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METROLOGY OF NANOPARTICLES WITH SMALL ANGLES X-RAY SCATTERING (SAXS)

FROM SIMPLE CASES

TO NANOPARTICLES COMPLEX MEDIA

O. Taché

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LIONS

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D. Carriere, F. Gobeaux, O. Taché*

LLB (SANS laboratory) :

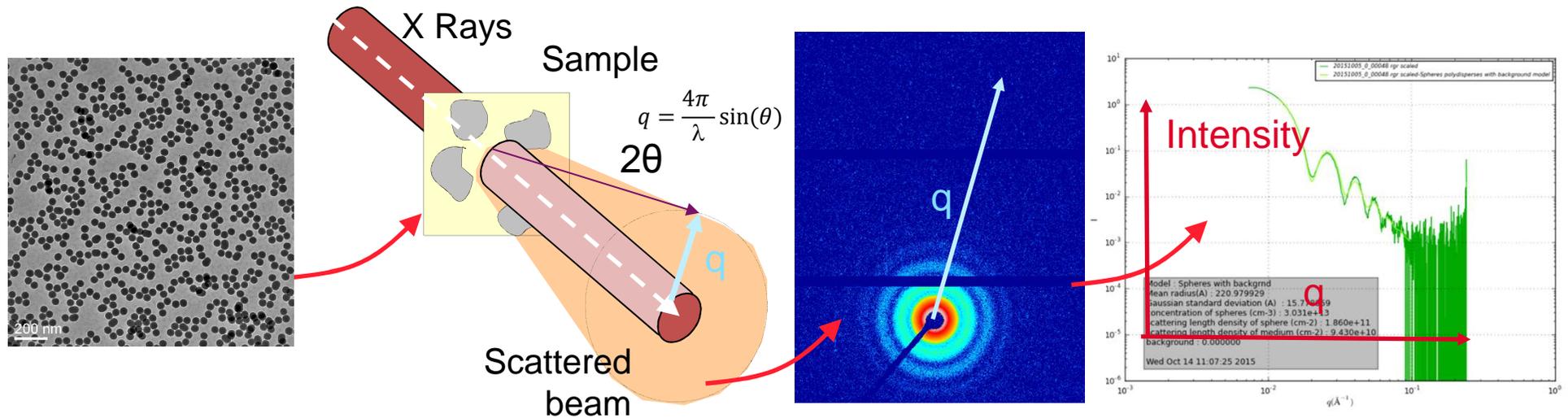
A. Brulet, F. Cousin, J. Jestin, A. Cheneviere

SWAXS Lab
Saclay



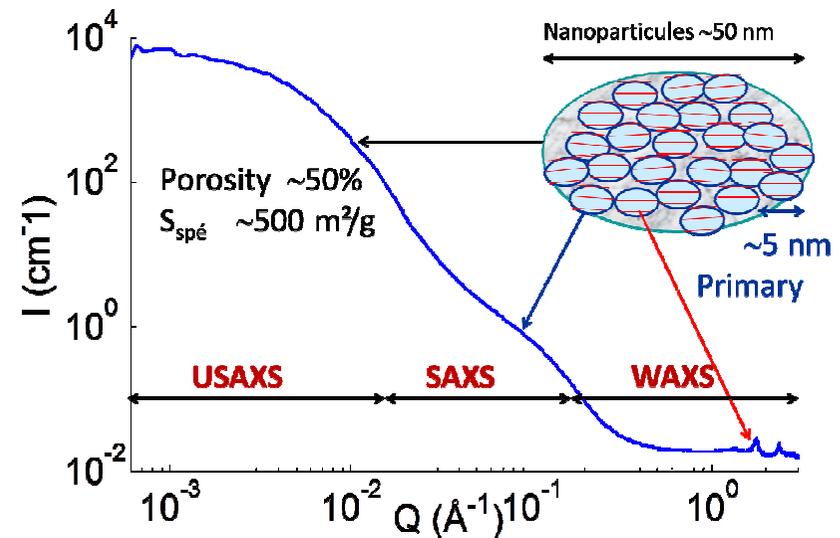
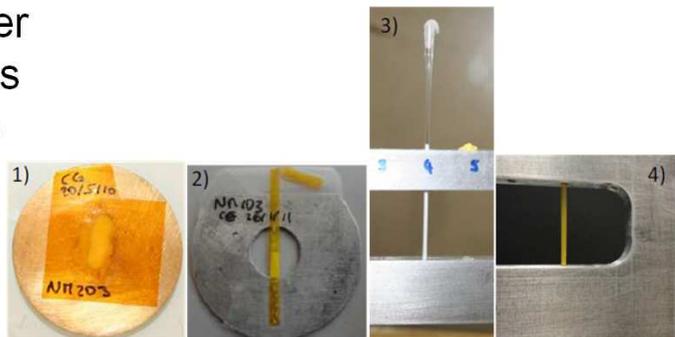
150 m2 dedicated to SAXS:
4 experiments , Preparation workshop
chemistry lab
Sample environments
Open source software

- Home made and commercial setup
- Different configurations, different energies
- Methodology from sample preparation to data treatment (sample thickness, calibration, modelization,...) for size and concentration determination



SAXS – Small Angles X-Rays Scattering :

- Quantitative informations on morphology of nanomaterials, **size**, volume, surface, polydispersity.
- Dispersion state, **concentration**, aggregation
- in situ* observation without sample modification
 - Powder
 - Liquids
 - Solids



SAXS a well known technic

- 30 synchrotron beamlines
- 5 commercial available laboratory instruments (Brucker, Anton-Paar, Xenocs, Rigaku, Malvern-Panalytical)
- Guinier A and Fournet G 1955 Small-Angle Scattering of X-Rays (New York: Wiley)
- Tao Li, Andrew J. Senesi, et Byeongdu Lee, « Small Angle X-ray Scattering for Nanoparticle Research », Chemical Reviews 116, no 18 (2016): 11128-80,.

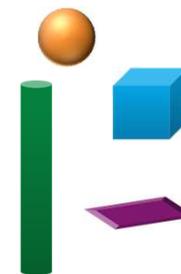
SAXS for Metrology / traceability

- result can be related to a reference through a documented unbroken chain of calibrations
- measurement uncertainty
- comparison of measurements
- original definition of the unit (SI)

Not a direct technic

- SAXS is an ensemble technique (like DLS)
- Scattering sensitive to electron density contrast
- Scattering theory (form factor), traceability!
- The results are AMBIGUOUS but representative
- Interparticle interferences are not negligible

SAXS Intensity = Form factor x Structure



- Size
- Concentration
- Composition
- Electron density
- ...

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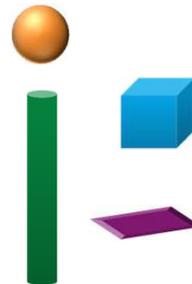
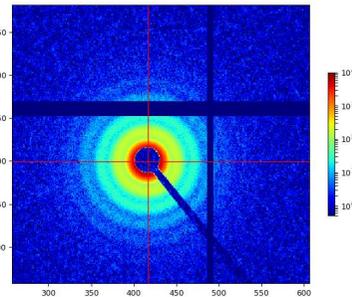


First edition
2015-05-01

Particle size analysis — Small-angle
X-ray scattering

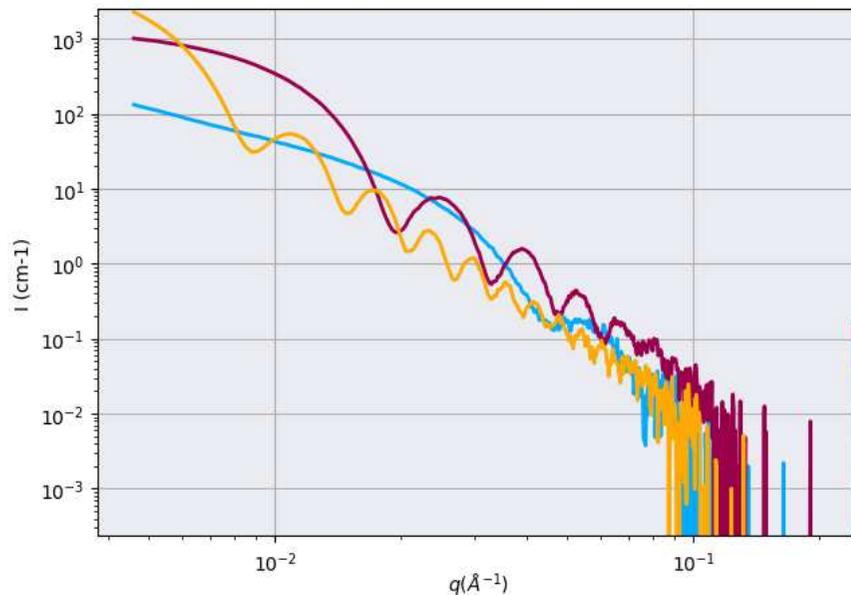
Analyse granulométrique — Diffusion des rayons X aux petits angles

SAXS Intensity = Form factor x Structure



- Size
- Concentration
- Composition
- Electron density
- ...

 Spheric Silica Nanoparticles
19 nm 44 nm 104 nm



Xeuss instrument 1800s exposure time

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2015-05-01

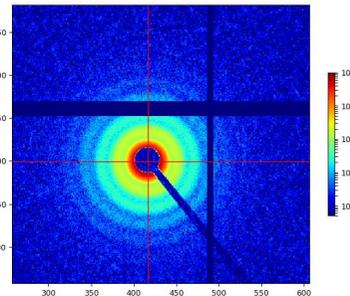
Particle size analysis — Small-angle
X-ray scattering

Analyse granulométrique — Diffusion des rayons X aux petits angles

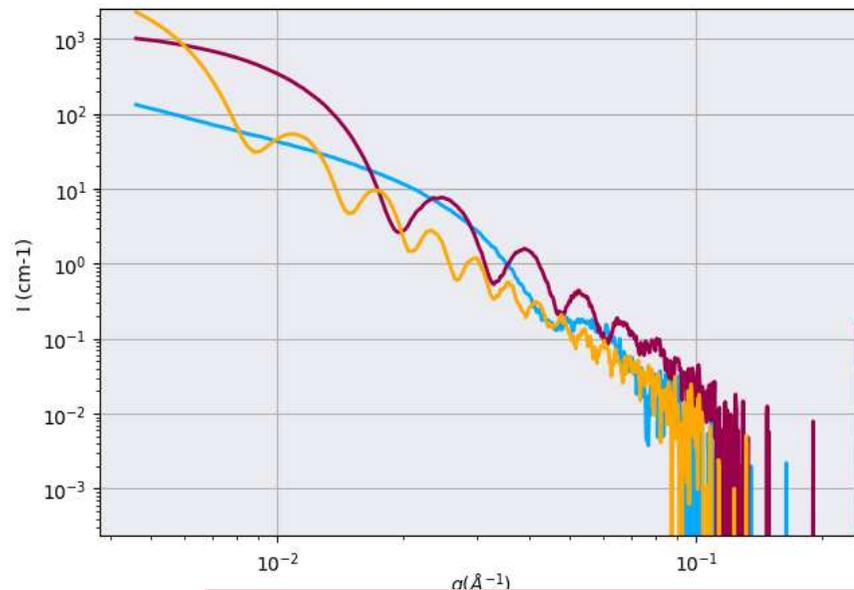
SAXS Intensity = Form factor x Structure



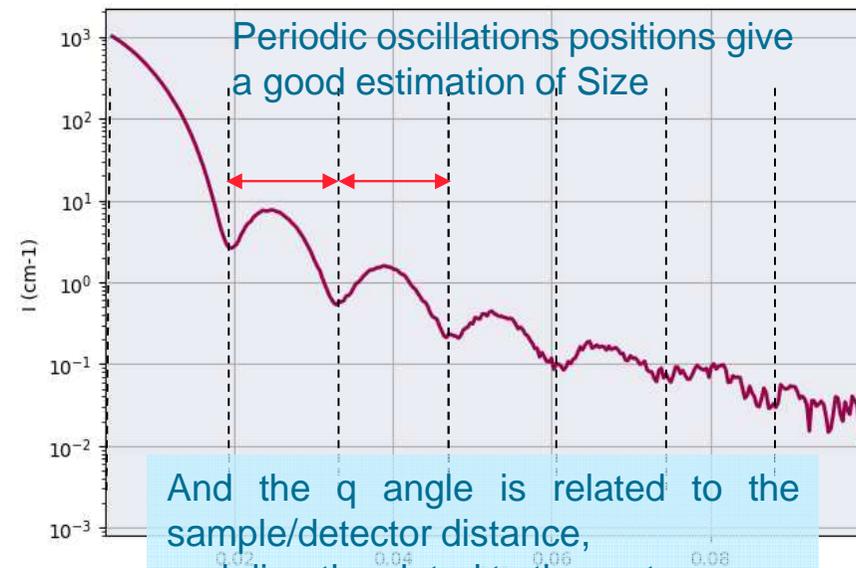
- Size
- Concentration



 Spheric Silica Nanoparticles
19 nm 44 nm 104 nm



Uncertainty for size is less than 1%

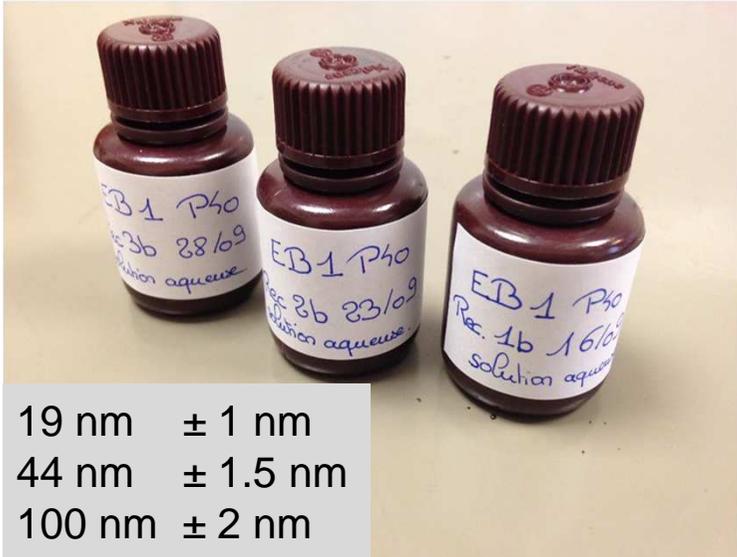


Periodic oscillations positions give a good estimation of Size

And the q angle is related to the sample/detector distance, and directly related to the meter
Metrologically traceable

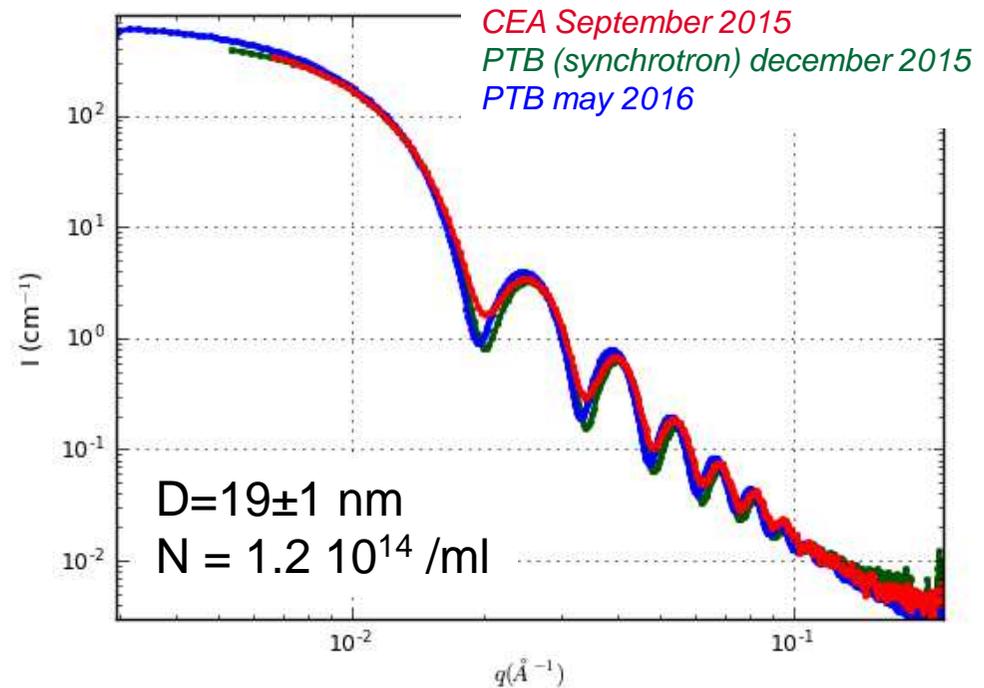
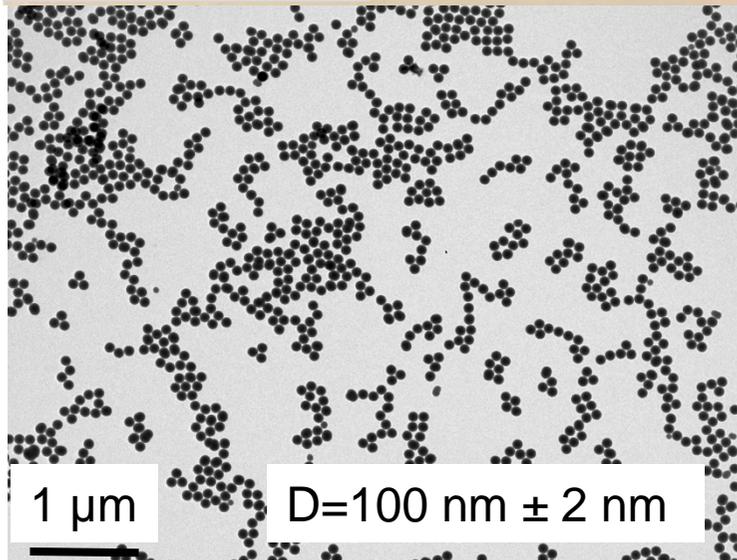
Measurement of nanoparticles concentration

O. Taché, A. Thill, V. Geertsens, E. Barruet, F. Gobeaux



19 nm ± 1 nm
44 nm ± 1.5 nm
100 nm ± 2 nm

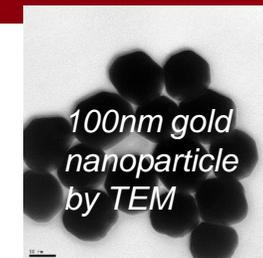
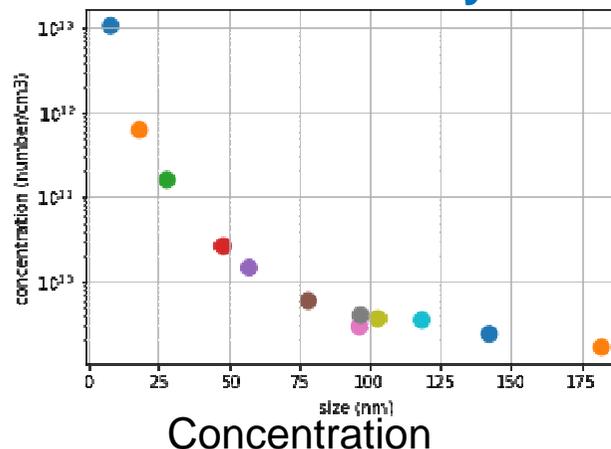
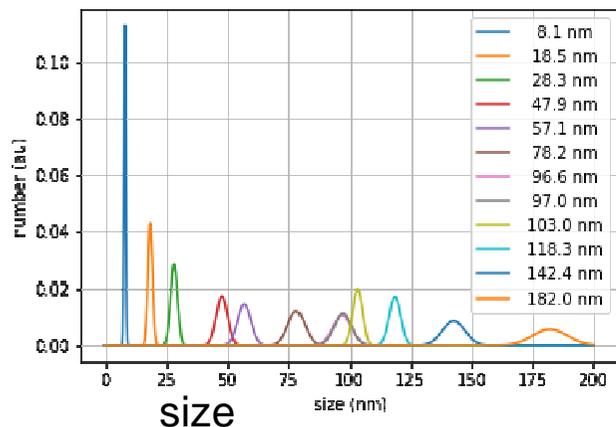
- Synthesis of Monodisperses Spheric Silica nanoparticles (FWHM/diameter mean < 20%) for 5 different sizes
- Monitoring the stability of samples (concentration, size)



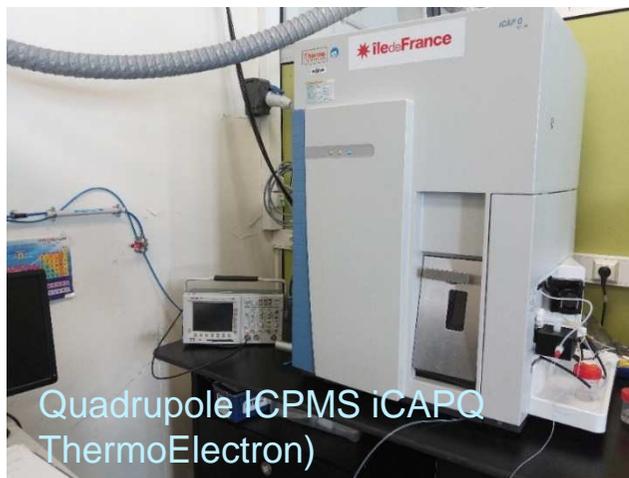
After 30 months of storage :

- Size is constant
- Concentration is relatively stable

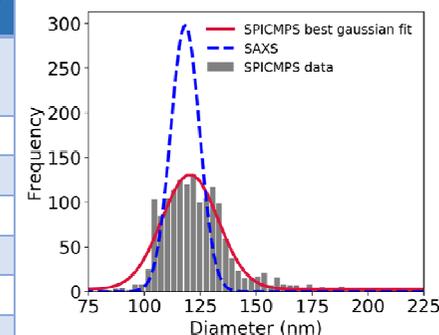
Commercials Gold nanoparticles measured by SAXS



SP-ICPMS measurement (V. Geertsen)



Supplier		SAXS		SAXS+ICPMS	
Diameter (nm)	[AuNPS] p/mL	d (nm)	sigma (nm)	[AuNPS] p/mL	[AuNPS]b p/mL
30nm	1.80E+11	28.3	4	1.60E+11	1.70E+11
50nm	3.50E+10	53.3	6.5	2.80E+10	3.10E+10
60nm	1.90E+10	57.1	7.7	1.50E+10	1.80E+10
80nm	7.80E+09	78.2	9.4	5.90E+09	7.30E+09
100nm	3.80E+09	96.6	10.6	4.00E+09	4.40E+09
150nm	3.60E+09	142.5	13	2.40E+09	3.10E+09



Histogram (nb/nm)
spICPMS-SAXS comparison

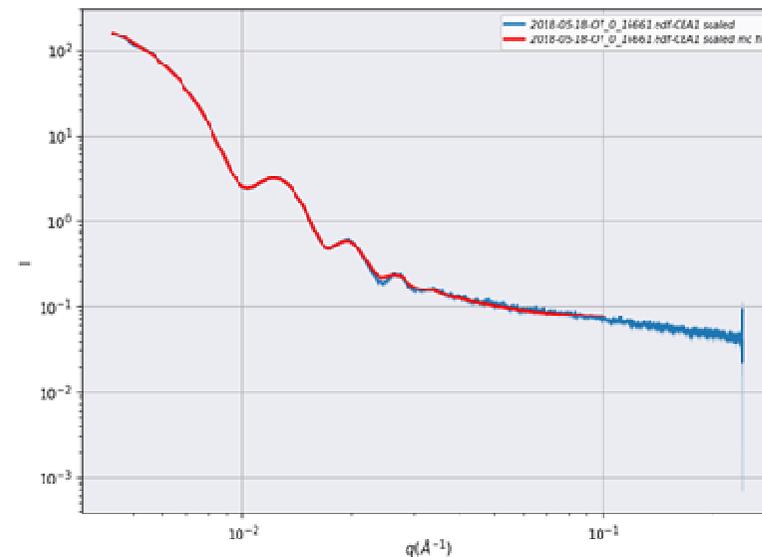
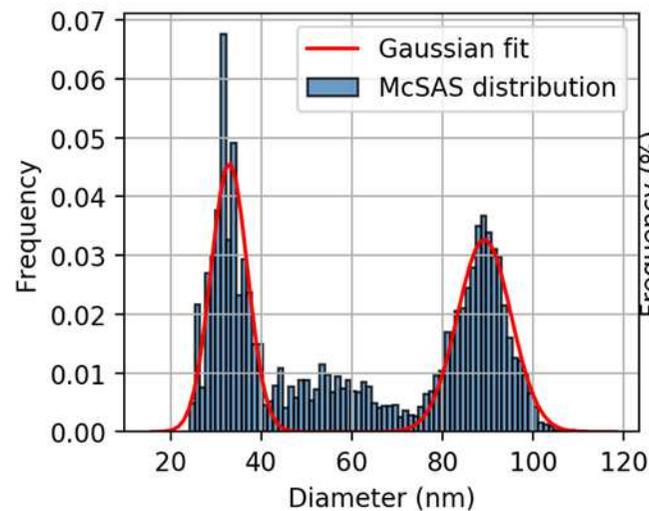
Contribution to Accurate Spherical Gold Nanoparticle Size Determination by SPICPMS: A Comparison with SAXS
Anal. Chem. 2018, 90, 9742–9750

Mixture of suspension silica nanoparticles synthesized by CEA
2018 French round robin organized by Club-Nanometrologie

2018-2021 European EMPIR Project npSize

- International intercomparison
- different ratio, forms, polydispersity

The unambiguous correlation of possible health and sustainability risks to nanoparticle size must be enabled by reliable measurement of nanoparticle size, to ensure comparability and compatibility between results measured under different methods.



Size determination uncertainties :

- Xray wavelength
- stable source



- Detector to sample distance
- Changing the distance with the same sample
for an accurate measuring

Now possible with laboratory instruments



When the system is too complex, model fitting approach is not relevant

High Polydispersity, Isotropic matrix or solvent scattering is removed

Signals can be decomposed

Guinier law

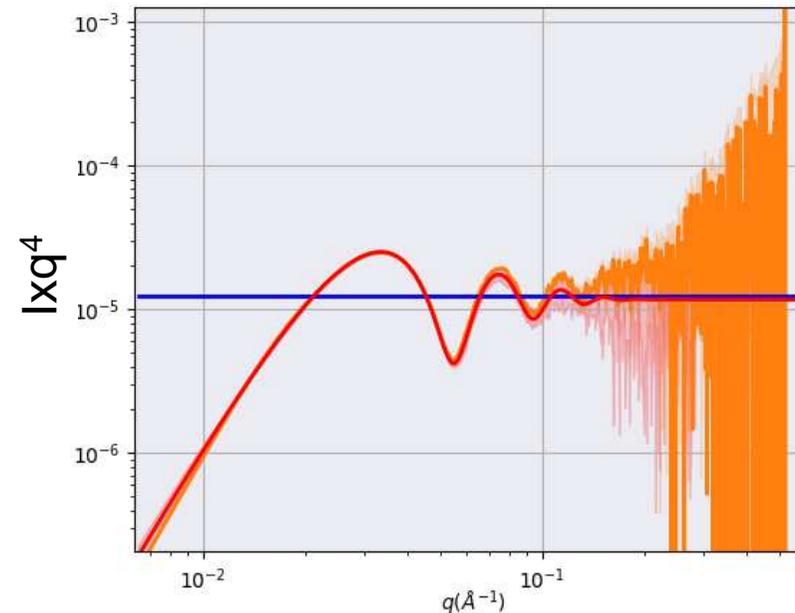
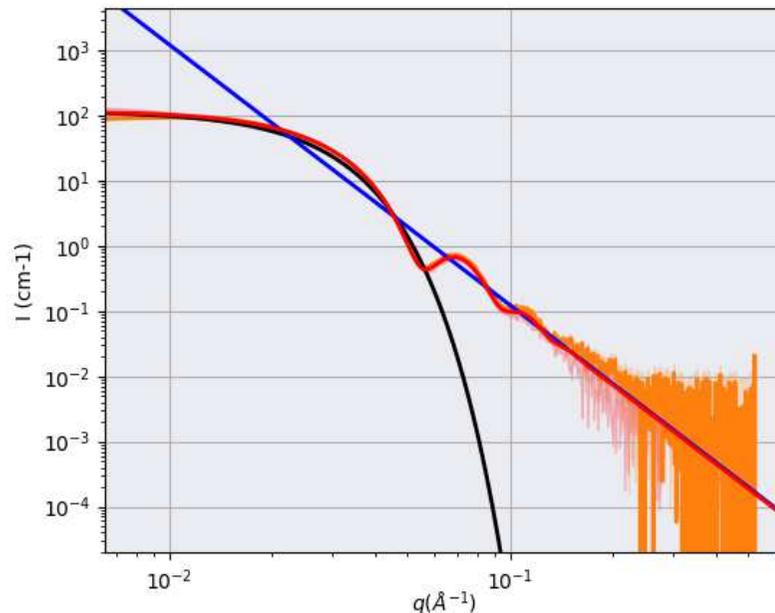
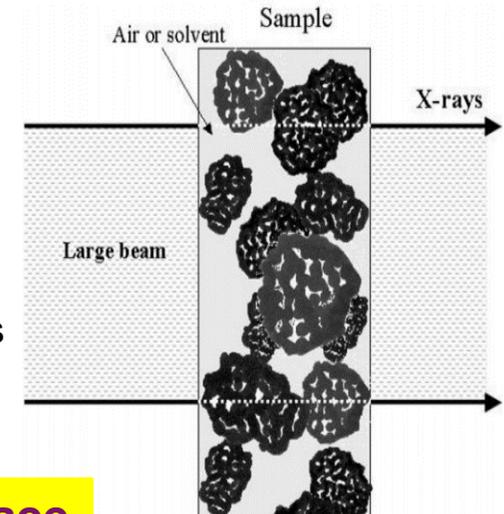
$$I_{Guinier}(q) = N(\Delta\rho)^2 V^2 e^{-\frac{q^2 R_g^2}{3}}$$

N : density
V : volume
Rg : Giration Radius

Porod law

$$I_{porod}(q) = 2\pi N(\Delta\rho)^2 S q^{-4}$$

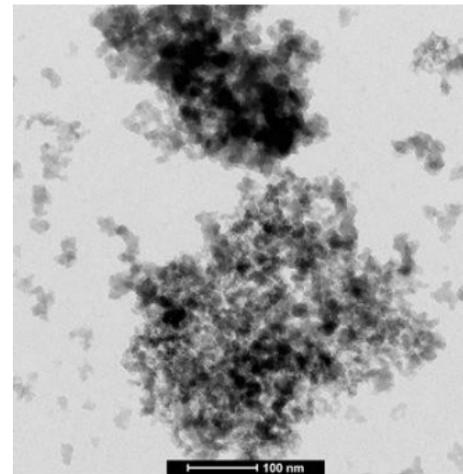
S : specific surface



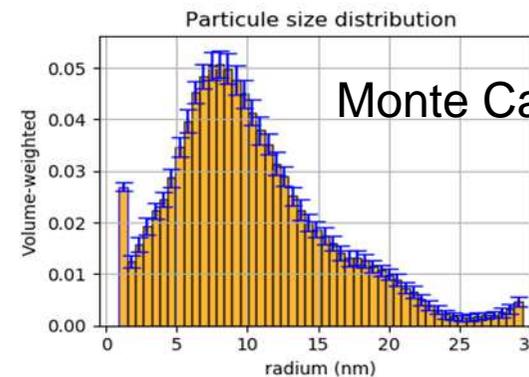
Synthetic Amorphous Silicon Dioxide (NM-200, NM-201, NM-202, NM-203, NM-204):
Characterisation and Physico-Chemical Properties
JRC Repository: NM-series of Representative Manufactured Nanomaterials



2013 O. Spalla, C. Guiot



Sample	Type	2013 Diameter (nm)	2018 Diameter (nm)
NM200	SiO ₂	22	36.7
NM201	SiO ₂	22	26.6
NM202	SiO ₂	15	16.6
NM203	SiO ₂	16	20.1
NM204	SiO ₂	21	26.1
NM101	TiO ₂	8	9.2
NM103	TiO ₂	28	41.4
NM104	TiO ₂	27	30.2



Complementary with microscopy

Traceable Size determination of nanoparticles using SAXS has been established:

- ISO standard
- Round robin SAXS Instrument comparison

Determination of concentration nanoparticles using SAXS

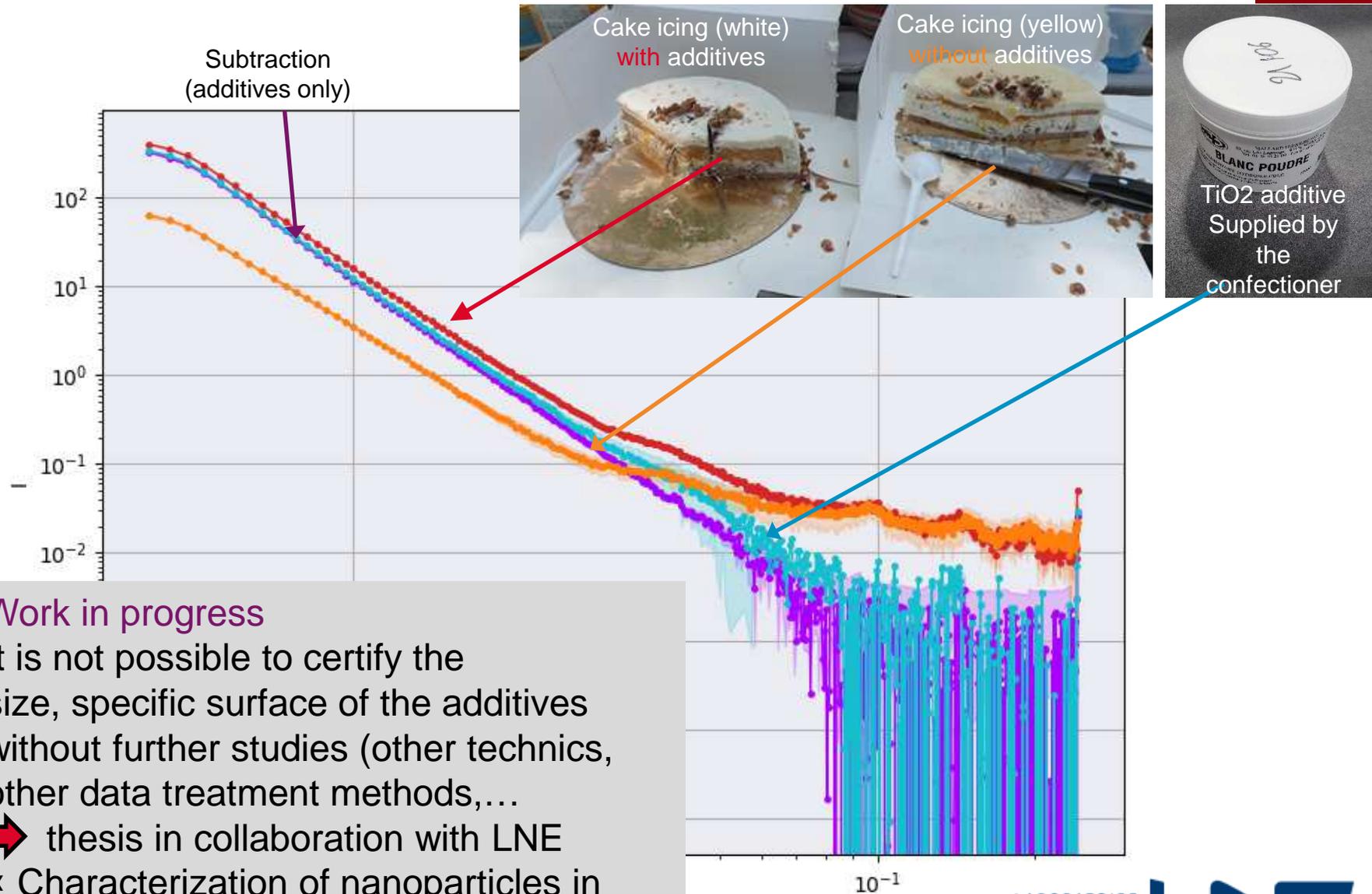
- no standard
- No reference samples
- INNANOPART Project
- Comparison with other techniques

Improvement of the methods

- npSize Project
- Intercomparison

Determination of specific Surface

Application to nanoparticle in complex media



Work in progress

It is not possible to certify the size, specific surface of the additives without further studies (other technics, other data treatment methods,...)

➡ thesis in collaboration with LNE
« Characterization of nanoparticles in complex media »