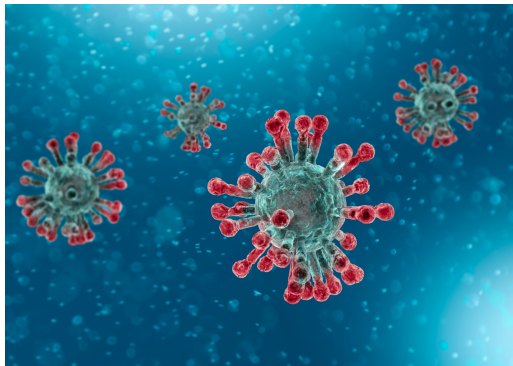


SLS MX beamtime update

Update of the SLS MX beamline operation during the COVID-19 period

Below is an update on the SLS operational status during the COVID-19 period:



- We offer general beamtime to keep the research going for the MX community in both academia and industry.
- We have canceled the Easter shutdown and will operate the SLS five days a week until the end of May (Monday for machine startup, and Tuesday - Saturday morning for user operation).
- We operate the three SLS MX beamlines in 100 % remote mode (i.e., no external users allowed on-site).
- We cover Dewar shipping costs for European academic users.
- The Call for the beamtime proposal for the second half of 2020 is due by April 15th.

We look forward to receiving your samples and proposals at the SLS and we wish to stay well and healthy in these uncertain times.

Read more: <https://www.psi.ch/en/macromolecular-crystallography/scientific-highlights/sls-beamtime-update>

First lasing at new beamline

SwissFEL – Athos is making great strides

The new soft X-ray beamline Athos at SwissFEL has produced its first laser beam. On December 17, 2019, the Athos team watched as the diffuse X-ray light got focused into a characteristic compact spot, signalling lasing (pictured). The achievement came on the first attempt, and earlier than expected. With this milestone passed, the Athos project is well on its way to getting ready for users. The first experimental station, Maloja, is scheduled to be ready in April and should go into operation by the end of the year - although the current pandemic is expected to lead to delays. Athos will eventually deliver laser light in the photon-energy range of 0.25–1.9 keV (6.5–50 Å). With this, the new beamline will complement the hard X-ray line Aramis (2.0–12.4 keV; 1–6 Å), which has provided photon pulses to users since the end of 2017 and with which Athos will operate in parallel.

Read more: <https://www.psi.ch/en/media/our-research/athos-is-making-great-strides>

CALIPSOplus - I3 Access Program for SMEs

Announcement: Rapid access for SMEs and COVID-19 projects



Call for proposals open
from September 3rd, 2019 to
December 19th, 2019

CALIPSOplus, a European Horizon2020 funded research and innovation program, provides access support for SMEs to light sources. SMEs companies working with covid-19 projects are encouraged to apply access to light sources in an easy, rapid and confidential way. Companies interested can send the proposals using the wayforlight portal:

<http://wayforlight.eu/en/industries/sme-access-proposal>

For industry use, SLS and SwissFEL offer direct access through the proprietary route, as well.

Read more: <https://synchrotron-analysis.ch/>