



Abstract ID : 69

Intermediate-range order in glassy oxide materials revealed by topological analyses

Content

The structural analysis of glassy materials remains a challenging topic in materials science, primarily due to the absence of long-range order. However, a combination of quantum beam (X-ray/neutron) diffraction measurements, computer simulations, and advanced topological analyses [1,2] focused on rings, cavities, and homologies, enables the investigation of intermediate-range order [3–6], which exists on a length scale larger than atomic bond lengths in glassy materials.

In this presentation, we focus on the intermediate-range order in glassy oxide materials. In particular, recent research in silica [7] and silicate [8] glasses is highlighted, where it was found that topology is a significant structural feature for understanding structure–property relationships in glassy materials. Furthermore, a recent work on the formation of a zirconium oxide crystal nucleus in the initial nucleation stage in aluminosilicate glass-ceramics investigated by anomalous X-ray scattering is addressed [9].

References

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Contribution Type: Invited

Submitted by FISCHER, Henry on Thursday, November 13, 2025