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Hidden complexity in D₂O Ice VII

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**FACULTY OF
PHYSICS**



ISIS Neutron and
Muon Source



UNIVERSITY
OF WARSAW

 **OAK RIDGE**
National Laboratory



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ISIS Neutron and
Muon Source



Outline

Introduction

- water molecule in gas phase
- water molecule in liquid state
- solid form of water
 - ✓ phase diagram
 - ✓ ordered / disordered phase of ice
 - ✓ metastable forms

Outline

Disordered ICE VII

- average structure
- neutron experiment at ISIS Neutron and Muon Source UK
- *big box modeling* in RMCProfile7

Results

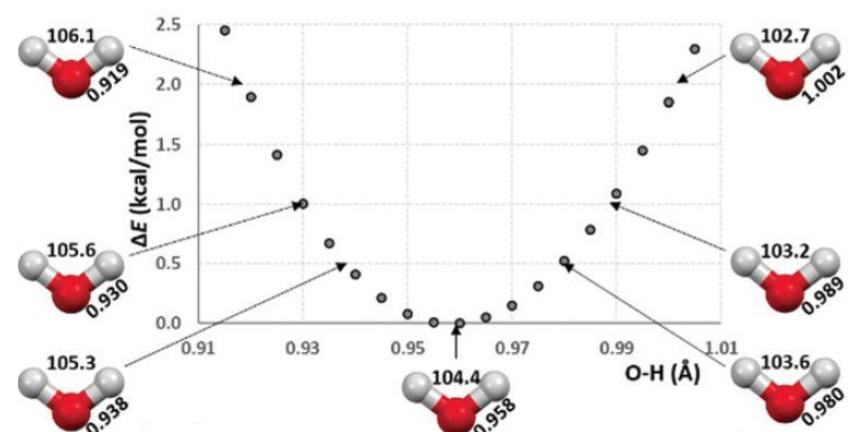
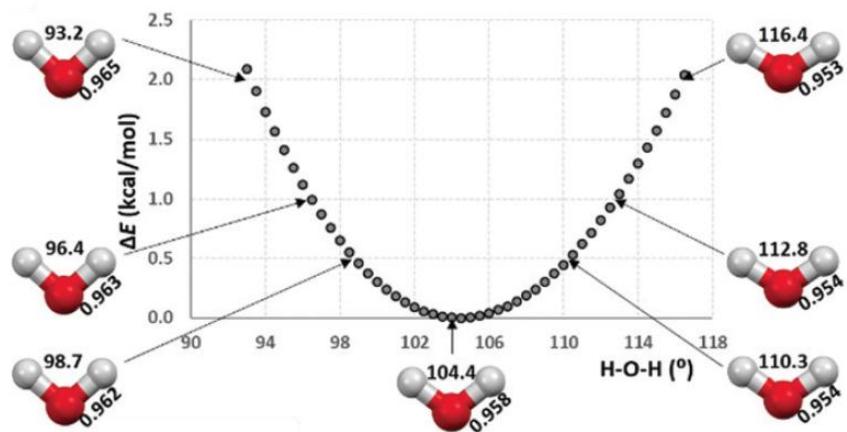
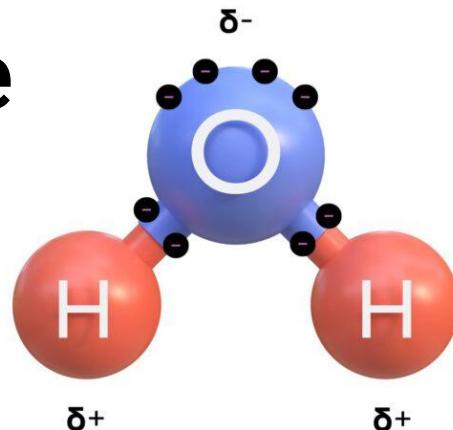
- How does the local structure differes form the average?
- What about molecule geometry in solid?

Conclusions

Some more details about *RMCProfile7* modelling

H_2O molecule in gas phase

$$d_{\text{O-H}} = 0.958 \text{ \AA}$$
$$\alpha_{\text{H-O-H}} = 104.4^\circ$$



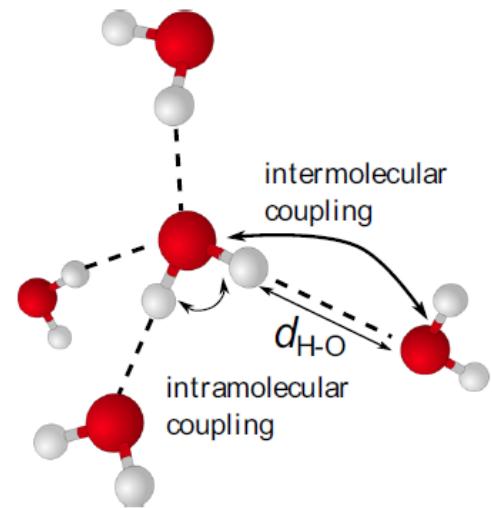
Results of Energy calculations in CCSD(T)/aug-cc-PV6Z potential in Gaussian package

[figs from M. R. Milovanović, J.M. Živković, D.B. Ninković, I.M. Stanković, S.D. Zaric, Phys.Chem.Chem.Phys., 2020, 22, 4138]

[molecule figure from <https://www.centralgalaxy.com/what-makes-water-so-special/>]

H_2O molecule in liquid phase

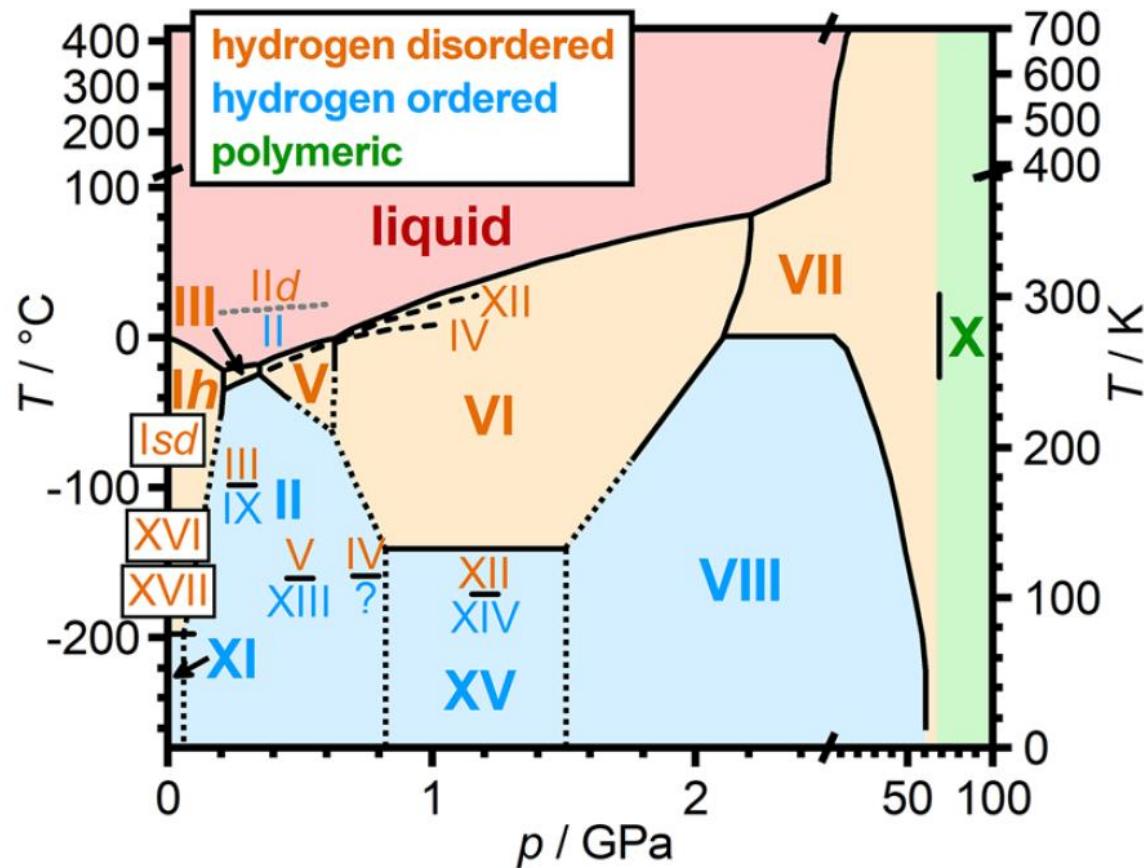
- In liquid water H-O-H angle increases to $106.1 \pm 1.8^\circ$ and O-H distance is $0.960 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$ [1]
- H_2O molecules also form tetrahedral geometry due to extra electron pairs on oxygen [2]
- H_2O molecules in liquid and solid follow „ice rules”



[1] from K. Ichikawa, Y. Kameda, T. Yamaguchi, H. Wakita and M. Misawa, Mol. Phys., 1991, 73, 79

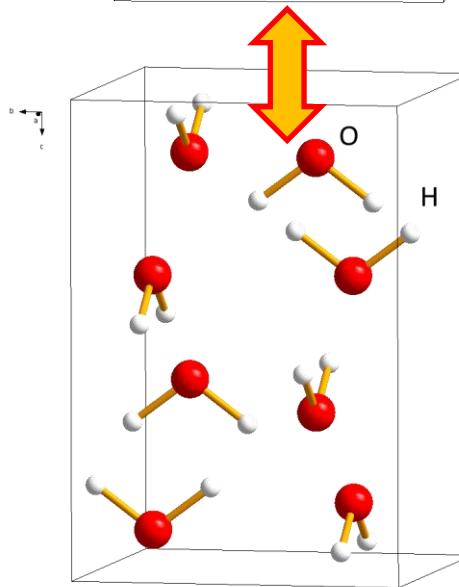
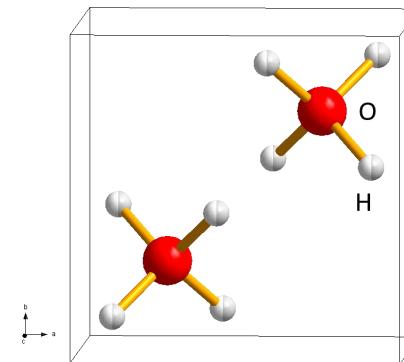
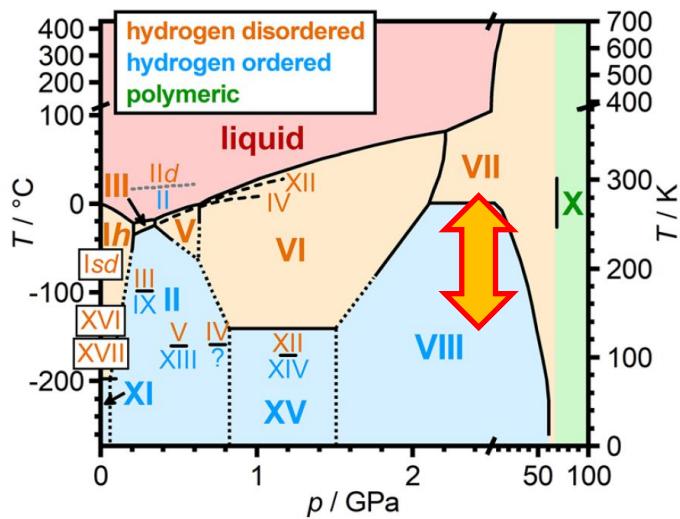
[fig from 2] L. Gunkel, A.A. Ehrhard, C.S. Krevert, B.A. Marekha, M. Bonn, M. Grechko, J. Hunger, Nature Communications, 2024, 1, 5:10453

H_2O in solid phase = ice



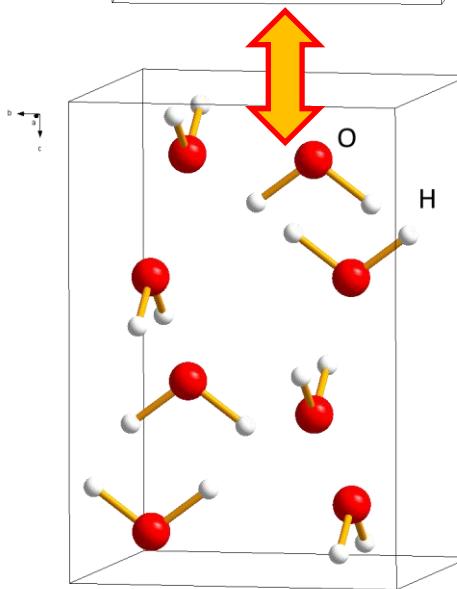
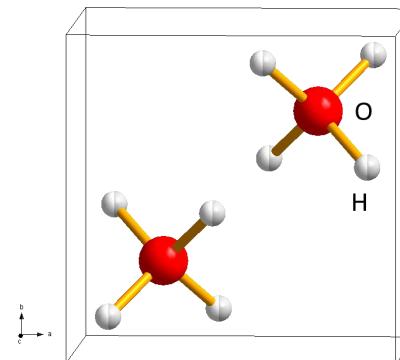
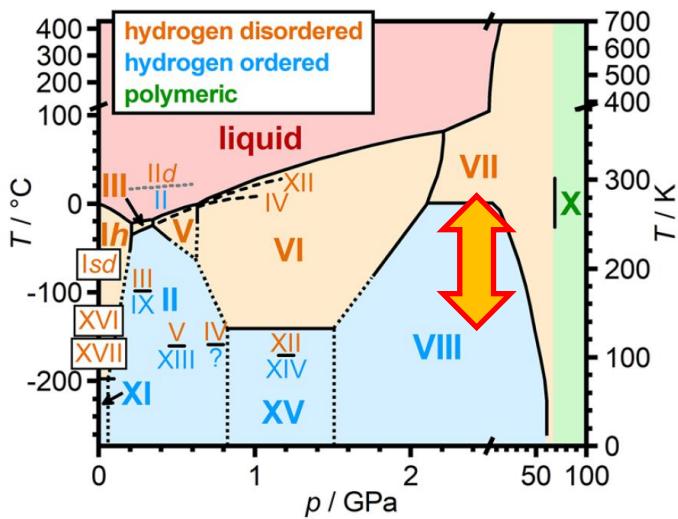
[fig from] C.G. Salzmann, J. Chem. Phys. 150, 060901 (2019)

H_2O in solid phase = ice



[fig from] C.G. Salzmann, J. Chem. Phys. 150, 060901 (2019)

H_2O in solid phase = ice



- some crystal forms are metastable
- different experimental routes show different phases

[fig from] C.G. Salzmann, J. Chem. Phys. 150, 060901 (2019)

Ice VII structure by HAR (Hirshfeld Atom Refinement)

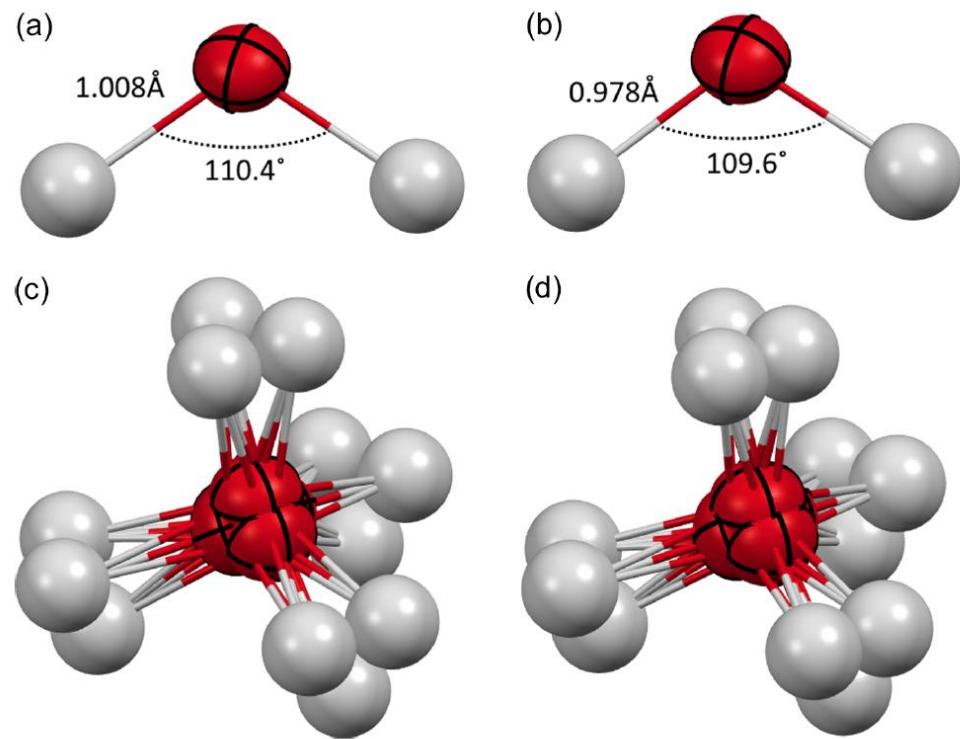


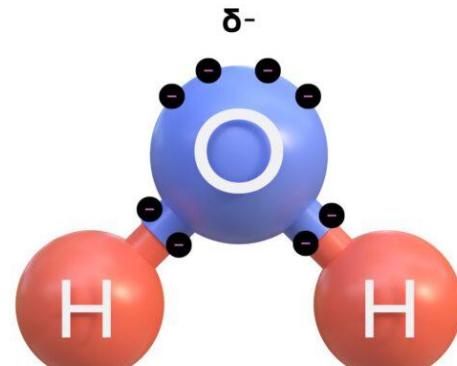
Figure 4

Structures refined with the oxygen atom split in the $\langle 111 \rangle$ family of directions. (a, b) Geometries of selected configurations of the water molecule. (c, d) Disordered water molecule. Refinements for (a) and (c) H_2O ; (b) and (d) D_2O .

[fig from] R. Gajda, M. Chodkiewicz, D. Zhang, P. Nguyen, V. Prakapenka, K. Wozniak, IUCRJ, 12(3) (2025) 288-294

H_2O molecule in different Ice phases

Ice	Bond angle ^a (°)	Bond length ^a (Å)
I_h^3	109.34–109.57	0.999–1.001
Ice 2 ⁴	82.40–99.88	1.007–1.023
Ice 3 ⁵	74.00–132.00	0.915–0.958
Ice 4 ⁶	89.69–118.32	0.840–1.079
Ice 5 ⁷	82.33–126.09	0.984–1.063
Ice 6 ⁸	97.97–115.51	0.937–0.986
Ice 7 ⁹	109.42	0.943
Ice 8 ¹⁰	106.80	0.973
Ice 9 ¹¹	97.86	0.915–0.958
Ice 10 ¹²	109.48	1.180
Ice 11 ¹³	109.42–109.45	0.961
Ice 12 ¹⁴	100.70–119.20	0.917–0.988
Ice 13 ¹⁵	100.25–109.31	0.938–1.004
Ice 14 ¹⁵	98.29–108.49	1.001–1.083
Ice 15 ¹⁶	94.21–107.62	0.887–1.115
Ice 16 ¹⁷	106.57	0.993
Ice 17 ¹⁸	108.60–113.10	1.006–1.023



$$d_{\text{O-H}} = 0.958 \text{ \AA}$$
$$\alpha_{\text{H-O-H}} = 104.4^\circ$$

[figs from M. R. Milovanović, J.M. Živković, D.B. Ninković, I.M. Stanković, S.D. Zaric, Phys.Chem.Chem.Phys., 2020, 22, 4138]
[molecule figure from <https://www.centralgalaxy.com/what-makes-water-so-special/>]

Results obtained from neutron PDF

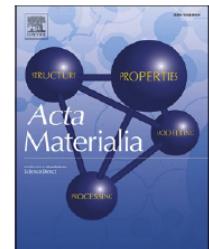
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Hidden complexity in D₂O Ice VII

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^a Faculty of Chemistry, University of Warsaw, Pasteura 1, 02-093 Warszawa, Poland

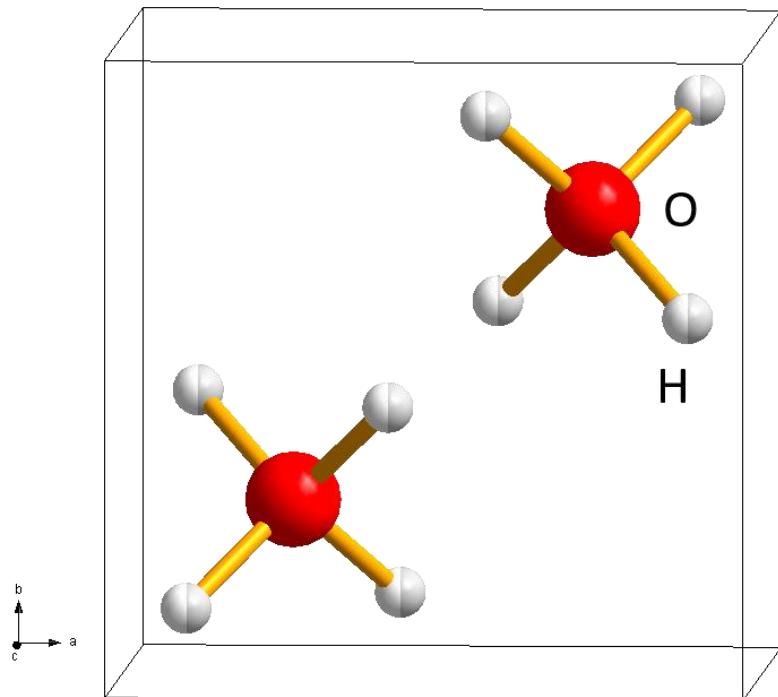
^b Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw, Pasteura 5, 02-093 Warszawa, Poland

^c STFC, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, ISIS Neutron and Muon Source, Harwell Campus, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 0QX, United Kingdom

^d EastCHEM School of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh, Joseph Black Building, Edinburgh EH9 3FJ, Scotland, United Kingdom

^e Spallation Neutron Source, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN 37830, USA

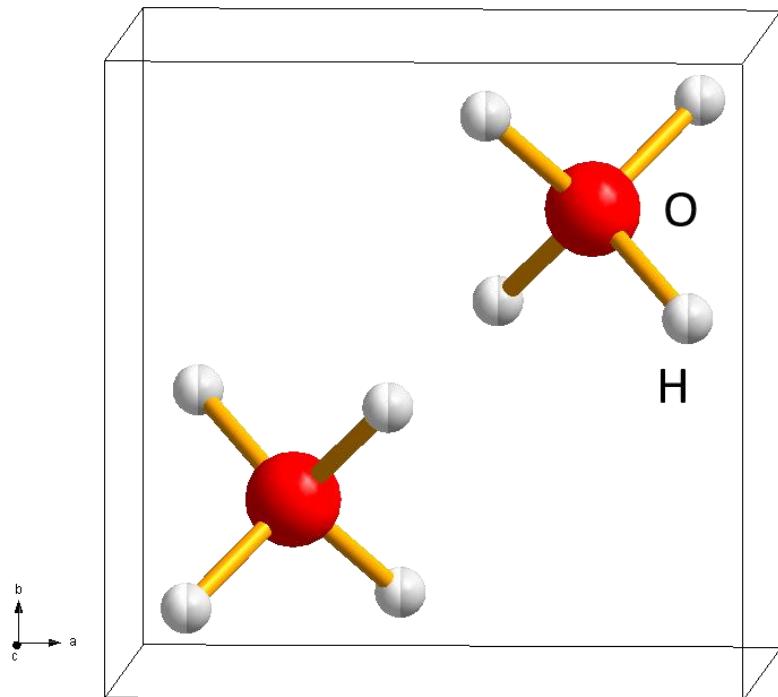
ice VII average crystal structure



spacegroup Pn-3m
a = 3.3738 Å

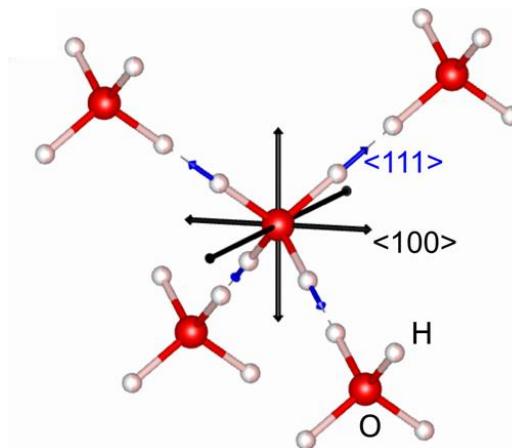
O at $(\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{4})$ occ = 1.0
H at (0.40834 0.40834 0.40834) occ = 0.5

ice VII average crystal structure and possible molecule displacements



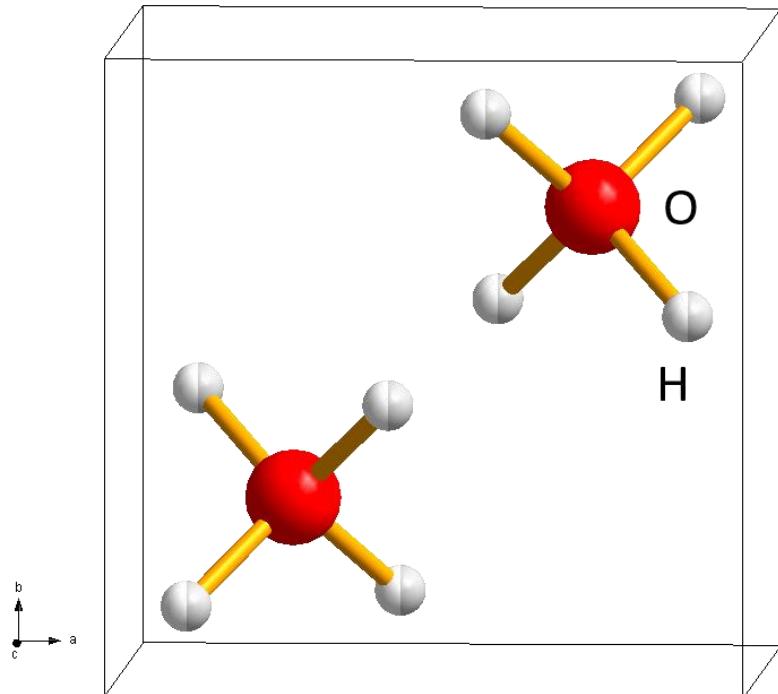
spacegroup Pn-3m
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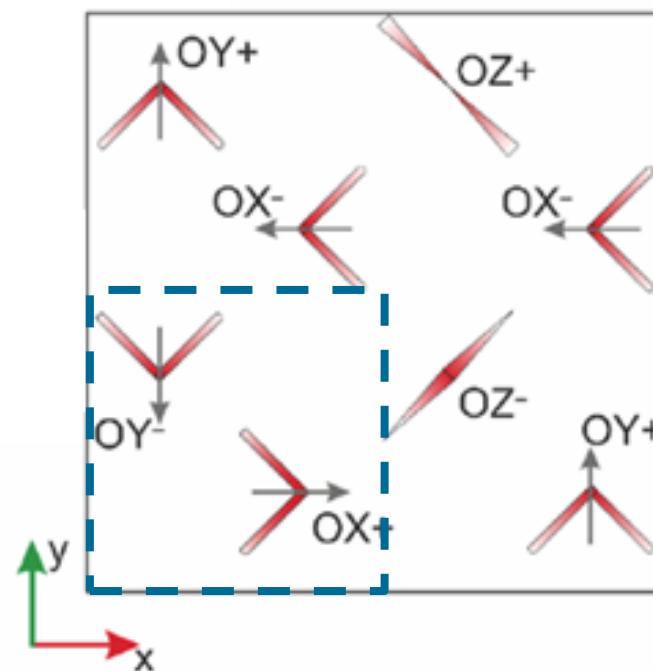
right fig. from K. Yamashitaa, K. Komatsua, S. Klotz, O. Fabelo, M.T. Fernandez-Diaz, J. Abed, S. Machidad, I. Hattorie, I. Iriofune, I. Shinmeif, K. Sugiyama, I. Kawamata, H. Kagi, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A. 119 (2022) e2208717119

ice VII average crystal structure and possible molecule displacements

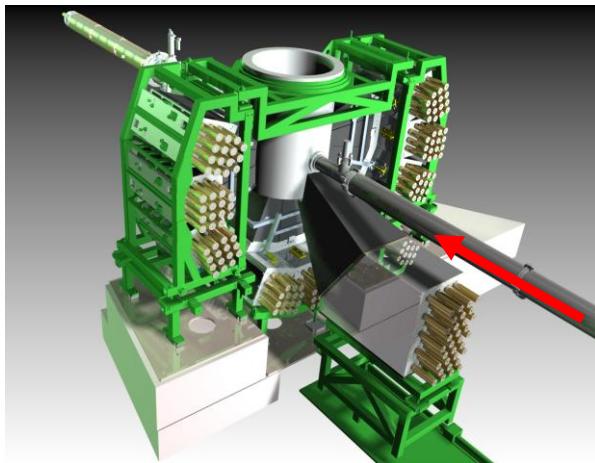


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H at $(0.40834 \ 0.40834 \ 0.40834)$ occ = 0.5



High Pressure experiment at ISIS neutron and muon source



- pure D₂O between two zirconia-toughened alumina anvils within a null scattering TiZr gasket and placed in a Paris-Edinburgh press
- maximum load was 40 tonnes
- measurement time was 23 h at 290 K at RT

**The Paris-Edinburgh
press**

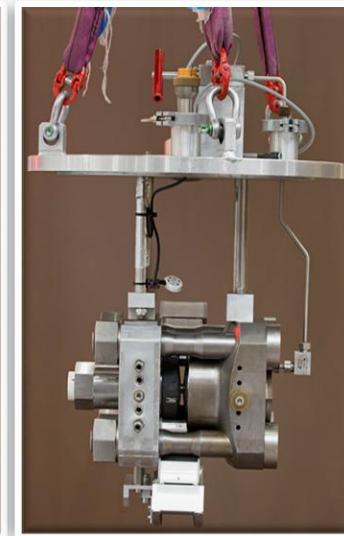
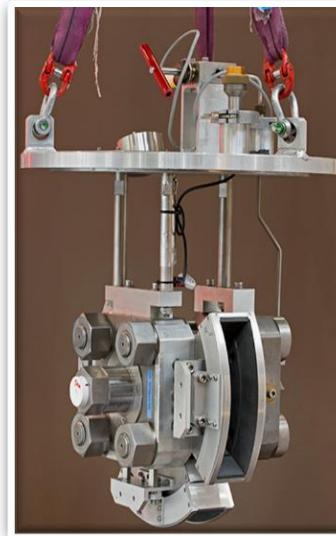
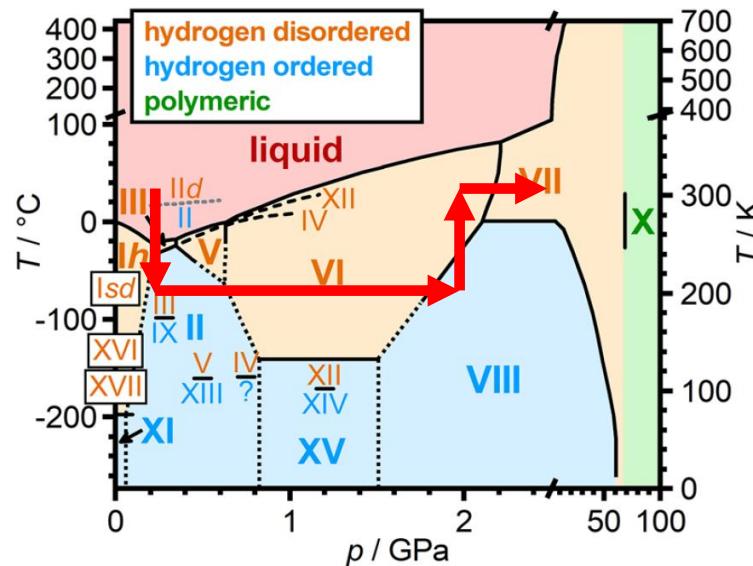


fig from <https://www.isis.stfc.ac.uk/Pages/pearl.aspx>

High Pressure experiment at ISIS neutron and muon source

- In order to avoid Preferred Orientation and increase sample crystallinity the following route was used:

290 K, 3 tonnes →
→ 200 K, 3 tonnes →
→ 200 K, 32.5 tonnes →
→ 290 K, 32.5 tonnes →
→ 290 K, 37.5 tons

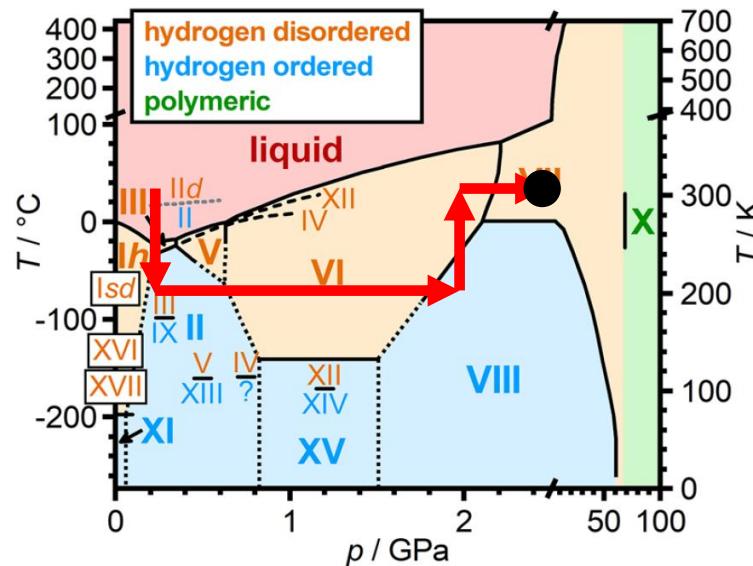


[fig from] C.G. Salzmann, J. Chem. Phys. 150, 060901 (2019)

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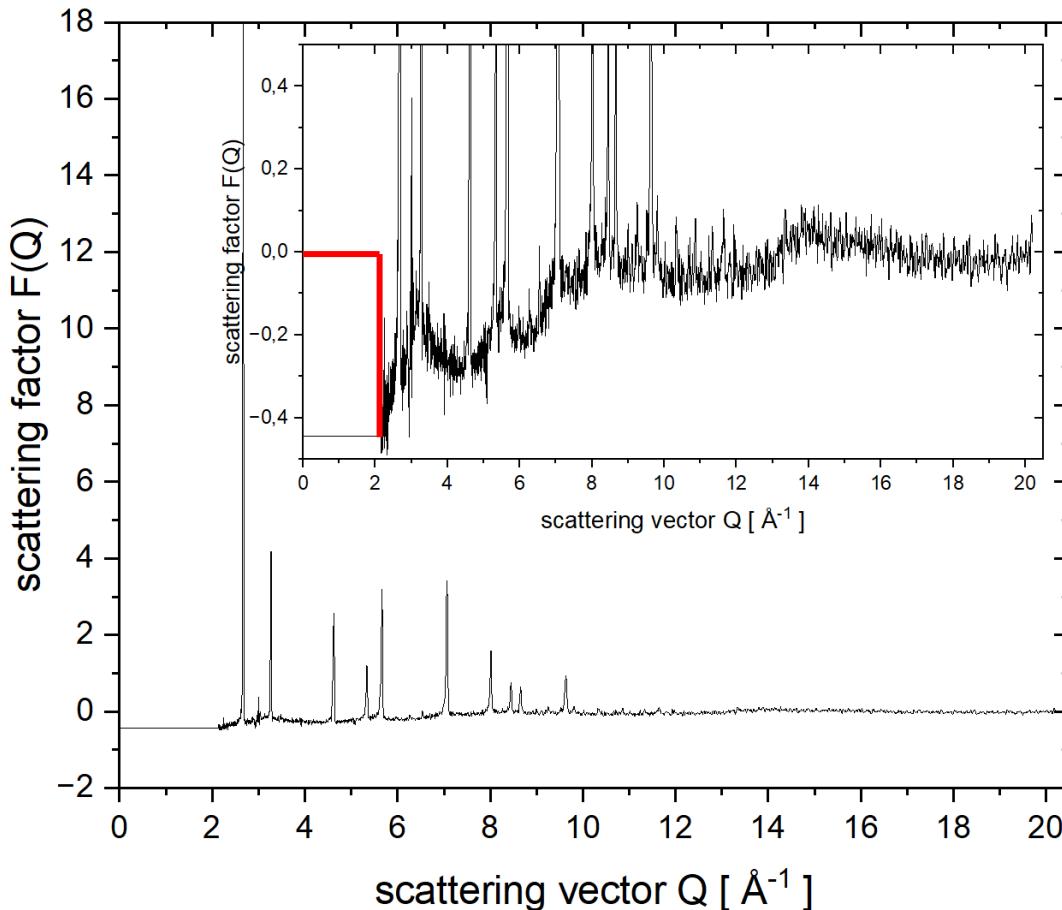
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[fig from] C.G. Salzmann, J. Chem. Phys. 150, 060901 (2019)

High Pressure experiment at ISIS neutron and muon source



- $Q_{\text{MAX}} = 20.5 \text{\AA}^{-1}$
- $Q_{\text{MIN}} = 1.55 \text{\AA}^{-1}$

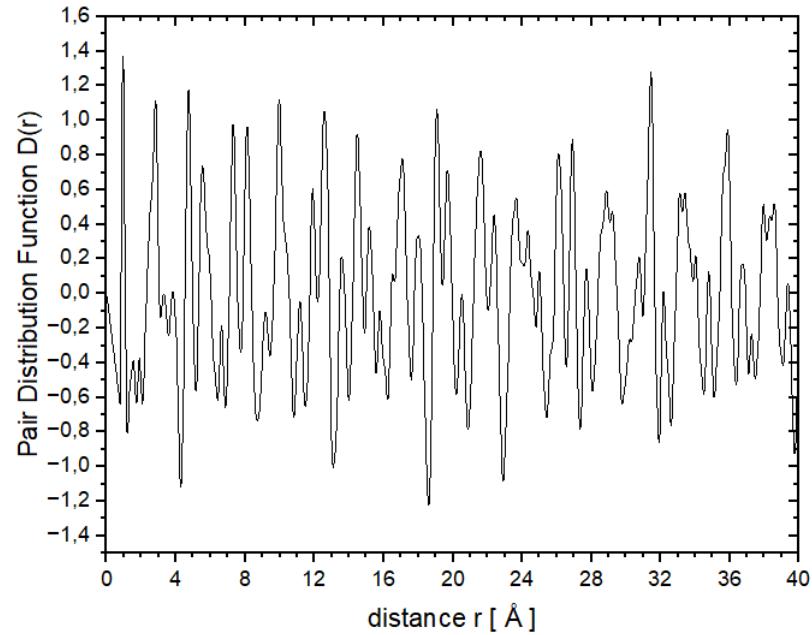
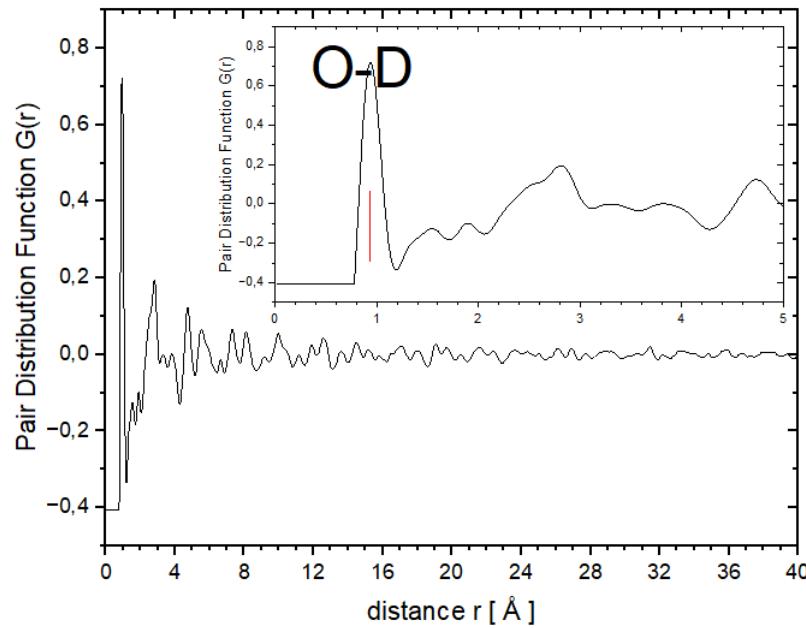
$$F(Q \rightarrow 0) = - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \bar{b}_i^2 + \eta,$$



RMCPProfile7 hint

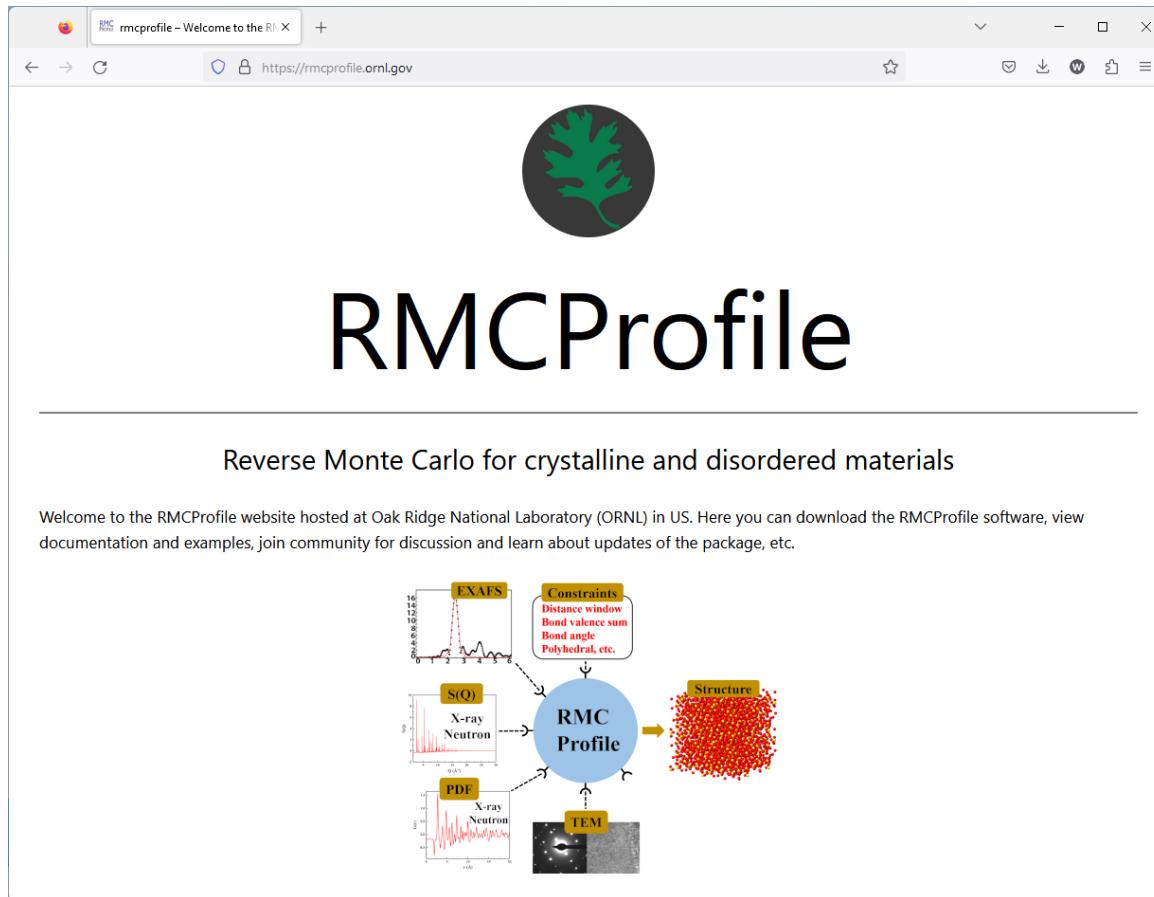
see equations in D. Keen, J. Appl. Cryst. (2001). 34, 172

High Pressure experiment at ISIS neutron and muon source



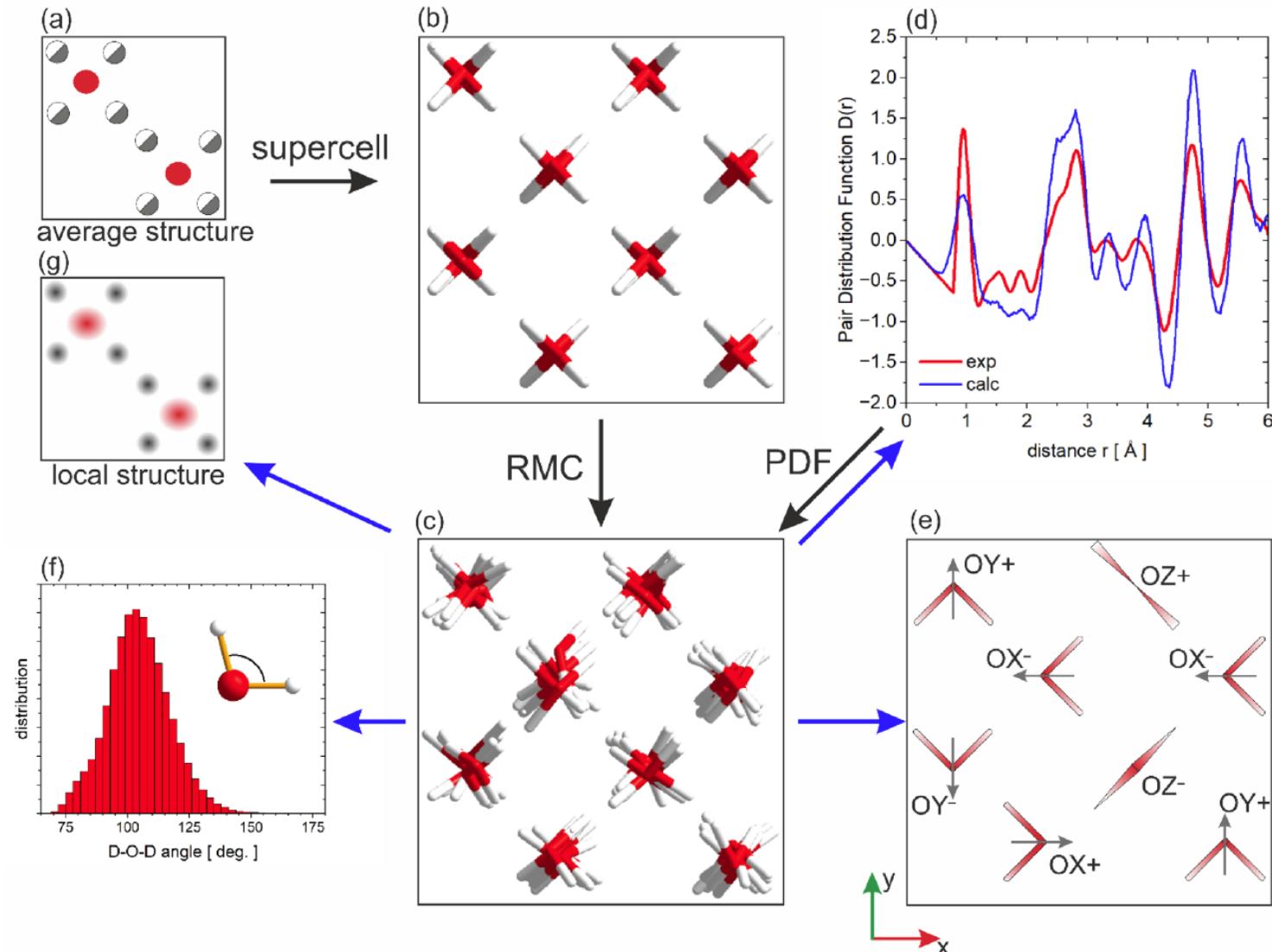
see equations in D. Keen, J. Appl. Cryst. (2001). 34, 172

RMCProfile in brief

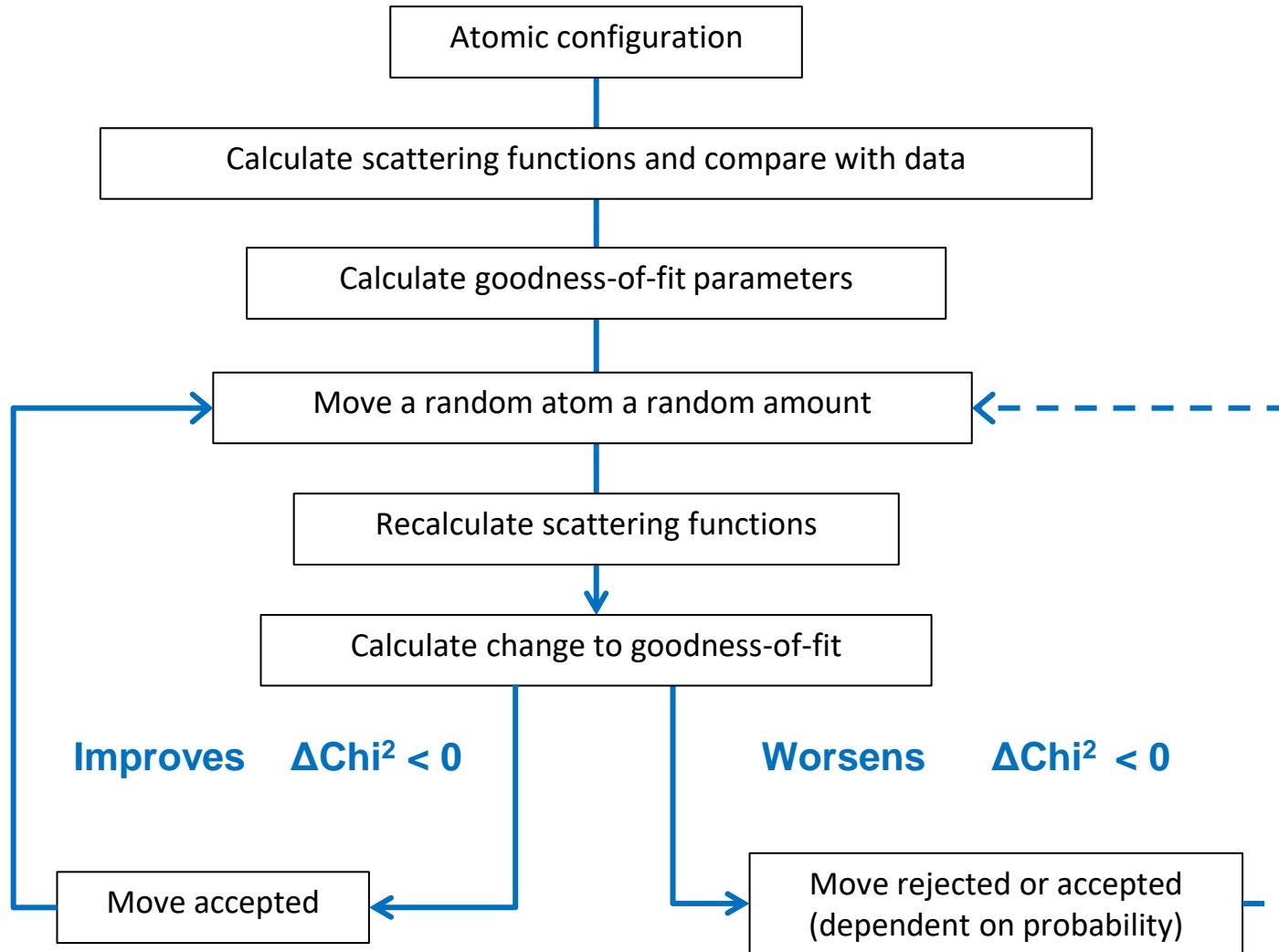


<https://rmcprofile.ornl.gov/>

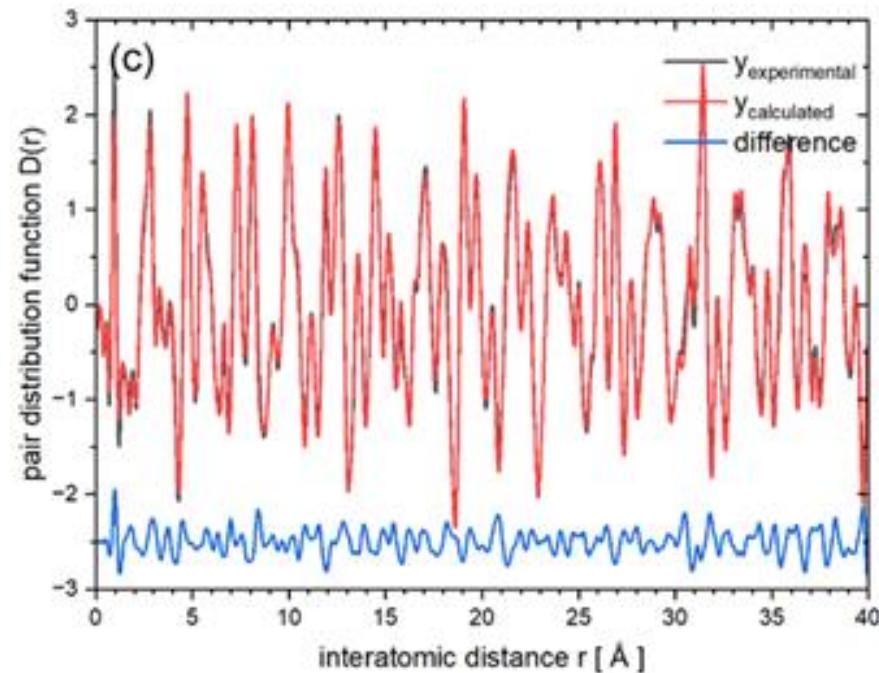
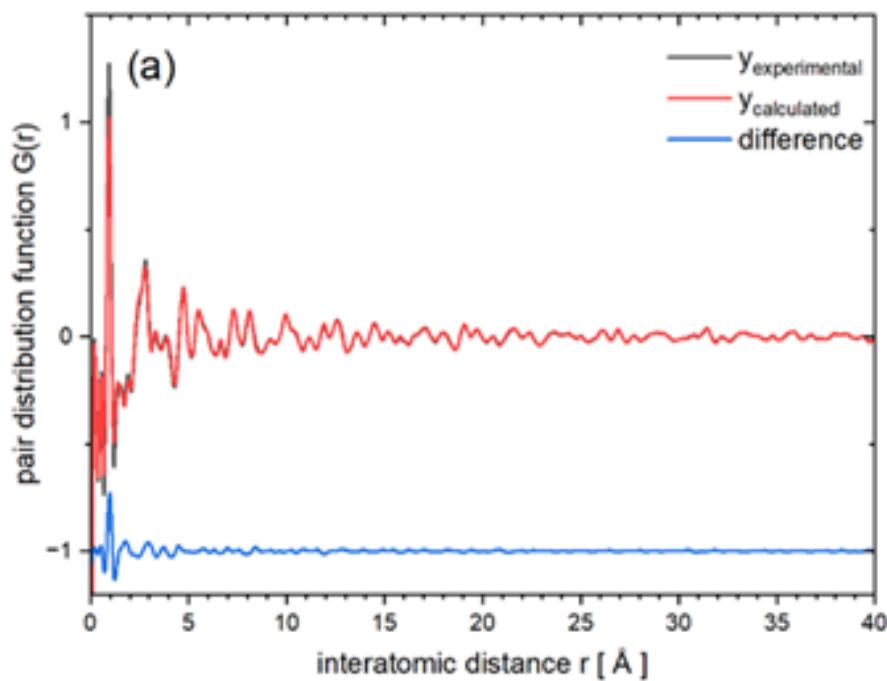
RMCProfile in brief



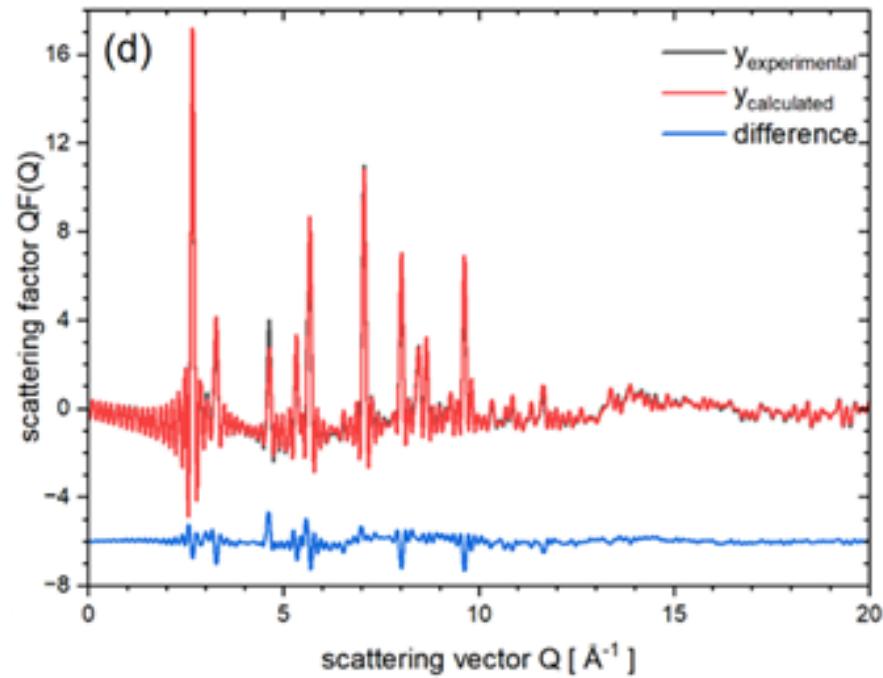
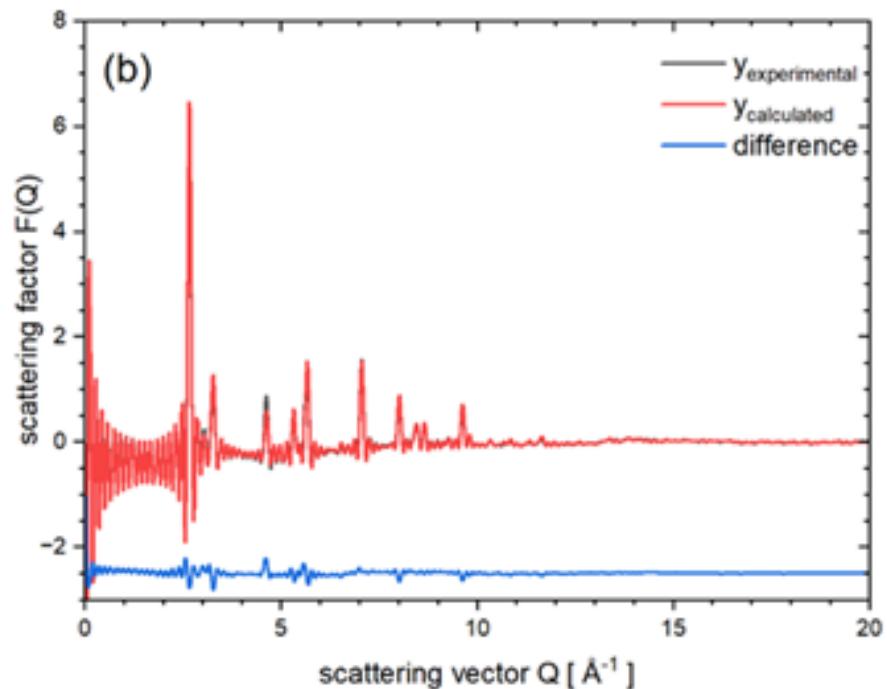
Reversed Monte Carlo in brief



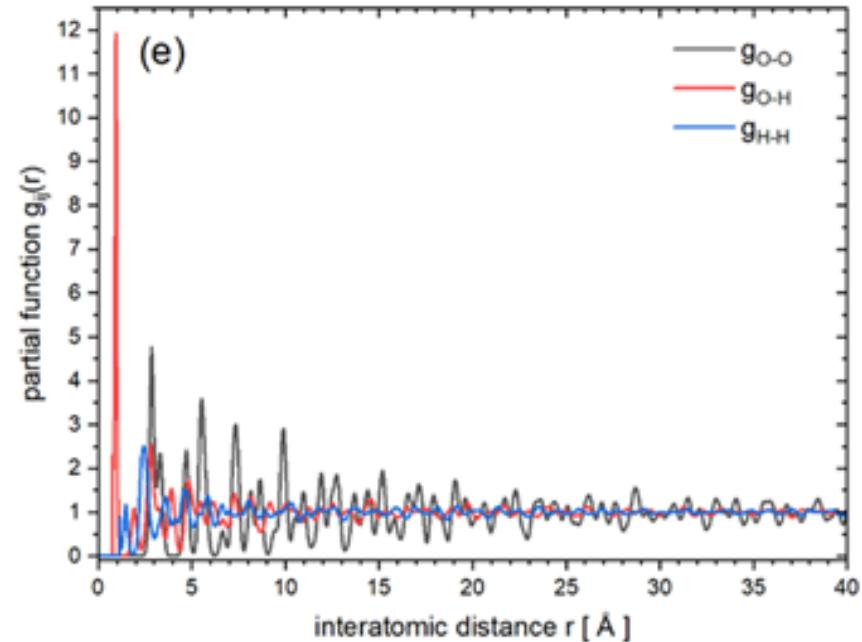
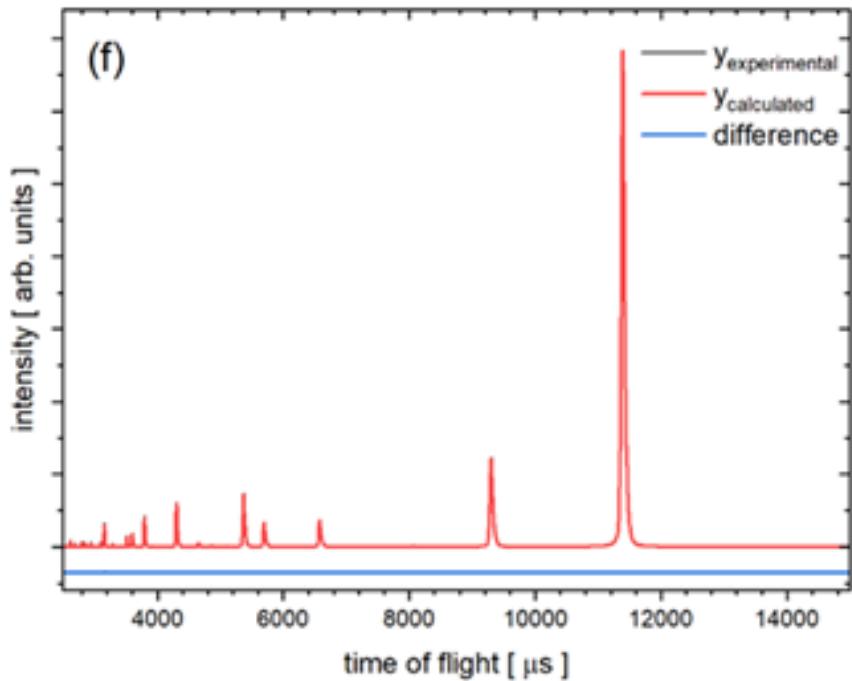
RMCProfile results



RMCProfile results



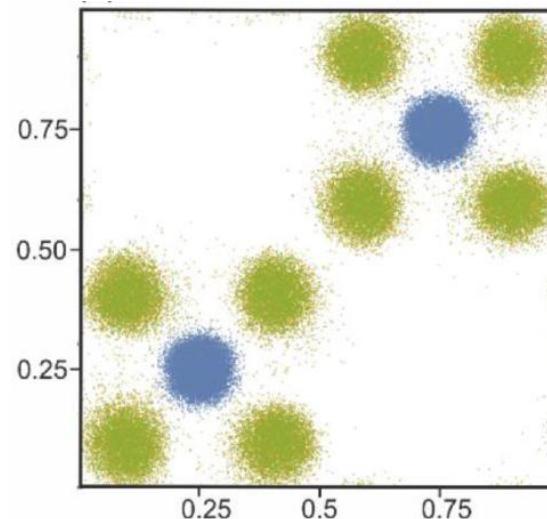
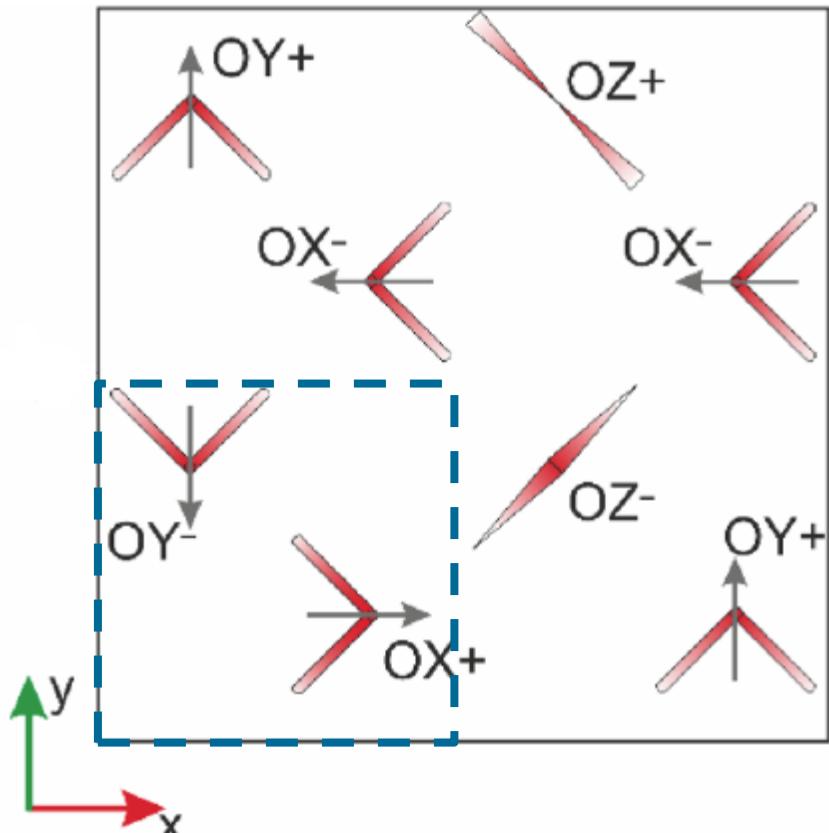
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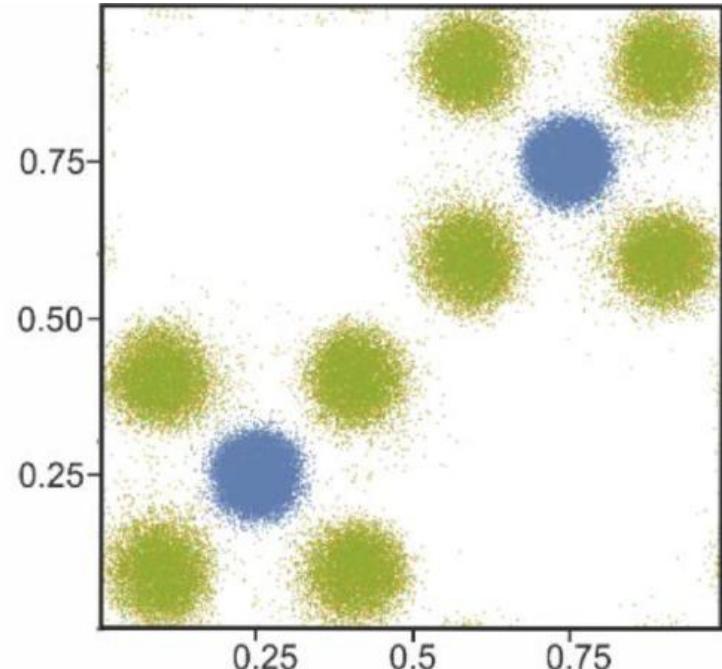
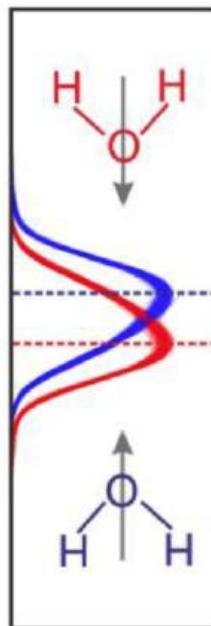
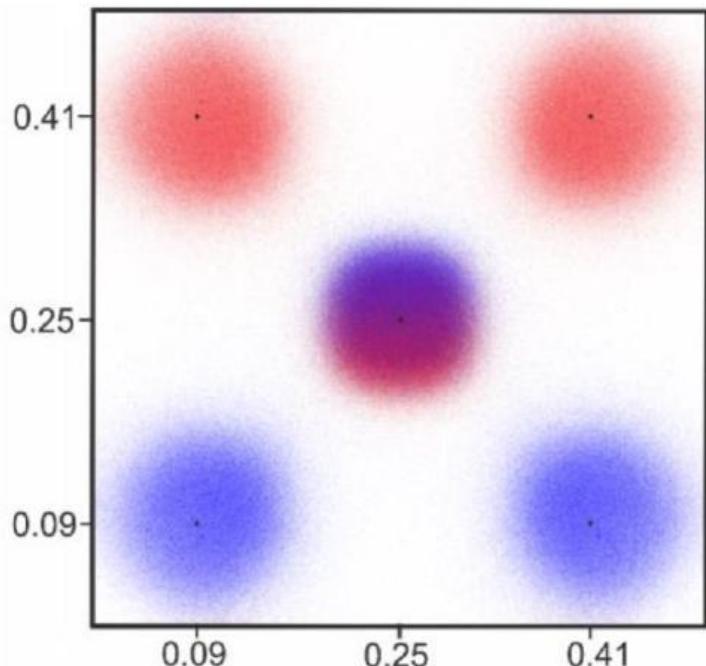
due to Preferred Orientation for RMC refinement
corrected and simulated powder pattern was used

✓
RMCProfile7 hint

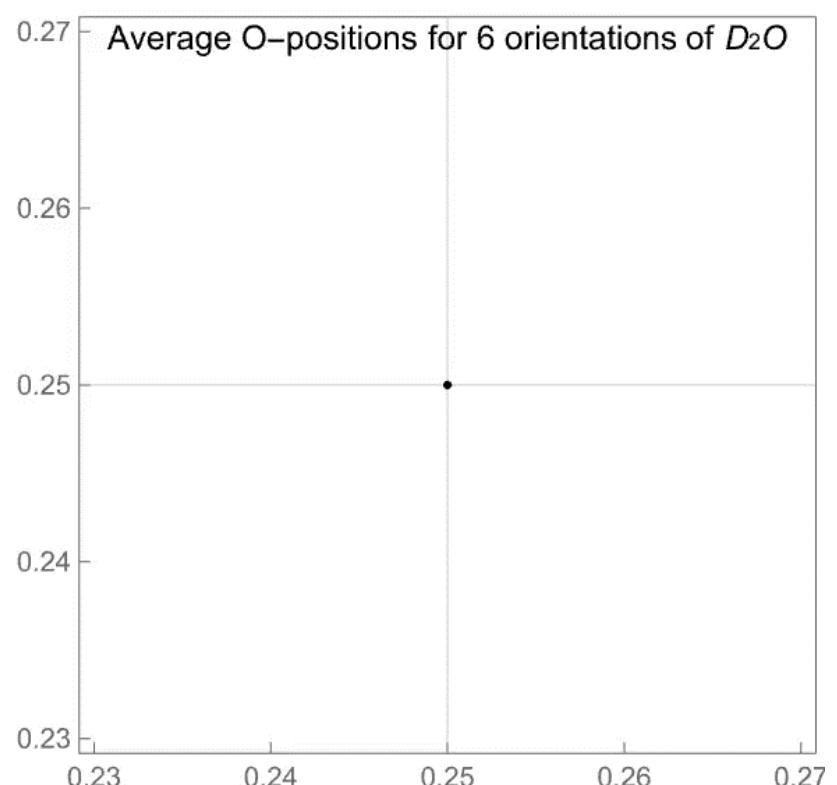
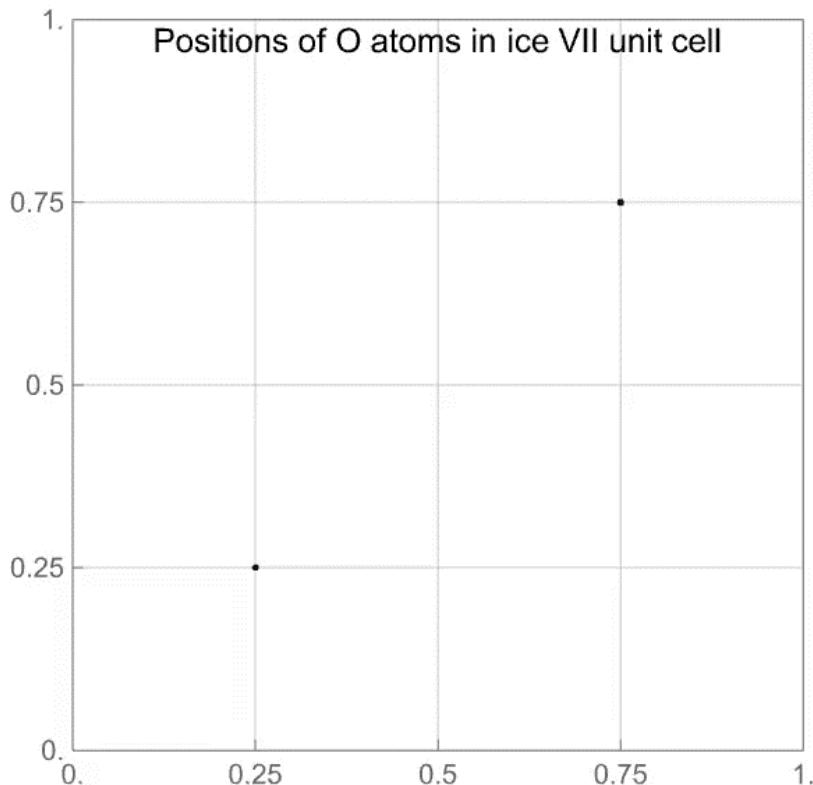
RMCProfile results



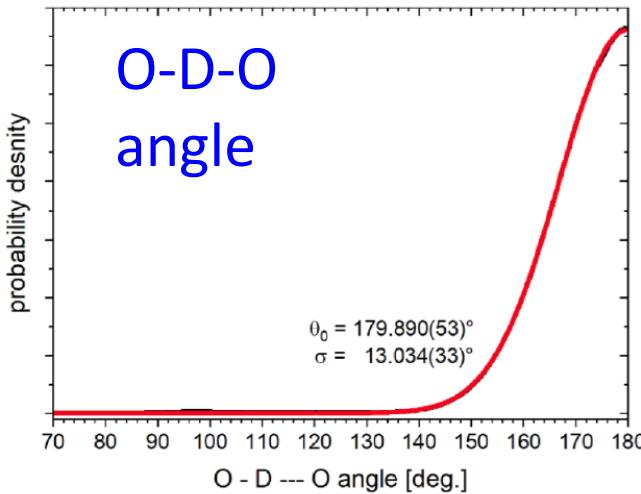
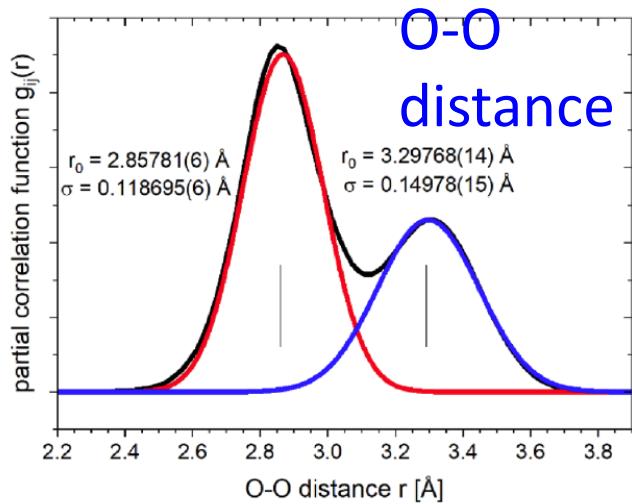
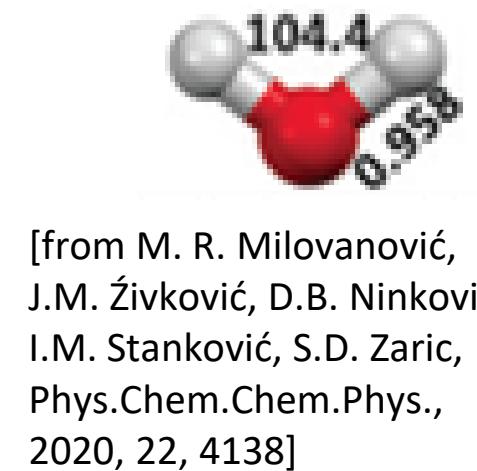
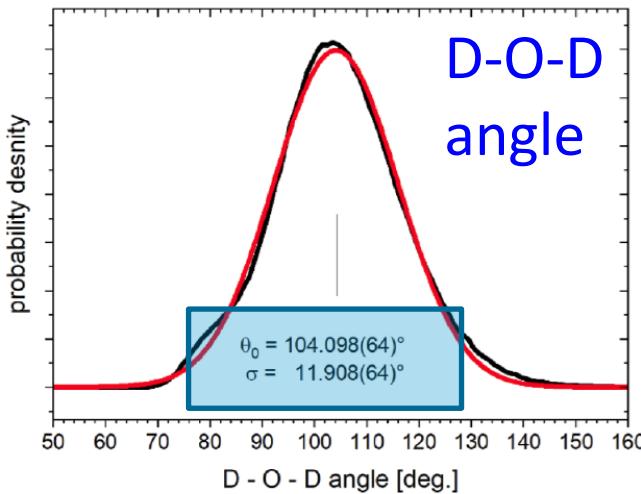
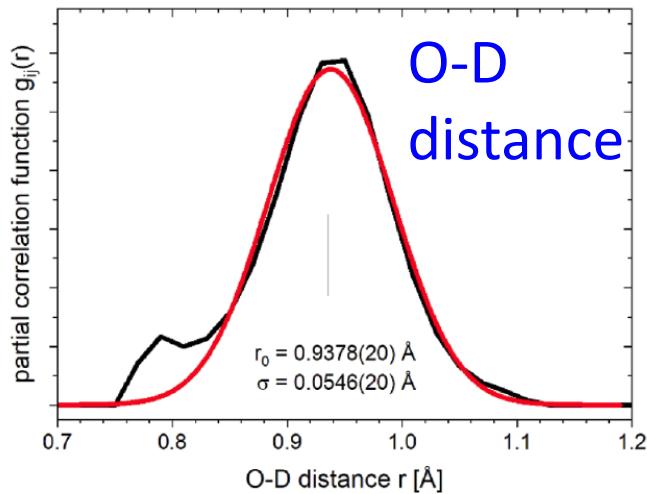
RMCProfile results



RMCProfile results



RMCProfile results

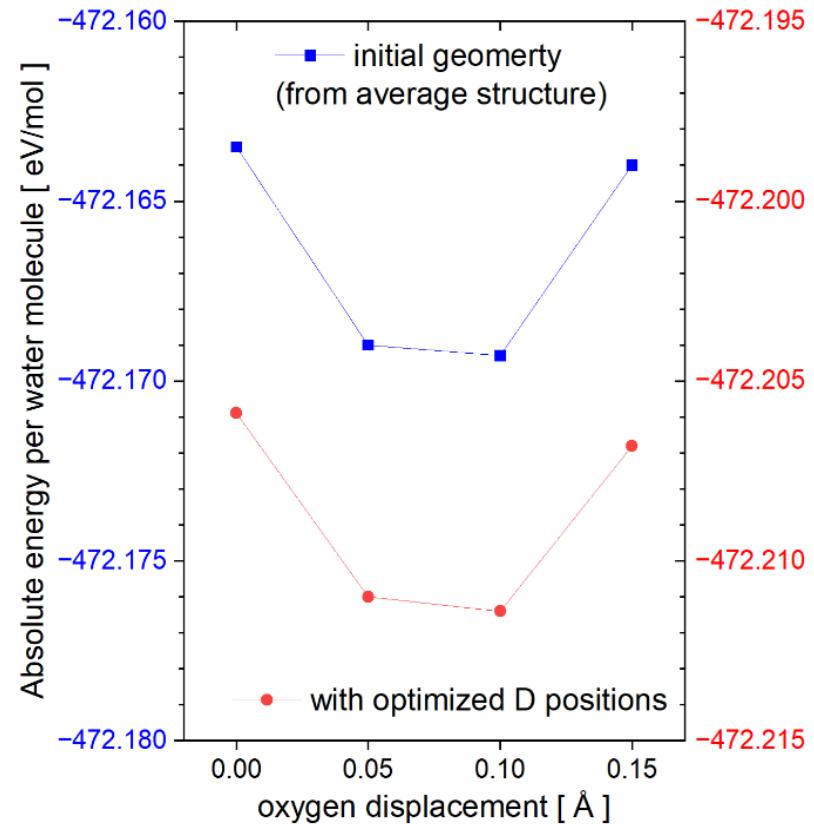
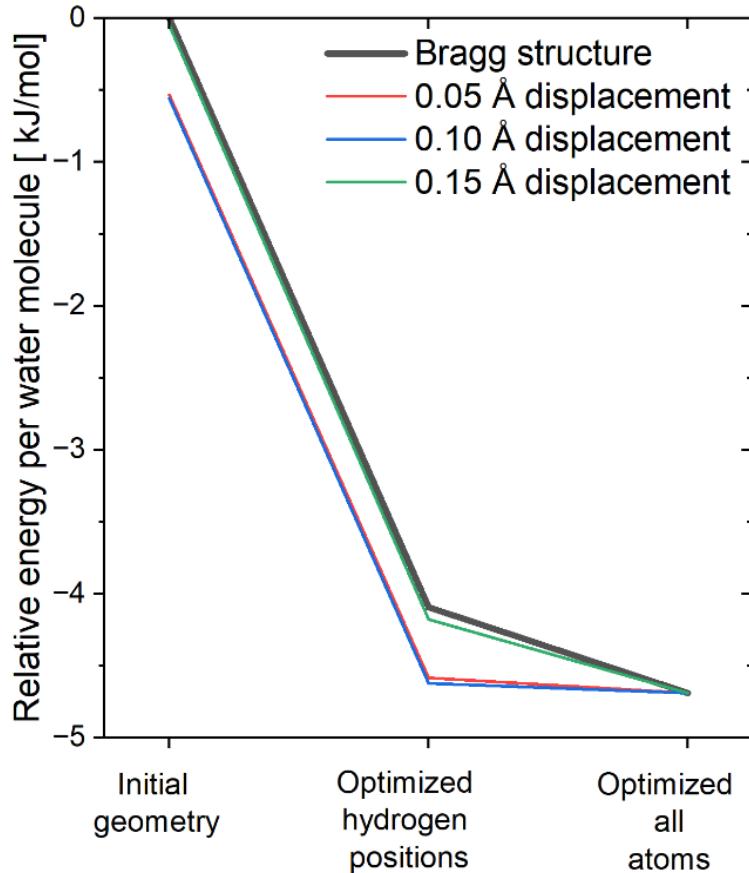


$$d_{\text{O-D}} = 0.896(1) \text{ \AA}$$

$$\alpha_{\text{D-O-D}} = 109.47^\circ$$

from average structure
Rietveld refinement
(our data)

DFT results

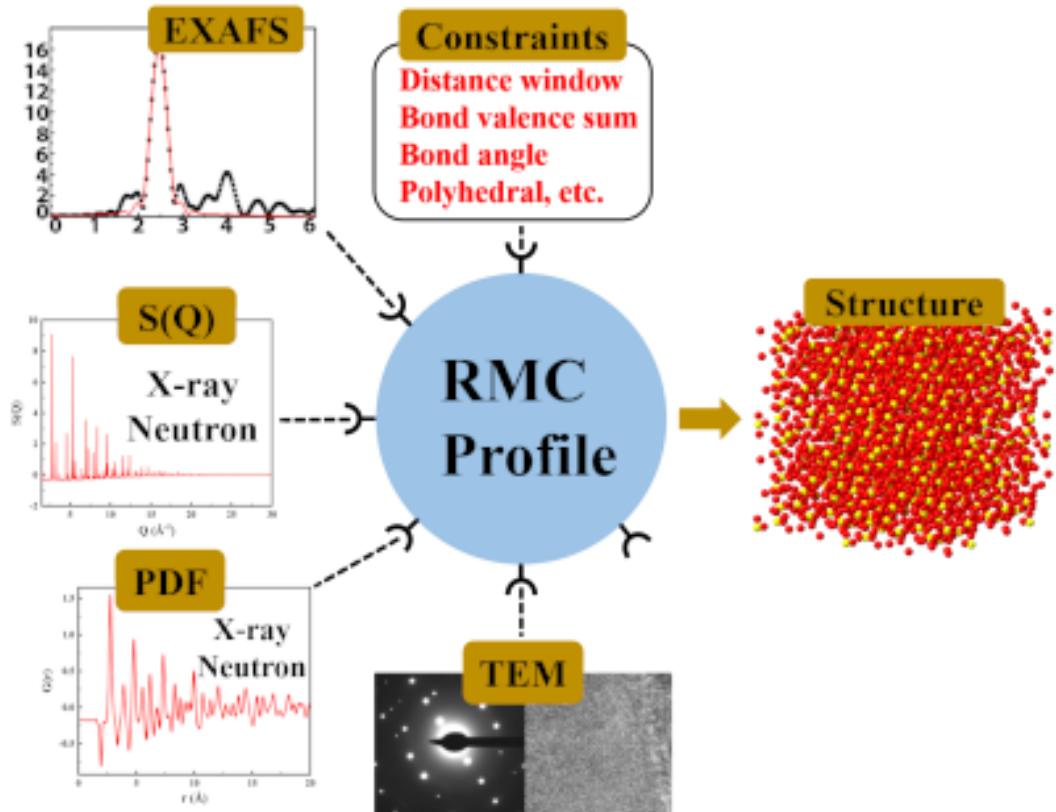


Displacements of D_2O molecules by 0.05 \AA stabilizes the structure by $0.536 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ per water molecule with respect to the average structure

Summary

- High quality PDF data can be measured at high pressure and analyzed with big box approach by RMCProfile7
- Pair Distribution Function studies allow:
 - get the local structures of ice VII with well defined positions of water molecules,
 - identify distributions of water molecules deviating from the average positions,
 - obtain reliable geometrical parameters,
 - identify subtle structural effects hidden within the average structure.

RMCProfile in brief



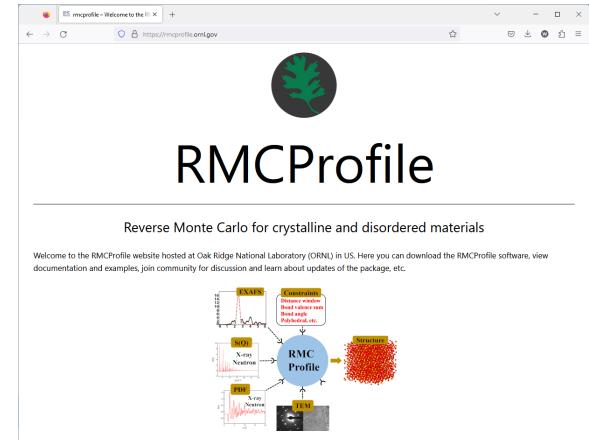
- big box of atoms
- many datasets
- many constraints
- support from theory

<https://rmcprofile.ornl.gov/>

RMCProfile7 in brief

Basic steps

1. Create a starting supercell (called a configuration)
2. Create and normalize experimental data files $G(r)$, $D(r)$, $F(Q)$
3. Prepare Bragg profile data file
4. Run RMCProfile7 with 0 moves
5. Check initially calculated functions and partials
6. Run RMCProfile7, wait and be patient
7. Check final functions and partials
8. Analyze refined configuration

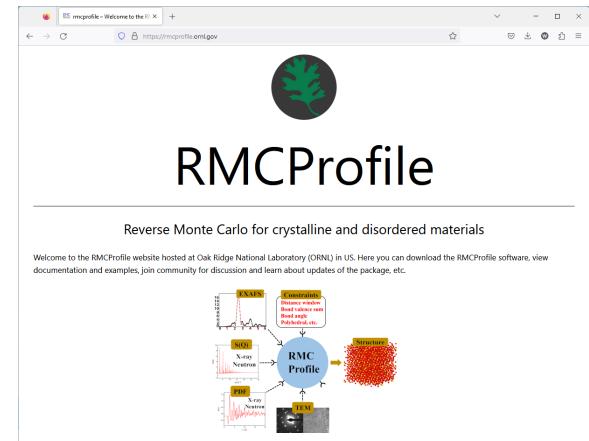


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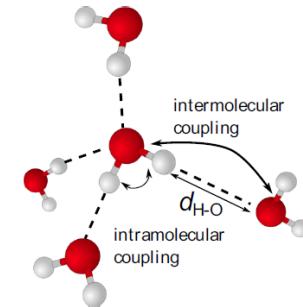
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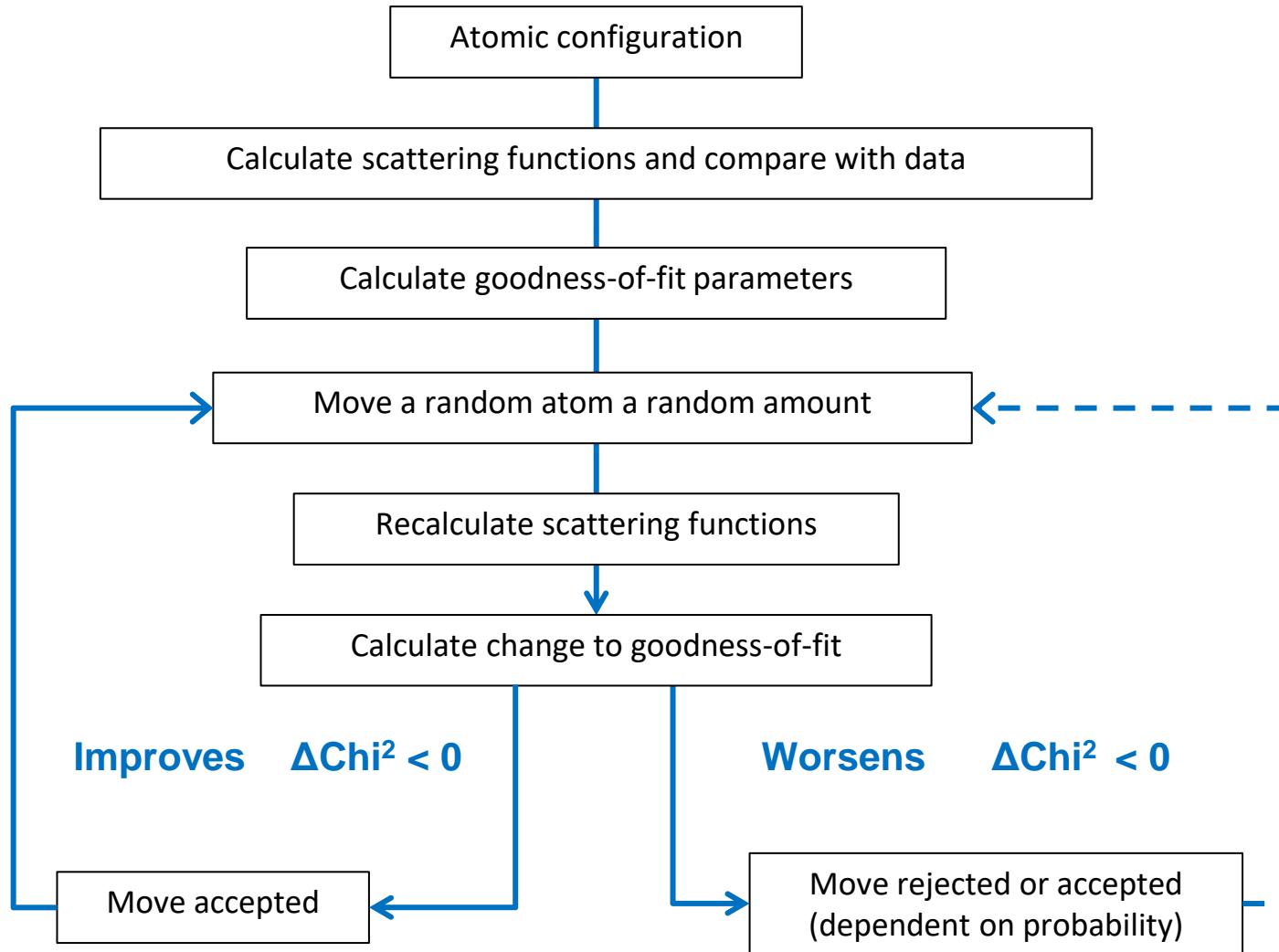


ICE RULES (2 in, 2 out)



<https://rmcprofile.ornl.gov/>

Reversed Monte Carlo in brief



RMCProfile7 in more details

■ **Atomic configuration**

- usually a supercell of the crystallographic unit cell
- 10 000 – 1 000 000 atoms

■ **RMCProfile7 can fit**

- real space data , i.e. $G(r)$, $D(r)$, $G_{\text{PDFGUI}}(r)$, $T(r)$...
- reciprocal space data, i.e. $F(Q)$, $QF(Q)$, $S(Q)$
- Bragg data (instrumental parameters from GSAS, GSAS-II and **Topas**)
- magnetic scattering in reciprocal space
- EXAFS (k- and/or r-space)
- (Electron) single crystal diffuse

■ **Variety of additional constraints**

- minimum distance “hard sphere Monte Carlo”
- distance window
- molecular potentials

RMCProfile7 in more details

- **Multiphase refinement**
 - calculation of all dataset types can be done for multiple phases*
- **RMCProfile7 can fit**
 - real space dataset (X-Ray and neutron) can be calculated as a back Fourier Transform of reciprocal space dataset
 - full GSAS-II compatibility (easy Bragg data extraction)
- **Variety of additional constraints**
 - molecular potentials (distances, angles, torsion angle, inversion angle, planarity + variants)
 - potentials and swaps are now compatible
- **Molecule (rigid body) move type**
 - **molecule (rigid body) type move**
 - swap between atoms and atoms, atoms to molecules and molecules to molecules

*W. Sławiński, J. Appl. Cryst. (2018). **51**, 919–923

Some more details about *RMCProfile7*

```
RMC7_ice_VII.dat ✎ ✎
1  TITLE :: ICE VII
2  R_SPACING :: 0.02
3  PRINT_PERIOD :: 10000
4  SAVE_PERIOD :: 10000
5  VERBOSITY :: STANDARD
6  %%TIME_LIMIT :: 10800 SECONDS
7  %%ITERATION_LIMIT :: 0
8
9  CONFIGURATION :: D2O
10 > MAXIMUM_MOVES :: 0.1 0.1 Angstrom
11 > CONFIGURATION_FILE :: ice_vii_24_24_24.rmc7
12 > ATOMS :: O 2H
13 > PROPORTION :: 1.0
14 %> RESOLUTION_CORRECTION_X :: 0.002
15 > MOVEOUT
16 > WRITE_HISTORY
17 > NO_IGNORE_HISTORY
18
19
20 MINIMUM_DISTANCES :: 1
21 > MINIMUM_DISTANCES :: 2.38 0.78 1.16 Angstrom
22
23 DISTANCE_WINDOWS :: 1
24 > NEIGH_FILE :: ice_VII.neigh
25 > MINIMUM_DISTANCES :: 0.00 0.78 0.00 Angstrom
26 > MAXIMUM_DISTANCES :: 0.00 1.12 0.00 Angstrom
27
28 MOLECULE :: 
29 > NO_UPDATE
30 > TRANSLATION_PROBABILITY :: 0.2
31 > MAXIMUM_MOVES :: 0.1
32 > ROTATION_PROBABILITY :: 0.2
33 > ROTATION :: euler 0 10 0 10 0 10
34 > MOLECULE_FILE :: H2O.list
35 > ATOM :: O
36 > ATOM :: 2H 1 0.76 1.18 Angstrom
37 > ATOM :: 2H 1 0.76 1.18 Angstrom
38
```

24x24x24 unit cells => 82 944 atoms

isotop definition 2H = D

Minimum distance constrain

Distance windos constrain

D₂O molecule definition

molecule rotation definition:

- Euler angle
- xyz direction
- uvw direction
- interatomic vector direction

RMCProfile7 results

```
74 NEUTRON_RECIPROCAL_SPACE_DATA :: 1
75 > FILENAME :: 118473_rmc_low_q_rescale.fq
76 > REBIN :: 0.02
77 > LOW_R_CUT_OFF :: 0.74 ←
78 > START_POINT :: 1
79 > END_POINT :: 4038
80 > WEIGHT :: 0.01
81 > NO_FITTED_OFFSET
82 > NO_FITTED_SCALE
83 > DATA_TYPE :: F(Q)
84 > FIT_TYPE :: F(Q) ←
85 > CONVOLVE
86 > REAL_SPACE_FIT :: 1 2000 0.01 ←
87 > REAL_SPACE_FIT_TYPE :: G(r)
88 > REAL_SPACE_QMAX :: 20.180
89 > REAL_SPACE_QMIN :: 0.005
90 > REAL_SPACE_QSTEP :: 0.005
91 > NO_REAL_SPACE_FITTED_SCALE
92 > NO_REAL_SPACE_FITTED_OFFSET
```

real and reciprocal space correction
=> subtraction of ripples below 0.74 Å

internal data type conversion

calculation of real space data as a
back Fourier transform also for
neutron data

```
129 BRAGG :: ←
130 > BRAGG_SHAPE :: 1 GSASII_TOF ←
131 > WEIGHT :: 0.0001
132 > DMIN :: 0.515
133 > FILENAME :: 118473_tt70_subtracted_cell_ice_VII_no_abs_calc_no_preferred_for_rmc_1.txt
134 > BACKGROUND_TYPE :: 1
135 > BACKGROUND_FILE :: 118473_tt70_subtracted_cell_ice_VII_no_abs_calc_no_preferred_for_rmc.pwdrbck
136 > RECALCULATE
137 > INSTRUMENT_FILE :: 118473_tt70_subtracted_cell_ice_VII_no_abs_calc_no_preferred_for_rmc.instrprm
138 > NO_FITTED_SCALE
139 > NO_FITTED_BACKGROUND
140 > NUMBER_OF_POINTS_PER_PEAK :: 2001
```

GSAS-II input files for Bragg data

RMCPProfile developers

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- Yuanpeng Zhang, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, US

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ISIS Neutron and
Muon Source



RMCProfile7 plans for the future

- **Magnetism**
 - calculation of magnetic contribution to $F(Q)$ and/or mPDF
- **EXAFS**
 - implementation of EXAFS calculation
- **single crystal diffuse scattering**
 - 2D planes and 3D volumes of diffuse scattering calculations
- **better speed optimization and possibly GPU optimization**
- **encourage more Users to switch from RMCProfile6 to RMCProfile7**
 - more examples and tutorials using RMCProfile7
 - more bug testing
 - more user friendly preparation and analysis of configurations