

ADVANCED PHOTON SOURCE

A New Interface for Macromolecular Crystallographers

In 2007, the APS Scientific Advisory Committee conducted a cross-cut review of macromolecular crystallography (MX) at the APS. Among their recommendations was “that APS enhance the ease of access to details of MX activities at the APS, by creating a prominent direct link to them from the APS home page.” As it happened,

APS management was already pursuing just such a utility. The result of that effort is this Web page intended to help MX users find a beamline that matches their research interests. It can be found at <http://www.aps.anl.gov/Users/MX>, and is annotated here (with credit to *Harper’s Magazine* for the original annotation idea).

A plan view of the APS experiment hall provides the foundation for information display.

Click here to see a table of energy ranges for beamlines that support MAD/SAD.

The current deadline for general-user proposals (GUPs), and a link to the GUP proposal system, are prominently displayed.

Click on a visible MX sector number on the experiment hall planview...
...and this pane appears.

- This is the main source of information for each sector:
1. A status indicator. Green = operational/accepting general users.
 2. This links to information in the APS Beamline Directory (http://beam.aps.anl.gov/pls/apsweb/beamline_display_pkg.beamline_dir).
 3. Click here to be directed to the operator’s Web site.
 4. Techniques supported at the beamline.
 5. Source energy range for this beamline.

The information in this top section can be displayed by either discipline or technique.

In this case, the list is of techniques. Clicking on any of them displays only the sector numbers (on the “experiment hall”) where that technique is available.

Useful links.

Instructions. Essential.

Choose a preferred access mode and the sectors matching that mode are highlighted.

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CALL FOR APS GENERAL-USER PROPOSALS

The Advanced Photon Source is open to experimenters from all scientific disciplines. General-user proposals for beam time during Run 2008-3 are due by Friday, July 11, 2008.

Information on access to beam time at the APS is at http://www.aps.anl.gov/Users/apply_for_beamtime.html or contact Dr. Dennis Mills, DMM@aps.anl.gov, 630/252-5680.