in solution. For example, the structural dynamics of \( C_2H_4I_2 \) in methanol were studied using high-flux X-ray pulse at the ID09B beamline (Ihee et al., 2005), and the reaction pathways and associated transient molecular structures in solution were resolved by the combination of theoretical calculations and global fitting analysis (Lee et al., 2006; Cammarata et al., 2006).

Recently, beamline NW14A at PF-AR, KEK, was constructed as a 100 ps time-resolved X-ray beamline (Nozawa et al., 2007) using monochromatic or white X-rays. Its high-flux white X-rays have \( \Delta E/E \approx 15\% \) energy bandwidth when an undulator of period length 20 mm is used. To check the feasibility of time-resolved scattering with such a wide bandwidth and to search for the optimal bandwidth, we simulated the Debye scattering curves for the reaction \( C_2H_4I_2 \rightarrow C_2H_4I + I \) using (i) a 15% bandwidth with the default X-ray energy distribution for the undulator spectrum on NW14A, (ii) a Gaussian spectrum with 5% energy bandwidth, (iii) a Gaussian spectrum with a 1% energy bandwidth, and (iv) a Gaussian spectrum with 0.01% energy bandwidth, as shown in Fig. 1. The photon flux of the X-ray pulse increases with the energy bandwidth, but the simulation shows that the 15% energy bandwidth with the default spectrum with a long tail is not suitable for time-resolved solution-scattering experiments owing to insufficient \( q \)-resolution. The long tail of the default X-ray spectrum induces a much higher extent of blurring at high scattering angles than a symmetric Gaussian spectrum with the same bandwidth. For this reason, the X-ray spectrum with a long tail at ID09B of ESRF with \( \sim 3\% \) bandwidth is comparable with a Gaussian spectrum with \( \sim 10\% \) bandwidth. In contrast, when we compare the calculated scattering curve using the Gaussian spectrum with 1% and 5% energy bandwidth X-rays with that with a 0.01% energy bandwidth, three calculated curves seem to reproduce the same quality. In addition, the total flux of the 5% energy bandwidth X-ray beam will be higher than that of the monochromatic X-rays (\( \sim 0.01\% \) energy bandwidth) from a Si single crystal by a factor of 250. The total flux of the 5% energy bandwidth X-rays is about five times more than that of the 1% energy bandwidth X-rays. Therefore, the data collecting time using the 5% energy bandwidth X-rays becomes shorter than when...
using the monochromatic X-rays and the 1% energy bandwidth X-rays. These estimations clearly indicate that the preparation of X-ray pulses with $\Delta E/E \simeq 5\%$ has a very significant merit for promoting a time-resolved X-ray solution-scattering experiment, and, thus, prompted us to reduced the bandwidth from the default 15% down to less than the $\sim 5\%$ energy bandwidth of multilayer optics.

In our experimental set-up, the multilayer optics can produce X-rays with a 1–5% energy bandwidth, and allow us to measure the time-resolved solution-scattering with the undulator at the NW14A beamline. The purpose of this paper is to present a detailed account of achievements with the multilayer optics. We succeeded in collecting high-quality time-resolved solution-scattering data for the CH$_2$I$_2$ photochemical reaction in methanol and briefly report the experimental aspects.

2. Experimental set-up

A schematic diagram of the experimental set-up is shown in Fig. 2. The experimental system consists of an amplified Ti:sapphire laser system for providing laser pulses to excite the liquid sample, an X-ray pulse selector (XPS) to select single X-ray pulses, a heat-load chopper (Gembicky et al., 2007), laser and X-ray shutters, and a sapphire nozzle to provide a stable liquid jet. This beamline gives a white X-ray pulse in the energy range 13–18 keV using an undulator with a period length of 20 mm at a repetition rate of 794 kHz and with a pulse duration of about 100 ps. The scattered images were recorded on an integrating charge-coupled device detector (MarCCD165, MarUSA) of diameter 165 mm. Details of the set-up have been described elsewhere (Nozawa et al., 2007).

3. Production of a wide-bandwidth X-ray beam using multilayer optics

We have utilized two types of multilayer optics. The first one is W/B$_4$C ($d = 27.7\, \text{Å}$, X-ray Company, Russia) on a Si single crystal with a size of 50 x 50 x 5 mm, which provides an X-ray spectrum with $\sim 1\%$ energy bandwidth and in which the peak energy of the X-ray spectrum can be changed by tilting the angle of the multilayer optics, as shown in Fig. 3(a). The second multilayer, which is a depth-graded Ru/C layer ($d = 40\, \text{Å}$, NTT Advanced Technology, Japan), produces a $\sim 5\%$ energy bandwidth from the undulator spectrum, as shown in Fig. 3(b). A real image of the multilayer mirror installed in the
vacuum chamber is shown in Fig. 4. The diameter of the vacuum chamber placed on a swivel stage is 160 mm. The multilayer optics is mounted on a water-cooled copper holder. A white X-ray pulse with a photon flux of $1 \times 10^9$ photons per pulse is produced in the energy range at a 1 kHz repetition rate with the XPS. When multilayer optics with 1% and 5% energy bandwidths are used downstream of the XPS, the photon fluxes are $6 \times 10^7$ and $3 \times 10^8$ photons per pulse, respectively. We can use the discretionary wavelengths and bandwidth in the X-rays for spectra, which is an advantage for the scattering curve corresponding to the asymmetric undulator spectra.

4. Time-resolved solution scattering of CH$_2$I$_2$

Photo-induced chemical and biological reactions have been extensively studied by time-resolved spectroscopic techniques and theoretical calculations. Time-resolved X-ray solution scattering makes it possible to probe transient molecular structures in the photo-induced reactions. We measured the time-resolved scattering signals for photodissociation of the iodine atom form CH$_2$I$_2$ in methanol (Davidsson et al., 2005).

We performed the measurement using X-rays with 5% energy bandwidth at 18 keV to evaluate the feasibility of this set-up. The 60 mM CH$_2$I$_2$ (Aldrich, Japan) in methanol solution was flowed using a liquid jet of thickness 0.3 mm at a flow rate of about 3 m s$^{-1}$. The open jet makes it possible to remove any background signal owing to the scattering of a glass capillary. The CH$_2$I$_2$ in methanol solution was excited by 267 nm light, the third harmonic of the Ti:sapphire femtosecond laser system. To ensure one-photon absorption, the laser pulse width was stretched to $\sim 2$ ps by passing 150 fs laser pulses through a fused silica glass rod cut at the Brewster angle for 267 nm with 175 mm optical length. The spot size of both the X-ray and laser beams on the sample surface was 200 $\mu$m diameter. The laser path was set almost parallel to the X-ray path ($\sim 10^\circ$ tilt), and the intensity of the laser beam on the sample surface was adjusted to $\sim 35$ $\mu$J per pulse. The sample-to-CCD distance and the exposure time were 48.6 mm and 7 s per image, respectively. The CCD detector allowed a 2$\theta$ angle range from about 3 to 62$\theta$ to be measured. Difference diffraction data were measured at time delays of $-200$ ps, 100 ps, 300 ps, 1 ns, 3 ns, 10 ns, 30 ns, 50 ns, 100 ns, 300 ns and 1 $\mu$s, as shown in Fig. 5. The CCD images were converted to one-dimensional curves using the FIT2D program (http://www.esrf.eu/computing/scientific/FIT2D/). To extract the diffraction intensity change alone, the data for an unperturbed sample at 3 ns were subtracted from the diffraction data collected at other time delays. Photo-induced heating of the solvent is evident in the low $q$ region ($\leq 2$ $\AA^{-1}$). The change in the high $q$ region indicates the photo-induced structural changes of the CH$_2$I$_2$ molecule. Details of the data analysis will be reported elsewhere.

5. Conclusion

Wide-bandwidth X-ray pulses were generated from depth-graded Ru/C and W/B$_4$C multilayer optics for time-resolved X-ray solution scattering. The symmetric shape and the
bandwidth \((\Delta E/E = 1\text{–}5\%\) of the energy spectra of the X-ray pulse are suitable for time-resolved solution-scattering experiments, and quantitative analysis of photo-induced molecular reaction dynamics in solution. We successfully measured the solution scattering from \(	ext{CH}_2\text{I}_2\) in methanol and the time dependence of the difference scattering was presented.

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References


