



Elettra  
Sincrotrone  
Trieste



International Centre for Genetic  
Engineering and Biotechnology



Protein Production and Purification  
Partnership in Europe

# 19th Annual Meeting

Trieste, 22-23 May 2023





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# Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste

Elettra Synchrotron Radiation Facility

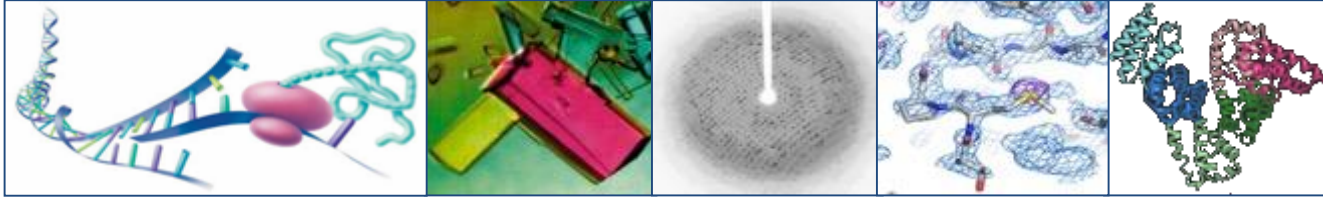
Structural  
Biology  
Lab

- 400 employees
- 34 beamlines
- 12 support lab
- >5000 hours /year
- more than 1000 scientists from more than 50 countries

FERMI seeded Free Electron Laser Facility



# The Structural Biology Laboratory



**AIM:** Apply molecular and structural biology tools to study key processes within the cell that are linked with major diseases such as **cancer, neurodegeneration and infection** and to characterize some of the proteins involved. We use **protein crystallography** to determine the atomic structure of these proteins, as well as **biochemical** and **biophysical** approaches to understand how they work.



- protein production facility
- crystallization suite



**Silvia Onesti**

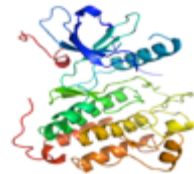
Structural & functional aspects of DNA replication and repair, DNA/RNA helicases, protein crystallography, electron microscopy.



**Paola Storici**

Cancer cell signalling, drug discovery on kinases, deubiquitinases, and SARS-CoV-2 proteases, protein production, biochemistry, protein crystallography.

Offer specialized expertise in protein expression and purification to **support academic and industrial R&D** for functional and structural characterization of proteins in **synergy with Elettra beamlines**.



- **Collaborative research** —
  - *Fundamental Research Projects*
  - *Proprietary Research Projects*
- **Tailor-sized, open-minded, versatile support**
- **Tutoring inexperienced users**

# Crystallization Suite @ Elettra (present set-up)

A **robotized crystallization platform** is available to screen hundreds of conditions to find crystal forms using **small amount of pure proteins**



Tecan FreedomEVO150



*TTP Labtech  
Mosquito*



*Explora Nova Xtal Focus  
VUO based monitoring*

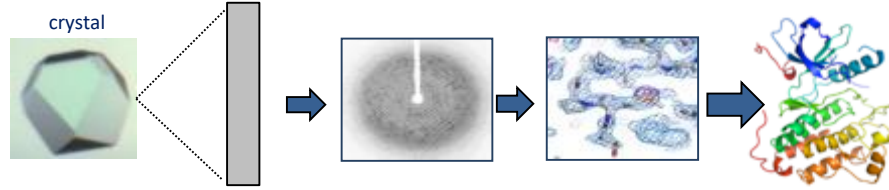
*The crystallization suite is undergoing a refurbishment and upgrade to offer support to **external users***



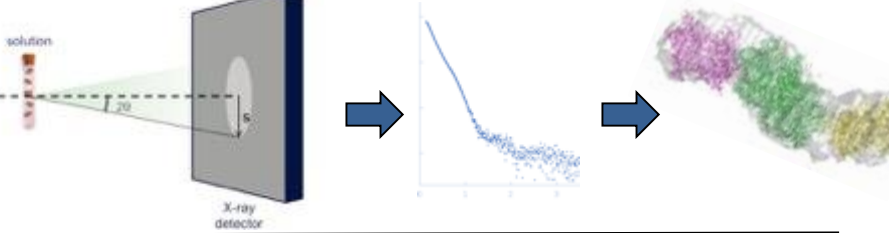
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# Integrative Structural Biology at Elettra

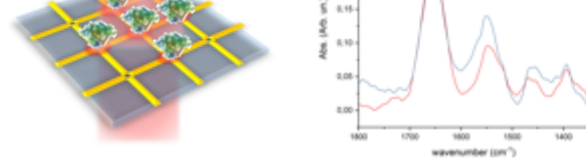
X-Ray crystallography => **XRD2 beamline**



Small Angle X-Ray Scattering => **Austrian SAXS beamline**



Surface Enhanced InfraRed Absorption (SEIRA) spectroscopy => **SISSI beamline**

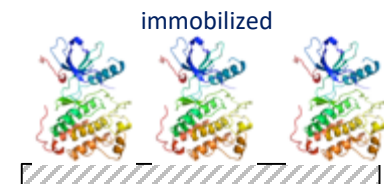
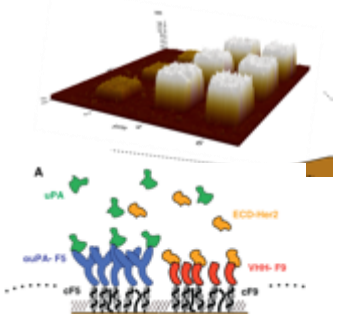
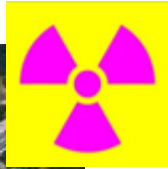


Atomic Force Microscopy => **NanoLab**



# CERIC

Central European  
Research Infrastructure  
Consortium



# Structural Based Drug Design at Elettra



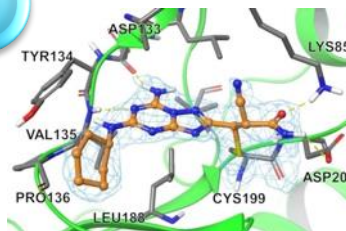
HT Cloning

Expression

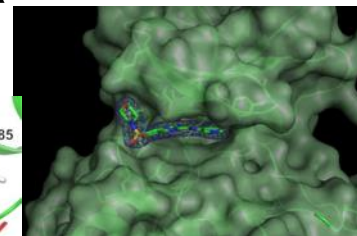
Purification

Scale-up

QC



S. Redenti *et al.*, *ChemMedChem.* (2018)



X-ray structure of kinase GSK-3 $\beta$  with inhibitor covalently bound in ATP pocket

Elettra  
15%

Academia  
40%

Industry  
15%

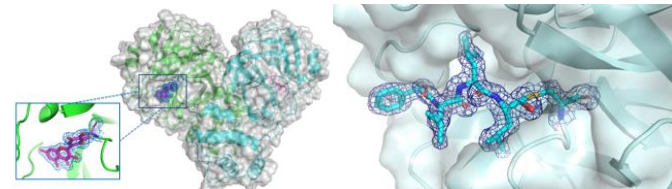
Projects

Private  
Inst  
10%

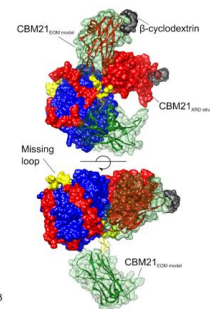
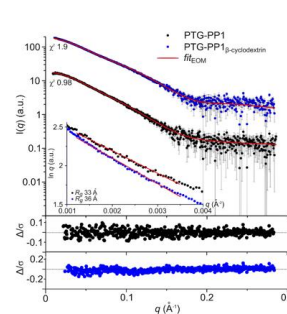
Public Inst.  
20%

## EXSCALATE 4COV

SBDD of  
SARS-CoV2  
Mpro



E. Costanzi *et al.*, *Int J Mol Sci* 2021



Molecular  
architecture of  
glycogen  
committed  
PP1/PTG  
holoenzyme

M.S. Semrau *et al.*, *Nature Comm* (2022)

## Pathogen Readiness Platform for CERIC ERIC Upgrade

### Activity 3.1

#### Upgrade the Elettra Protein Facility

##### Potentiate expression and purification set-up

- floor centrifuge of preparative scale
- 2-3 incubators for insect and mammalian cells
- 2-3 FPLC systems

##### Potentiate Protein QC and binding analysis

- Mass Photometry System
- microscale thermophoresis system

### Activity 3.2

#### Upgrade HT-crystallization Suite

- HT crystallization robot (Mosquito)
- Integrated system for crystal storage and imaging

### Activity 4.1

#### Upgrades are proficient to establish a Cryo-EM facility for SB CNR-IOM in partnership with Elettra

- 200 keV microscope with direct electron detector
- facility for single particle and cellular analysis Cryo-ET





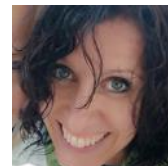
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Thank you!!



### **The PF@Elettra team:**

- Marta S. Semrau – *scientist*
- Theo Battista – *postdoc*
- Andrei Gerisimov – *postdoc*
- Federica Ruzzier – *technician*
- Stefano Morasso – *PhD student*
- Livia Palumbo – *student*
- Rachele Ortolan – *student*
- Eleonora Parolin – *guest PhD student*



Barbara Giabbai – past team member

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[www.elettra.eu](http://www.elettra.eu)