

W0410

The Bench Top X-ray Diffractometer as an Effective Teaching Tool. Ronald E. Benson, Rigaku Americas Corporation, 9009 New Trails Dr., The Woodlands, TX 77381 USA.

A small bench top x-ray diffractometer was recently developed that features simplified hardware and almost fully automated software. These advances in technology ensure that the user spends less time on maintaining hardware or learning the nuances of complicated software and more time teaching students. The simplified hardware makes it easy for undergraduates to learn to mount and center crystals. The automated software allows students to dedicate more time learning the fundamental concepts of diffraction theory, structure solution, and structure refinement. The Rigaku SCXmini presents these hardware and software advances in a compact area that fits easily into any research or teaching laboratory.