

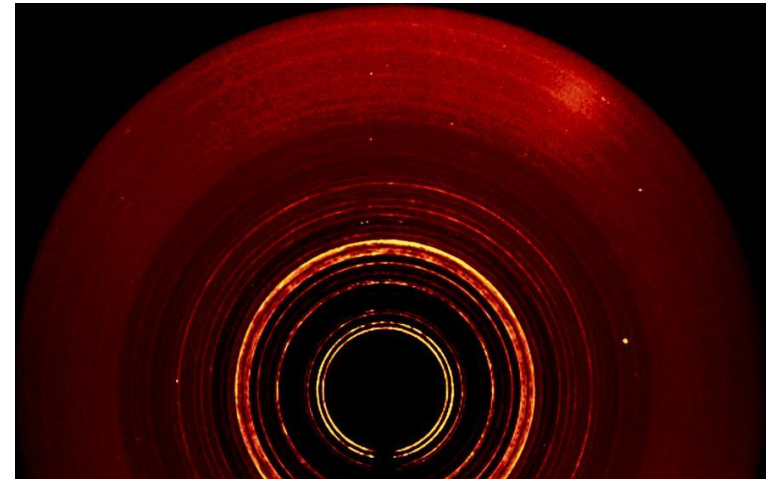
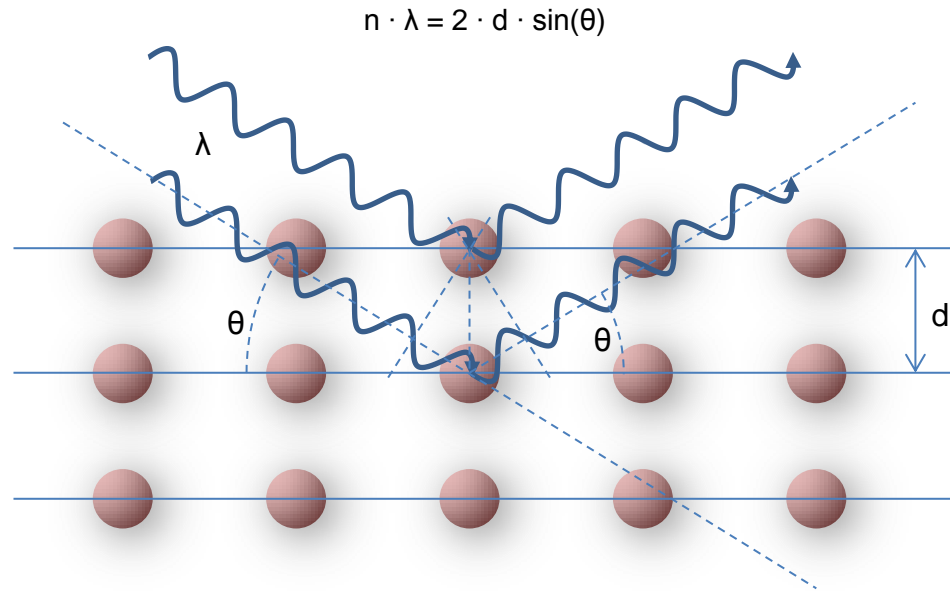
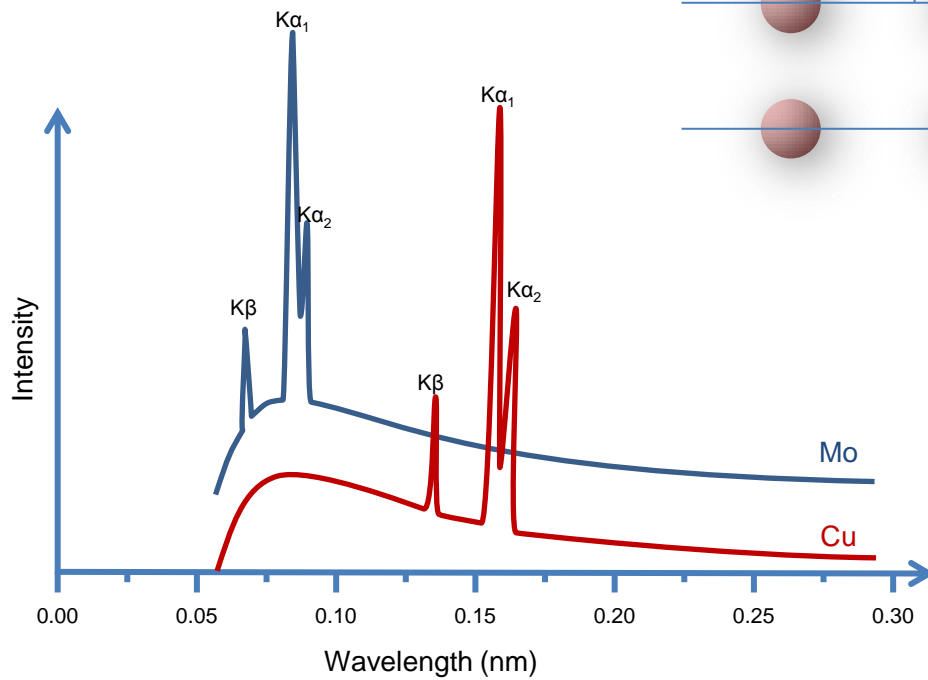
Lesson 4

Phase Identification

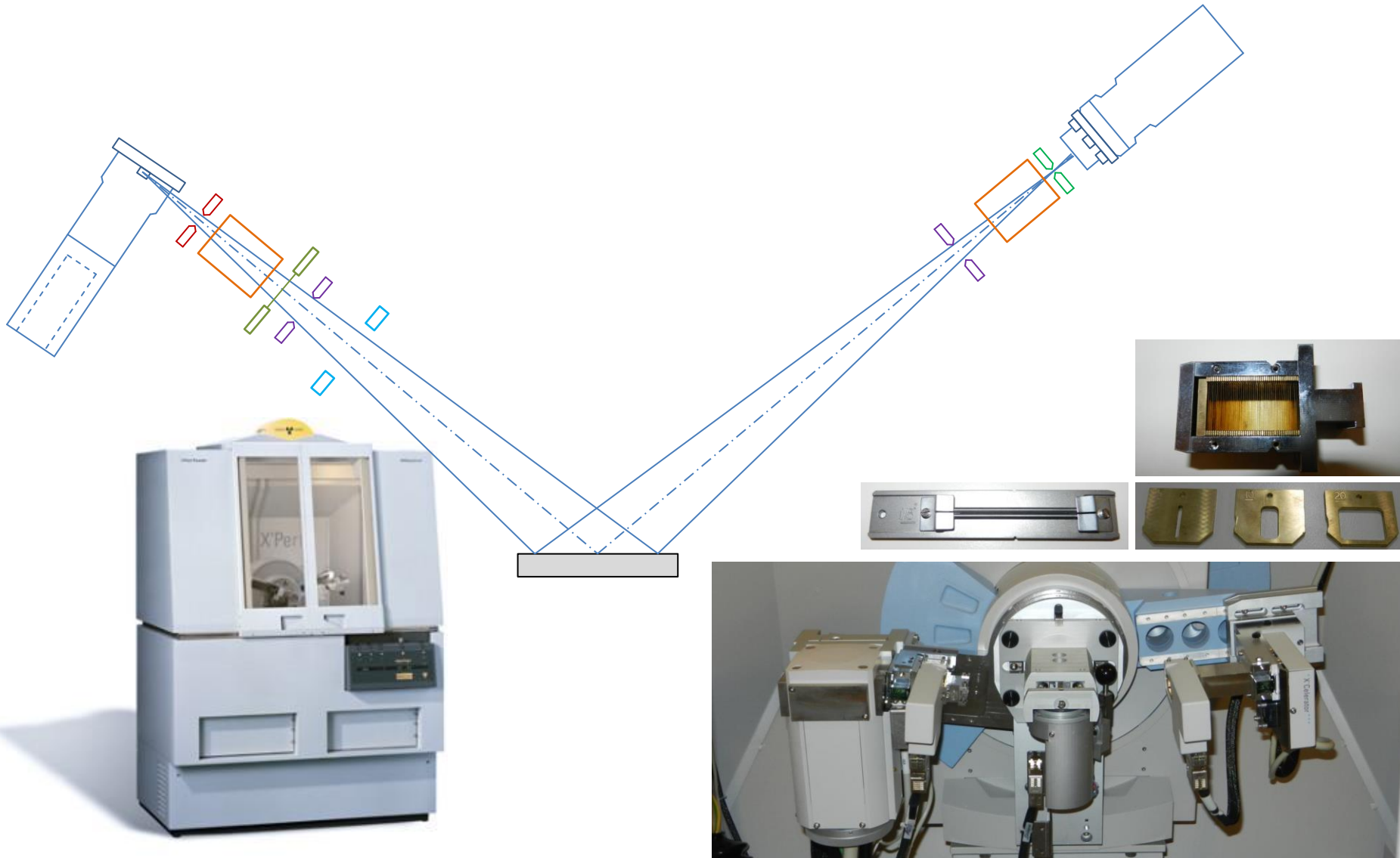


Nicola Döbelin
RMS Foundation, Bettlach, Switzerland

Repetition: X-Rays and Diffraction



Repetition: Bragg-Brentano Diffractometer Setup

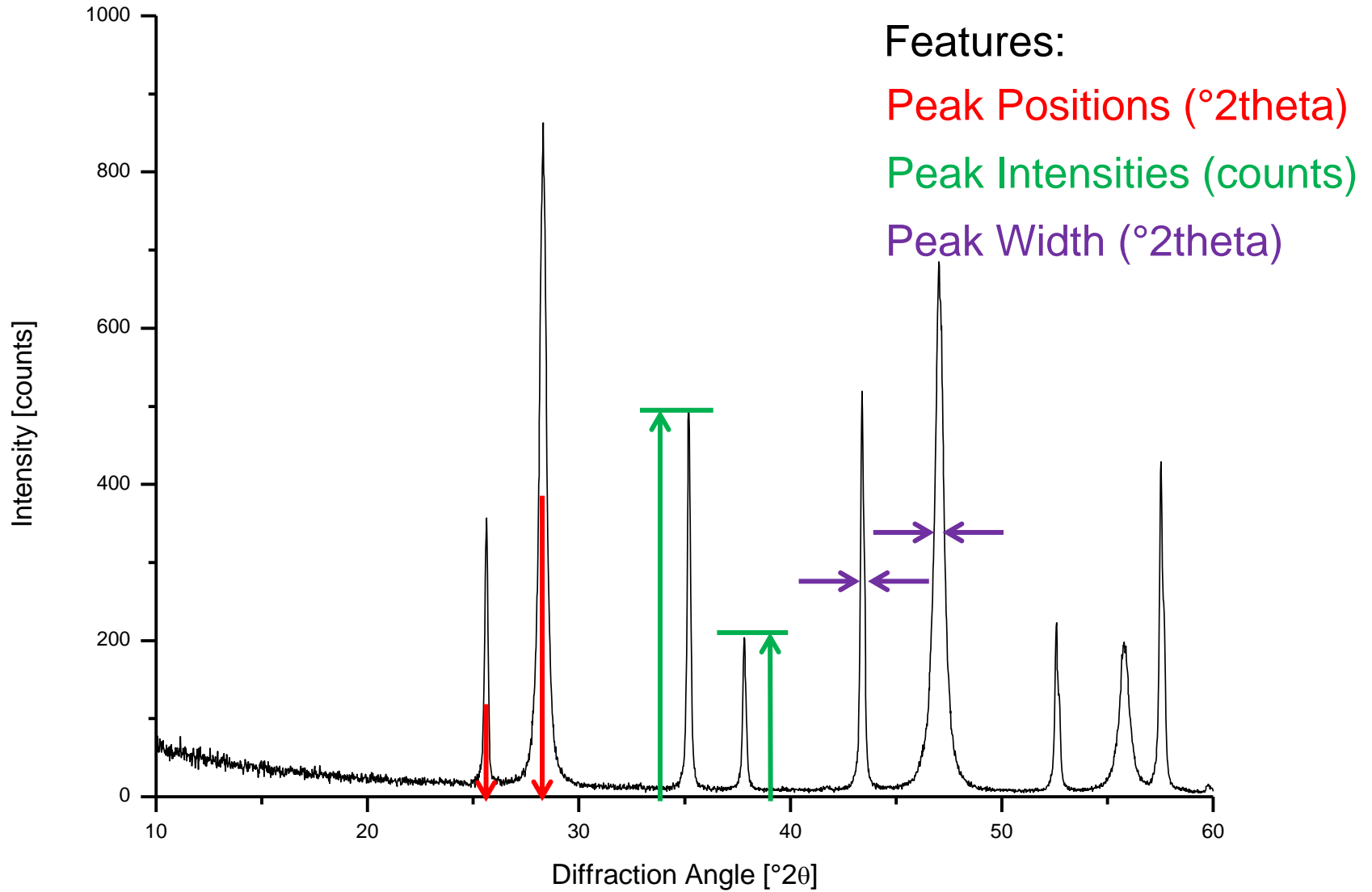


Repetition: Sample Preparation

- Graininess
- Micro-absorption
- Texture
- Sample height displacement
- Surface roughness
- Sample transparency

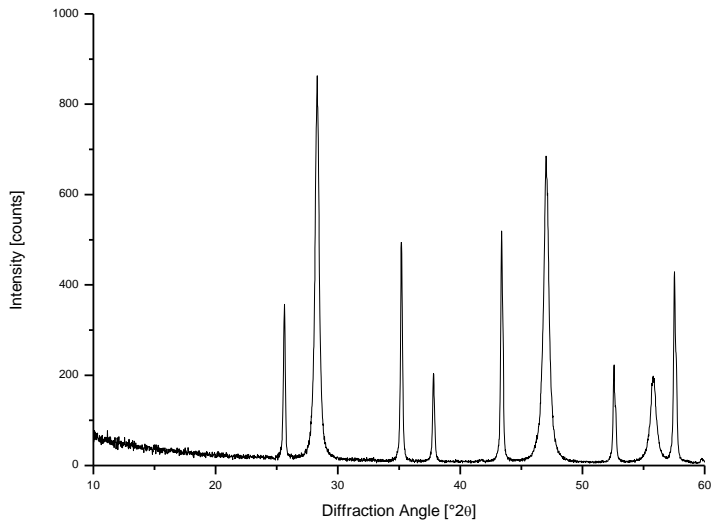
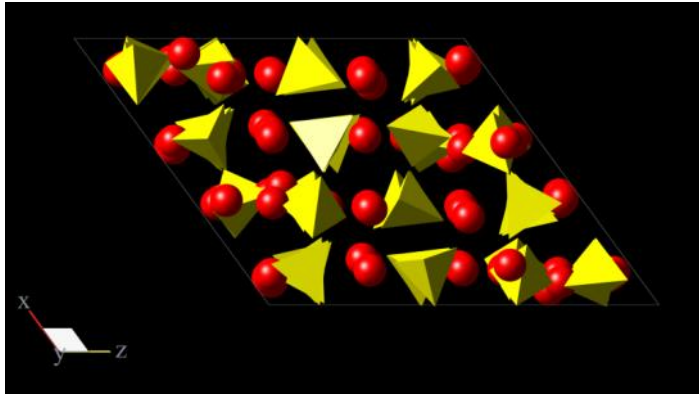


Diffraction Pattern



Phase Identification

«Pattern Features» originate from crystallographic properties

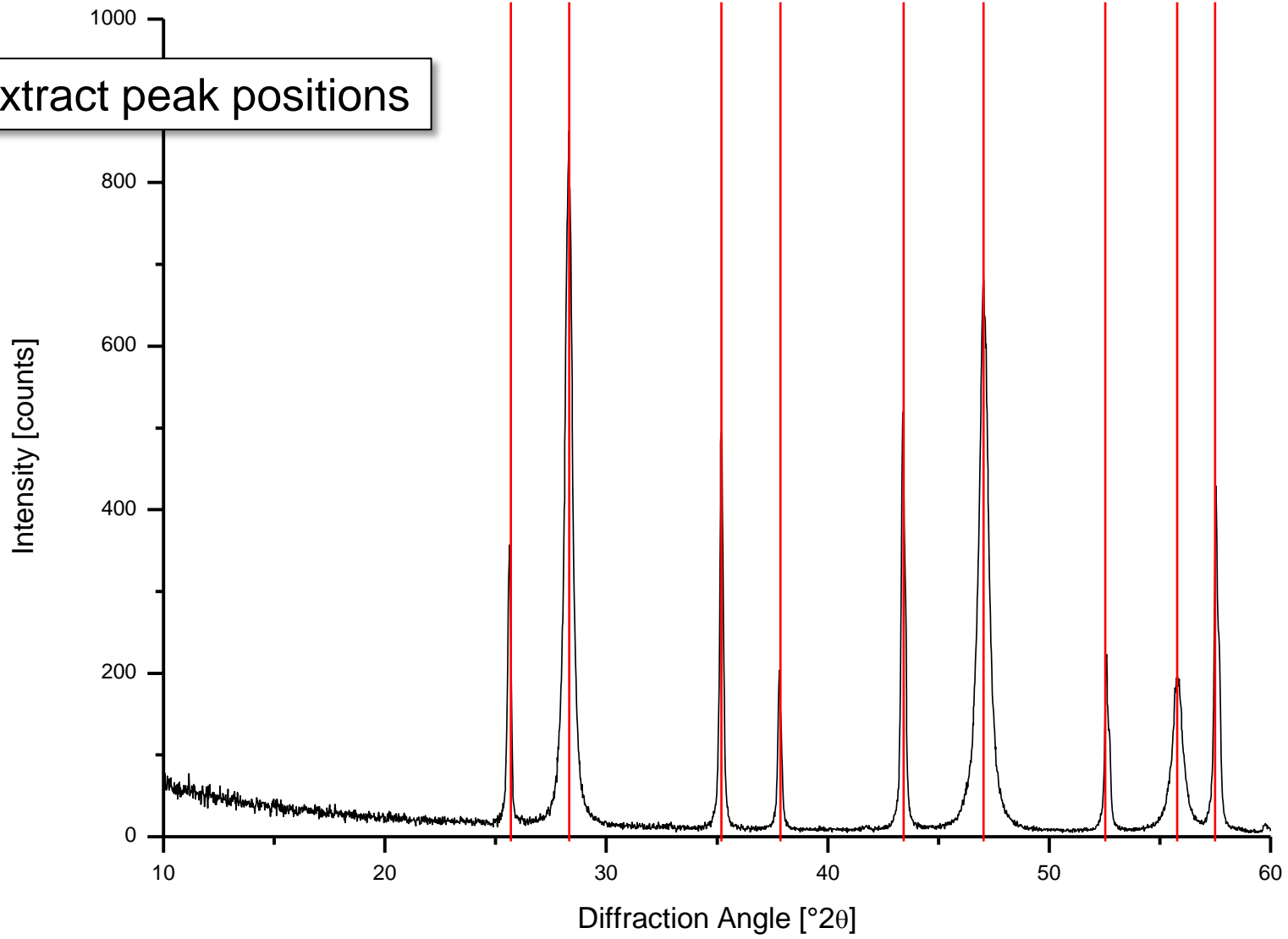


Usually sufficient for identification

Feature	Origin
Peak positions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Symmetry of the unit cell (space group)- Dimensions of the unit cell
Relative peak intensities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Coordinates of atoms in unit cell- Species of atoms
Absolute peak intensities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Abundance of phase
Peak width	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Crystallite size- Stress/Strain in crystal lattice

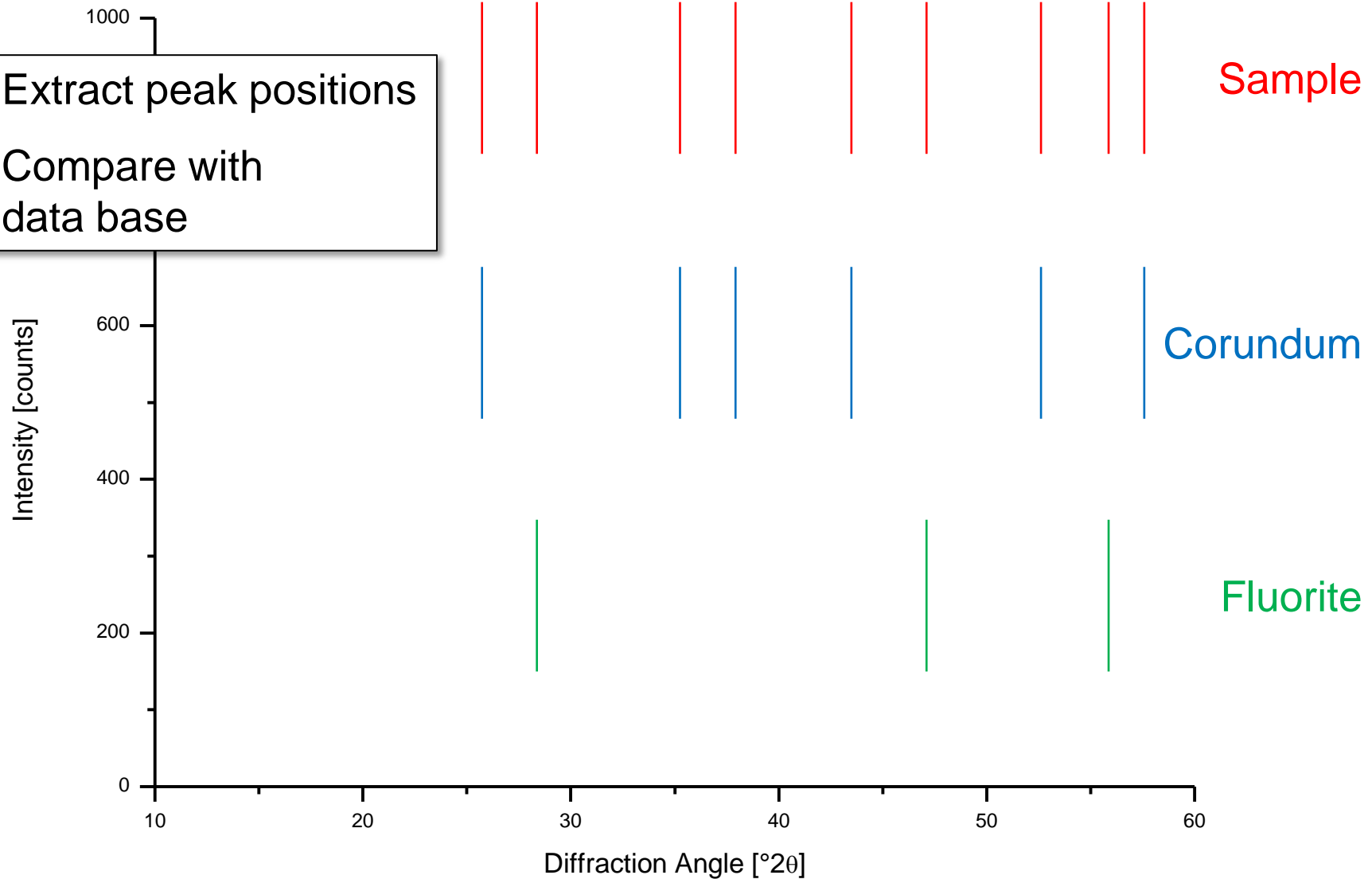
Phase Identification

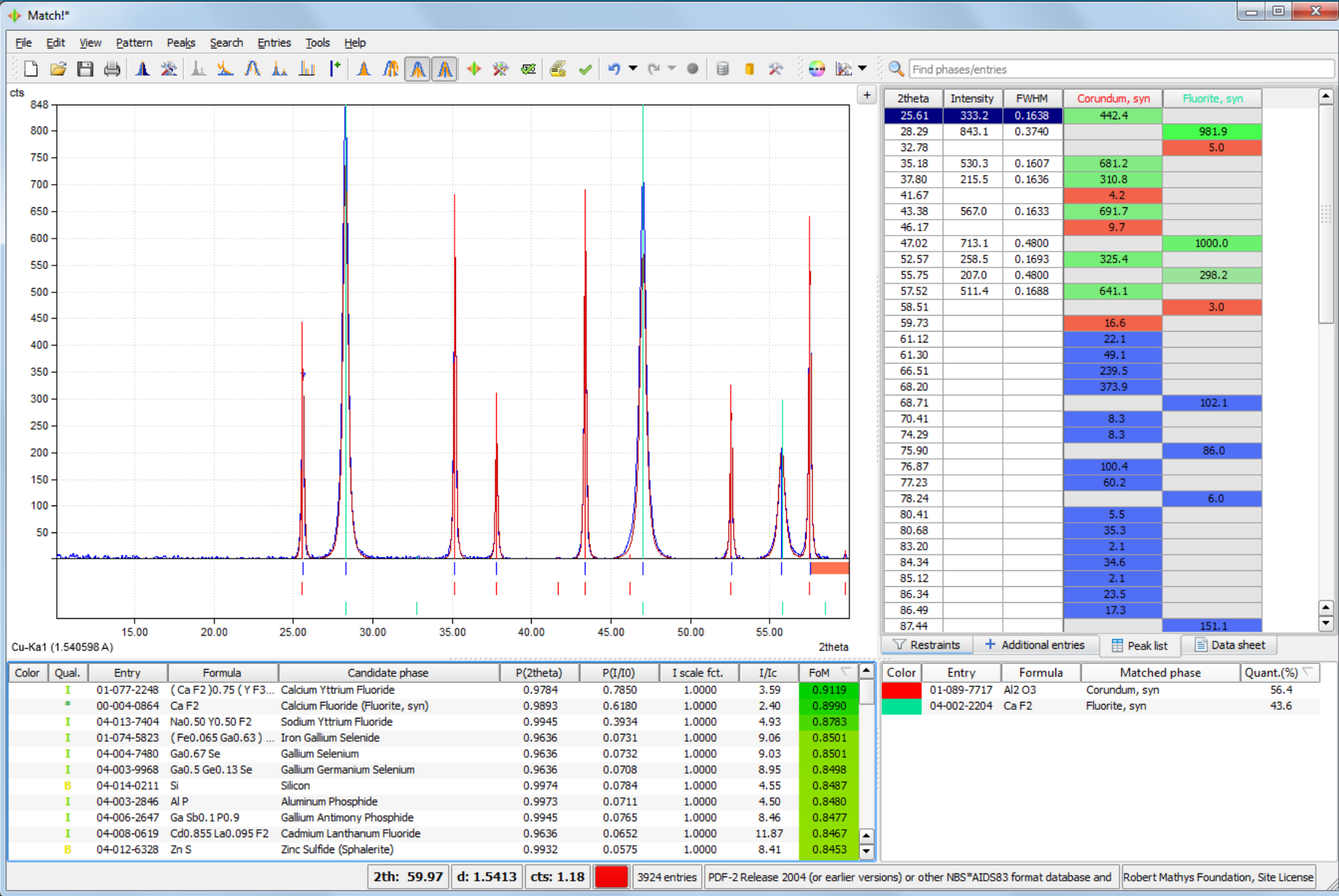
1. Extract peak positions



Phase Identification

1. Extract peak positions
2. Compare with data base





Databases

Databases containing powder diffraction data (line positions)

Database	Publisher	# of Entries*	Data sets	
PDF-2	ICDD (http://www.icdd.com)	291'119	All	} Commercial
PDF-4+	ICDD (http://www.icdd.com)	384'613	Inorganics	
PDF-4/Minerals	ICDD (http://www.icdd.com)	44'341	Minerals (Subset of PDF-4+)	
PDF-4/Organics	ICDD (http://www.icdd.com)	516'054	Organics	
Crystallography Open Database	COD http://www.crystallography.net	366'977**	All (excl. biopolymers)	} Open Access

* September 2016

**2013: 215'708

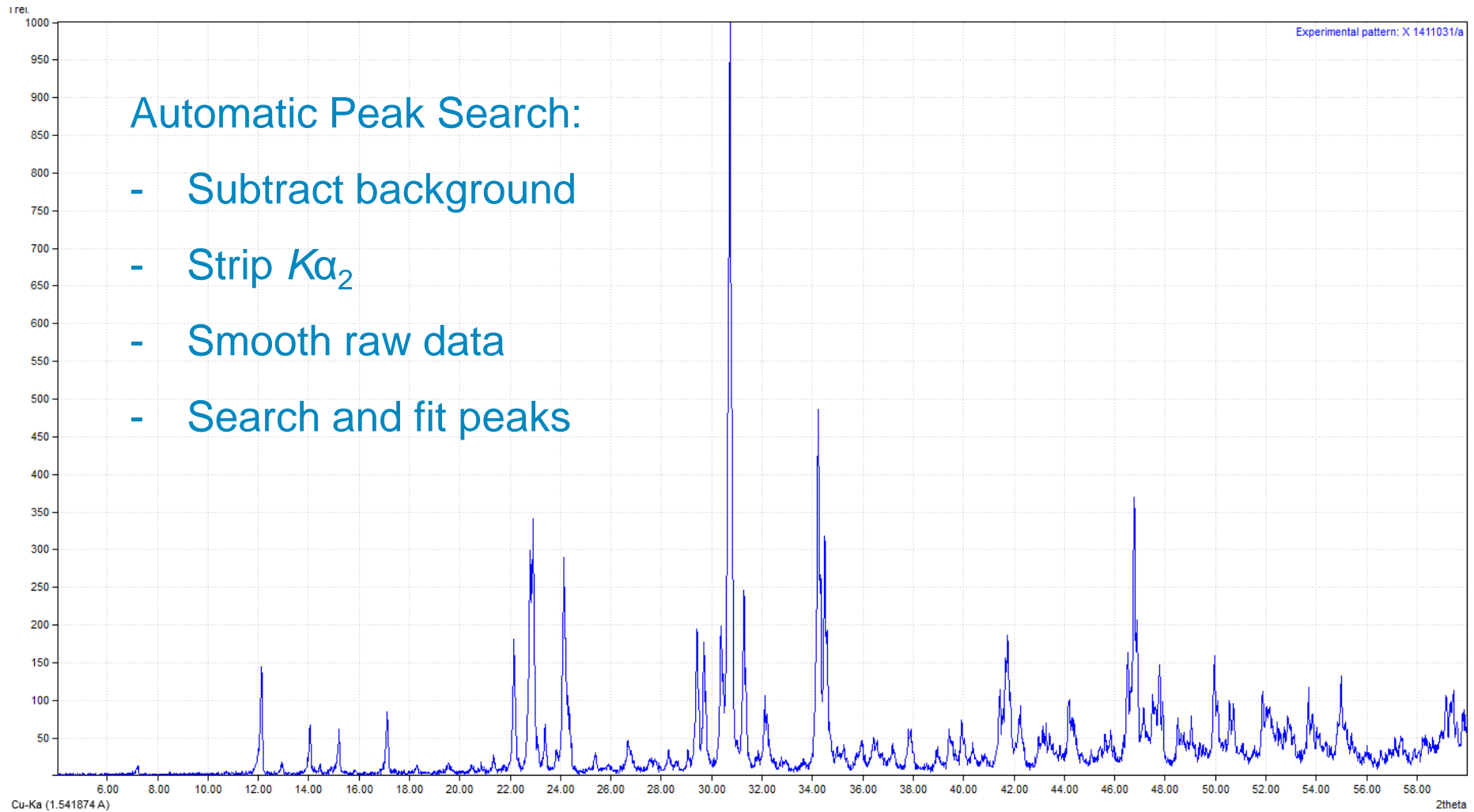
Programmes for Search / Match

Programme	Publisher	Supported Databases*
HighScore	PANalytical	PDF-2/4 COD
EVA Search/Match	Bruker	PDF-2/4 COD
PDXL2	Rigaku	PDF-2 COD
RayfleX	GE	PDF-2/4
Sleve	ICDD	PDF-2/4
Match!	Crystal Impact	PDF-2/4 COD
CSM	Oxford Cryosystems	PDF-2/4
Jade	MDI	PDF-2/4

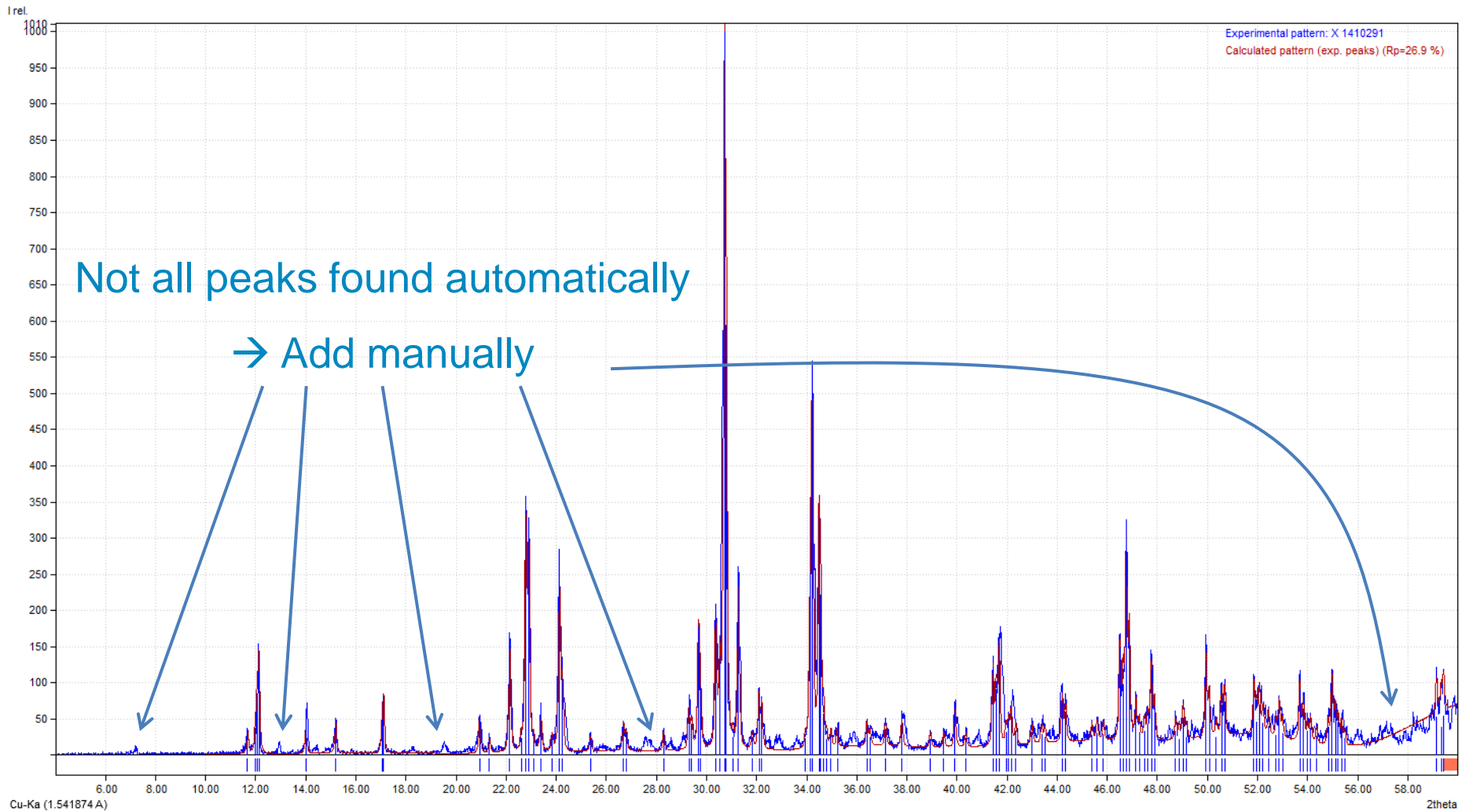
+ many more
(see <http://www.ccp14.ac.uk/solution/search-match.htm>)

*incomprehensive

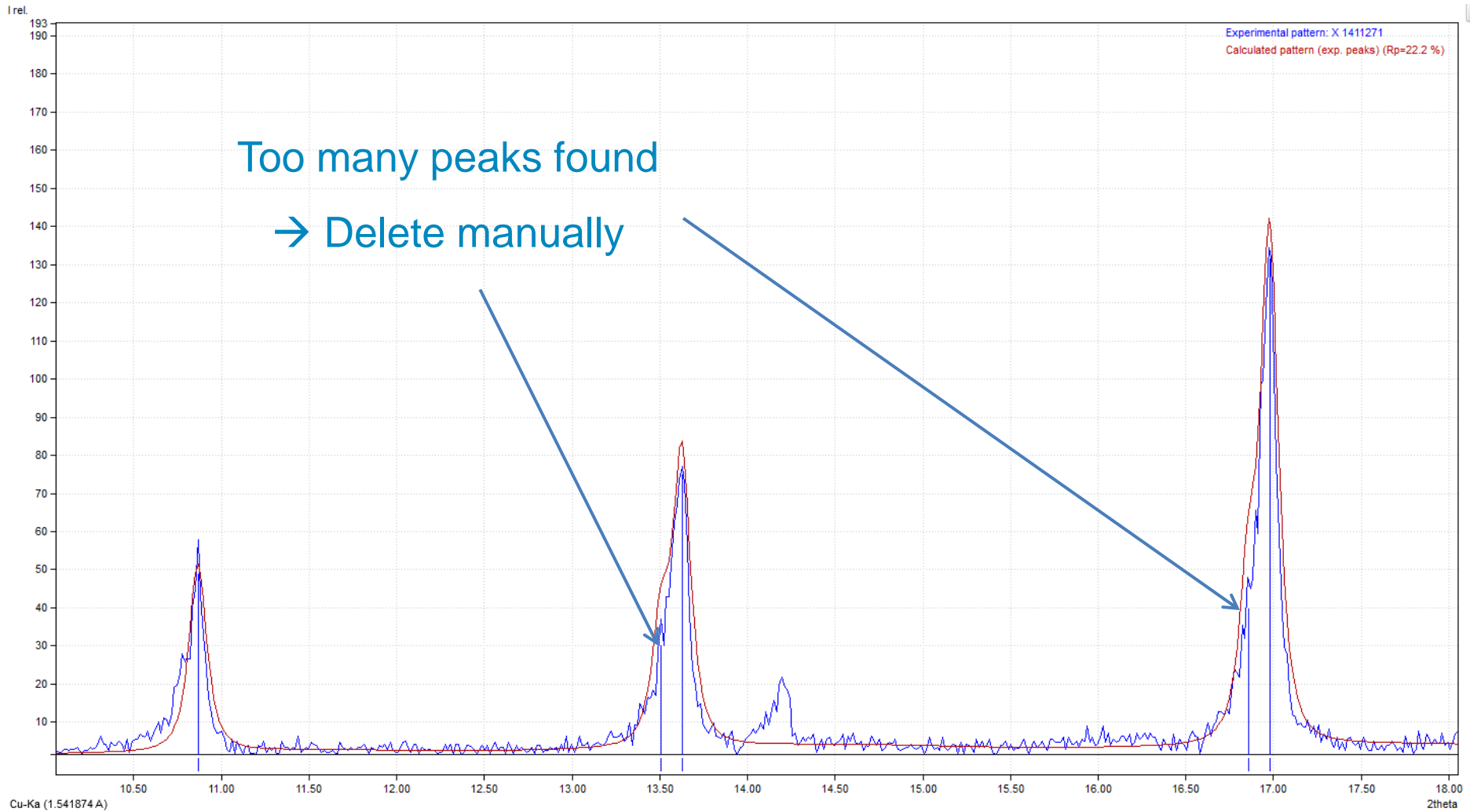
Search / Match: Peak Search



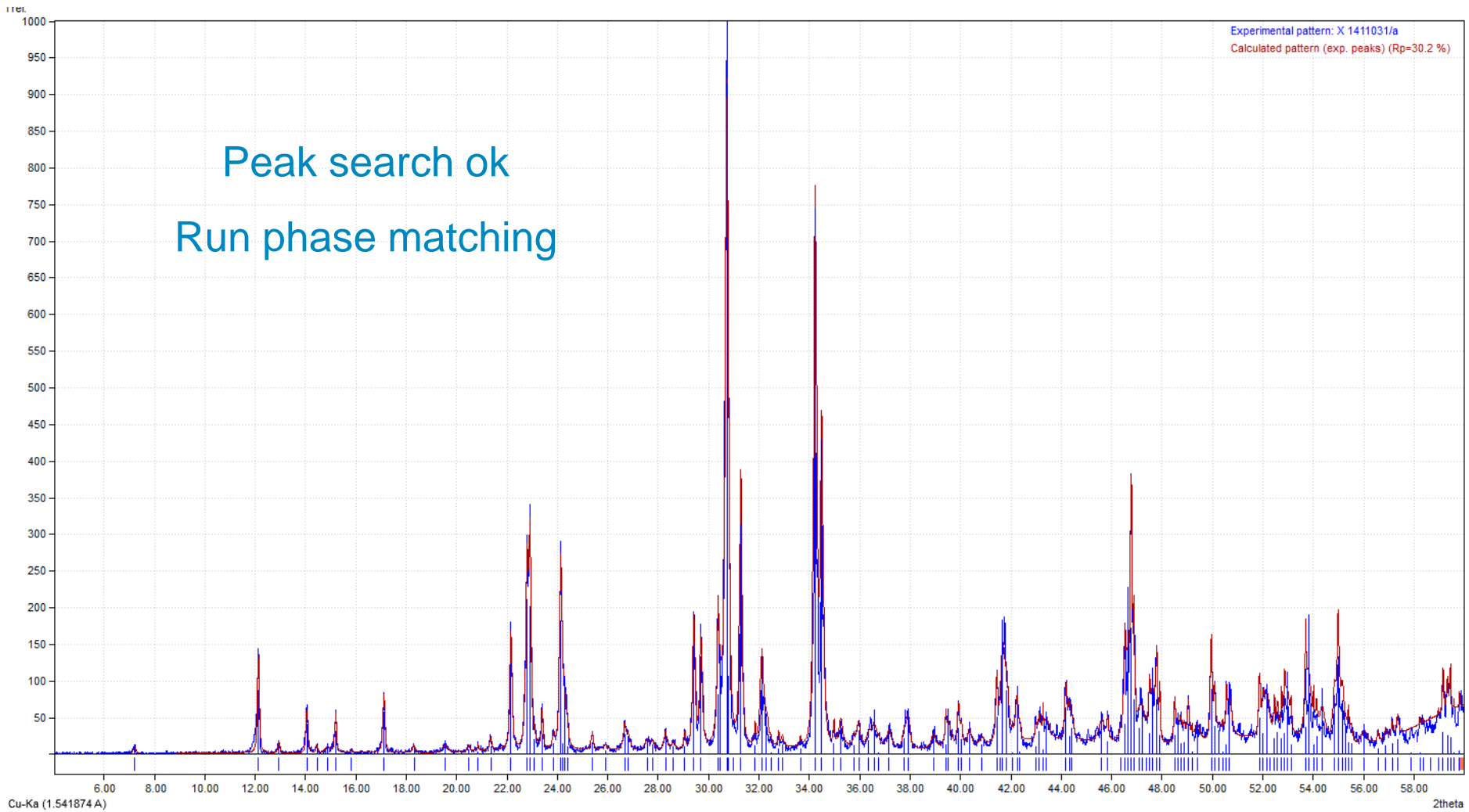
Search / Match: Peak Search



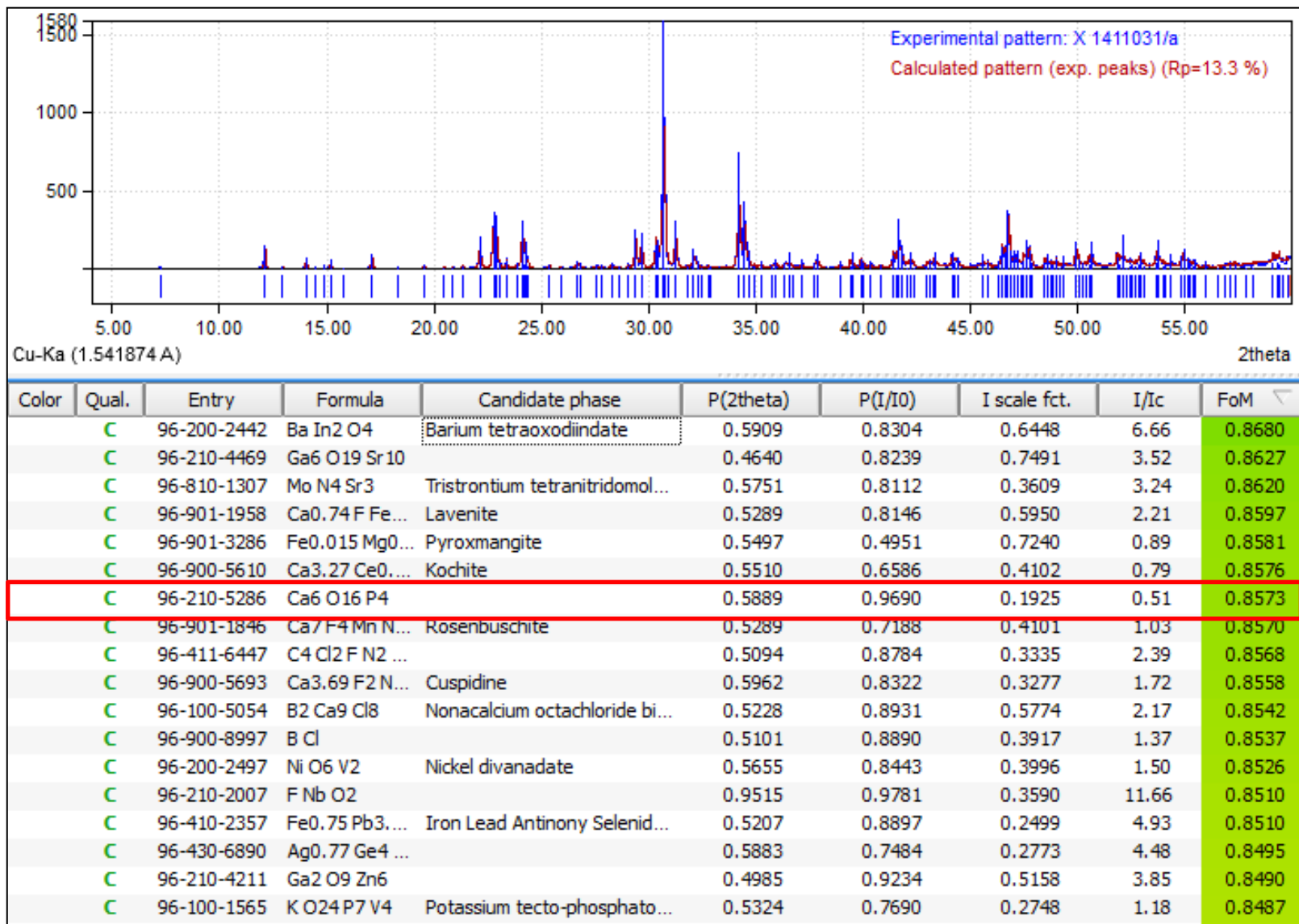
Search / Match: Peak Search



Search / Match: Phase Matching



Search / Match: False Positives



Search / Match: Restrictions

By chemical Composition

The screenshot shows a software interface for element selection. It consists of a periodic table with elements color-coded: yellow (Optional), blue (Any), green (None), and red (All). The interface includes a control panel with the following elements:

- Radio buttons for selection criteria: All (green), None (red), Any (blue), and Optional (yellow, selected).
- A 'Toggle' button with a red and yellow square icon.
- A 'Reset' button with a yellow square icon.
- Input fields for 'Name:', 'Elem. count:', and 'Formula sum:', each with a search icon and a red 'X' icon.
- A checkbox labeled 'Inorganics only (no C-H-bonds)' which is checked.

Use additional information from...

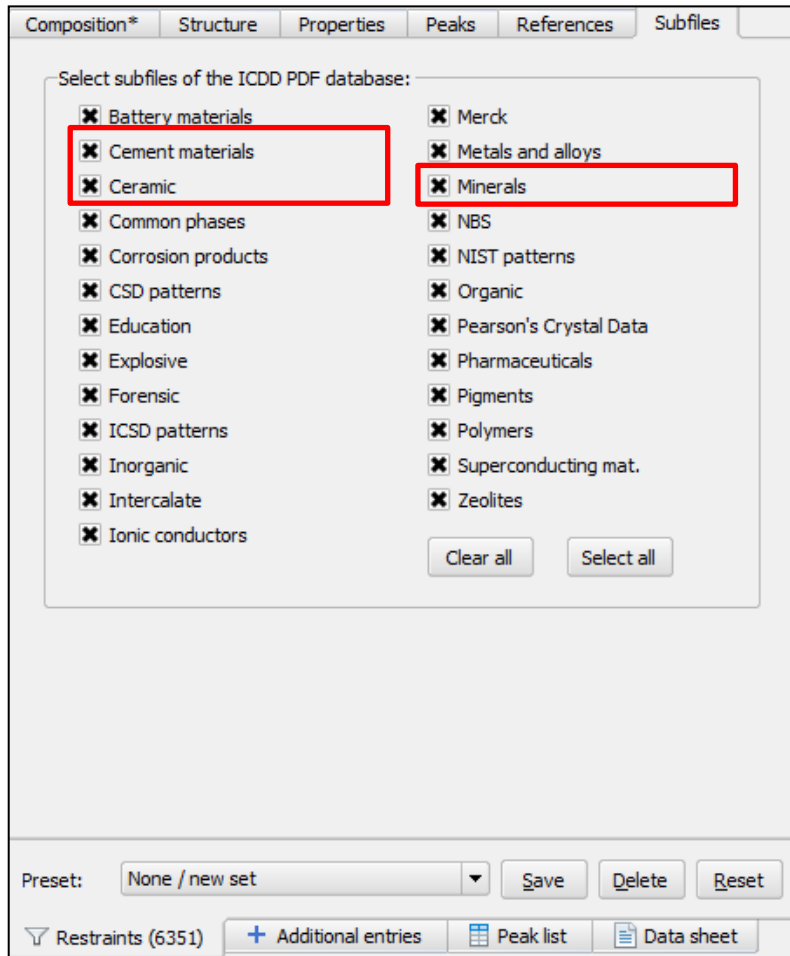
... synthesis

... chemical analysis

... geological situation

Search / Match: Restrictions

By Subfile



Only supported by PDF-2 and PDF-4+ database

No subfiles in COD database

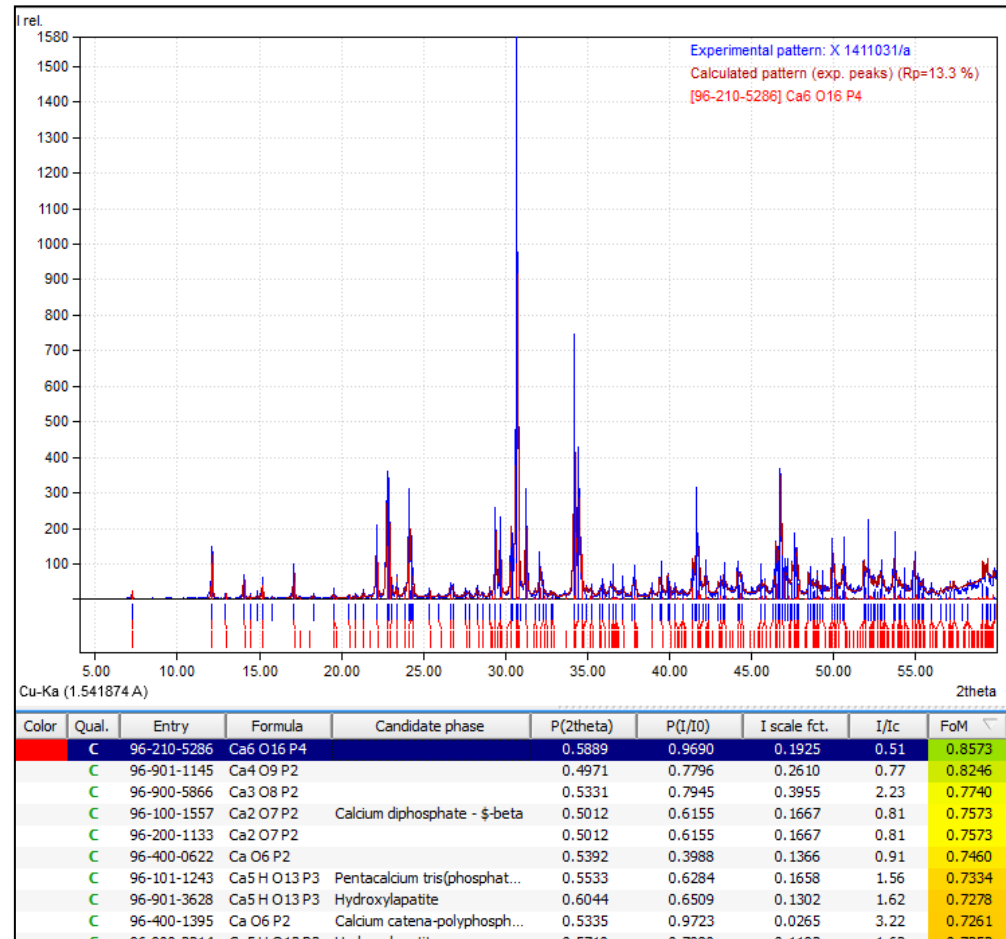
Search / Match: Restrictions

Known from synthesis: Sample = synthetic calcium phosphate

Chemical restrictions:

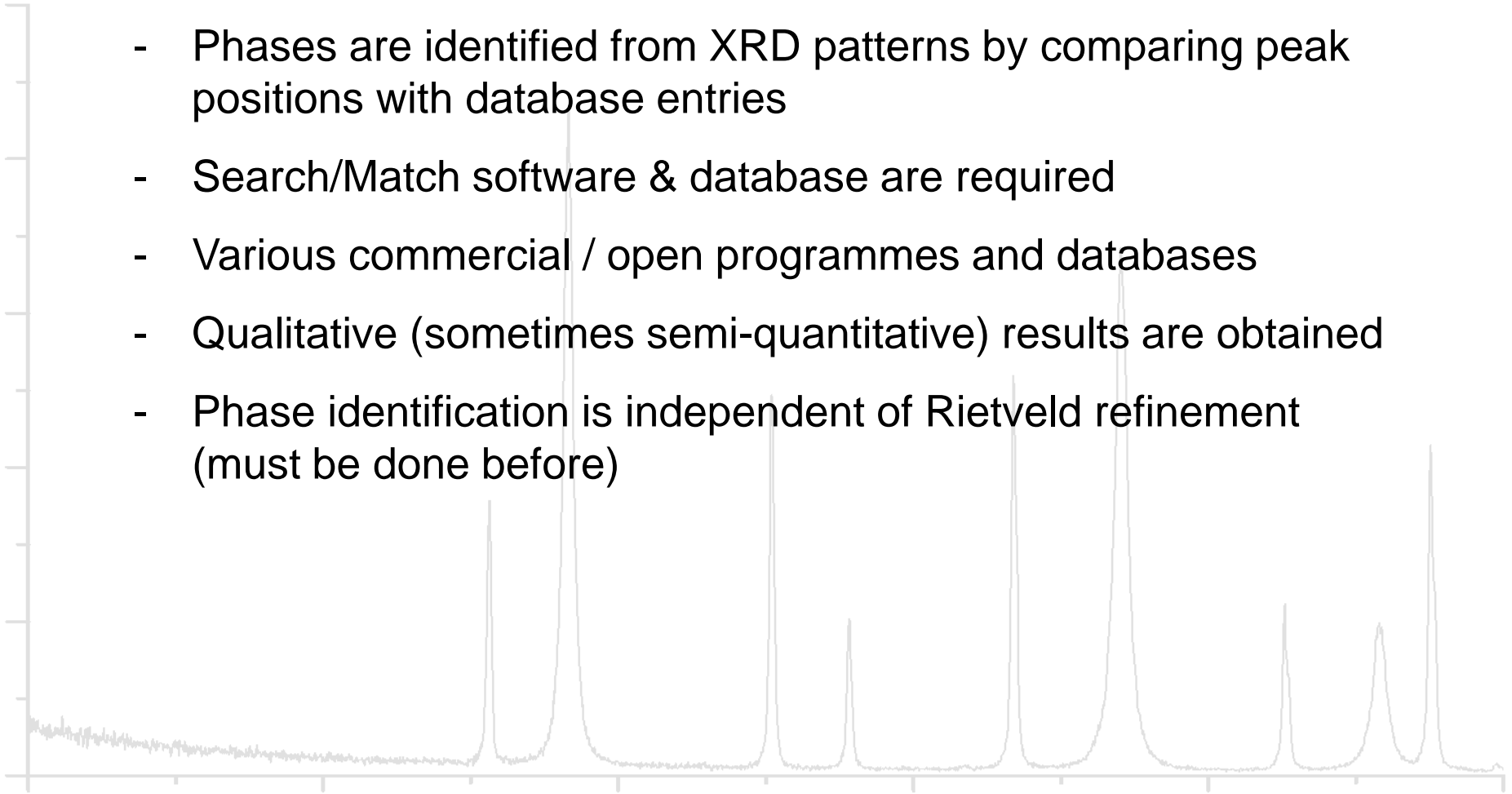
All: Calcium Phosphate

Optionally: hydrate or hydrogen phosphate

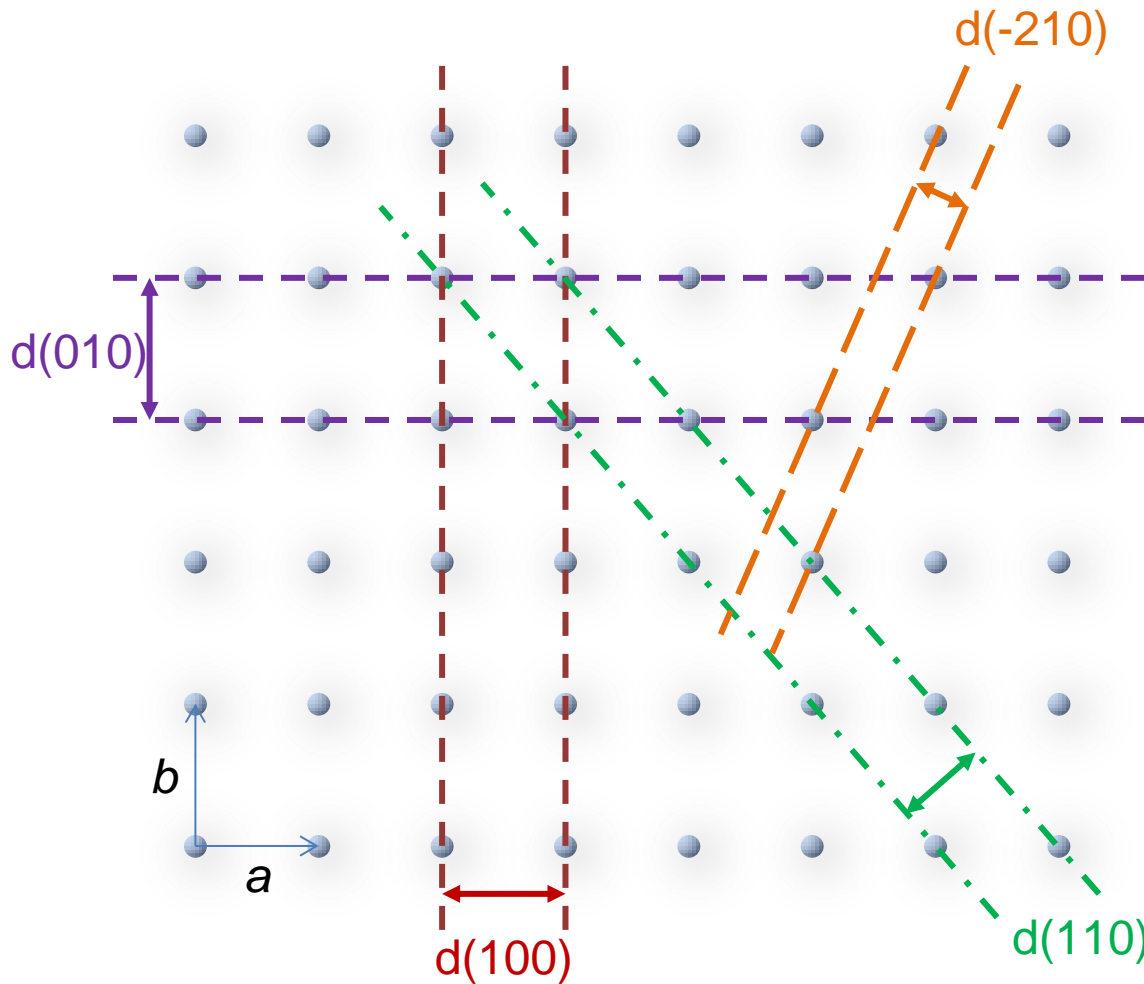


Summary: Phase Identification I

- Phases are identified from XRD patterns by comparing peak positions with database entries
- Search/Match software & database are required
- Various commercial / open programmes and databases
- Qualitative (sometimes semi-quantitative) results are obtained
- Phase identification is independent of Rietveld refinement (must be done before)



Question I: Polytypes



Definition:

A lattice plane is a plane which intersects atoms of a unit cell across the whole 3-dimensional lattice.

- Each lattice plane generates a diffraction peak.
- The 2θ angle of the peak depends on the plane's d-spacing.
- Diffraction peaks can be labelled with the plane's Miller index.

Question I: Polytypes

Is powder XRD the ideal tool to distinguish and identify the following phases?

Phase	Composition	Space Group
Calcite	CaCO_3	R-3c
Magnesite	MgCO_3	R-3c
Siderite	FeCO_3	R-3c

Question II: Polymorphs

Is powder XRD the ideal tool to distinguish and identify the following phases?

Phase	Composition	Space Group
Calcite	CaCO ₃	R-3c
Vaterite	CaCO ₃	P63/mmc
Aragonite	CaCO ₃	Pnam

Summary: Phase identification II

- XRD is mostly sensitive to structural differences
- Only little information on chemical differences
- Chemical analyses (XRF, ICP, EDX,...) provide complementary information
- Sometimes additional chemical information can be very helpful for phase identification (→ restrictions)
- For a comprehensive material characterization, combine XRD with chemical analysis

