

## Focus on microbatch-under-oil

### Dear Crystallographer

The microbatch technique uses small drops (140 nL to 8  $\mu$ L) that are sealed with oil. The method was originally developed for protein crystallization but now an important application is emerging for small volume dynamic light scattering (DLS).

### Using microbatch for crystallization

- [Finds hits that vapor diffusion does not find](#)
- Some crystals grown under oil diffract better
- [Fewer problems with skins on drops](#)
- Suitable for growing crystals for XFEL data collection and neutron diffraction.
- Excellent imaging of crystals

The Oryx range of crystallization robots can dispense screening, microseeding and optimization experiments using the microbatch method.

### SpectroLight 600 DLS



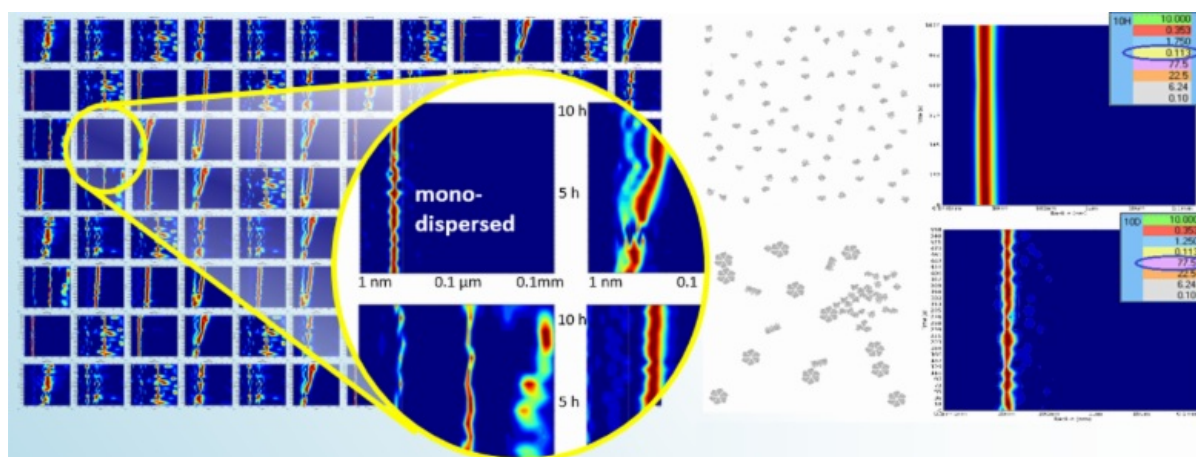
### Using microbatch for DLS

- Best setup for very small volume DLS
- There are fewer reflections at the surface of the drop (because of refractive index matching)
- The setup is compatible with the SpectroLight 600 by [XtalConcepts](#).
- 96 drops can be scanned in a single run
- 7.0  $\mu$ L of sample is sufficient for 96 wells

Single-particle cryoEM clearly has great potential to determine the structures of macromolecules when crystallographic approaches are not available. However the throughput of cryoEM is low, with only one or a few samples being analysed per day. This creates a need for a pre-screening approach that can investigate the behaviour of macromolecules in solution. Douglas Instruments has worked closely with XtalConcepts to develop a screening protocol where e.g. [96 wells can be analyzed by DLS](#) using only a few microlitres of sample.

Falke, S. et al. Journal of synchrotron radiation, 25(2) ([link to PDF](#)).  
<https://www.douglas.co.uk/cryoem.htm>

96 well DLS screen results. Particle radius vs time.



## Douglas Instruments Privacy Policy

For more information about our privacy policy which includes updated information relating to the GDPR, click [here](#).

To request a quotation or demonstration please contact [carolyn@douglas.co.uk](mailto:carolyn@douglas.co.uk)

For product support contact [stefan@douglas.co.uk](mailto:stefan@douglas.co.uk)

For anything else please contact [info@douglas.co.uk](mailto:info@douglas.co.uk)

## Douglas Instruments will be at the following meetings:

Visit our booth and pick up a microseeding toolkit containing everything you need to do a [rMMS microseeding experiment](#) including a Hampton Research Seed Bead and Crystal Crusher.



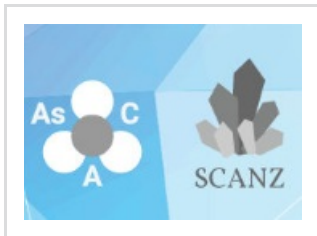
[SMCr, Oaxaca, Mexico](#)

20 October - 25 October 2018



[ICCBM-17, Shanghai, China](#)

27 October - 2 November 2018



[AsCA 2018 Crystal 32, Auckland, NZ](#)

2 December - 5 December 2018

Recent citations of Douglas Instruments products

### [The crystal structure of monoacylglycerol lipase from \*M. tuberculosis\* reveals the basis for specific inhibition](#)

Aschauer, P., Zimmermann, R., Breinbauer, R., Pavkov-Keller, T. and Oberer, M., 2018.

Scientific reports, 8(1), p.8948

### [Structure of a cleavage-independent HIV Env recapitulates the glycoprotein architecture of the native cleaved trimer](#)

Sarkar, A., Bale, S., Behrens, A.J., Kumar, S., Sharma, S.K., de Val, N., Pallesen, J., Irimia, A., Diwanji, D.C., Stanfield, R.L. and Ward, A.B., 2018.

Nature communications, 9(1), p.1956.



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Success in protein crystallization