# Total scattering data from ISIS

#### Martin Dove University of Cambridge

#### The team

# The work I describe here is carried out in collaboration with:



Dave Keen ISIS

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Matt Tucker ISIS



Andrew Goodwin Oxford

#### Objective



We are seeking to construct largescale atomic models of matter that best match experimental data



#### The Reverse Monte Carlo algorithm

Generate initial configuration

Move a randomly selected atom a random distance

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Compute new experimental functions and compare with data



Only reject change if comparison is worse and with some probability

# Principles of a scattering experiment

- Idea is to scatter radiation beams from matter
- The spatial Fourier transform gives information about atomic structure
- The time Fourier transform gives information about atomic dynamics
- In our work our result is an integral in the energy domain = instantaneous correlations

#### GEM @ ISIS



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#### ISIS neutron source

- Produces intense beams of neutrons by firing a beam of protons at a metal target
- Neutrons are produced in tight pulses at a rate of 50 Hz
- The essential measurement is the time taken for each neutron to go from the source to the detector

## GEM histogram files



- ~4000 detectors
- Each experiment produces a histogram for each detector
- Each histogram is a binning of all neutron flight times per pulse, summing all pulses

The data reduction process has to convert these histograms into meaningful data



#### Converting to meaningful data 1

A meaningful concept is the scattering vector

$$Q = \frac{4\pi\sin(\phi/2)}{\lambda}$$

The wavelength can be obtained from the flight time

$$\lambda = \frac{ht}{mL}$$

Distances and angles can be obtained by surveying and diffraction measurements

![](_page_9_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Converting to meaningful data 2

A second meaningful concept is the *intensity of the scattered beam* 

We can put the intensity of the spectra for each data onto a common scale from measurements of incoherent scattering from vanadium

![](_page_10_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Converting to meaningful data 3

Finally, we need to subtract the scattering from the following components

- The instrument itself
- The sample container
- The equipment used to control the sample temperature

These quantities are obtained from separate measurements (Day 1)

#### Example of AIPO<sub>4</sub>

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

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# Fourier transform of the data gives the pair distribution function

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### Bragg diffraction (KCN)

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Use of XML data representation

Output from RMCProfile is given in several representations, including XML

Our XML document is based on CMLcomp, which is a dialect of the *Chemical Markup Language* for computational science

Important role of metadata, parameter values, and computed properties

Motivated to support collaboration

#### RMC data flow

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### RMC data flow

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)