ESRF

ESRF	**Experiment title:** Screening micro-crystals of integral membrane ion pumps	**Experiment number**: LS-2040
Beamline: ID13	**Date of experiment**: from: Sept. 10, 2001 to: Sept. 11, 2001	**Date of report**: March 1, 2002
Shifts: 3	**Local contact(s)**: David Flot	*Received at ESRF:*

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Report:

The microdiffractometer is a perfect tool to explore the power diffraction of micro-crystals with typical sizes of 10 microns or even less. The experimental set-up allows a very precise location of the crystal and the small size of the beam reduces drastically the background scattering. This is particularly important for membrane protein crystals grown in lipidic cubic phases, as crystals are often surrounded by the lipid phase. In total 8 crystals from two different membrane proteins were tested. Although the crystals were colored and nice looking with sharp edges, no diffraction spots could be observed.