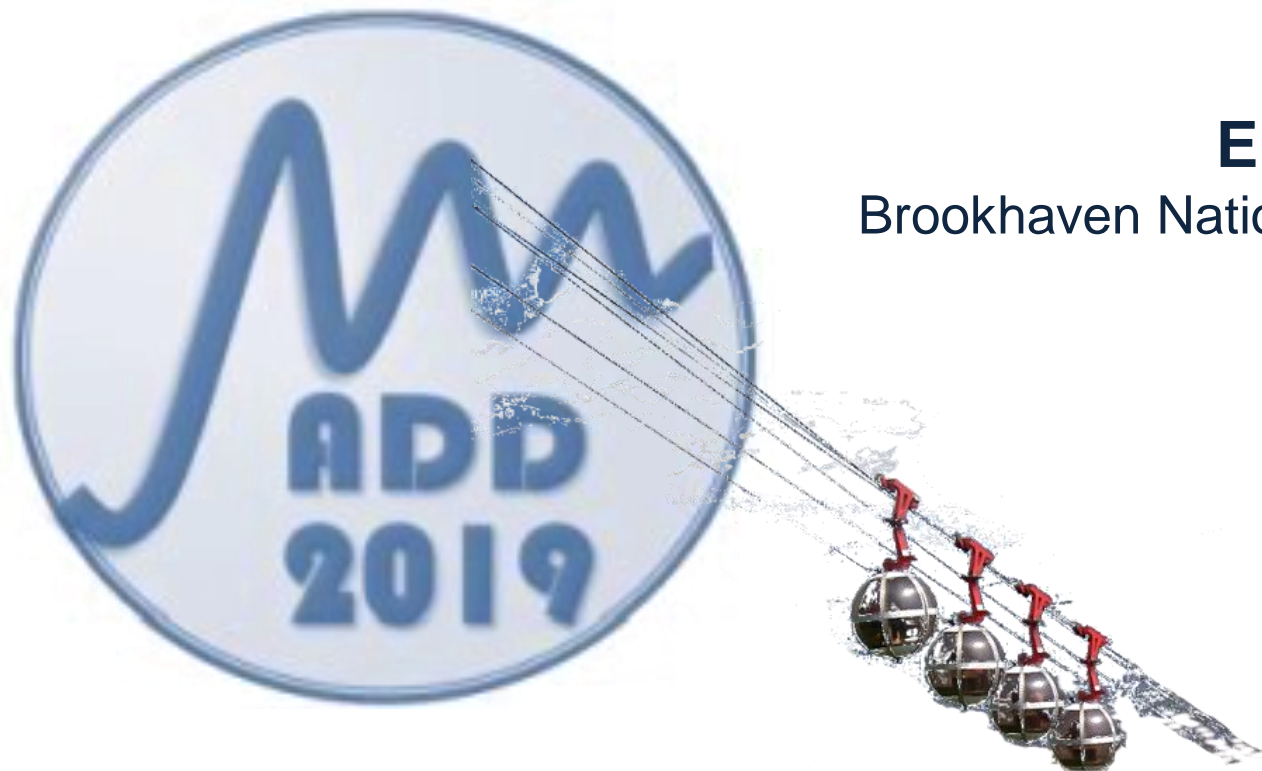


PDFgui – a small box modelling platform for nanoscale structure analysis



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Brookhaven National Laboratory

ADD2019

School and Conference on Analysis of Diffraction Data in Real Space
EPN campus, Grenoble, 17-22 March 2019

March 18, 2019

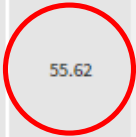


A reflection on PDFgui usage

Use the checkboxes to remove individual items from this Citation Report

or restrict to items published between and

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total	Average Citations per Year
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. PDFfit2 and PDFgui: computer programs for studying nanostructure in crystals By: Farrow, C. L.; Juhas, P.; Liu, J. W.; et al. Conference: 3rd Workshop on Reverse Monte Carlo Methods Location: Budapest, HUNGARY Date: SEP 28-30, 2006 JOURNAL OF PHYSICS-CONDENSED MATTER Volume: 19 Issue: 33 Article Number: 335219 Published: AUG 22 2007	200	217	198	268	43	1506	125.50
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. PDFgetX3: a rapid and highly automatable program for processing powder diffraction data into total scattering pair distribution functions By: Juhas, P.; Davis, T.; Farrow, C. L.; et al. JOURNAL OF APPLIED CRYSTALLOGRAPHY Volume: 46 Pages: 560-566 Part: 2 Published: APR 2013	83	93	81	119	14	723	55.62
	42	50	57	68	15	267	38.14



Outline

- Introductory notes on PDF approach
- On small box modelling in general and PDFgui in particular
- PDFgui parameters, concepts, and layout
- Agenda for hands-on part and examples to be covered



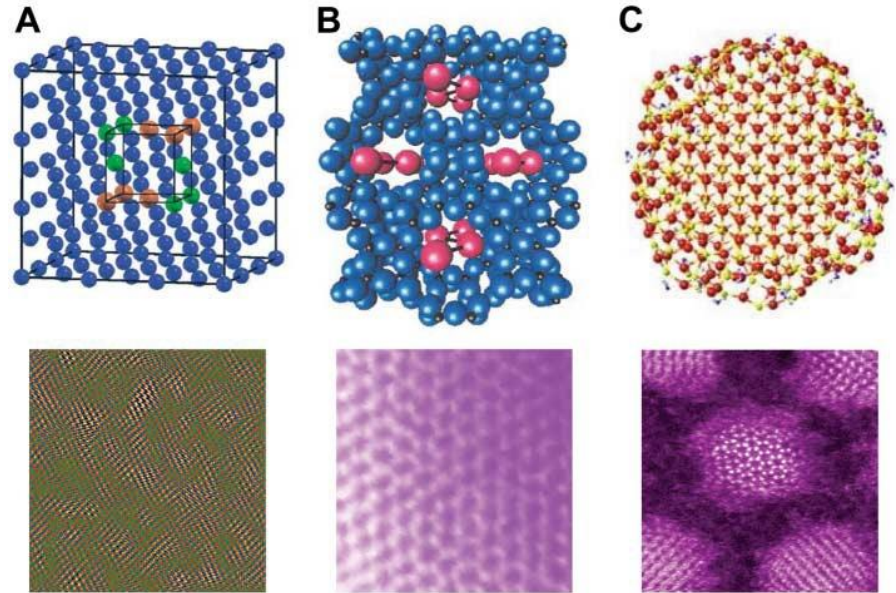
PDF approach

- Choosing the right tool for the problem

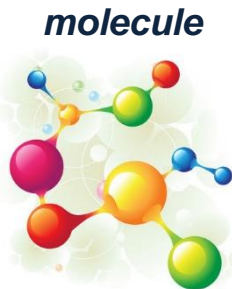


PDF approach

- Non crystalline materials (liquids, amorphous solids, polymers)
- Nanoscale materials
- Disordered crystalline systems with nanoscale heterogeneities



S.J.L. Billinge and I. Levin, **The Problem with Determining Atomic Structure at the Nanoscale**, *Science* **316**, 561 (2007).



PDF approach

- Considering scattering contrast

- Considering absorption

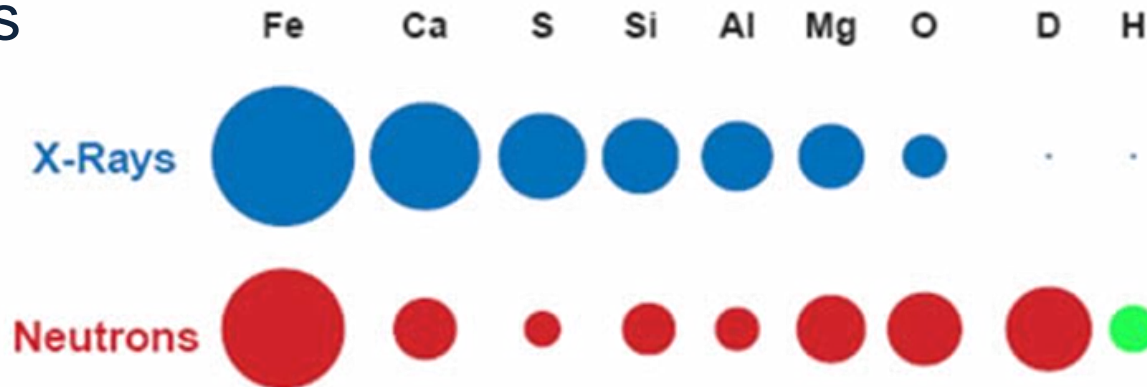
hydrogen 1 H 1.00794	beryllium 4 Be 9.012182	boron 5 B 10.811	carbon 6 C 12.011	nitrogen 7 N 14.007	oxygen 8 O 15.999	fluorine 9 F 18.998	neon 10 Ne 20.180	scandium 21 Sc 44.956	titanium 22 Ti 47.867	vanadium 23 V 50.942	chromium 24 Cr 51.996	manganese 25 Mn 54.938	iron 26 Fe 55.845	cobalt 27 Co 58.933	nickel 28 Ni 58.693	copper 29 Cu 63.546	zinc 30 Zn 65.39	gallium 31 Ga 69.723	germanium 32 Ge 72.61	arsenic 33 As 74.922	selenium 34 Se 78.96	bromine 35 Br 79.904	krypton 36 Kr 83.80	rubidium 37 Rb 85.468	strontium 38 Sr 87.62	yttrium 39 Y 88.906	zirconium 40 Zr 91.224	niobium 41 Nb 92.906	molybdenum 42 Mo 95.91	technetium 43 Tc [98]	ruthenium 44 Ru 101.07	rhodium 45 Rh 102.91	silver 46 Ag 107.87	cadmium 47 Cd 112.41	indium 48 In 114.82	tin 49 Sn 118.71	antimony 50 Sb 121.76	tellurium 51 Te 127.60	iodine 52 I 126.90	xenon 53 Xe 131.29	cesium 55 Cs 132.91	barium 56 Ba 137.33	* 57-70 *	lanthanum 57 La 138.91	cerium 58 Ce 140.12	praseodymium 59 Pr 140.91	neodymium 60 Nd 144.24	promethium 61 Pm [145]	samarium 62 Sm 150.36	europium 63 Eu 151.96	gadolinium 64 Gd 157.25	terbium 65 Tb 158.93	dysprosium 66 Dy 162.50	holmium 67 Ho 164.93	erbium 68 Er 167.26	thulium 69 Tm 168.93	ytterbium 70 Yb 173.04	francium 87 Fr [223]	radium 88 Ra [226]	** 89-102 **	actinium 89 Ac [227]	thorium 90 Th 232.04	protactinium 91 Pa 231.04	uranium 92 U 238.03	neptunium 93 Np [237]	plutonium 94 Pu [244]	americium 95 Am [243]	curium 96 Cm [247]	berkelium 97 Bk [247]	californium 98 Cf [251]	einsteinium 99 Es [252]	fermium 100 Fm [257]	mendelevium 101 Md [258]	nobelium 102 No [259]	bohrium 107 Bh [264]	hassium 108 Hs [269]	meitnerium 109 Mt [268]	unnilium 110 Uun [271]	ununium 111 Uuu [273]	unbinium 112 Uub [277]	ununseptium 114 Uuq [289]	bohrium 107 Bh [264]	hassium 108 Hs [269]	meitnerium 109 Mt [268]	unnilium 110 Uun [271]	ununium 111 Uuu [273]	unbinium 112 Uub [277]	ununseptium 114 Uuq [289]
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* Lanthanide series

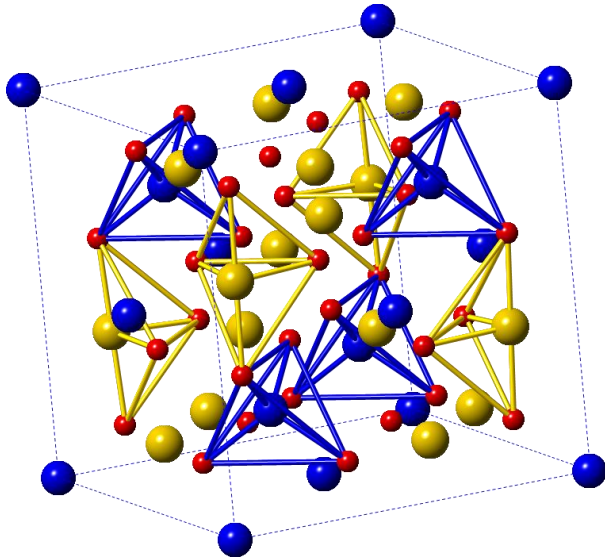
** Actinide series

lanthanum 57 La 138.91	cerium 58 Ce 140.12	praseodymium 59 Pr 140.91	neodymium 60 Nd 144.24	promethium 61 Pm [145]	samarium 62 Sm 150.36	europium 63 Eu 151.96	gadolinium 64 Gd 157.25	terbium 65 Tb 158.93	dysprosium 66 Dy 162.50	holmium 67 Ho 164.93	erbium 68 Er 167.26	thulium 69 Tm 168.93	ytterbium 70 Yb 173.04
actinium 89 Ac [227]	thorium 90 Th 232.04	protactinium 91 Pa 231.04	uranium 92 U 238.03	neptunium 93 Np [237]	plutonium 94 Pu [244]	americium 95 Am [243]	curium 96 Cm [247]	berkelium 97 Bk [247]	californium 98 Cf [251]	einsteinium 99 Es [252]	fermium 100 Fm [257]	mendelevium 101 Md [258]	nobelium 102 No [259]

- Considering isotopes and resonances



PDF recap



$$I_{tot} = I_{sam} + I_{bgrd}$$

$$I_{sam} = A \cdot P \cdot [C \cdot I_{coh} + I_{inc} + I_{mul}]$$

$$S(Q) = \frac{I_{coh}(Q) - \langle b^2 \rangle + \langle b \rangle^2}{\langle b \rangle^2} \quad Q = \frac{4\pi \sin \theta}{\lambda}$$

$$G(r) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} Q (S(Q) - 1) \sin Qr \, dQ$$

Raw data



Data reduction



PDF

interatomic distance, r (Å)



Relationship to structure

$$G(r) = \frac{1}{Nr\langle b \rangle^2} \sum_{i \neq j} b_i b_j \delta(r - r_{ij}) - 4\pi r \rho_0$$





Atomic PDF skeleton

r_{ij} – interatomic distance between atoms i and j

Relationship to structure

$$G(r) = \frac{1}{N r \langle b \rangle^2} \sum_{i \neq j} b_i b_j \delta(r - r_{ij}) - 4\pi r \rho_0$$

Annotations for the equation above:

- $\rho_0 = N/V$ average number density (number of atoms per unit volume)
- r – running variable (distance)
- $b_i b_j$ scattering “scale” for pair of atoms i and j weighted by averaged scattering “strength”

Neutrons: b_{coh}
 X-rays: $f(Q=0)$, effectively Z

Experimental setup limitations

Truncation effects in Fourier transform (termination ripples, limited r -resolution)

Ideally one would like to have

$$G(r) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{Q_{\text{MIN}}}^{Q_{\text{MAX}}} Q (S(Q) - 1) \sin Qr \, dQ$$

Annotations for the equation above:

- Q_{MAX} (marked with a red X) indicates the upper limit of the Q-range.
- Q_{MIN} (marked with a red X) indicates the lower limit of the Q-range.

- broad Q-range
- good Q-resolution

Small angle scattering information is missing

This is not always essential!



PDFgui – awareness of various effects

Some effects that should be accounted for

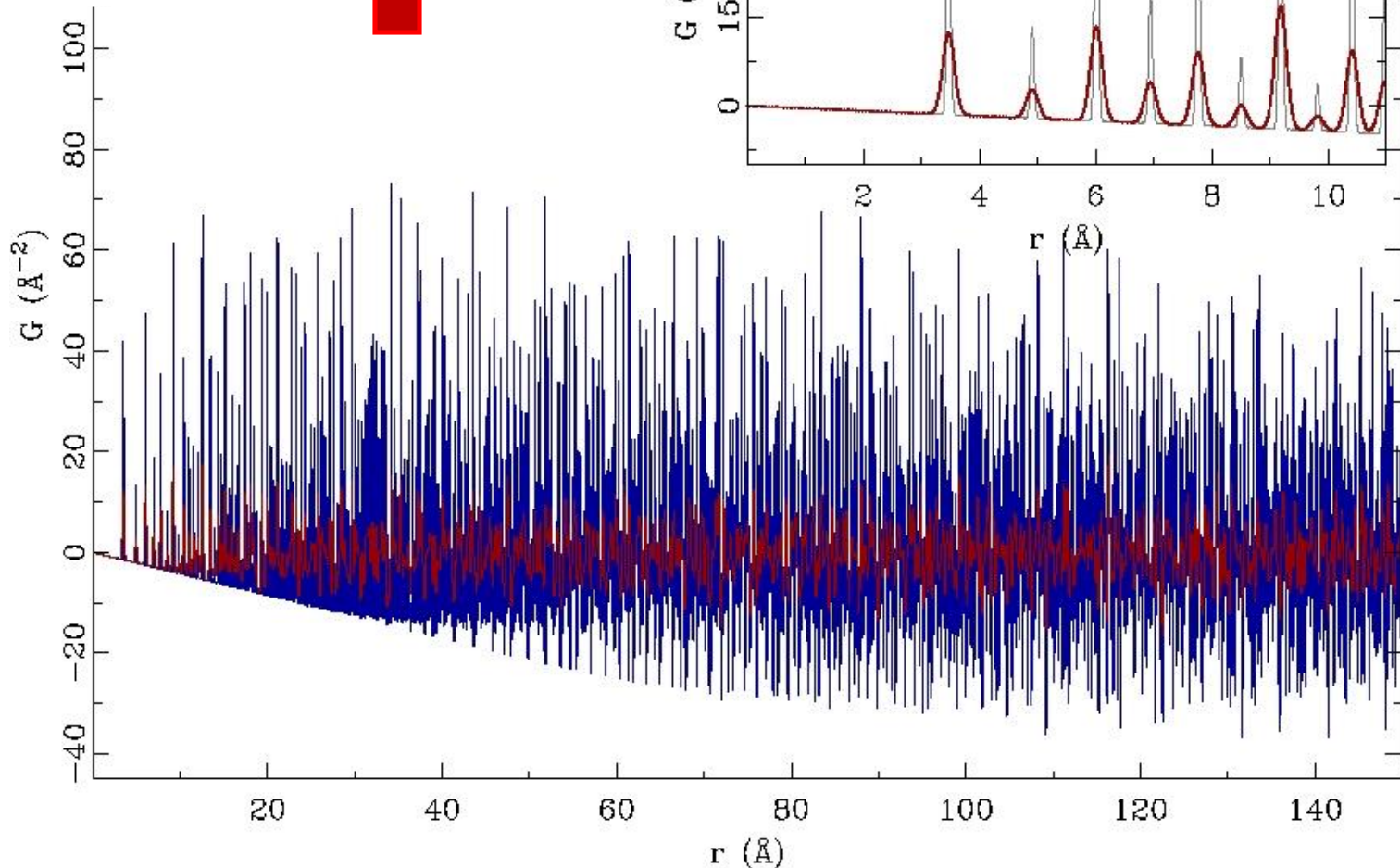
- Thermal broadening
- Correlated motion of nearest neighbours
- Finite Q_{MAX} (truncation)
- Limited Q-space resolution
- Particle size



PDF: effect of thermal broadening

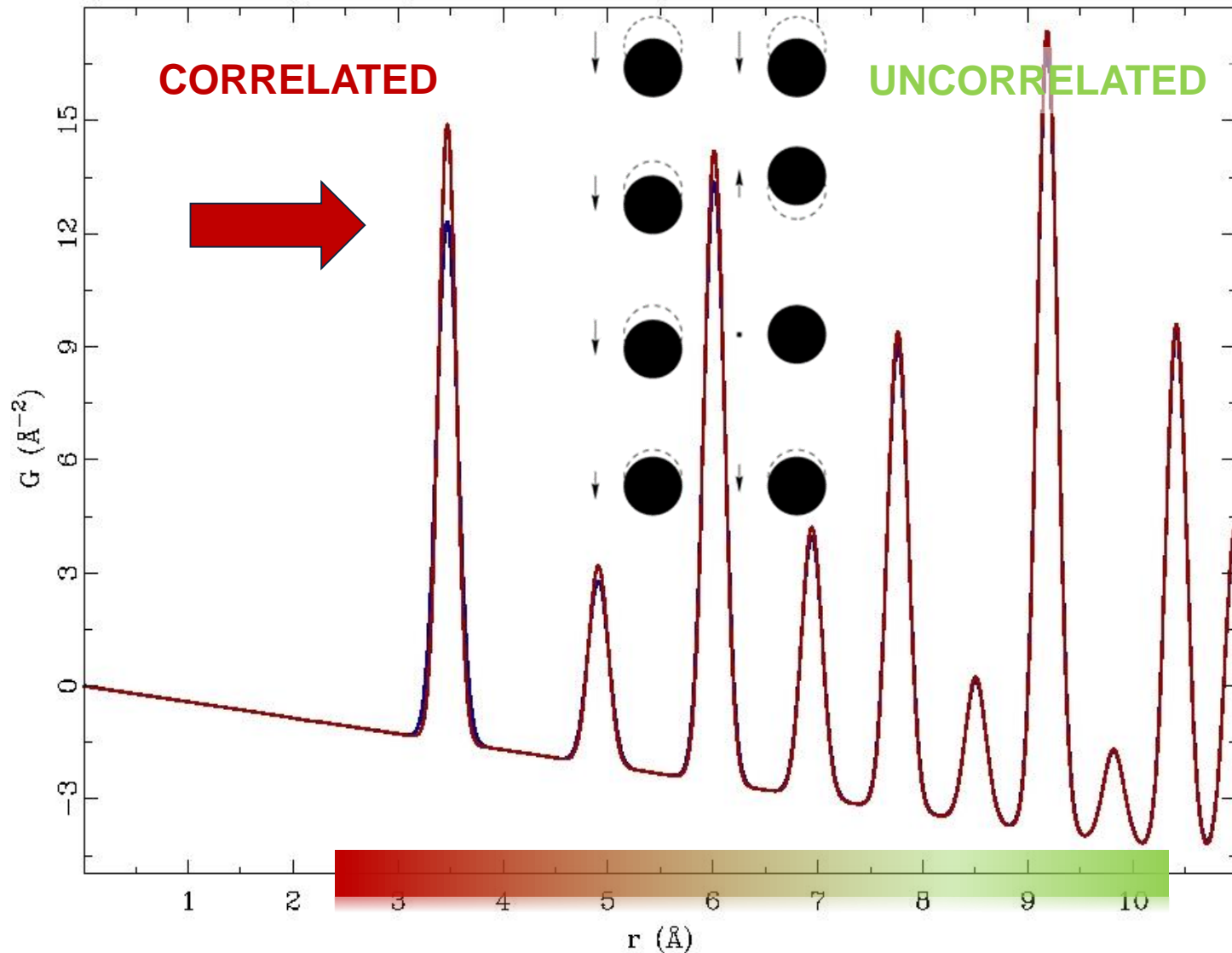
Effect of thermal motion U_{iso} on PDF
(thermal displacement parameters)

$$F(Q) = \frac{1}{N(f)^2} \sum_{i \neq j} f_j^* f_i \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sigma_{ij}^2 Q^2\right) \frac{\sin(Qr_{ij})}{r_{ij}}$$

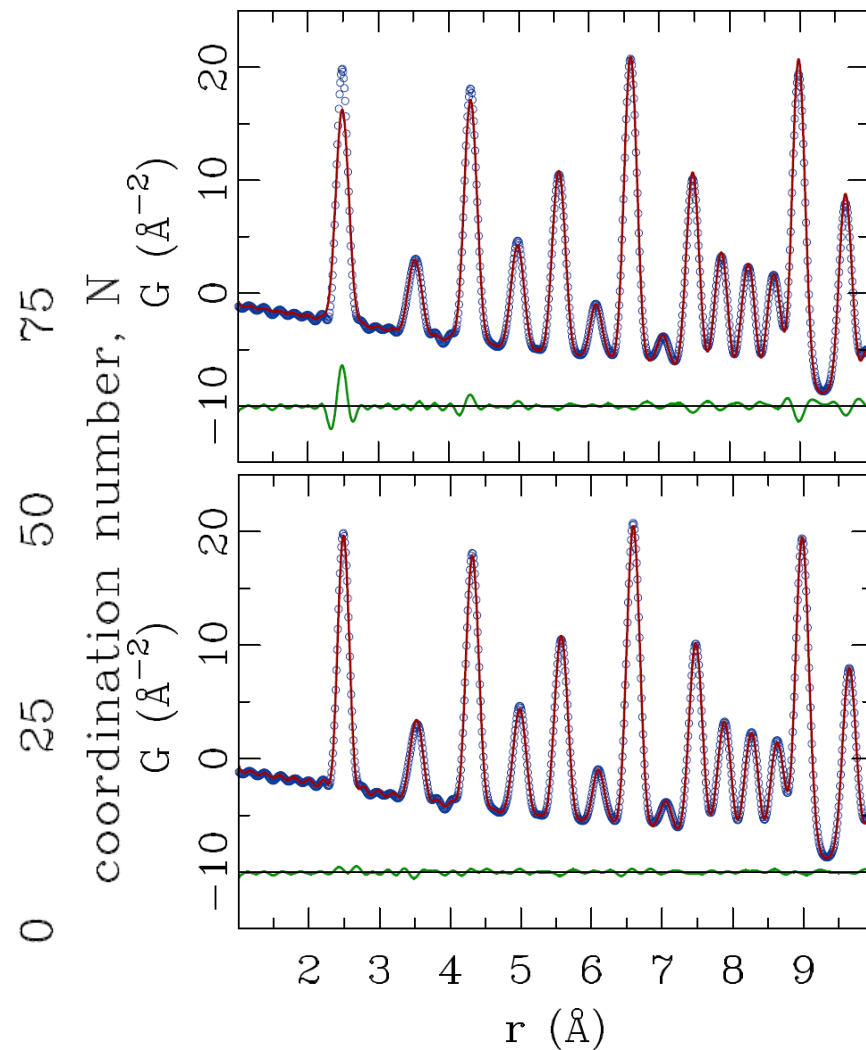
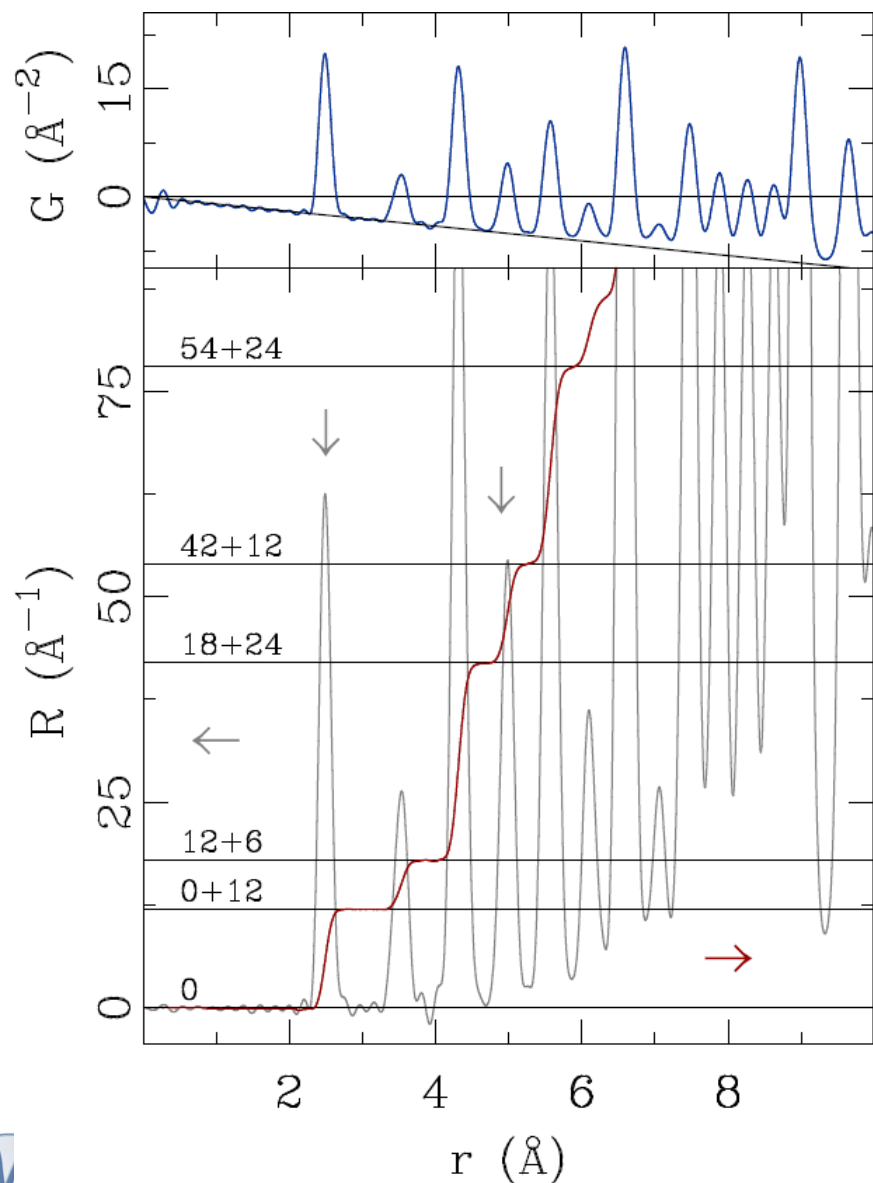


PDF: effect of correlated atomic motion

Effect of correlated atomic motion on PDF
(nearest neighbor peak SHARPENS)



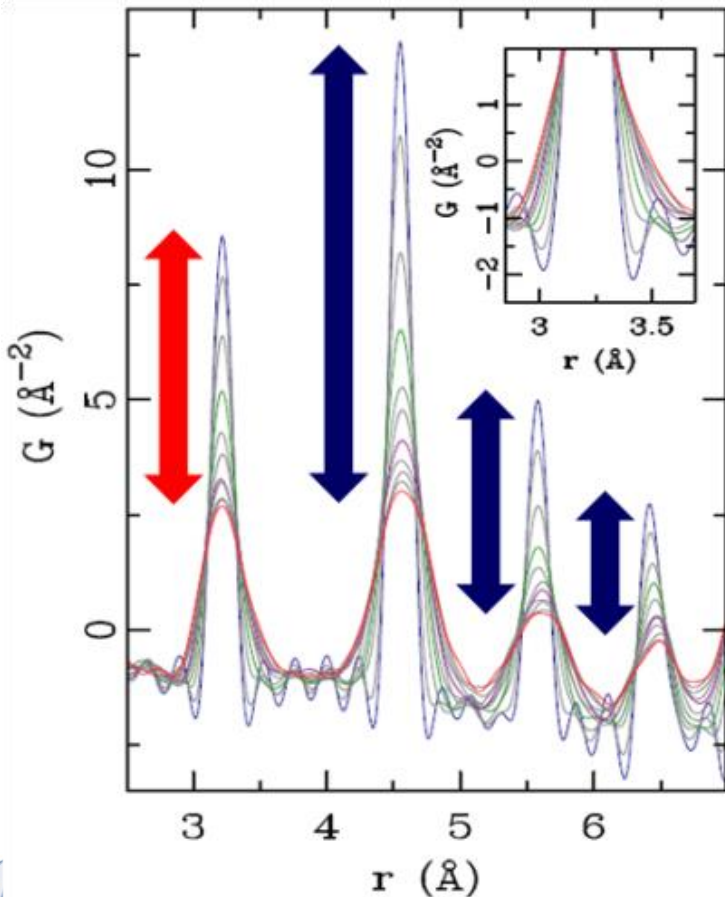
PDF: effect of correlated atomic motion



PDF: correlated atomic motion outlaws

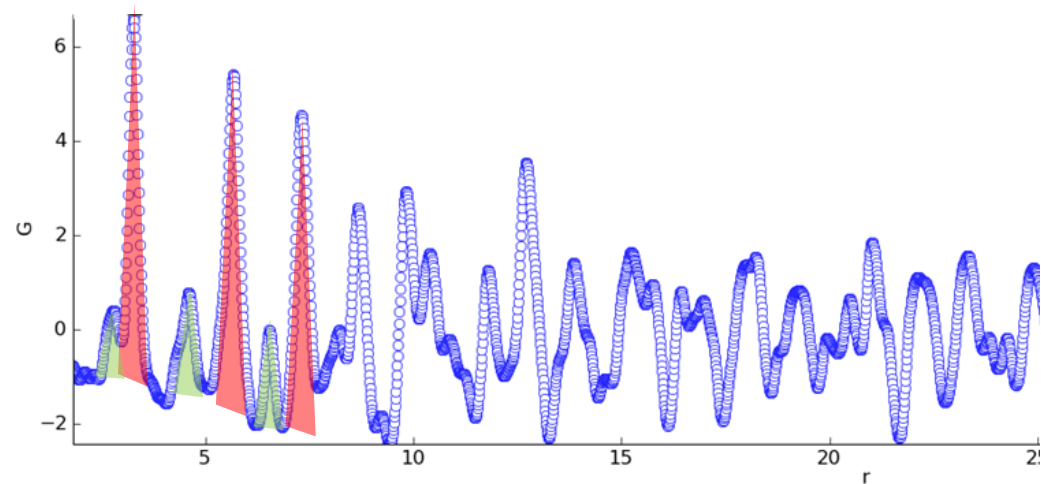
Weak effects
(e.g. PbTe)

break the rule



Strong effects
(e.g. in CeCoIn_5)

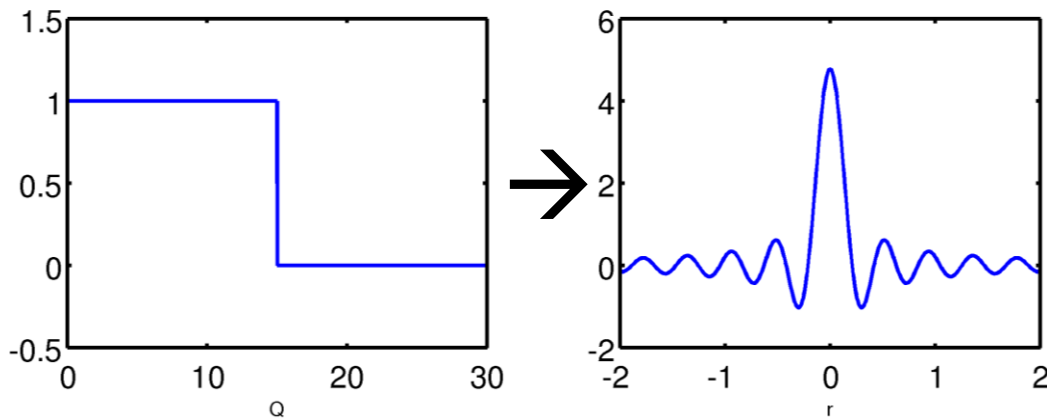
difficult to model



PDF: effect of finite Q_{\max} (truncation)

Effects from finite Q -range

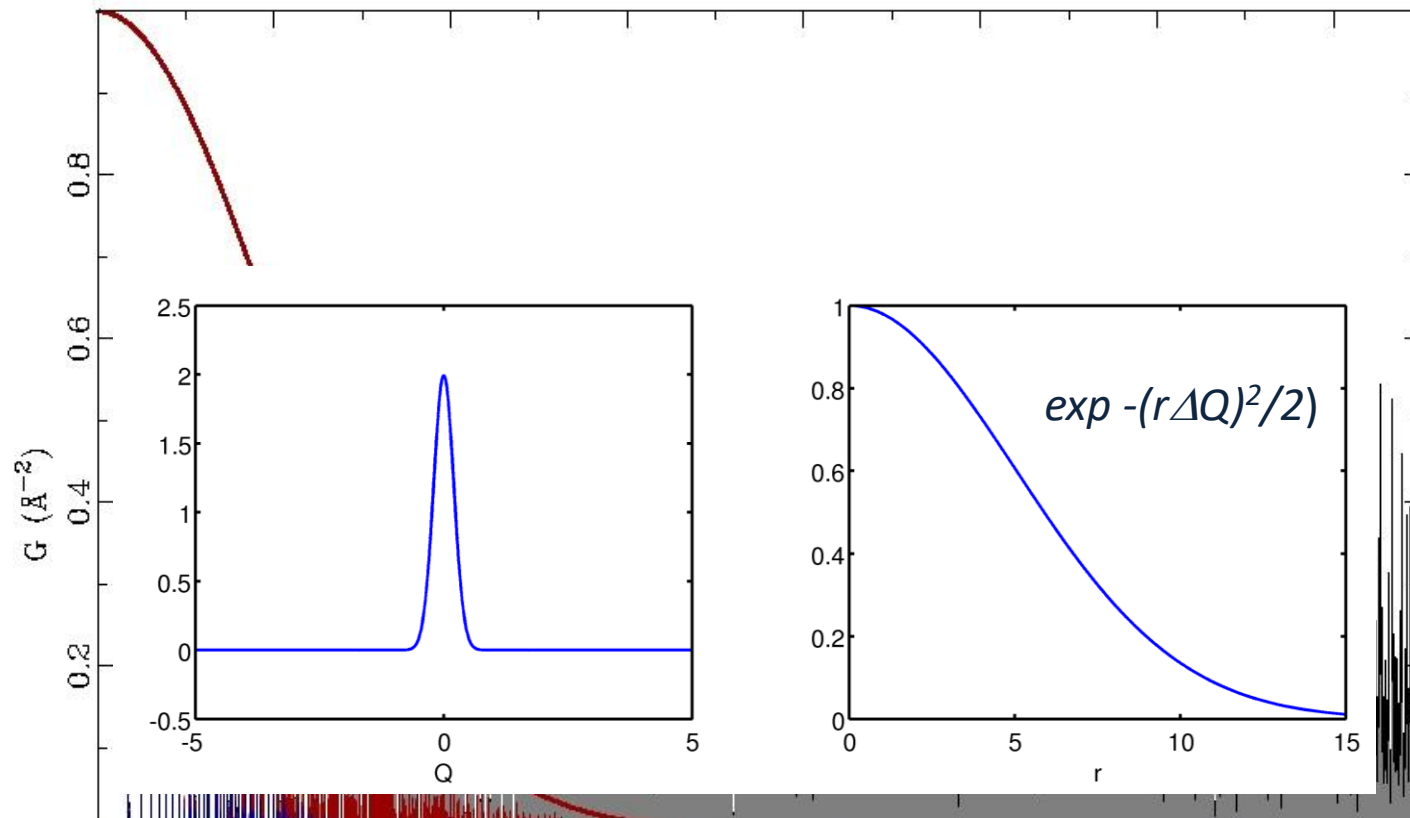
$$G(r) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{Q_{\max}} F(Q) \sin Qr \, dQ$$



- ideal $F(Q)$ is multiplied by a step function
- $G(r)$ gets convoluted with a sinc function $\text{sinc}(r) = \sin(Q_{\max} r) / r \rightarrow$
 r -resolution $\approx \pi/Q_{\max}$
- **good r -resolution of G requires large Q_{\max}**
 $Q = 4\pi \sin \theta/\lambda \rightarrow$ best results with TOF neutrons or high-energy x-rays

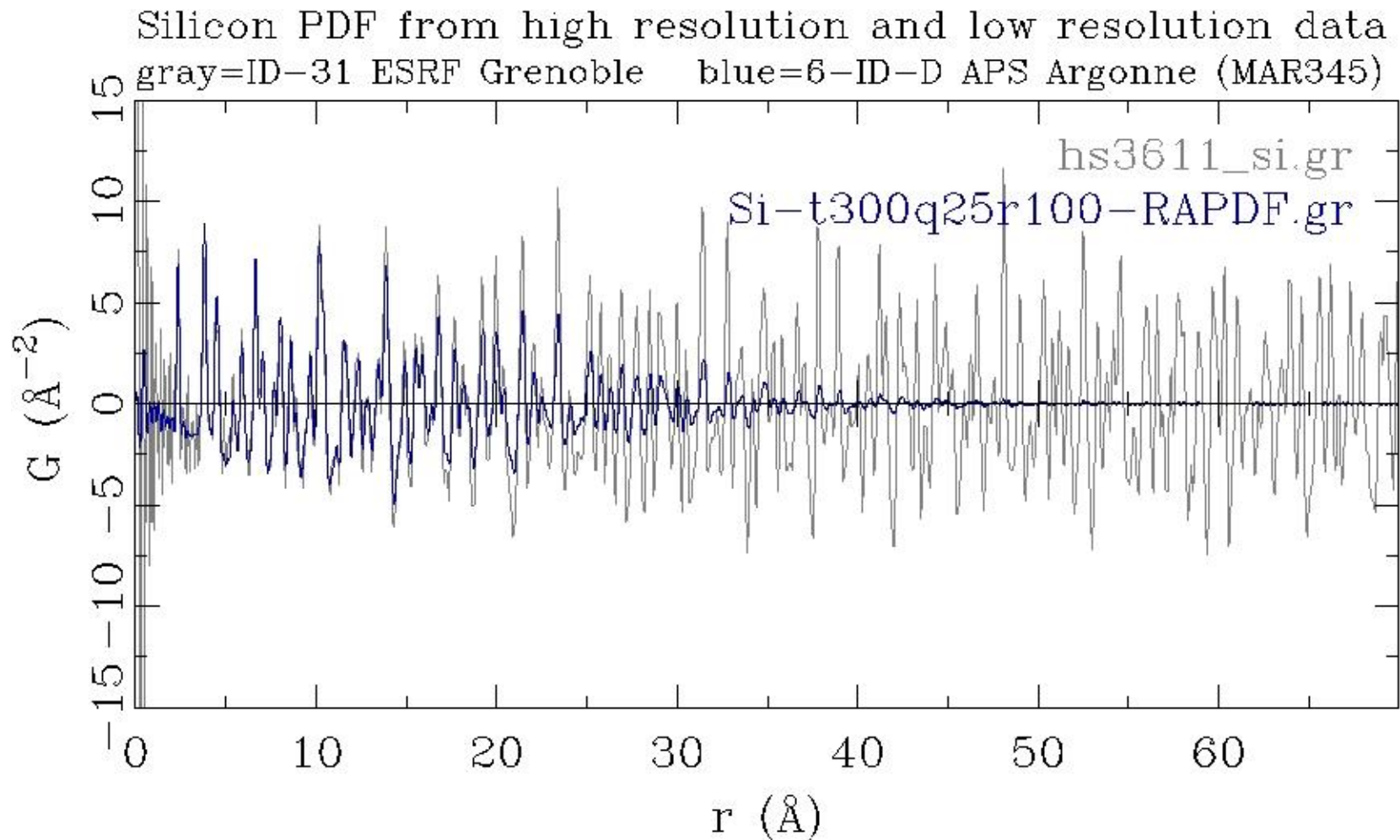
PDF: effect of the Q-space resolution

Effect of limited Q-resolution on PDF data

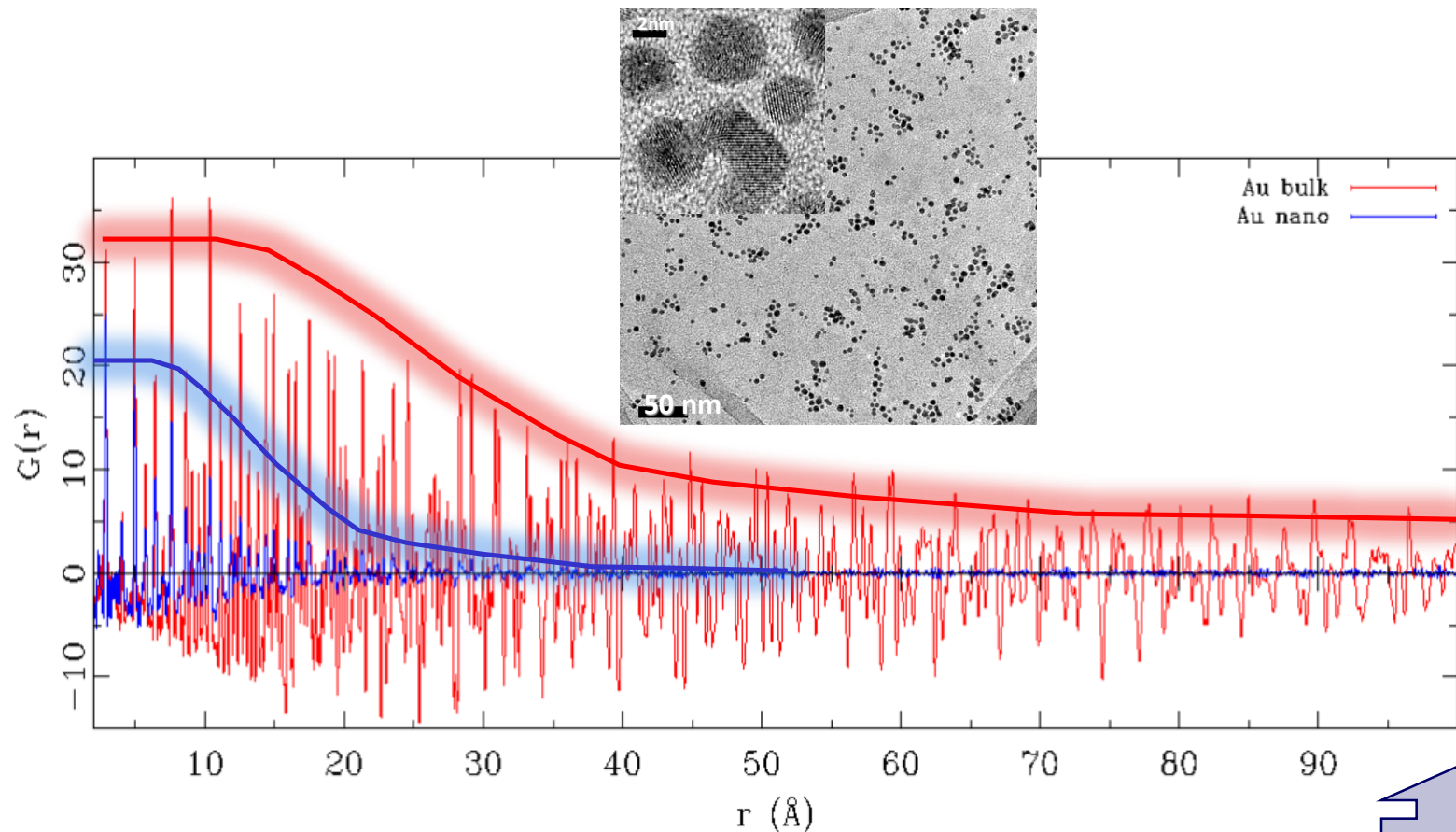


- ideal $F(Q)$ is convoluted by Gaussian to simulate finite Q resolution
 - $G(r)$ gets multiplied by real-space Gaussian with reciprocal width
 - For $G(r)$ to have good r -range high resolution in Q is required
- Q-resolution defines PDF “field of view”***

PDF: effect of the Q-space resolution



PDF: effect of the finite particle size – nano vs bulk



Experimental PDFs of gold nanoparticles and bulk gold, measured on NPDF.



K.L. Page *et al.*, *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **393**, 385 (2004).

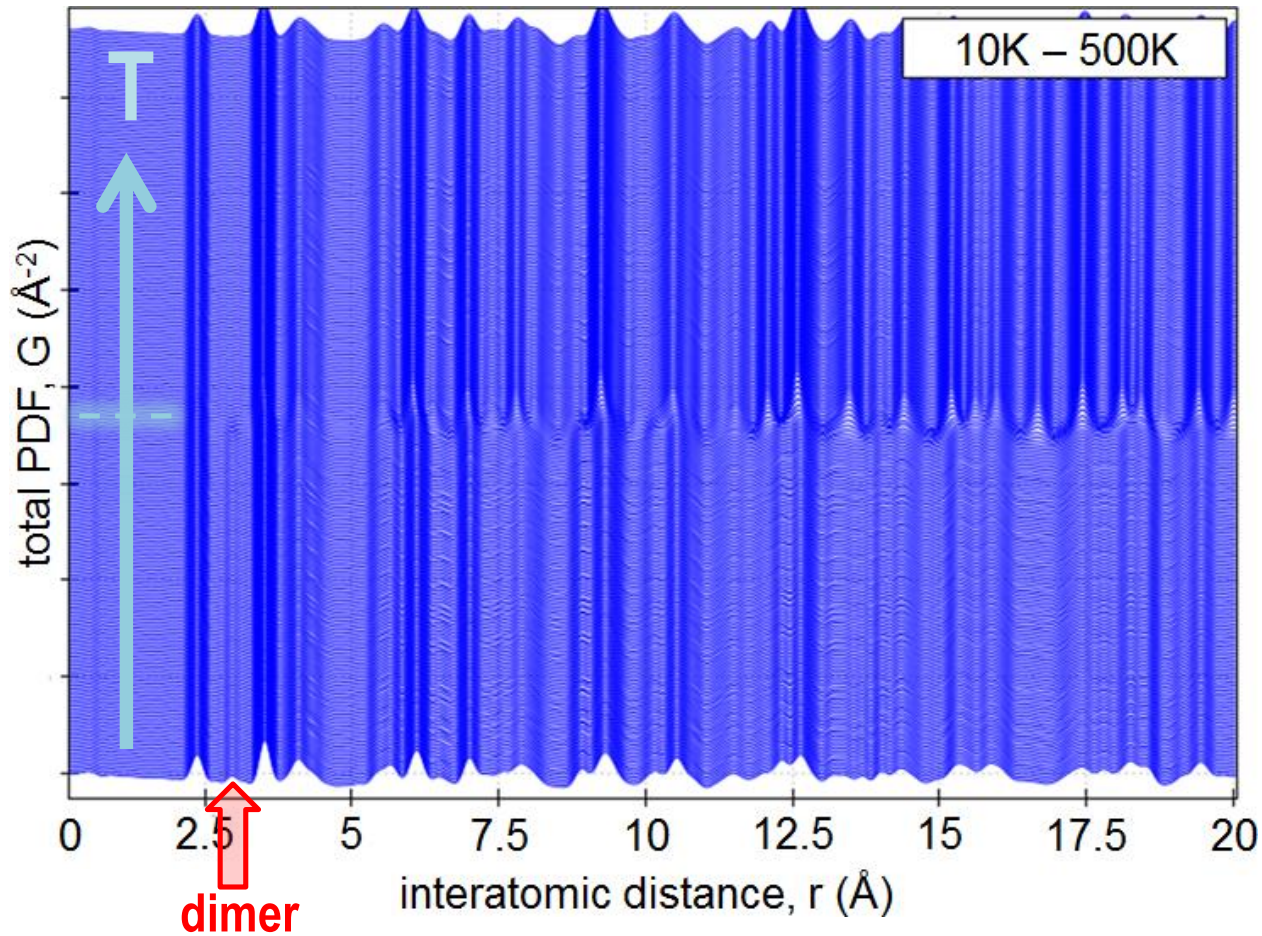
After the PDF experiment ...

Now that you have collected your X-ray or neutron data and reduced it to PDF, what is the next step?

- It's time to harvest the information from PDF data, of course!
- Which approach to use depends on the problem at hand
- Good starting point (always) is to observe the PDF data in a model independent way, followed by modelling using the available tools, some of which are presented in this school
- Data inspection could provide valuable clues that would help modelling efforts/strategies tremendously at times



Observing raw PDF: disappearance of dimers



Structure of
Mystery compound 2
changes on all length
scales on warming

PDF data modeling

Small Models: Least Squares Refinement

Up to several hundreds of atoms

'Rietveld'-type parameters: *lattice parameters, atomic positions, displacement parameters, etc.*

Refinements as function of r -range

Large Model: Reverse Monte Carlo

20000 + atoms

Fit X-ray and neutron $F(Q)$, $G(r)$, Bragg profile

Constraints utilized

Static 3-D model of the structure (a snap-shot)

Multi-level /Complex Modeling

Refine higher level parameters (not each atom)

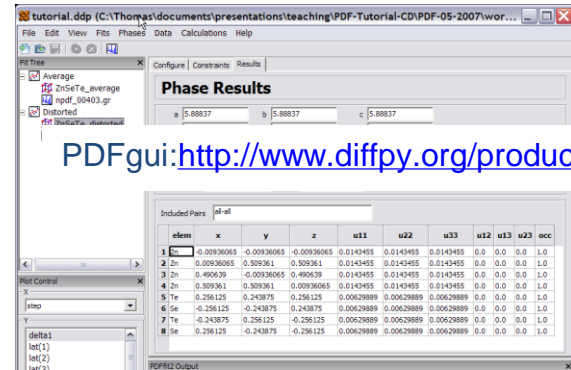
Example nanoparticle: *diameter, layer spacing, stacking fault probability*

Choose minimization scheme

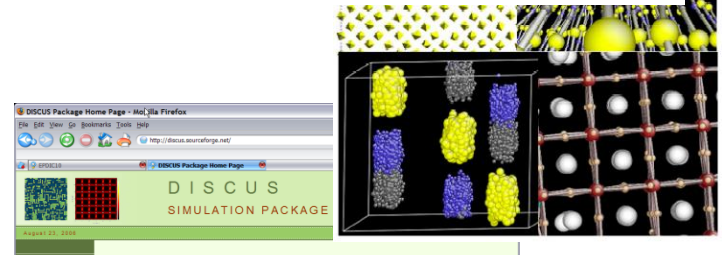
Emerging: *ab initio* and force-field based approaches

Density Functional Theory

Molecular Dynamics

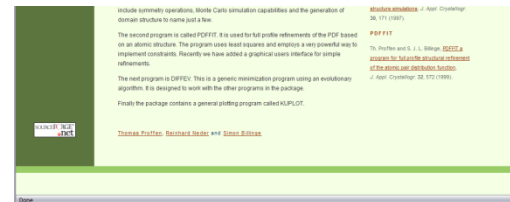


RMCprofile: <http://wwwisis2.isis.rl.ac.uk/rmc/>
EPSR: www.facebook.com/disord.matt

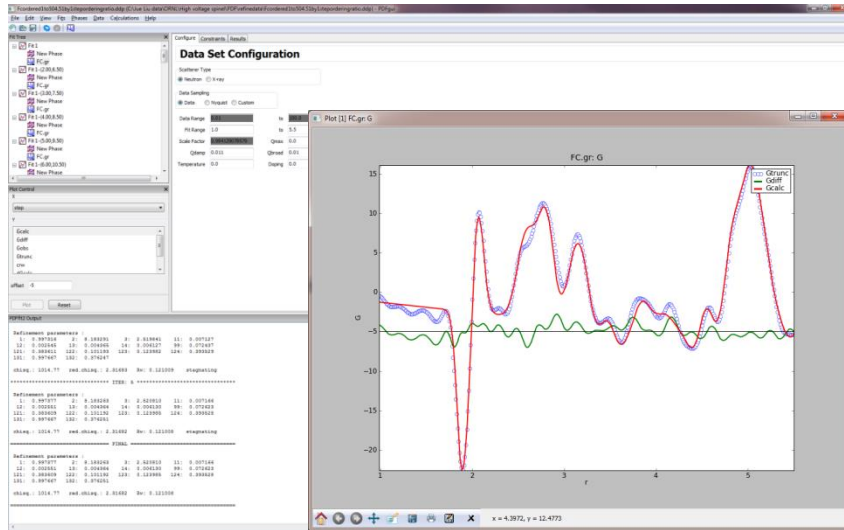


DIFFEV and DISCUS: <http://discus.sourceforge.net>

DiffPy-CMI: <http://www.diffpy.org/products/diffpycmi>



“Small Box” software comparison



PDFgui <http://www.diffpy.org/>

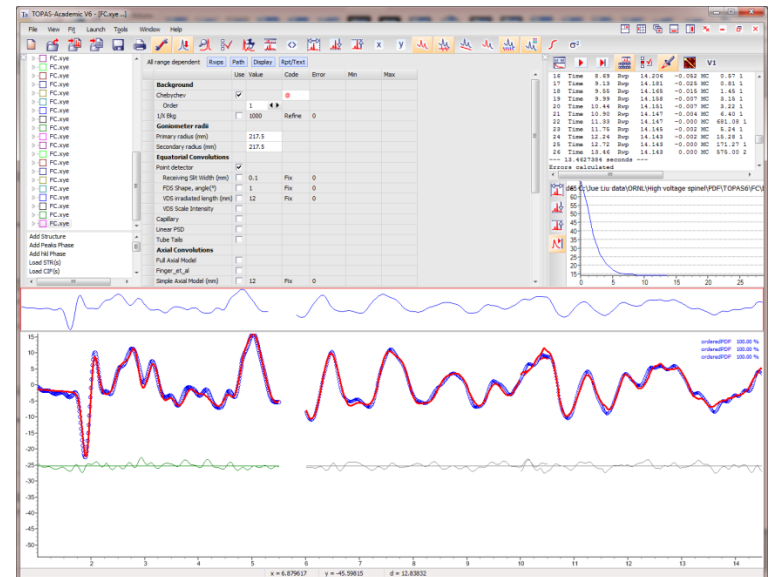
- Slow refinement, e.g. for high- r
- Cumbersome outputs
- + Open Source and Free
- + GUI is Simple and User-friendly

TOPAS PDF

- Commercial
- Steeper learning curve
- Have to write your own macro
- + Super Fast
- + Easy manipulation of fitting parameters and plotting
- + Can easily customize output functions

<http://www.topas-academic.net>

slide courtesy Katharine Page



Small box PDF modeling approach

- Small box: assumption of periodic boundary conditions (P1)
- Relatively small number of atoms (up to several hundred)
- Built-in symmetry constraints with symmetry equal or usually lower than the average crystal symmetry
- Involves least squares refinement over selected r -range (typically up to a few unit cells, translational symmetry not necessarily important as the box size mostly provides “metrics”)



Things needed ...

- PDF **data** (*sample.gr* files) and associated information such as Q_{\max} used, range of data, type of radiation, sample chemistry,
- In **small box modelling** approach, one typically starts from a **refinement** of a known/suspect structure, (thus reducing the volume of the parameter space as much as possible)
 - High- r region ~average structure
 - Low- r region ~local structure(biased view with bulk materials in mind)
- **Starting structure information**
 - space group and lattice parameters
 - fractional coordinates (asymmetric unit cell) & occupancies
 - having site-multiplicities handy may be helpful for crosschecking (e.g. PDFgui works with symmetrized cells)
 - Having an origin choice handy, if multiple are available, could matter



PDF modeling

- PDF is simulated from a known structure model

$$G_{calc}(r) = \frac{1}{Nr\langle b \rangle^2} \sum_{i \neq j} b_i b_j \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{ij}} \exp \left[-\frac{(r - r_{ij})^2}{2\sigma_{ij}^2} \right] - 4\pi r \rho_0$$

- structure model is parameterized by a set of parameters p_i
- residuum R_w - difference between observed and simulated PDF

$$R_w(p_1, p_2, \dots) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_n [G_{obs}(r_n) - G_{calc}(r_n)]^2}{\sum_n G_{obs}^2(r_n)}}$$

- least-squares refinement of p_i to minimize R_w
- Effects from setup (such as finite Q-resolution) or sample (correlated NN-motion) accounted for

$$B(r) = e^{-\frac{(rQ_{damp})^2}{2}} \quad \sigma_{ij} = \sigma'_{ij} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\delta_1}{r_{ij}} - \frac{\delta_2}{r_{ij}^2} + Q_{broad}^2 r_{ij}^2}$$

PDFgui overview

- PDFgui is a **graphical interface built on the PDFfit2 engine**, which is a program as well as a library for real-space refinement of crystal structures based on the atomic pair distribution function (PDF) method.
- PDFgui organizes fits **and simplifies many data analysis tasks**, such as configuring and plotting multiple fits, **adding functionality** to script driven PDFfit2.
- PDFfit2 is capable of fitting a theoretical three dimensional structure to atomic pair distribution function data and is well suited for nanoscale investigations.
- The fit system accounts for lattice constants, atomic positions and anisotropic atomic displacement parameters, correlated atomic motion, as well as various experimental factors that may affect the data.
- The atomic positions and thermal coefficients can be constrained to follow symmetry requirements of an arbitrary space group. Limited restraints supported.
- The PDFfit2 engine is written in C++ and accessible via Python, and can also be prompt operated.

PDFgui

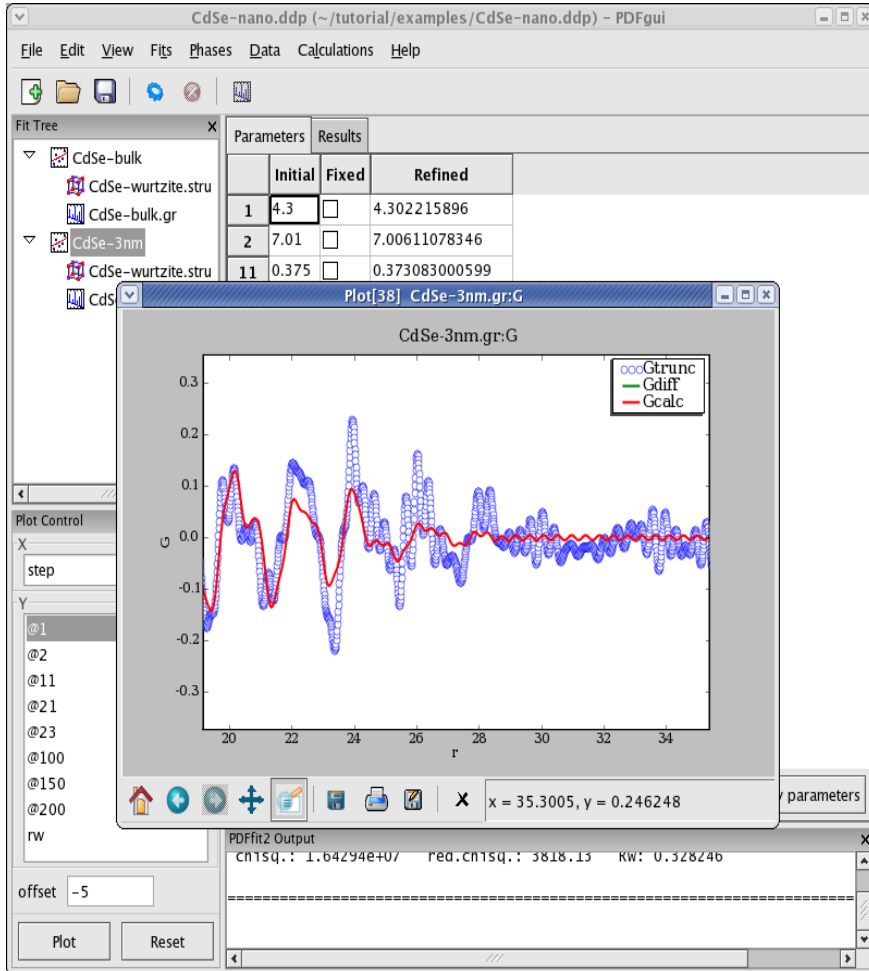


```
graph TD; PDFgui --- PDFfit2[PDFfit2 engine];
```

PDFfit2 engine

PDFgui overview

PDFgui



- GUI interface to PDFfit2 is user friendly modelling environment that **can be used for quick simulations (useful for experiment planning and sensitivity tests)**
- can **organize** multiple related fits in a single project file (.ddp file) easily shareable with colleagues
- powerful **visualization facilities**
 - live plotting of refined PDF profiles
 - parametric plots of variables from multiple fits
 - 3D structure visualization (optional)
- **structure model manipulation**
 - supports xyz, PDF, CIF and PDFfit formats
 - supercell expansion
 - expansion of asymmetric unit
 - generation of symmetry constraints for coordinates and atomic displacement factors, ADPs (“thermals”)
- **wizards** for T-series, doping-series, r-series (smart extraction of meta-data from files)

Easy set up for “on the fly” refinements of incoming data helps making experimental decisions

PDFgui parameters and program structure

• PDFgui parameters associated with DATASET

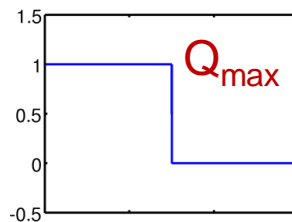
Fit range (r_{MIN} , r_{MAX})
fixed in refinement

user selected refinement r -range

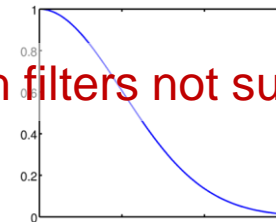
Q_{max}
fixed in refinement

upper limit of integration used in Fourier transform
defines r -space resolution, predetermined

Q_{damp}
refined for calibrant
fixed for sample



Lorch filters not supported



Gaussian dampening (due to limited Q -resolution)

Q_{broad}
refined for calibrant
fixed for sample

High- r peak broadening (due to increased refined intensity noise at high Q and other sources, only significant when r_{MAX} is large)

d_{scale}
refined

scale factor associated with dataset



PDFgui parameters and program structure

- PDFgui parameters associated with PHASE

pscale refined	phase scale factor NOTE: could be redundant/correlated with dscale
a, b, c, α , β , γ refined	lattice parameters
x[n] y[n] z[n] occ[n] u[1..6,n] refined (per symmetry)	x-position (fractional coordinates) y-position z-position site occupancy anisotropic displacement parameters U_{ij} [\AA^2]

NOTE: Refinement parameters can be correlated, particularly when a model is refined over a narrow r-range of data. PDFgui reports on correlations $> |0.8|$



PDFgui parameters and program structure

- PDFgui parameters associated with PHASE for correlated atomic motion

delta1 refined 1/r contribution to peak sharpening [\AA^{-1}]

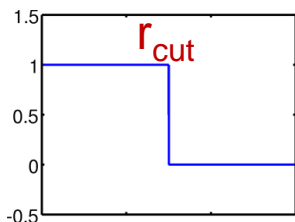
delta2 refined 1/r² contribution to the peak sharpening [\AA^{-2}]

sratio refined peak width reduction for correlated motion (special cases of rigid structural units)

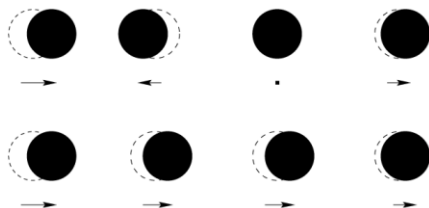
rcut constat radius cutoff for applying the **sratio** sharpening factor [\AA]

applied

not applied



Note: Empirical correlated motion parameters are selected depending on material, they are **very strongly correlated** and affect other parameters



$$\sigma_{ij} = \sigma'_{ij} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\delta_1}{r_{ij}} - \frac{\delta_2}{r_{ij}^2} + Q_{broad}^2 r_{ij}^2}$$

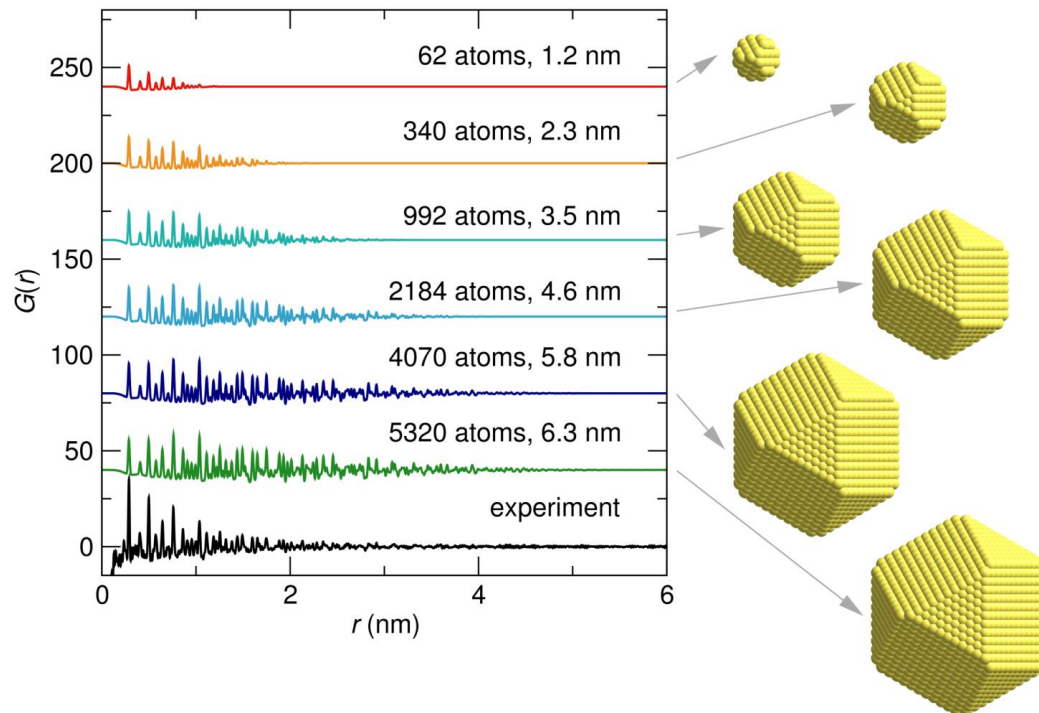
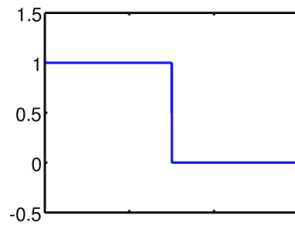
PDFgui parameters for nanoparticles

spdiameter
refined

stepcut
constant

spherical particle diameter for PDF shape
damping function [\AA]

r value above which the PDF is truncated
to zero [\AA]



PDFgui parameters and program structure

- PDFgui declarations associated with PHASE

X atom type associated with given site (all sites)
declaration e.g. Ni/Ta/Ca (label used to read scattering info from lookup tables of b_{coh} and Z).

- PDFgui declarations associated with DATASET

Neutron/X-ray scatterer type
declaration (used to determine lookup table)

NOTE: In rare instances one may experience the following

In case of X-ray radiation Z_X is used for element X. If ions present one can change X from original element to a fellow element with adequate electron count.

In case of neutron radiation b_{cohX} is used for element X. Lookup table contains information per natural isotope abundance. If isotope substitution is present, lookup table has to be modified with adequate b specified for a dummy element with made-up alphabetical code that will then be declared in the phase using that alphabetical code.



Parameters are assigned using the syntax **@pn**, where **pn** is the parameter number.

For example, **@1**, **@55**, **@321**, etc, numbers do not have to be consecutive.

Variables that are assigned the same parameter number will be described by the same parameter.

Caution should be exercised to avoid unintentional assignment of the same parameter number to incompatible variables (variables of different type)

PDFgui: quick start



PDFgui: Layout

The layout can be somewhat customized to create comfortable work environment

The screenshot shows the PDFgui software interface with several components labeled in red text:

- Menu Bar:** File Edit View Fits Phases Data Calculations Help
- Tool Bar:** Contains icons for file operations and a plot icon.
- Fit Tree:** A tree view showing 'Fit 1' with a sub-entry 'ni.stru'.
- Plot Control:** A panel with 'X' and 'Y' axes, a dropdown menu set to 'step', an 'offset' field set to '-5', and 'Plot' and 'Reset' buttons.
- Configure Panel:** Contains tabs for 'Configure', 'Constraints', and 'Results'. A red arrow points to these tabs with the label 'Tabs to panes'. Below the tabs are sections for:
 - Phase Configuration:** Input fields for 'a', 'b', 'c' (all set to 3.52), 'alpha', 'beta', 'gamma' (all set to 90.0), 'Scale Factor' (1.0), 'delta1', 'delta2', 'spdiameter' (all set to 0.0), 'sratio' (1.0), 'rcut', 'stepcut' (all set to 0.0).
 - Included Pairs:** A dropdown menu set to 'all-all'.
 - Current Action:** A table showing the current fit parameters.
- PDFfit2 Output:** A large empty text area at the bottom of the window.

	elem	x	y	z	u11	u22	u33	u12	u13	u23	occ
1	Ni	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
2	Ni	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
3	Ni	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
4	Ni	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0



Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

Appearance of a PDFgui window after a PDF dataset is loaded.

The screenshot displays the PDFgui software interface. The main window is titled 'Data Set Configuration' and is divided into several sections:

- Fit Tree:** Shows a hierarchy with 'Fit 1' containing 'Ni.stru' and 'Ni-xray.gr'.
- Plot Control:** Includes an 'X' axis dropdown set to 'step', a 'Y' axis list with 'Gcalc' selected, and an 'offset' field set to '-5'. 'Plot' and 'Reset' buttons are at the bottom.
- Data Set Configuration:** Contains the following settings:
 - Scatterer Type: Neutron, X-ray
 - Data Sampling: Data, Nyquist, Custom
 - Data Range: 0.01 to 20.0, spacing 0.01
 - Fit Range: 0.01 to 20.0, spacing 0.01
 - Scale Factor: 1.0, Qmax: 40.0
 - Qdamp: 0.001, Qbroad: 0.0
 - Temperature: 300.0, Doping: 0.0

The bottom of the window shows a 'PDFfit2 Output' panel which is currently empty.



Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

Adjusting data set related configuration.

The screenshot displays the PDFfit2 software interface. The main window is titled "PDFfit2 Output" and contains a "Data Set Configuration" panel. The "Configure" tab is selected, and the "Data Set Configuration" panel is active. The "Scatterer Type" is set to "X-ray". The "Data Sampling" is set to "Data". The "Data Range" is 0.01 to 20.0, and the "Data Spacing" is 0.01. The "Fit Range" is 1.7 to 20.0, and the "Fit Spacing" is 0.01. The "Scale Factor" is 1.0, and the "Qmax" is 40.0. The "Qdamp" is 0.08, and the "Qbroad" is 0.0. The "Temperature" is 300.0, and the "Doping" is 0.0. The "Fit Tree" panel on the left shows a tree structure with "Fit 1" expanded, containing "Ni.stru" and "Ni-xray.gr". The "Plot Control" panel on the left shows the "X" axis set to "step" and the "Y" axis set to "Gcalc". The "offset" is -5. The "Plot" and "Reset" buttons are visible at the bottom of the "Plot Control" panel.

Parameter	Value
Scatterer Type	X-ray
Data Sampling	Data
Data Range	0.01 to 20.0
Data Spacing	0.01
Fit Range	1.7 to 20.0
Fit Spacing	0.01
Scale Factor	1.0
Qmax	40.0
Qdamp	0.08
Qbroad	0.0
Temperature	300.0
Doping	0.0

Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

Setting up the refinement parameters and constraints: experimental parameters

The screenshot displays the PDFfit2 software interface. The main window is titled 'Fit Tree' and contains a tree view with the following structure:

- Fit 1
 - Ni.stru
 - Ni-xray.gr

The 'Constraints' tab is active, showing the 'Data Set Constraints' section. The following parameters are visible:

- Scale Factor: @1
- Qdamp: @2
- Qbroad: (empty field)

The 'Plot Control' panel on the left shows the X-axis set to 'step' and the Y-axis set to 'Gcalc'. The 'offset' is set to '-5'. The 'Plot' and 'Reset' buttons are visible at the bottom of the plot control panel.

The 'PDFfit2 Output' panel at the bottom is currently empty.

Creating a simple fit using a preexisting structure file

Setting up the refinement parameters and constraints: model structure

The screenshot shows the PDFfit2 software interface with the 'Constraints' tab selected. The 'Phase Constraints' section contains the following parameters:

- a @3
- b @3
- c @3

The 'Included Pairs' section shows a table with the following data:

	elem	x	y	z	u11	u22	u33	u12	u13	u23	occ
1	Ni				@4	@4	@4				
2	Ni				@4	@4	@4				
3	Ni				@4	@4	@4				
4	Ni				@4	@4	@4				

The 'Fit Tree' on the left shows 'Fit 1' containing 'Ni.stru' and 'Ni-xray.gr'. The 'Plot Control' section shows 'step' selected for the X-axis and an empty Y-axis. The 'offset' is set to -5. The 'PDFfit2 Output' window is empty.



Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

Reviewing the fit parameters and conditions

The screenshot shows a software interface for reviewing fit parameters and conditions. The main window has a menu bar with options: File, Edit, View, Fits, Phases, Data, Calculations, Help. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for file operations and a plot. The main area is divided into several panels:

- Fit Tree:** A tree view showing the fit structure. It includes a folder 'Fit 1' containing 'Ni.stru' and 'Ni-xray.gr'.
- Parameters:** A table with columns 'initial', 'Fixed', and 'Refined'. The table contains four rows of parameters, with the first column numbered 1 to 4. The 'initial' values are 1.0, 0.08, 3.52, and 0.0025. The 'Fixed' column has checkboxes, all of which are currently unchecked. The 'Refined' column is empty.
- Plot Control:** A panel with a dropdown menu set to 'step'. Below it is a list of fit components: '@1', '@2', '@3', '@4', and 'rw'. The '@1' component is selected. Below the list is an 'offset' field set to '-5' and buttons for 'Plot' and 'Reset'.
- PDFfit2 Output:** A panel at the bottom of the window, currently empty.

Red circles highlight the 'Parameters' tab, the 'Parameters' table, the 'Plot Control' panel, and the list of fit components.

	initial	Fixed	Refined
1	1.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	0.08	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3	3.52	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4	0.0025	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

The refinement progress is displayed in the PDFfit2 Output panel.

The screenshot displays the PDFfit2 software interface. The 'Parameters' tab is active, showing a table of fit parameters. The 'Refined' column values are circled in red. The 'PDFfit2 Output' panel at the bottom shows the refinement progress, with the 'Rw' value circled in red.

	Initial	Fixed	Refined
1	1.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.7605115324
2	0.08	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.068831864865
3	3.52	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.53161588341
4	0.0025	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.00512432502226

PDFfit2 Output
chisq.: 236.817 red.chisq.: 0.129479 Rw: 0.0973844

Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

Updating the set of initial values of refined parameters.

File Edit View Fits Phases Data Calculations Help

Fit Tree

- Fit 1
 - Ni.stru
 - Ni-xray.gr

	Initial	Fixed	Refined
1	1.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.7605115324
2	0.08	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.068831864865
3	3.52	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.53161588341
4	0.0025	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.0051243250222

Fix / Free
Copy Refined To Initial
Rename Parameters

Plot Control

X: step

Y: @1, @2, @3, @4, rw

offset: -5

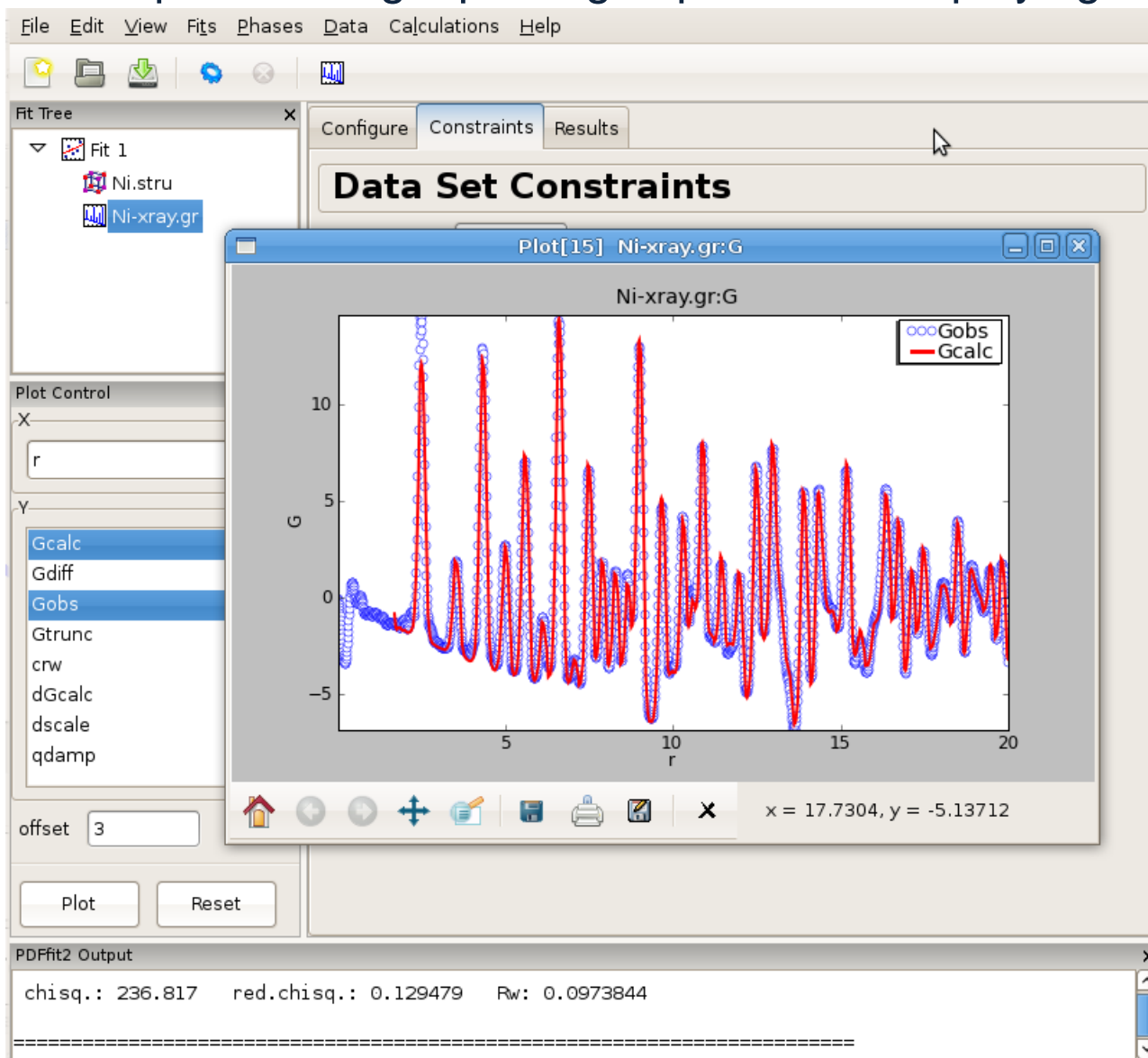
Plot Reset Apply parameters

PDFfit2 Output

chisq.: 236.817 red.chisq.: 0.129479 Rw: 0.0973844

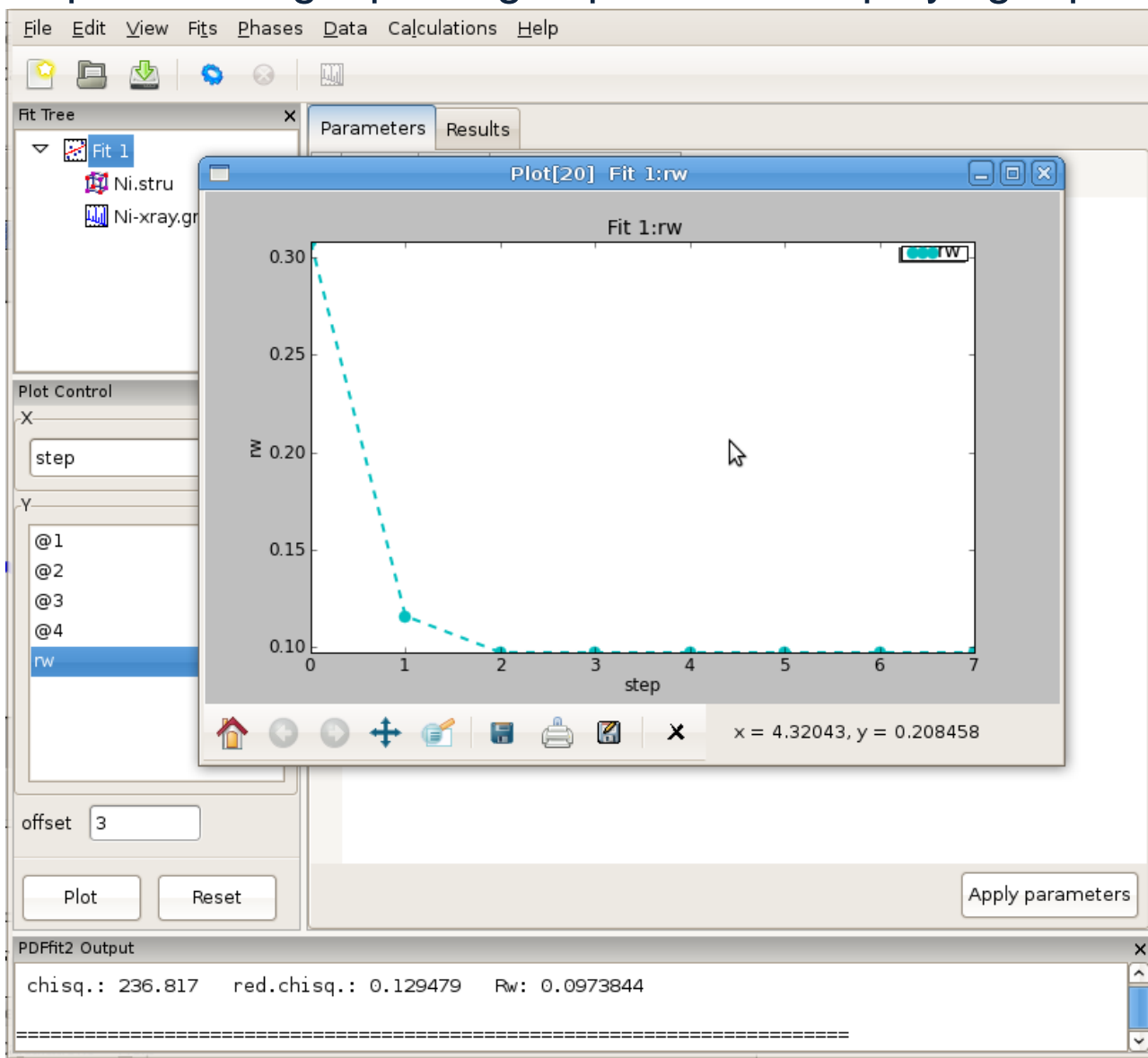
Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

An example of PDFgui plotting capabilities: displaying a fit.



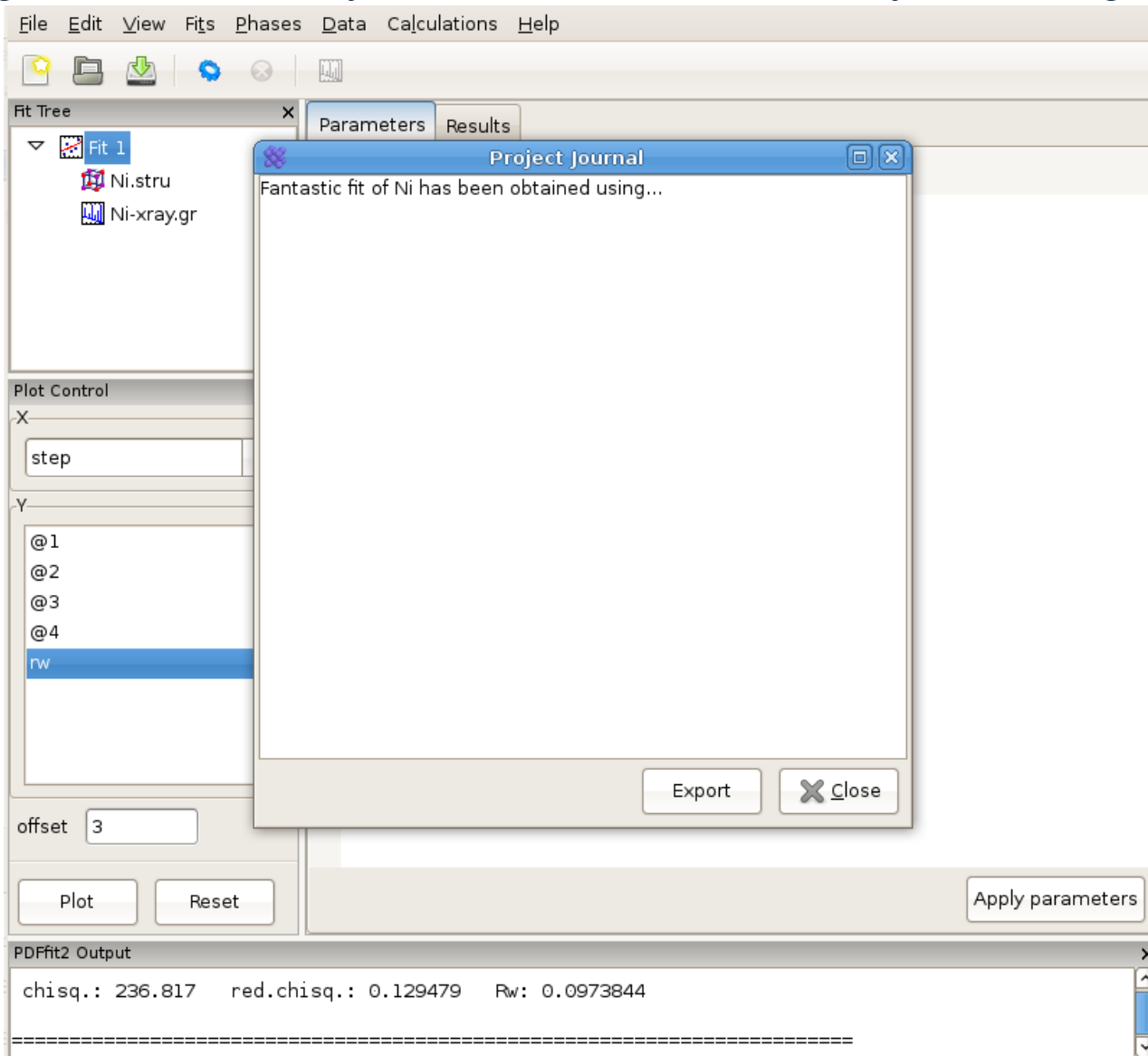
Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

An example of PDFgui plotting capabilities: displaying a parameter.



Creating a simple fit using a preexisting struct file

Using “Journal” facility can be a convenient way for taking notes.



The screenshot displays a software interface with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Fits, Phases, Data, Calculations, Help) and a toolbar. The main window is titled "Fit Tree" and contains a tree view with "Fit 1" expanded, showing "Ni.stru" and "Ni-xray.gr". Below the tree is a "Plot Control" section with "X" set to "step" and "Y" set to "@1", "@2", "@3", "@4", and "rw". An "offset" field is set to "3". At the bottom of the plot control are "Plot" and "Reset" buttons. A "Project Journal" window is open in the foreground, displaying the text "Fantastic fit of Ni has been obtained using...". At the bottom of the journal window are "Export" and "Close" buttons. The bottom of the main window shows a "PDFfit2 Output" section with the text "chisq.: 236.817 red.chisq.: 0.129479 Rw: 0.0973844".



Building structure model using crystal symmetry

Expanding the **unit cell** using space group information.

The screenshot shows a software interface for building a structure model. The main window is titled "Phase Configuration" and has tabs for "Configure", "Constraints", and "Results". The "Configure" tab is active and shows unit cell parameters: a = 3.52, b = 3.52, c = 3.52, alpha = 90.0, beta = 90.0, gamma = 90.0. A "Space Group Expansion" dialog box is open, showing "Space Group Expansion" and "1 atom selected. Expanding to 4 positions." The dialog box has a "Space Group" dropdown menu set to "Fm-3m" and "Origin Offset" fields set to 0.0, 0.0, 0.0. There are "Cancel" and "OK" buttons. The "Configure" tab is circled in red. The "Fit Tree" on the left shows "Ni from scratch" and "Ni fcc". The "Plot Control" on the left shows "step" and "offset 3". The "PDFfit2 Output" window is at the bottom.

File Edit View Fits Phases Data Calculations Help

Fit Tree

- Ni from scratch
 - Ni fcc

Plot Control

X

step

Y

offset 3

Plot Reset

PDFfit2 Output

Phase Configuration

Configure Constraints Results

a 3.52 b 3.52 c 3.52

alpha 90.0 beta 90.0 gamma 90.0

Space Group Expansion

Space Group Expansion

1 atom selected. Expanding to 4 positions.

Space Group Fm-3m

Origin Offset 0.0 0.0 0.0

Cancel OK

Building structure model using crystal symmetry

Setting up **symmetry constraints** to be used in a refinement.

The screenshot shows a software interface with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Fits, Phases, Data, Calculations, Help) and a toolbar. The 'Constraints' tab is selected and circled in red. The 'Phase Constraints' section is visible, with a 'Space Group Constraints' dialog box open over it. The dialog box contains the following information:

- Space Group Constraints
- 4 atoms selected.
- Space Group: **Fm-3m**
- Origin Offset: 0.0, 0.0, 0.0
- constrain positions
- constrain temperature factors
- Buttons: Cancel, OK

The background interface includes a 'Fit Tree' on the left showing 'Ni from scratch' and 'Ni fcc', a 'Plot Control' section with 'step' selected, and a 'PDFfit2 Output' section at the bottom.

Calculating PDF from a structure

An example of the calculation configuration panel.

The screenshot displays a software interface for calculating PDF from a structure. The main window is titled "Calculation Configuration" and contains several input fields for parameters:

- Scatterer Type: Neutron X-ray
- Range: to spacing
- Scale Factor: Qmax:
- Qdamp: Qbroad:

The interface also includes a "Fit Tree" on the left showing a hierarchy of "Ni from scratch" containing "Ni fcc" and "Calculation 1". A "Plot Control" panel on the left shows "r" for the X-axis and "Gcalc" for the Y-axis, with an "offset" of 3. The interface also includes a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Fits, Phases, Data, Calculations, Help), a toolbar, and a "PDFfit2 Output" window at the bottom.

Multistage fitting

Sequential refinement where fits are chronologically linked

The screenshot shows a software interface for multistage fitting. The main window has a menu bar with options: File, Edit, View, Fits, Phases, Data, Calculations, Help. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for home, save, download, settings, close, and refresh. The interface is divided into several panels:

- Fit Tree:** A tree view showing a hierarchy of fits. The selected fit is "lcmo-pbnm-650", which contains "LaMnO3-PBNM" and "650K.gr".
- Plot Control:** A panel for controlling the plot. The X-axis is set to "step" and the Y-axis is set to "@1". An "offset" of 3 is specified. There are "Plot" and "Reset" buttons.
- Parameters Table:** A table with columns "Initial", "Fixed", and "Refined". It lists 27 parameters for the fit "lcmo-pbnm-550".
- PDFfit2 Output:** A window at the bottom for displaying the output of the fitting process.

	Initial	Fixed	Refined
1	=lcmo-pbnm-550:1	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.54112301089
2	=lcmo-pbnm-550:2	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.7467340003
3	=lcmo-pbnm-550:3	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.68397896947
7	=lcmo-pbnm-550:7	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.00201860852715
8	=lcmo-pbnm-550:8	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.00217981215605
9	=lcmo-pbnm-550:9	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.00408078054004
10	=lcmo-pbnm-550:10	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.0044913862195
21	=lcmo-pbnm-550:21	<input type="checkbox"/>	-0.00837699376439
22	=lcmo-pbnm-550:22	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.0489062376597
23	=lcmo-pbnm-550:23	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.0742991663718
24	=lcmo-pbnm-550:24	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.487574732275
25	=lcmo-pbnm-550:25	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.725295010199
26	=lcmo-pbnm-550:26	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.305613295225
27	=lcmo-pbnm-550:27	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.039219781619

Buttons: "Apply parameters" (bottom right of the Parameters table), "Plot" and "Reset" (bottom left of the Plot Control panel).

Sequential fitting of incremental r-series

Appearance of the setup panel for specifying an incremental r-series fit conditions.

File Edit View Fits Phases Data Calculations Help

Fit Tree

- fit-Ni
 - Ni
 - Ni_2-8.chi.gr

Plot Control

X: step

Y: @1, @10, @20, @100

offset: 3

Plot Reset

Select a fit from the tree on the left and set the first value, last value, and the step size of the maximum and/or minimum of the fit range below. If you have not set up a fit to be the template for the series, hit cancel and rerun this macro once a fit has been created.

fit maximum

first: 5 last: 20 step: 5

fit minimum

first: last: step:

OK Cancel

PDFfit2 Output

Sequential fitting of temperature series

Setting up a T-series sequential refinement for LaMnO_3 .

Select a fit from the tree on the left then add datasets and assign temperatures below. If you have not set up a fit to be the template for the series, hit cancel and rerun this macro once a fit has been created.

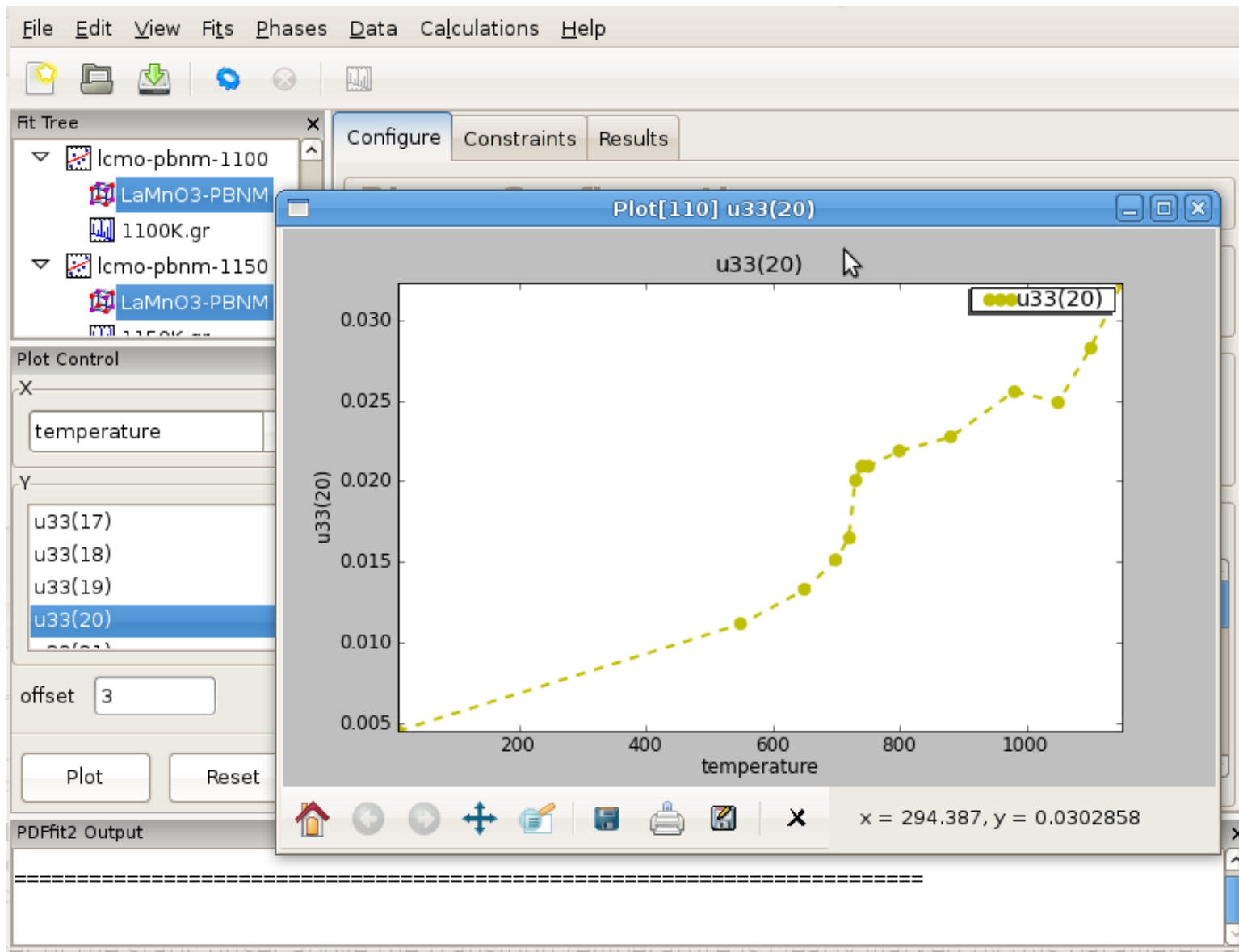
Temperature	Data Set
550.0	.../550K.gr
650.0	.../650K.gr
700.0	.../700K.gr
720.0	.../720K.gr
730.0	.../730K.gr
740.0	.../740K.gr
750.0	.../750K.gr
800.0	.../800K.gr
880.0	.../880K.gr
980.0	.../980K.gr
1050.0	.../1050K.gr

Click header to sort by temperature

Ordering by temperature will ensure that the fits are linked correctly!

Sequential fitting of temperature series

Displaying refinement results as a function of external parameter: T-series refinement



Sequential fitting of doping series

Loading of the Ca-doping data series of LaMnO_3 system.

Select a fit from the tree on the left then add datasets and assign doping elements and values below. If you have not set up a fit to be the template for the series, hit cancel and rerun this macro once a fit has been created.

Base element Dopant

Doping	Data Set
0.04	.../x004t010q35.gr
0.12	.../x012t010q35.gr
16.0	...
20.0	.../x020t010q35.gr
24.0	.../x024t010q35.gr
28.0	.../x028t010q35.gr

Click header to sort by doping

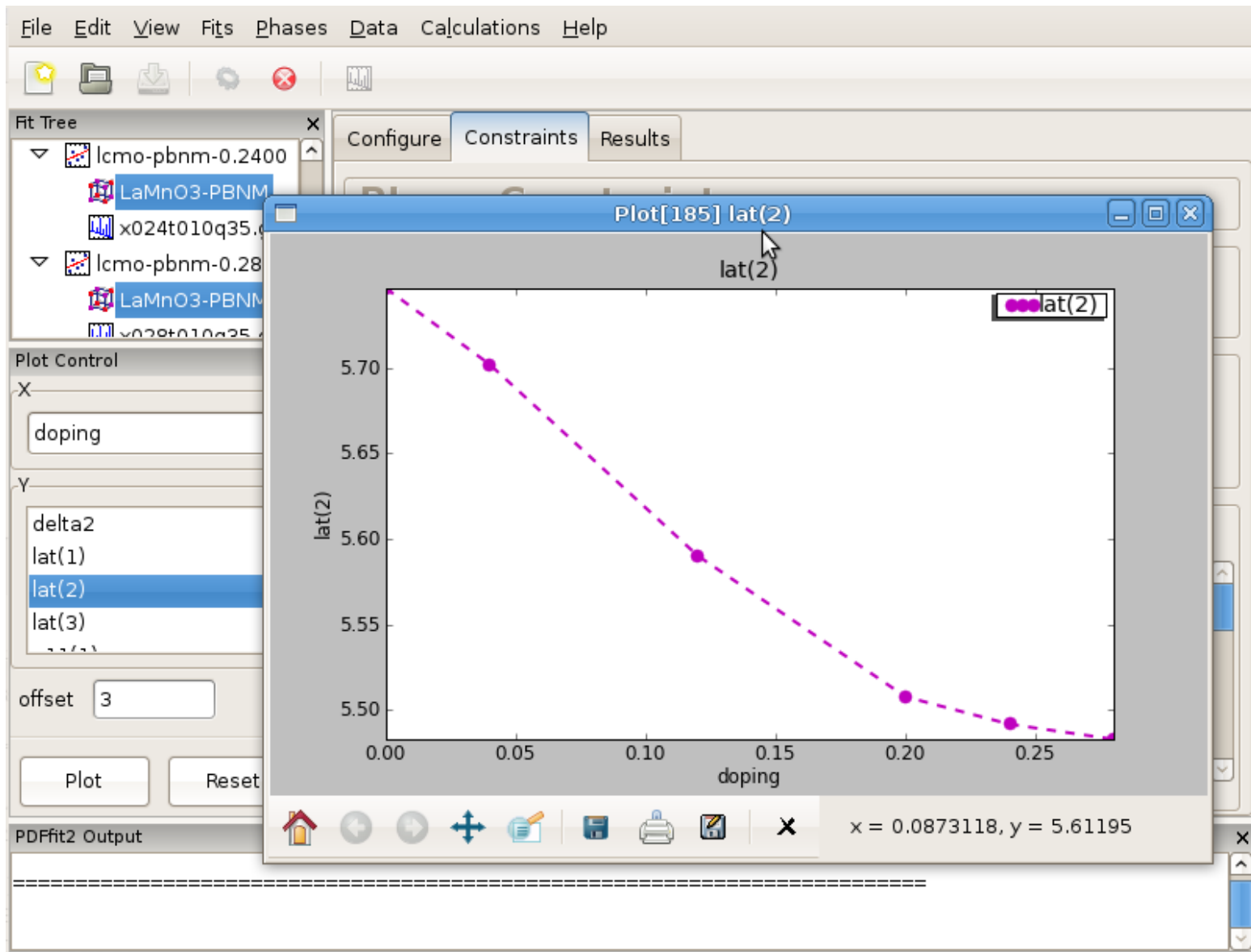
+ Add Delete

Plot Reset

Verify that proper doping assignment was carried out!

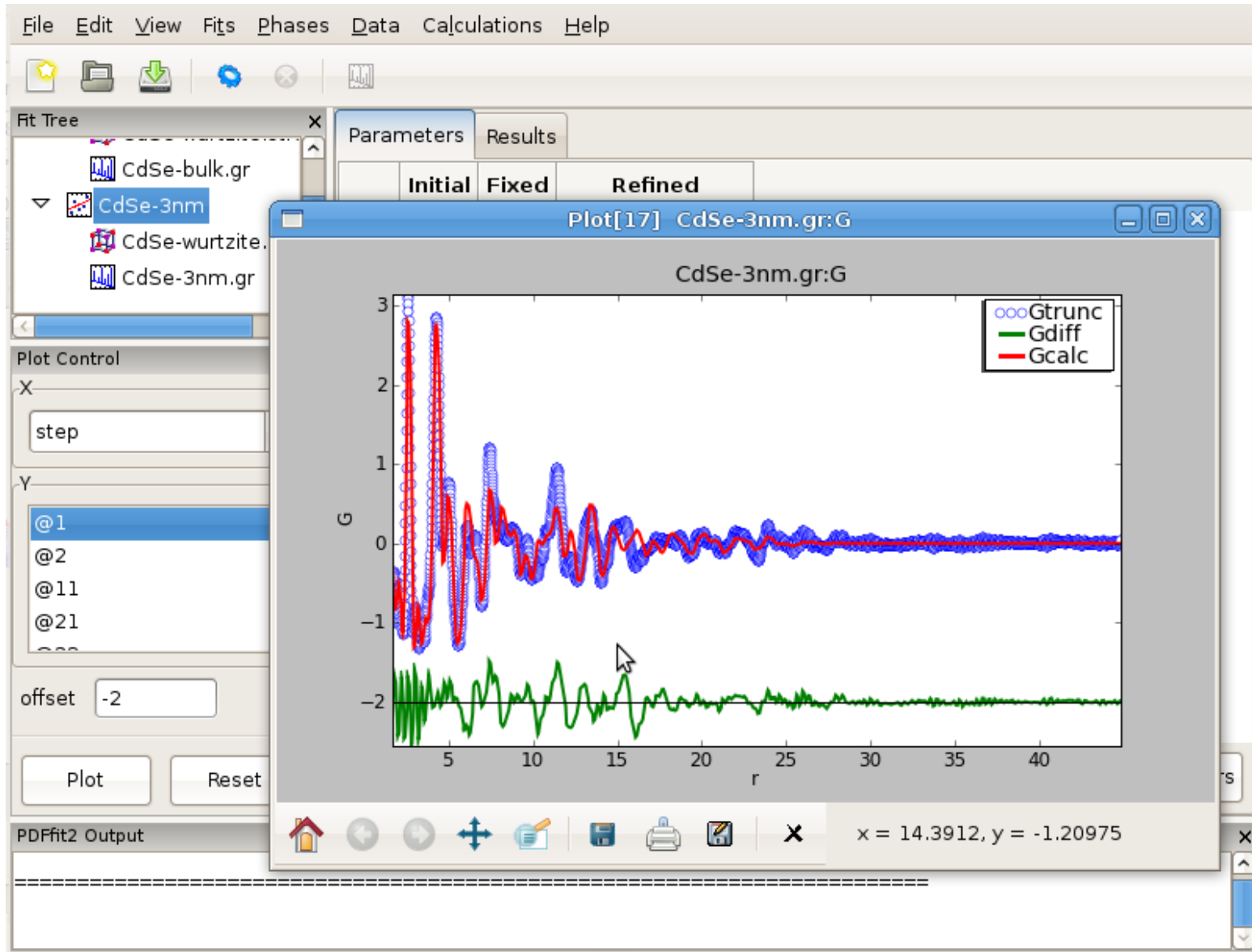
Sequential fitting of doping series

Displaying refinement results as a function of external parameter: doping series



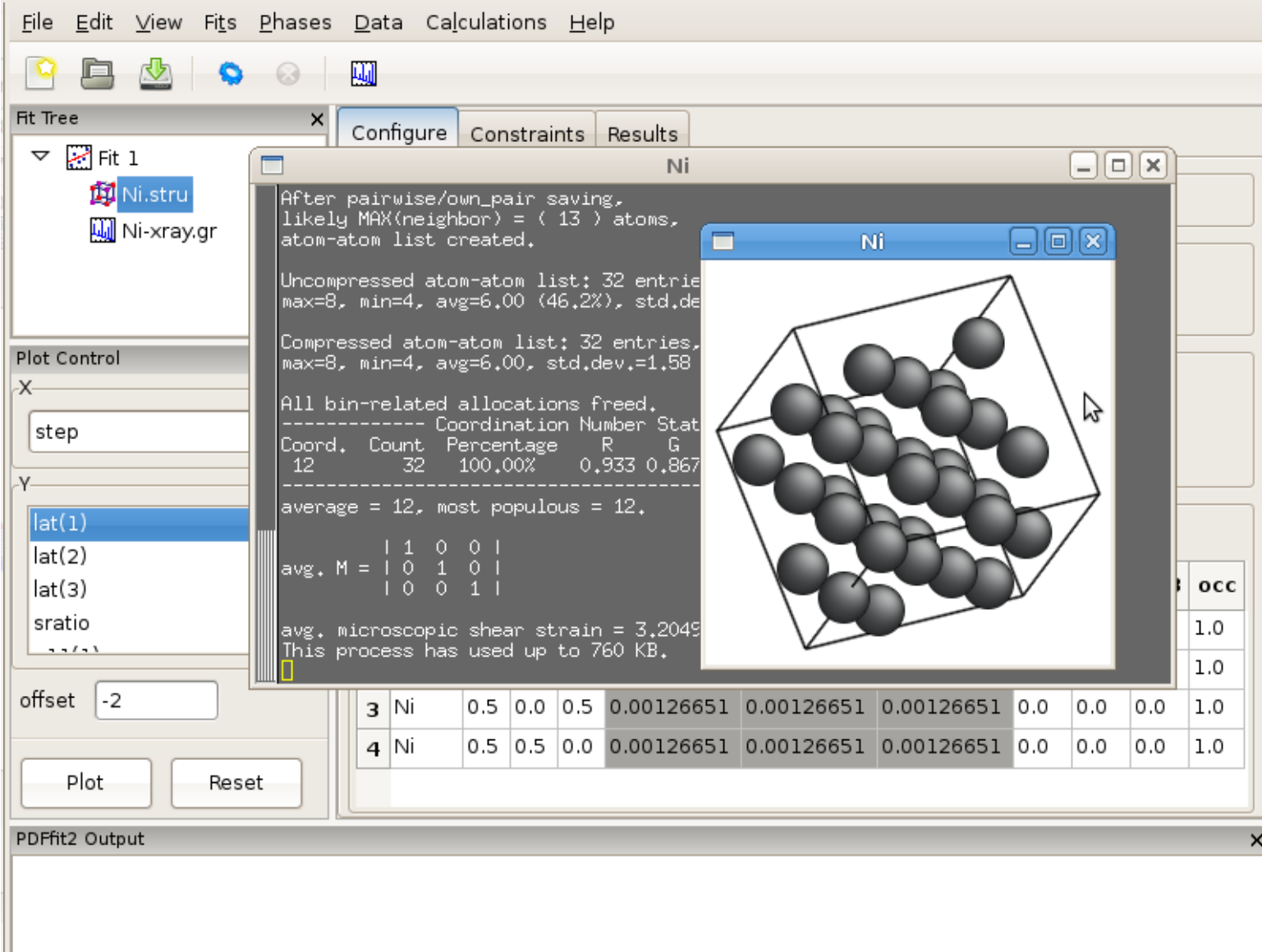
Nanoparticle structure: spherical!

Fitting the structure of a nanoparticle: 3nm CdSe nanoparticle example



Displaying the structure

Using AtomEye functionality for 3D visualization of the initial and refined PDF structures



File Edit View Fits Phases Data Calculations Help

Fit Tree

- Fit 1
 - Ni.stru
 - Ni-xray.gr

Plot Control

X: step

Y: lat(1) lat(2) lat(3) sratio

offset: -2

Plot Reset

PDFfit2 Output

```
After pairwise/own_pair saving,
likely MAX(neighbor) = ( 13 ) atoms,
atom-atom list created.

Uncompressed atom-atom list: 32 entries,
max=8, min=4, avg=6.00 (46.2%), std.dev.=1.58

Compressed atom-atom list: 32 entries,
max=8, min=4, avg=6.00, std.dev.=1.58

All bin-related allocations freed.
----- Coordination Number Statistics -----
Coord. Count Percentage R G
12 32 100.00% 0.933 0.867
-----
average = 12, most populous = 12.

avg. M = | 1 0 0 |
          | 0 1 0 |
          | 0 0 1 |

avg. microscopic shear strain = 3.2049
This process has used up to 760 KB.
```

												occ
3	Ni	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.00126651	0.00126651	0.00126651	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	
4	Ni	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.00126651	0.00126651	0.00126651	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	

PDFgui tutorial content & agenda

- Plan is to cover different examples featuring various aspects of PDFgui functionality
- GOALS:
 - becoming familiar and comfortable with the program
 - building up basic expertise and awareness of various PDFgui capabilities
 - Exploring a few more complex examples
- Examples:
 - Simulating PDFs
 - Ni X-ray and neutron data refinement
 - Ni neutron-X-ray co-refinement
 - Ni/Si mixture refinement; phase analysis
 - Ni T-dependence sequential refinement
 - LaMnO₃ T-dependence sequential refinement – complex system
 - Cu(Ir_{0.88}Cr_{0.12})S₄ 100K data fitting - r-dependent sequential refinement
 - Nanoparticle examples: CeO₂ and CdSe systems





Live PDFgui Demo (*time permitting*)

