

Supplement

Table S1: Description of access and services offered at each facility

Birkbeck College, Institute of Structural and Molecular Biology: established and run collaboratively by several groups within the ISMB, access fee is charged to grant funding. Training and assistance provided for cryo-EM sample optimization, data collection and processing.

Caltech: Staff assistance available for sample prep, data collection and processing; Remote monitoring of data collection; Daily user fee for high-end TEMs and hourly user fee for low-end TEM.

eBIC: Krios microscopes are loaded and operated by eBIC staff and free at the point-of-access to all peer-reviewed users. Proprietary microscope access is also available.

EMBL Heidelberg Staff assistance available for data collection for one day per session, offered services will be expanded in the future (sample prep & screening). No hourly fee but overall charge to institution. Access for external users can be covered by the European Infrastructure grant iNext.

Florida State University: Two modes of access: 1) Fee for BSIR access with hourly access to conventional microscopes and daily access to the Titan 2) free access to the Titan for SECM4 members. Remote monitoring of Titan data collection. Staff assistance with data collection and microscope usage.

HMS: Users are individually trained by staff to use microscopes and equipment; Users are expected to perform all sample prep, data collection and processing; Automated data collection available, but no remote access; Currently, no fees for academic use.

JRC: Offers service to cover the entire cryoEM workflow from sample preparation to image processing. Users can come onsite or stay remote. Data collection on the Krios is charged with a daily rate.

McGill: FEMR offers a comprehensive range of electron microscopy resources, expertise and services for both routine and advanced electron microscopy imaging of biological samples and beam-sensitive materials. Staff assistance available for all techniques and samples. Daily user fee for high-end TEMs. Hourly user fee for other instruments. Fee structure available in website.

NeCEN: Staff assistance available for cryo-EM sample loading and data collection on high-end TEMs. Daily user fee for high-end TEMs. The NeCEN facility is closely affiliated with groups at the Institute of Biology (IBL) the faculty of Science (LUMC). In those groups systems available for an hourly user fee (IBL) and free of charge (LUMC).

NYSBC: Staff assistance available for sample prep, data collection and processing; Remote monitoring of data collection; No hourly fee but overall charge to institution.

Northwestern University: Training and consultation in sample preparation and Legikon based automated data collection. Staff assisted data collection and independent access for qualified users. Hourly rates with discounted pricing after regular hours.

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OHSU: The Multiscale Microscopy Core (MMC) at OHSU offers multiple levels of service that correspond with the analysis and/or training each user desires. Training on the instruments can be provided for individuals who anticipate having long-term EM projects. Assistance is available for cryo-EM sample preparation, loading, microscope usage and data collection on the cryo-TEMs. There is an hourly user fee for all MMC instruments.

Rockefeller University: Users are trained by senior staff on all aspects of sample preparation and data collection. Users are assisted by staff until they have mastered microscope operation; however, sample loading is always done by staff members. Daily charge rate for use is heavily subsidized by the University.

UCSF: Staff assistance available for Cryo-EM sample loading and data collection on high-end TEMs. Daily user fee for high-end TEMs. Hourly user fee for other instruments.

Yale: Consultation available for Cryo-EM sample optimization and data processing. Assistance available for Cryo-EM sample loading and data collection on high-end TEMs. Daily user fee for high-end TEMs. Hourly user fee for other instruments.