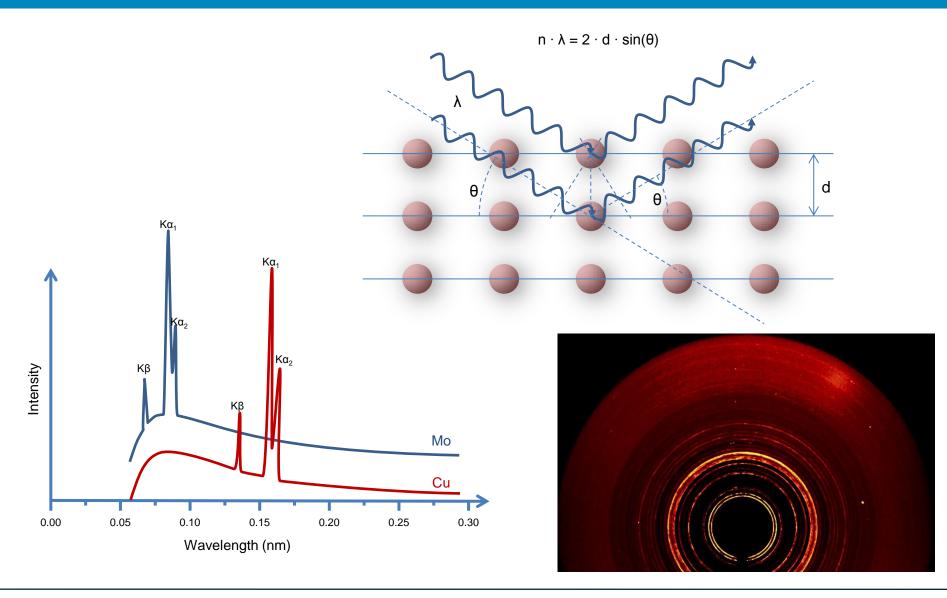


Lesson 4 Phase Identification

Nicola Döbelin RMS Foundation, Bettlach, Switzerland

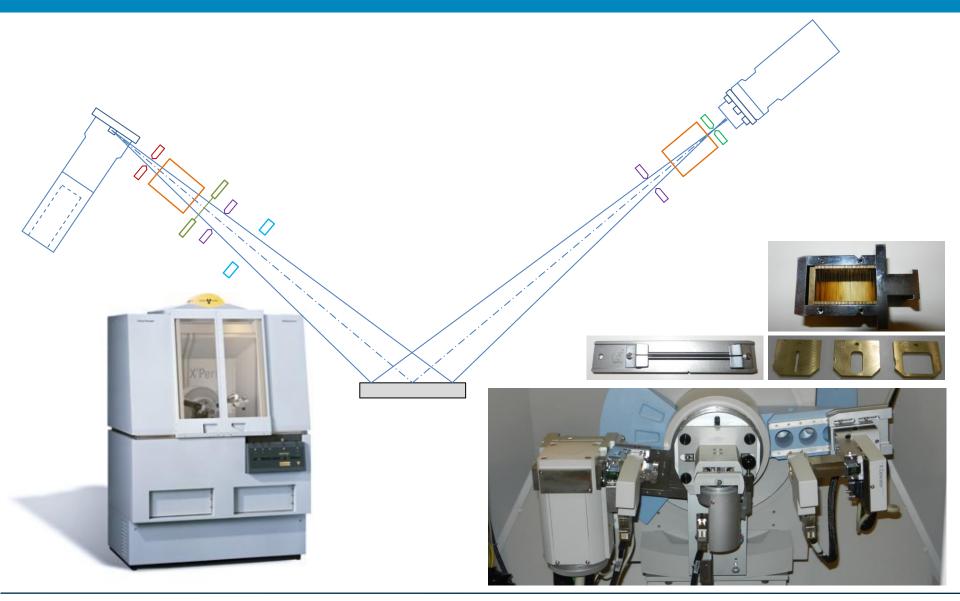


Repetition: X-Rays and Diffraction





Repetition: Bragg-Brentano Diffractometer Setup





Repetition: Sample Preparation

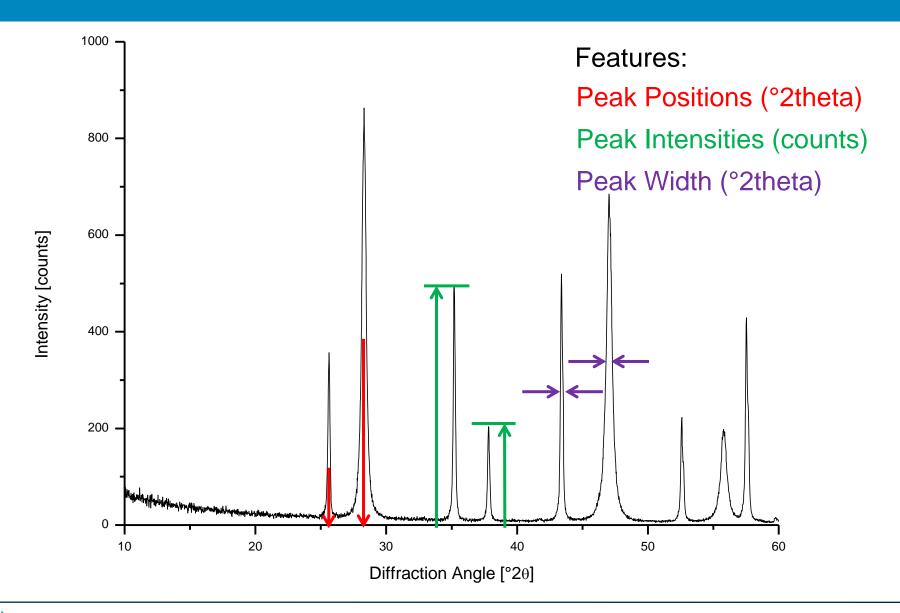
- Graininess
- Micro-absorption
- Texture
- Sample height displacement
- Surface roughness
- Sample transparency







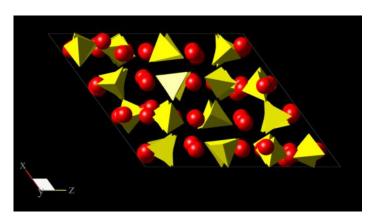
Diffraction Pattern

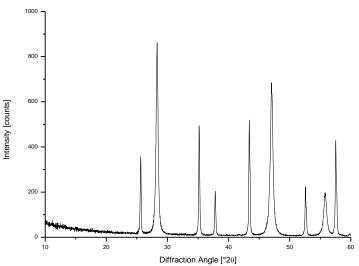




Phase Identification

«Pattern Features» originate from crystallographic properties

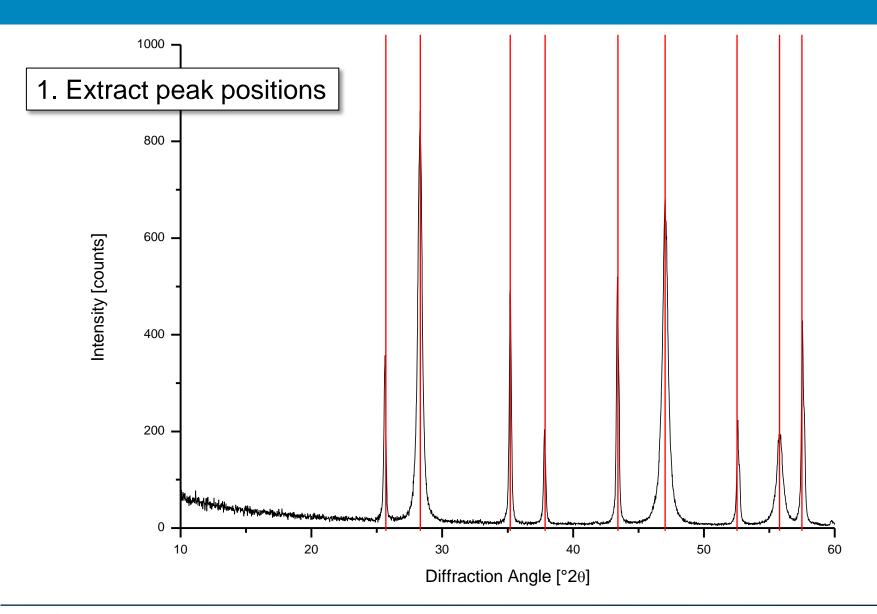




Usually sufficient for identification Origin **Feature** Peak positions Symmetry of the unit cell (space group) Dimensions of the unit cell Coordinates of atoms Relative peak intensities in unit cell Species of atoms Absolute peak intensities Abundance of phase Peak width Crystallite size Stress/Strain in crystal lattice

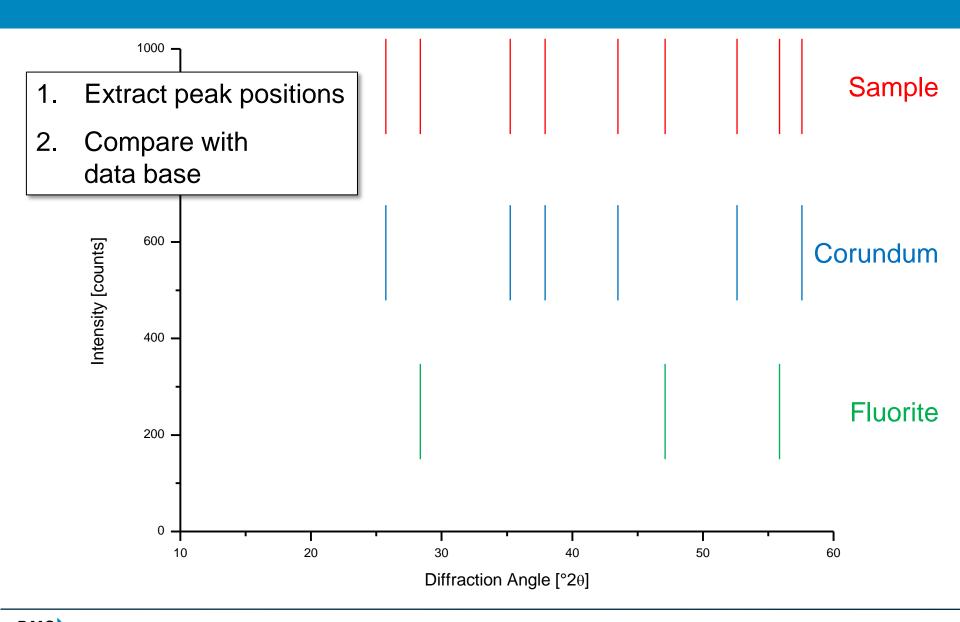


Phase Identification

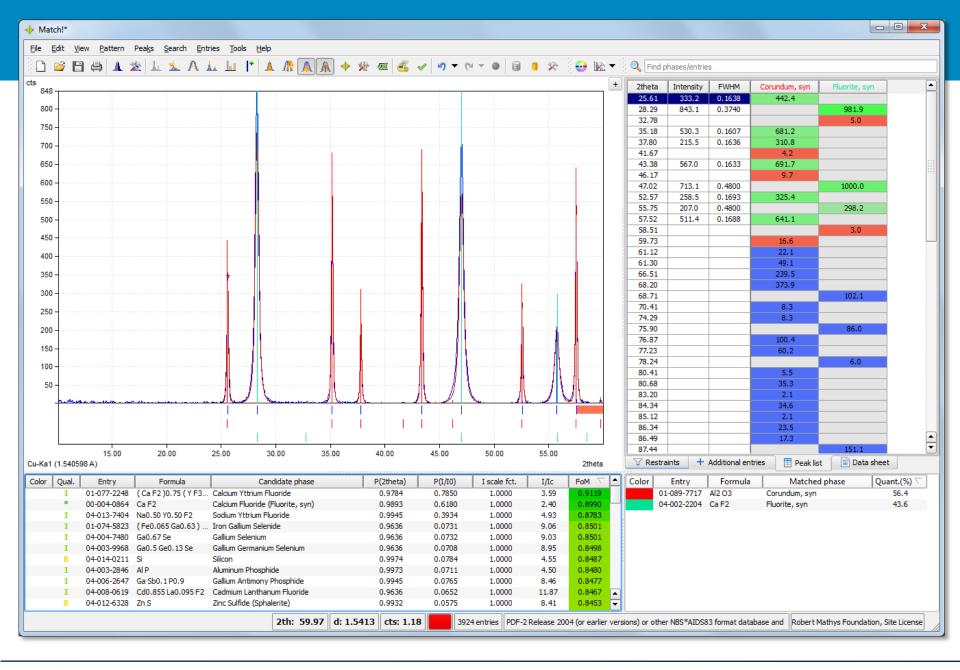




Phase Identification









Databases

Databases containing powder diffraction data (line positions)

Database	Publisher	# of Entries*	Data sets	
PDF-2	ICDD (http://www.icdd.com)	291'119	All	
PDF-4+	ICDD (http://www.icdd.com)	384'613	Inorganics	Commercial
PDF-4/Minerals	ICDD (http://www.icdd.com)	44'341	Minerals (Subset of PDF-4+)	Commercial
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

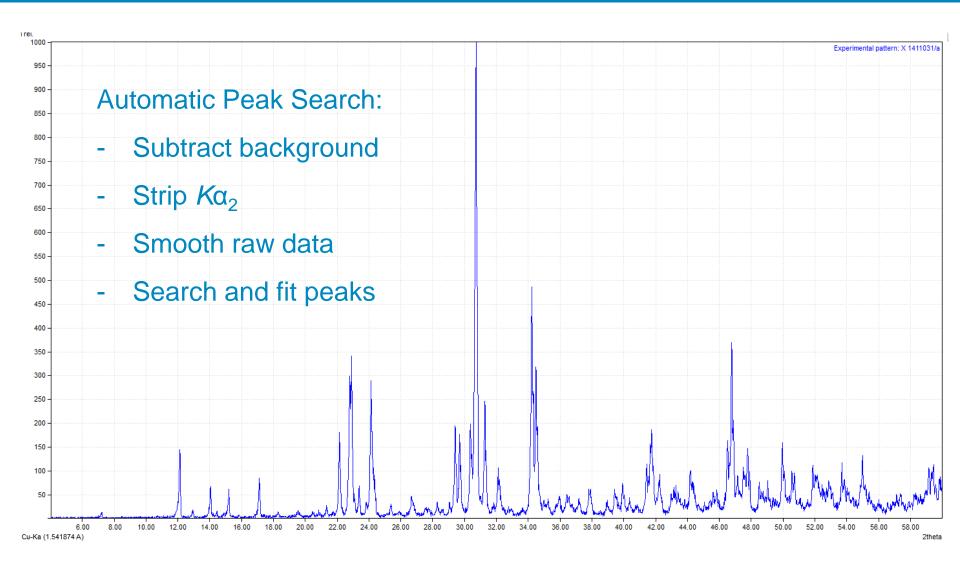
Programme	Publisher	Supported Databases*
HighScore	PANalytical	PDF-2/4 COD
EVA Search/Match	Bruker	PDF-2/4 COD
PDXL2	Rigaku	PDF-2 COD
RayfleX	GE	PDF-2/4
Sleve	ICDD	PDF-2/4
Match!	Crystal Impact	PDF-2/4 COD
CSM	Oxford Cryosystems	PDF-2/4
Jade	MDI	PDF-2/4

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

*incomprehensive

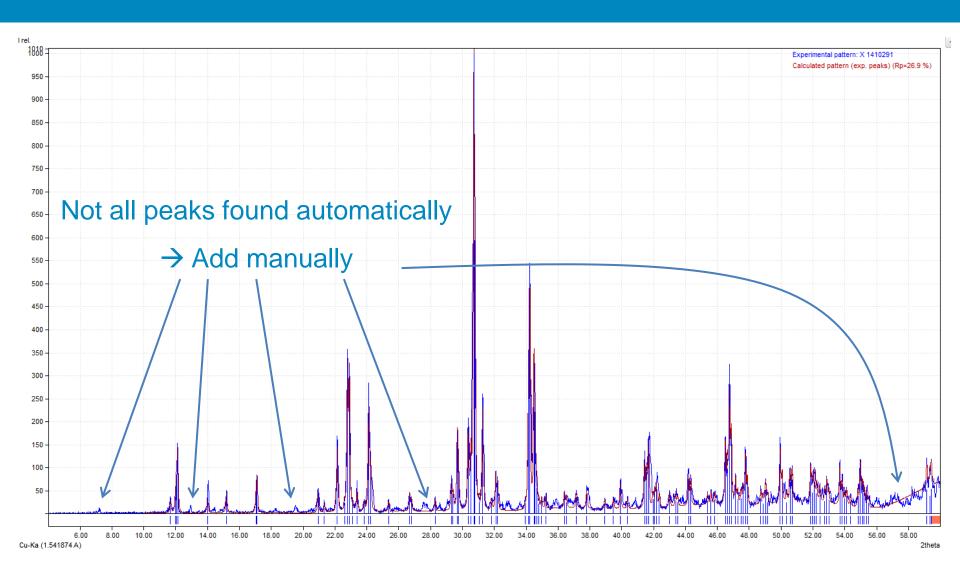


Search / Match: Peak Search



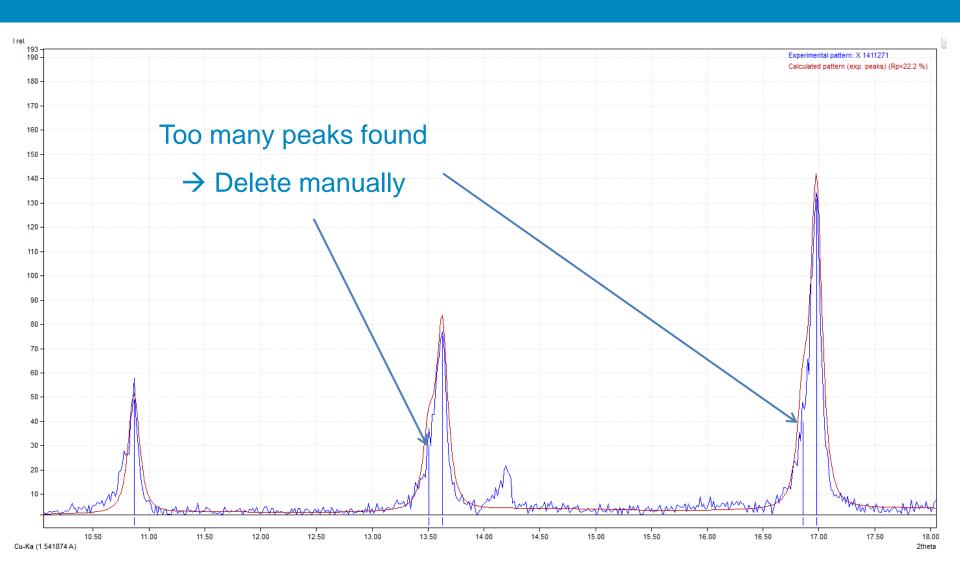


Search / Match: Peak Search



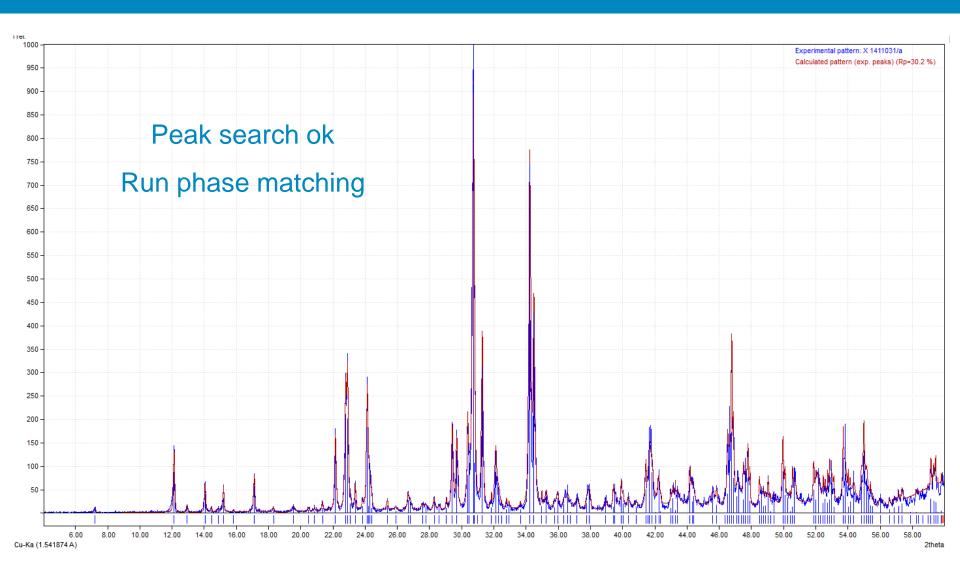


Search / Match: Peak Search



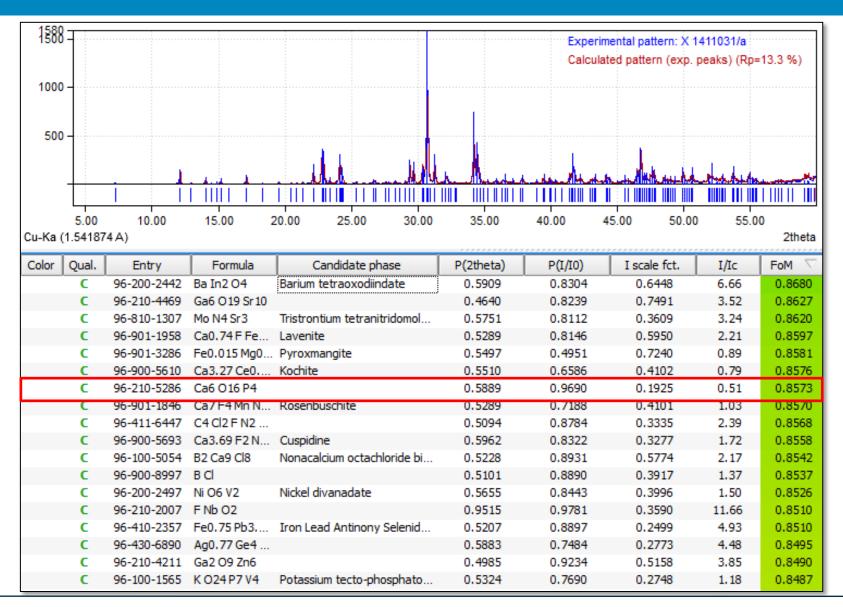


Search / Match: Phase Matching





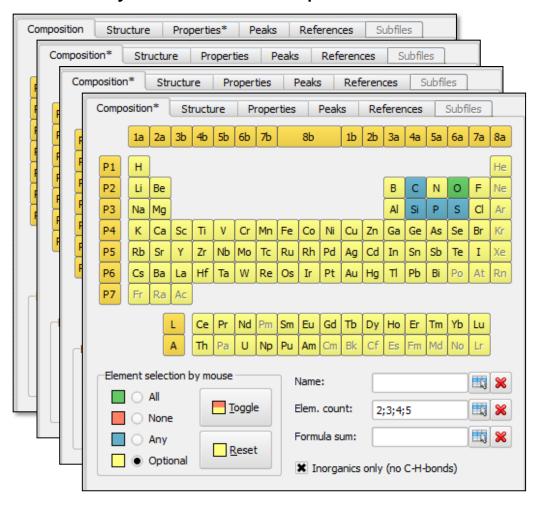
Search / Match: False Positives





Search / Match: Restrictions

By chemical Composition



Use additional information from...

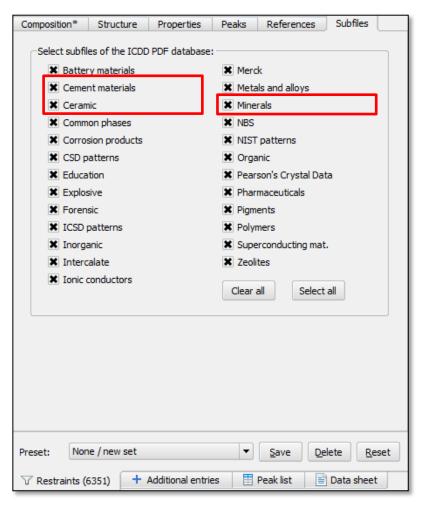
... synthesis

... chemical analysis

... geological situation

Search / Match: Restrictions

By Subfile



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

No subfiles in COD database

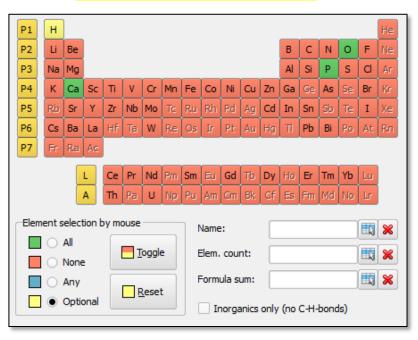
Search / Match: Restrictions

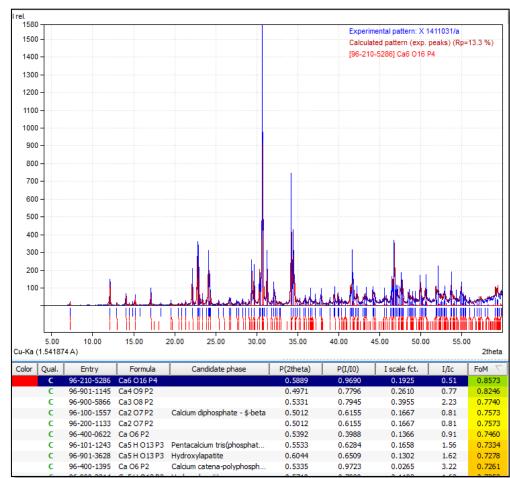
Known from synthesis: Sample = synthetic calcium phosphate

Chemical restrictions:

All: Calcium Phosphate

Optionally: hydrate or hydrogen phosphate





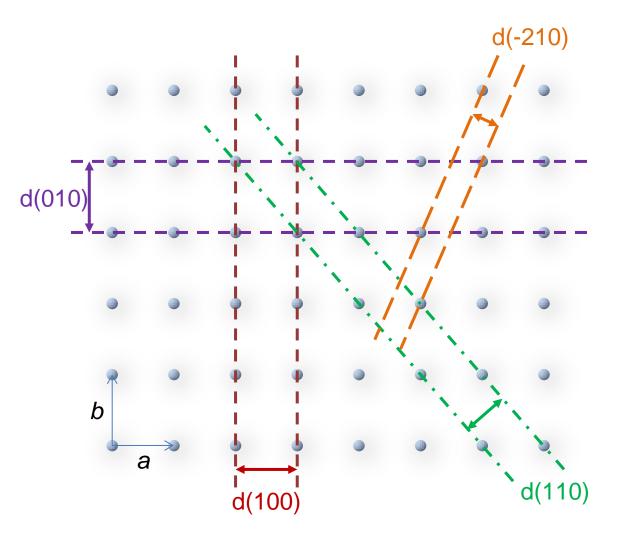


Summary: Phase Identification I

- 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



Each set of lattice planes has a characteristic spacing *d*.

Diffraction angle θ depends on d:

$$\theta = a\sin(\frac{\lambda}{2d})$$

Moving atoms in the crystal lattice changes lattice plane spacings *d*.

Changes in d also changes diffraction angle θ .

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

