



## NANOSTAR DLS FAQ

### **How do I get started?**

Before you make an appointment for training, do some background reading to familiarize yourself with the principles of the technique and determine whether it's likely that it will work for your system. Finding a relevant paper in the literature or checking out one of the references on this website would be a good place to start.

### **How do I arrange for a training session for the instrument?**

Contact Bradley Turner ([bif@mit.edu](mailto:bif@mit.edu) or 617-452-2051) to find out how long training will take and to make an appointment when you and he and the instrument are all free at the same time.

### **How do I make reservations for the instrument?**

The reservation for the initial training session will be made by Brad. After you're trained, you'll make reservations online through the Exchange calendar if you're an MIT person. People from outside MIT will need to ask Brad to make reservations for them.

### **What do I need to bring with me?**

You only need to bring your samples but they need to be free of extraneous particulate matter so either filter them or spin them to remove it. We have plastic cuvettes which hold 10-70 ul or 70-2000 ul.

### **Are there any restrictions on what materials I can put into the DLS?**

Any solutions which are at or below BL1 level are fine. The plastic cuvettes are not resistant to all solvents. See list in the BIF or ask Brad.

### **How long does it take to do a reading?**

It takes 6 minutes to get the NanoStar set up but the readings take only 50 seconds.

### **Do I have to do all my data analysis in the BIF?**

No, we have a site license for the Dynamics 7.1.9 software so you can take that with you on a flash drive and install it on your own PC. (doesn't work on Macs) Take the .exe file and get the Activation Key from Brad.

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