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| **European Synchrotron Radiation Facility**  **ESRF User Office**  CS 40220, F-38043 GRENOBLE Cedex 9, France  Delivery address: 71 avenue des Martyrs, 38000 GRENOBLE, France  Tel: +33 (0)4 7688 2552; fax: +33 (0)4 7688 2020; email: useroff@esrf.fr; web: http://www.esrf.fr |  |

**Application for beamtime at ESRF – Project Description**

Template for ESRF Standard proposals, CRG proposals, MX Rolling Crystallography, BioSAXS and SSX/TR-SSX proposals.

This document should consist of a **maximum** of **two A4 pages** (including references) with a minimal font size of **12 pt**.

# Proposal Summary:

Help-text to guide your writing – **please delete** this box.

This section is similar to an abstract of a paper. It is meant to attract attention of the reviewer and must summarise the reasons for the proposed experiment. Reviewers should understand exactly what the proposal is about from this summary; the details are given in the following sections.

State the aims and scientific basis of the proposal – what do you want to do, why do you want to do it, how will you do it and what will this investigation add to existing knowledge. The summary and the proposal itself must be written in a way that is readily comprehensible to a scientist from any discipline. It must be self-contained and should not assume prior expert knowledge.

# Scientific background:

Help-text to guide your writing – **please delete** this box.

This section sets the scene for the proposed experiments keeping in mind that the reviewers are familiar with X-ray techniques but can originate from a rather different field of research.

Indicate the fundamental and societal importance of your work in relation to the current state of the art.

Refer to any previous measurements or preliminary characterisation.

Lead the reader to the specific open question(s) that you would like to address in this particular synchrotron experiment. Specify why the research would particularly benefit from SR measurements and explain how these will lead to significant advancements in the field.

**Experimental plan:**

Help-text to guide your writing – **please delete** this box.

Which technique and which setup do you need for your experiment? Are there any special requirements? What is your experiment strategy? Discussing in advance details of your future experiment with the beamline scientist is strongly recommended.

Ensure that the number of investigators listed on the proposal is commensurate with the complexity of the experiment. In the case of a single proposer, comment on the capacity to perform the experiment alone.

Give all relevant and important sample details:

Whenever possible or appropriate, indicate how samples have been (or are going to be) pre-characterized and screened, e.g. using an in-house X-ray setup or alternative techniques. Give sample characterization information, e.g. impurities, stability, solubility (particularly important for biological samples).

Give information on quantity and whether samples are pre-prepared or will need preparation/manipulation, if relevant.

If you designed any special sample container or holder, add a sketch, photo or description.

**Beamline(s) and beamtime requested with justification:**

Help-text to guide your writing – **please delete** this box.

Which beamline(s) do you need and how much beamtime do you request? Support the choice of beamline(s) and the amount of beamtime requested - explain your reasoning and how this is calculated based on the details described in the previous section.

**Results expected and impact - analysis strategy and significance of the results:**

Help-text to guide your writing – **please delete** this box.

Briefly explain how the data will be analysed. Describe models and/or computer software that will be used. What quantitative parameters will be extracted from the data?

What results/information are expected from this analysis? How will this information answer the open question(s) posed in the abstract of this proposal and how will it help advance the respective field of research?

Help-text to guide your writing – **please delete** this box.

Some final advice:

Think of a figure or two to support your proposal as one good picture can replace many words. For example, it can contain a general scheme illustrating the process you want to study, or show your previous in-house or synchrotron data where you pinpoint the problem you would like to tackle this time around.

Properly structure and thoroughly proofread your proposal before submission. Poorly designed text with too many typos can indicate a limited interest in getting beamtime at the ESRF.

Closely follow this template structure - failure to use the official ESRF template will result in a rejection of your proposal on a formal basis.

If you have already performed experiments at the ESRF make sure to submit all your experiment report(s) on past beamtime within 5 days of the proposal submission deadline. Continuation proposals without an experiment report on the original beamtime will be rejected.

List all relevant ESRF publications in the proposal form.

See ["Advice on writing a good proposal"](https://www.esrf.fr/files/live/sites/www/files/UsersAndScience/UserGuide/Applying/Advice_on_writing_a_good_proposal.pdf) in our “Applying for beamtime” web pages for more details.

**References**

[1]

[2]

[3]