

# Synchrotron X-ray Analysis of Amorphous Drugs and Drug/Polymer Dispersions

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Pamela Smith, PhD



Improved Pharma

# Session Description and Objectives

- Synchrotron X-ray Pair Distribution Function (SXPDF) techniques provide valuable information about amorphous materials and dispersions.
- What is PDF?
- Why is a synchrotron needed?
- Domains of drug molecules in a dispersion
- Stability
- Latest advances

# Biography and Contact Information

- Contact information:
  - At the show: booth 551
  - After the show: [pam.smith@improvedpharma.com](mailto:pam.smith@improvedpharma.com)

# XRD vs. PDF ... global view vs. local view

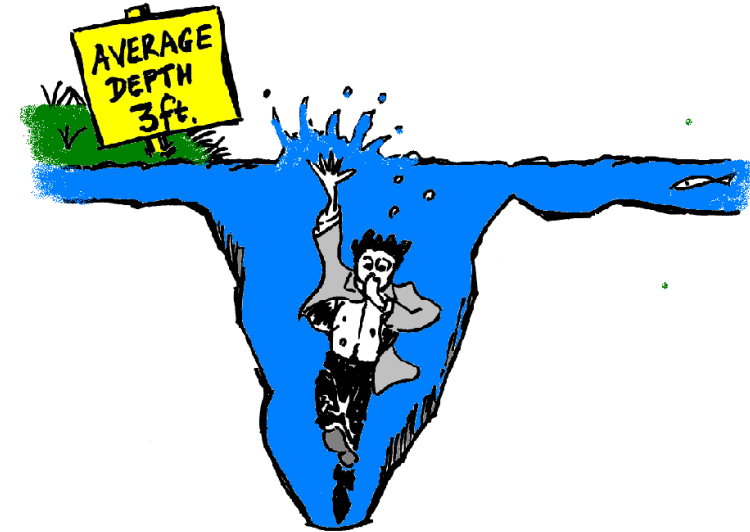
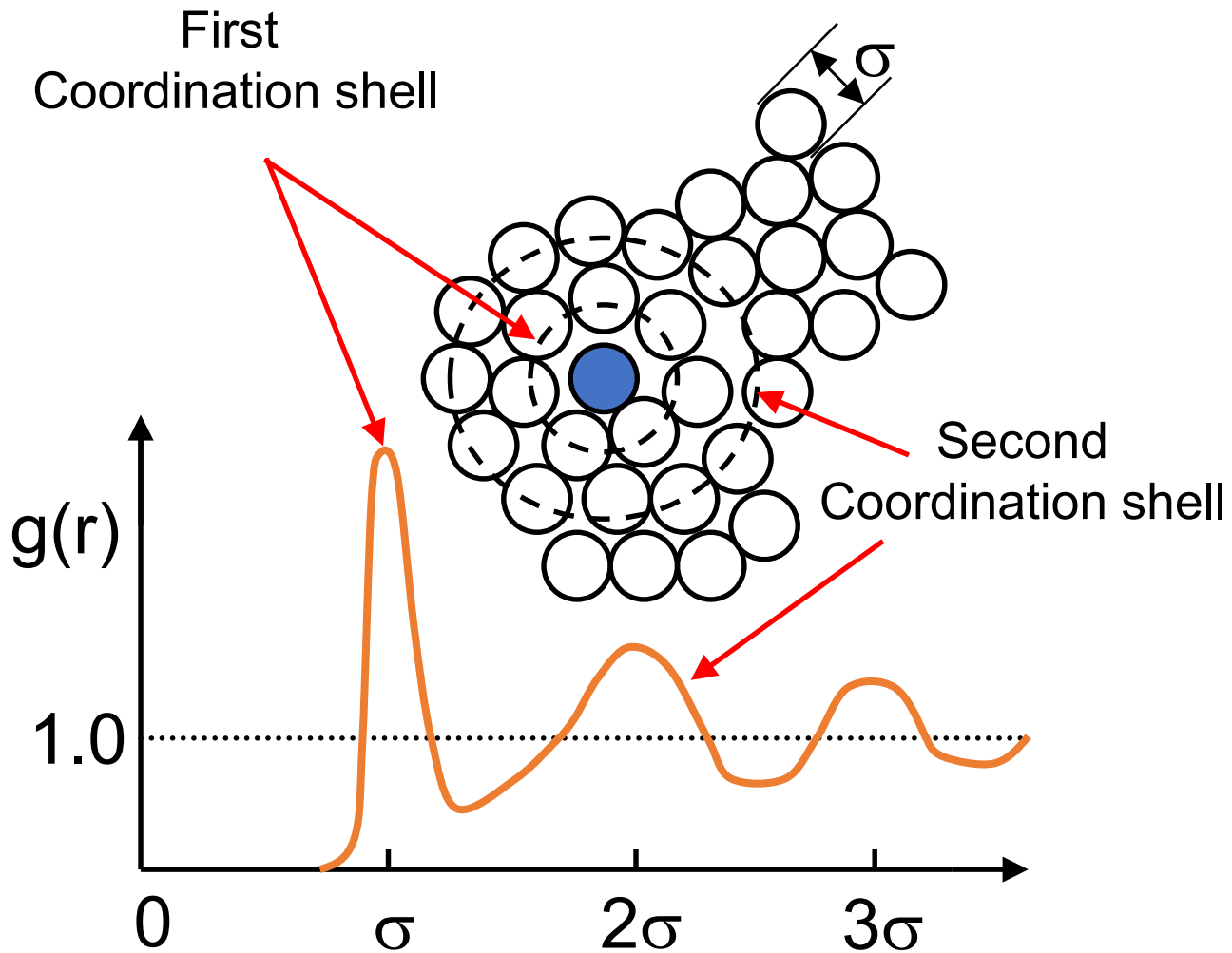
## XRD (Bragg diffraction)

- Average structure, or global view of the structure
- Peaks in the pattern represent periodic occurrences of an atomic plane in a crystal
- There is also information between and underneath the Bragg peaks
- We can extract this additional information by mathematical methods and the right experimental techniques

## PDF (atomic pair distribution function)

- Fourier transform of XRD
- Yields local structure, environment of the atom
- How many neighbors are there and how far away are they?
- Determines the distribution of distances between pairs of atoms

# Distribution Functions



## Flaw of Averages

PDF measures the AVERAGE structure  
i.e. coordination number

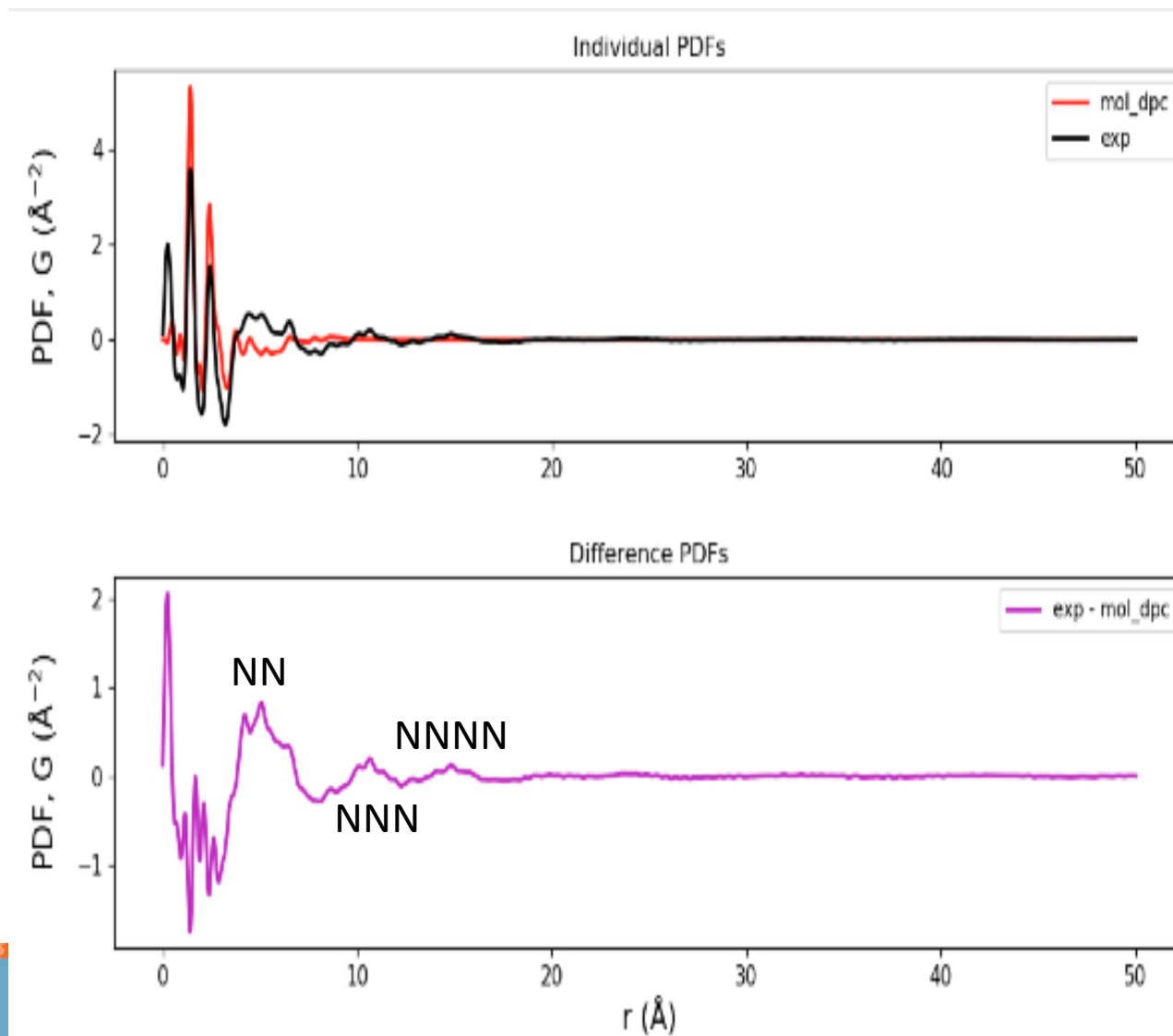
# Different Types of Interactions: Total = Intra + Inter

## Intramolecular PDF:

Distances between atoms within a molecule

## Intermolecular PDF:

Distances between atoms of neighboring molecules

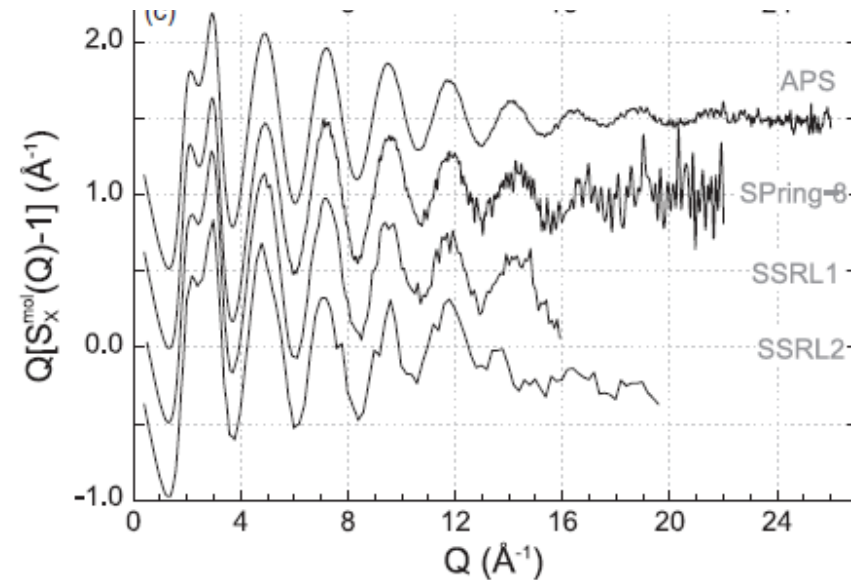




# Synchrotron XRPD is required

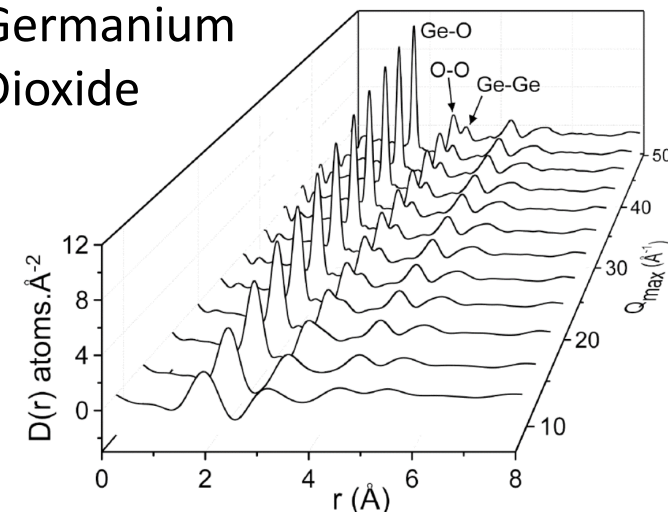
$Q_{\max}$  affects SNR and resolution

- Data quality at large Q-values reflects the importance of using a high-energy X-ray beam
- More Q-space provides more data for the Fourier transform; leads to better quality data
- If  $Q_{\max}$  is too low, resolution suffers



**keV**  
114.76  
61.62  
17  
19.6

Germanium  
Dioxide



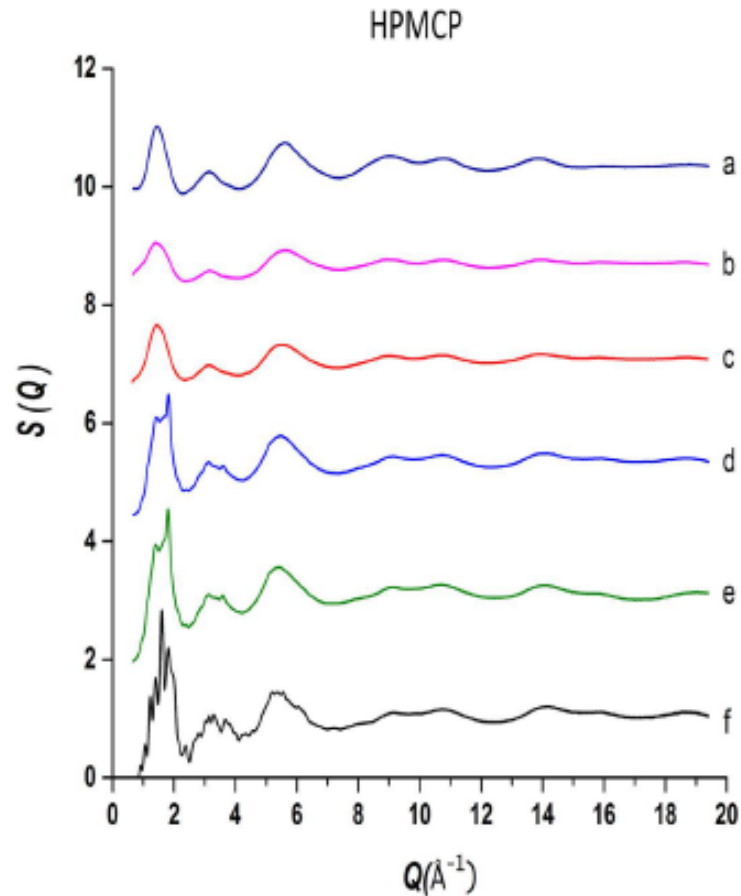
# PDF of Drug/Polymer Dispersion

- Industry need
  - Amorphous forms have better solubility, but can be difficult to keep amorphous
  - Drug/polymer dispersions are one solution
  - How to know which dispersions will successfully inhibit crystallization?
- PDF
  - API molecules in close contact with each other increase the likelihood of crystallization
  - Can differentiate PDF of drug from PDF of polymer
  - PDF can determine if API domains exist
  - Lack of API domains are desired



# Lapatinib Drug/Polymer Dispersion Study

Comparison of measurement X-ray factors



Pure polymer

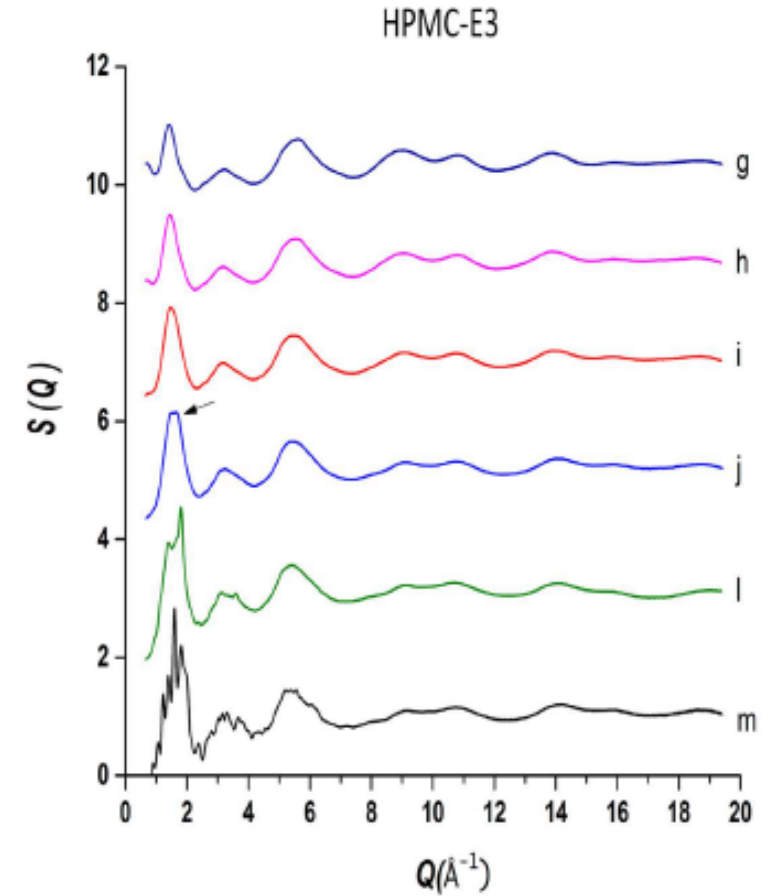
1:3 API/Polymer

1:1 API/Polymer

3:1 API/Polymer

Pure amorphous API

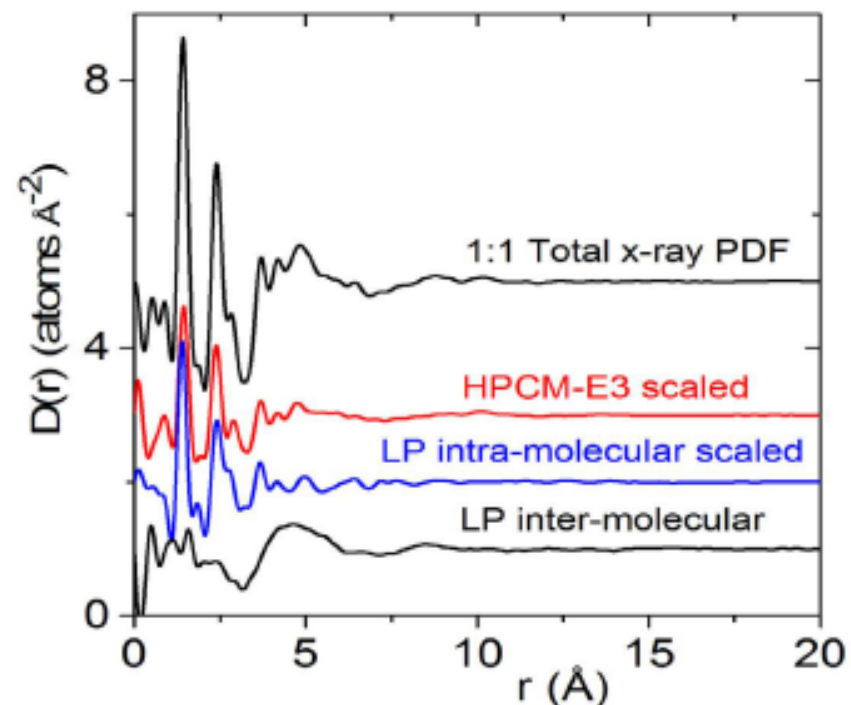
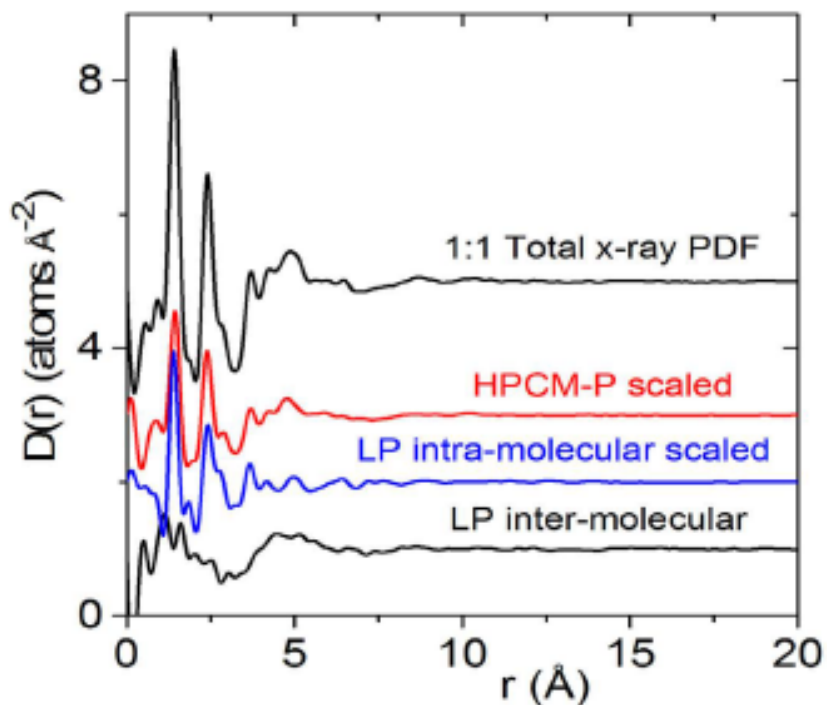
Pure crystalline API



- Residual crystallinity of lapatinib can be seen in several samples, including the “pure” amorphous API

# Lapatinib Drug/Polymer Dispersion Study

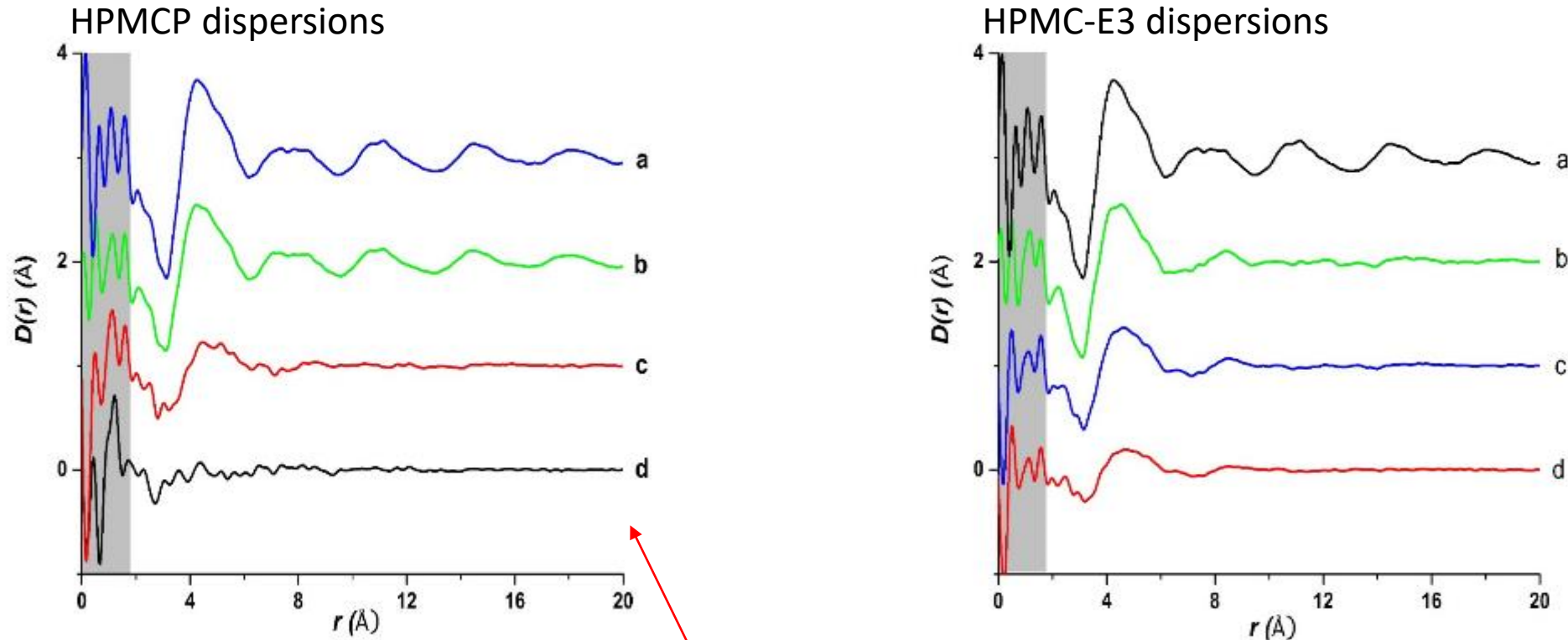
Total PDF curves and intra/inter PDF curves



- Separate the total PDF curve into separate components
- Subtract components to reveal differences

# Lapatinib Drug/Polymer Dispersion Study

## Differential PDF curves

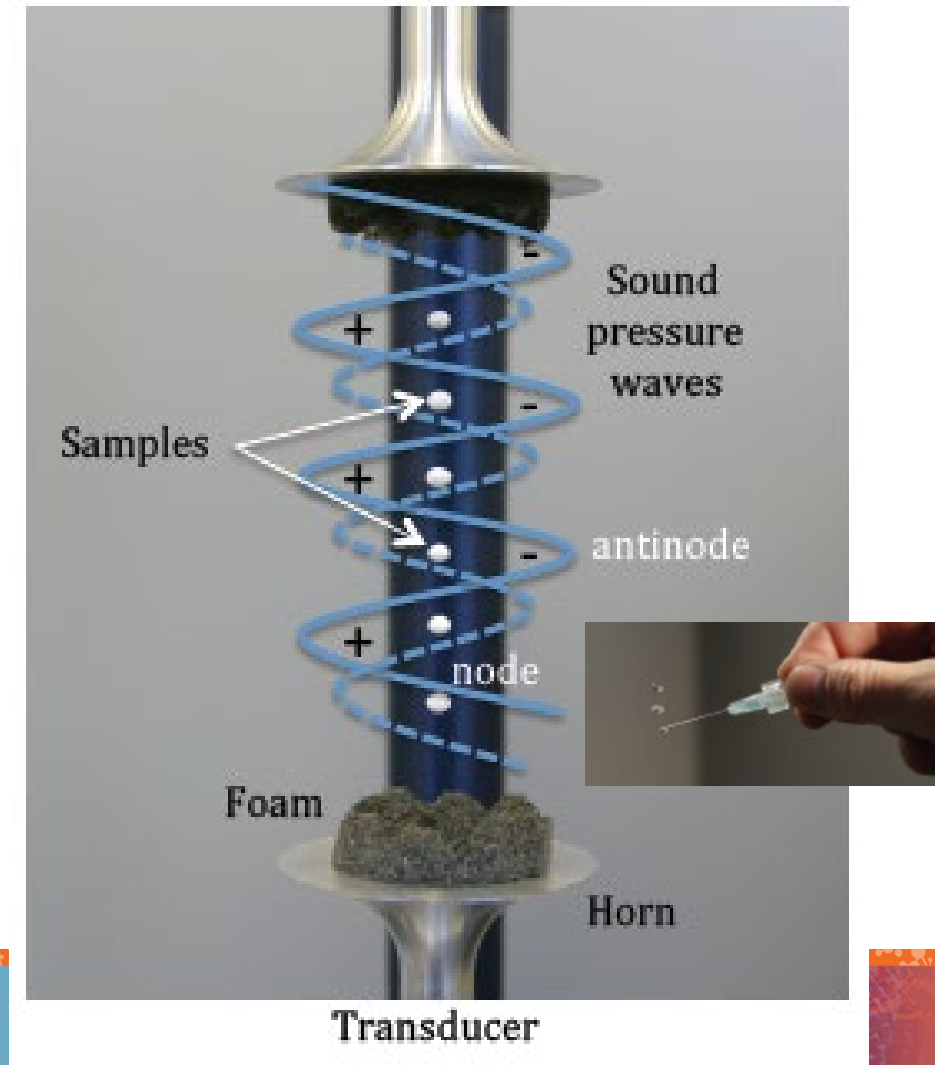


- The only dispersion lacking intermolecular API interactions (no NN API domains)
- The only dispersion that remained amorphous after stress testing at 40 °C/75% RH

# Latest Advances

Collaboration with Materials Development Inc. through Phase 2 SBIR

- Lab on a drop with acoustic levitation
  - Lab model for spray drying
    - Suspend a droplet in the sample beam and obtain patterns as the drop evaporates, leaving amorphous material behind
  - Vitrification by container-less melting
    - Obtain hard-to-get amorphous materials
  - Drug/polymer dispersion screen
    - Quickly screen several different formulations on an extremely small scale



# References

- Egami, T. and Billinge, S. J. L. 2003. *Underneath the Bragg peaks: Structural Analysis of Complex Materials*. Pergamon Press, Elsevier Ltd. New York
- *Benchmark oxygen-oxygen pair-distribution function of ambient water from x-ray diffraction measurements with a wide Q-range*, L.B. Skinner, C. Huang, D. Schlesinger, L.G.M. Pettersson, A. Nilsson, C.J. Benmore. *J. Chem. Phys.* **138**, 074506 (2013).
- *Local Structure of Drug Interactions in Amorphous Solid Dispersions characterized by Synchrotron X-Ray diffraction and Pair Distribution Function Analysis*. G. Lima Barros de Araujo, C.J. Benmore and S.R. Byrn, *Scientific Reports* 7 (2017) 46367.



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# Questions

Pamela A. Smith

Booth Number 551

[pam.smith@improvedpharma.com](mailto:pam.smith@improvedpharma.com)

[www.improvedpharma.com](http://www.improvedpharma.com)

Stephen R. Byrn

Booth Number 551

[steve.byrn@improvedpharma.com](mailto:steve.byrn@improvedpharma.com)

[www.improvedpharma.com](http://www.improvedpharma.com)



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