

# Warren Averbach analysis of XRD peak shapes:



## Measuring disorder in soft organic materials

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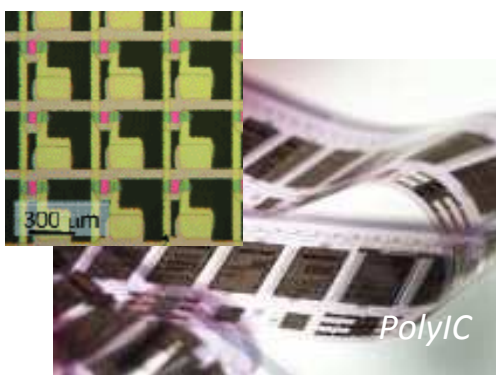
**Jonathan Rivnay, Alberto Salleo**  
*Materials Science, Stanford University*

**Michael Toney**  
*Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource*

# How will organic semiconductors continue improving?

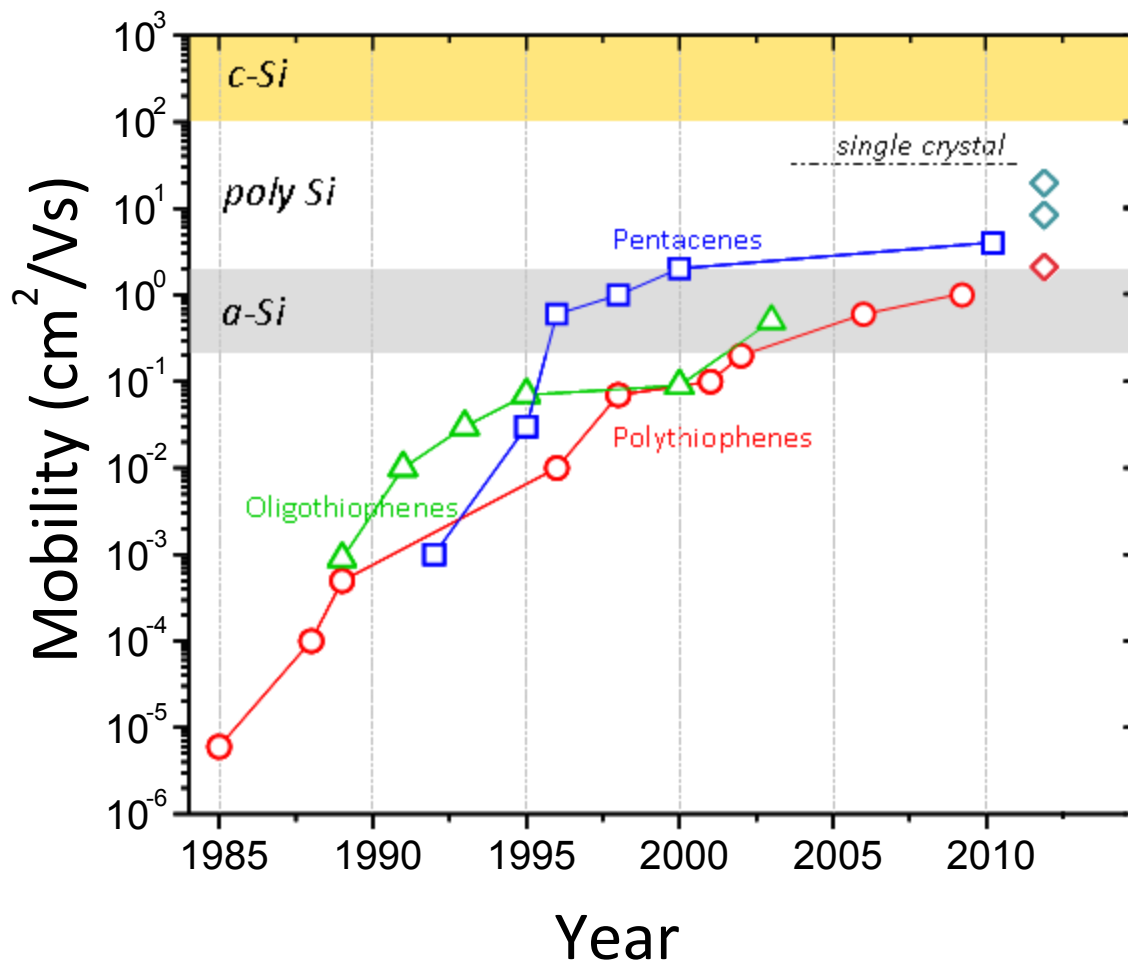


## Organic Thin Film Transistors (OTFTs)



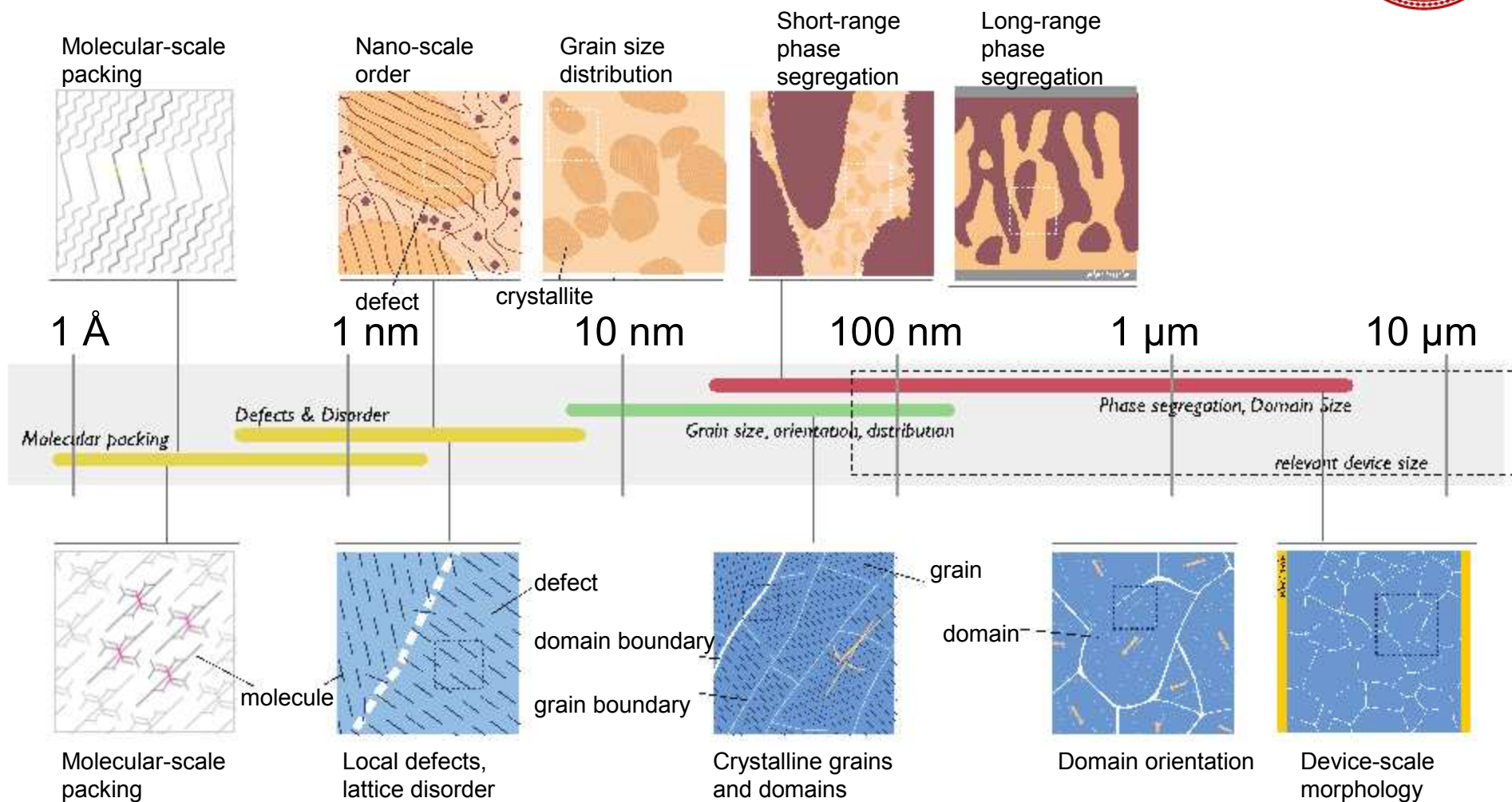
### Applications:

- Complementary Logic
- Display Backplanes
- RFID Tags
- Sensors



Can we develop design rules to continue to improve performance/understanding?

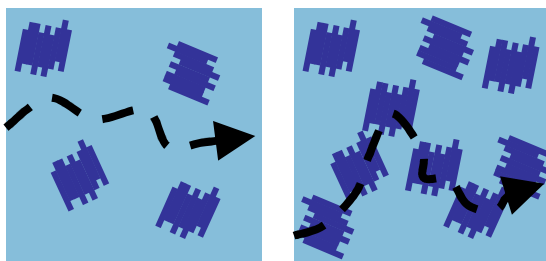
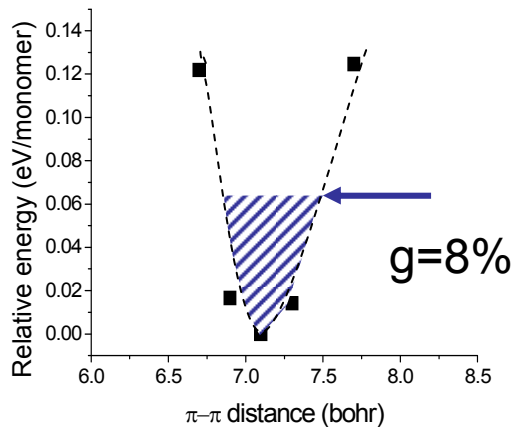
# Must understand and control morphology over vast range of length scales



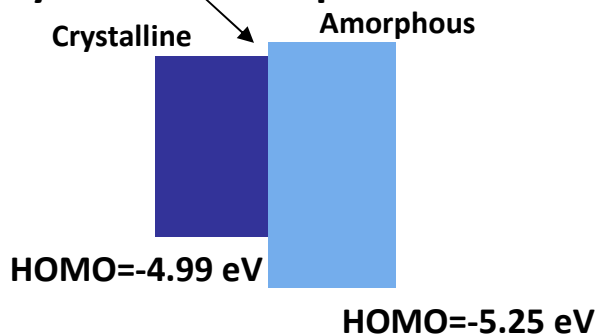
# Disorder is important for organic materials



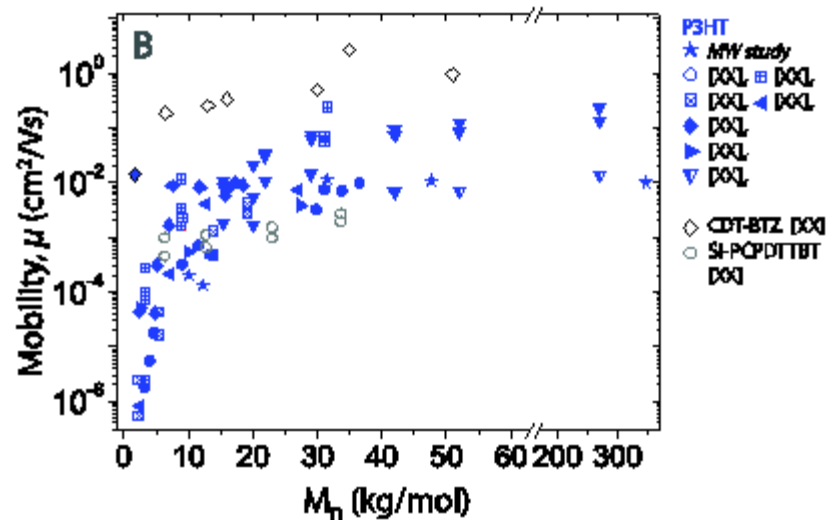
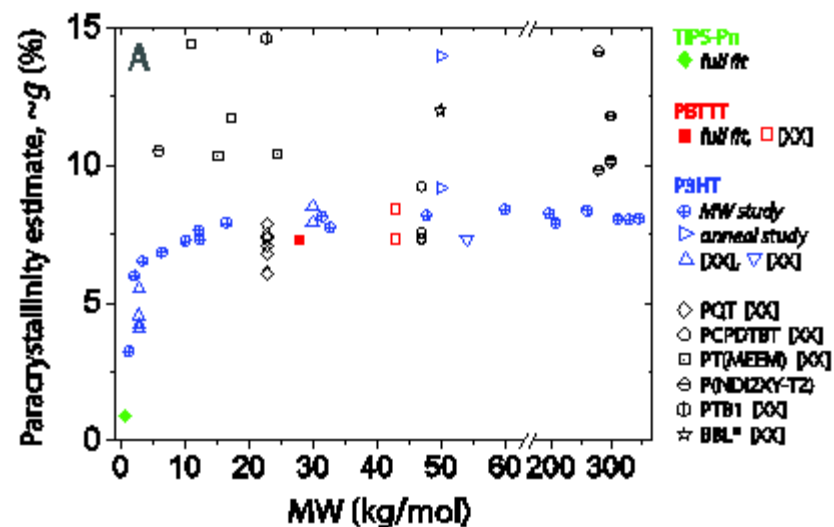
## It's easier to melt disordered crystals



## Crystalline-amorphous interface



## Top performers are disordered

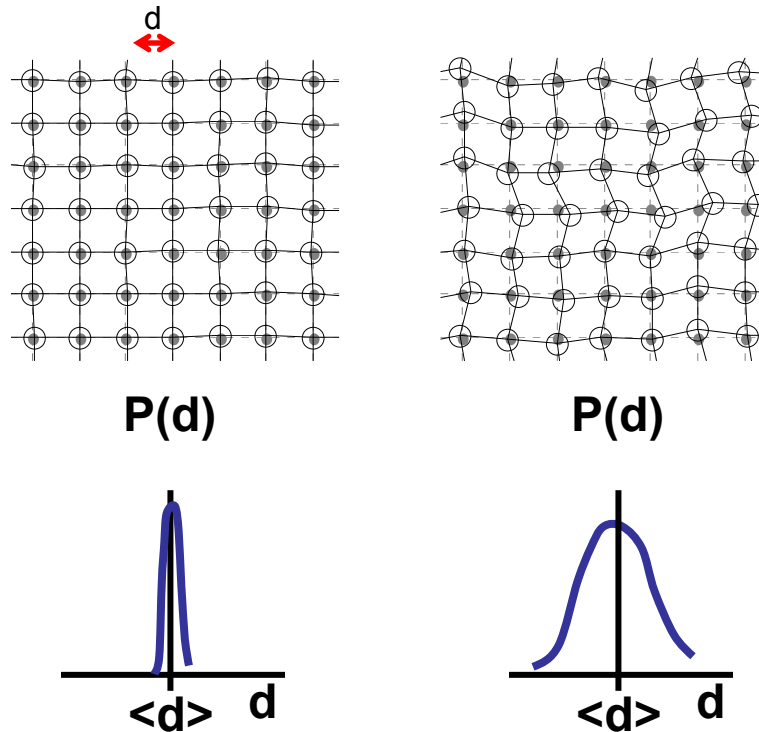


# Paracrystalline parameter characterizes disorder



$\Delta^2$  is the variance of interplanar spacing  $d$ :  $\Delta^2 = \langle d^2 \rangle - \langle d \rangle^2$

Can now define the “paracrystallinity parameter”,  $g$ :  $g^2 = \Delta^2 / \langle d \rangle^2$

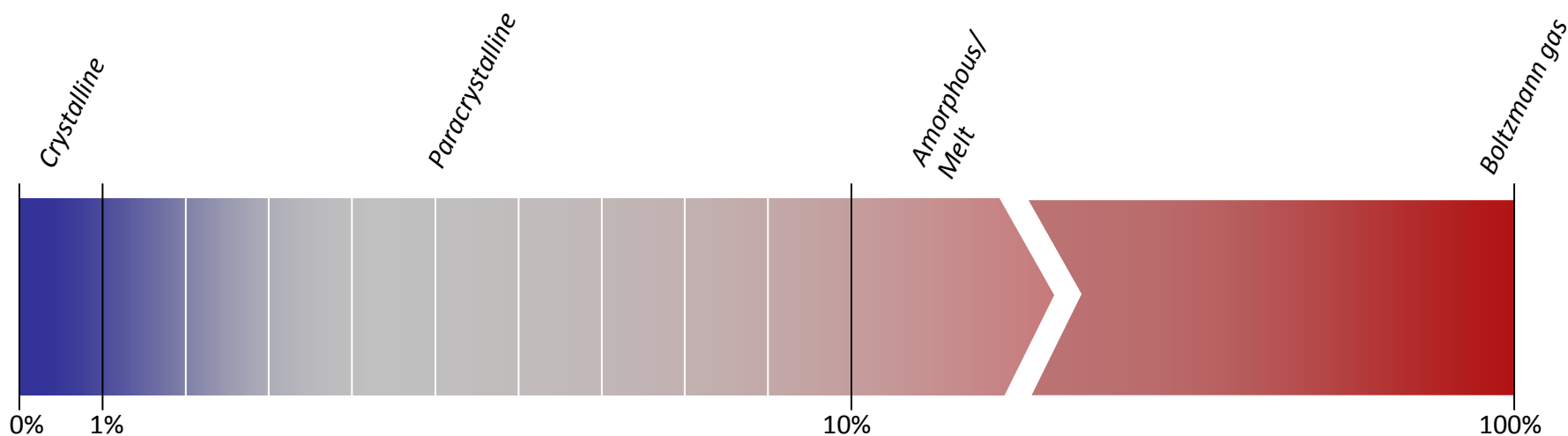
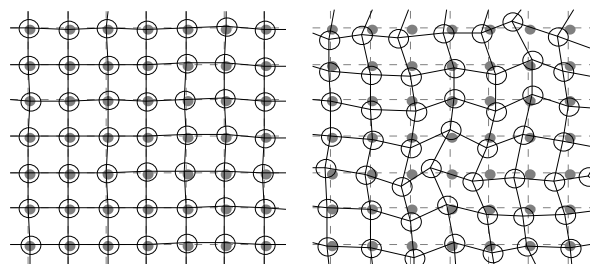


# Using $g$ to rank materials from crystalline to amorphous



Most of peak-broadening due to **paracrystalline disorder ( $g$ )**

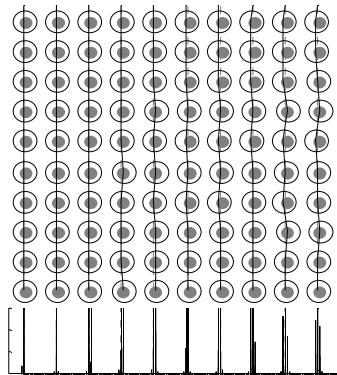
Statistical deviation from mean lattice spacing



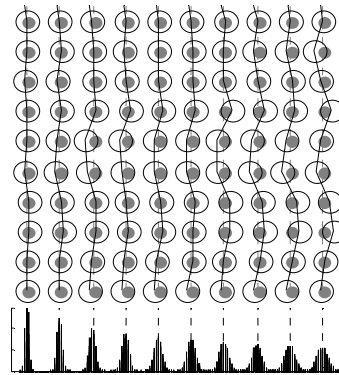
# Paracrystalline disorder: a picture



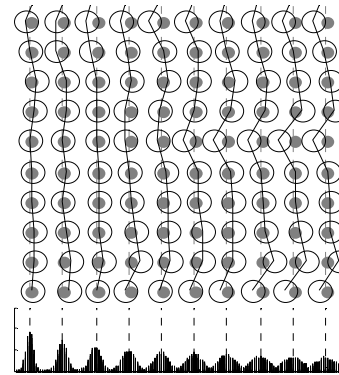
$g=1\%$



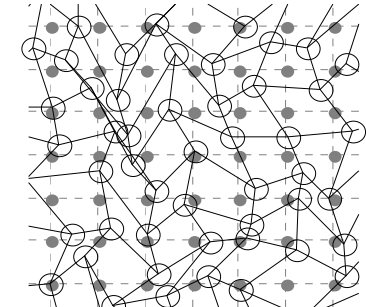
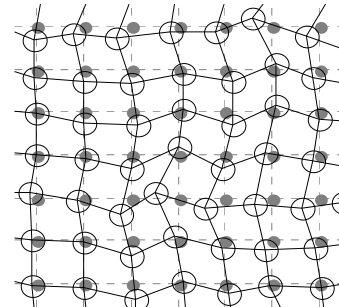
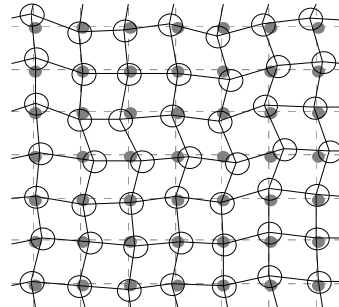
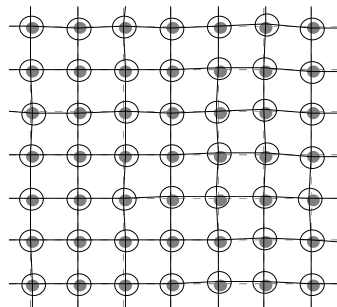
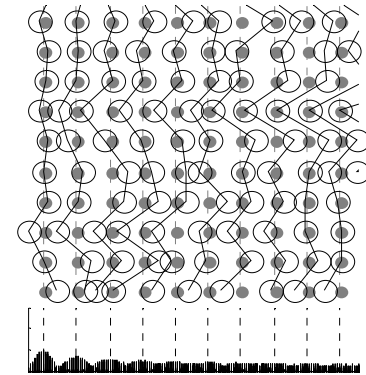
$g=5\%$



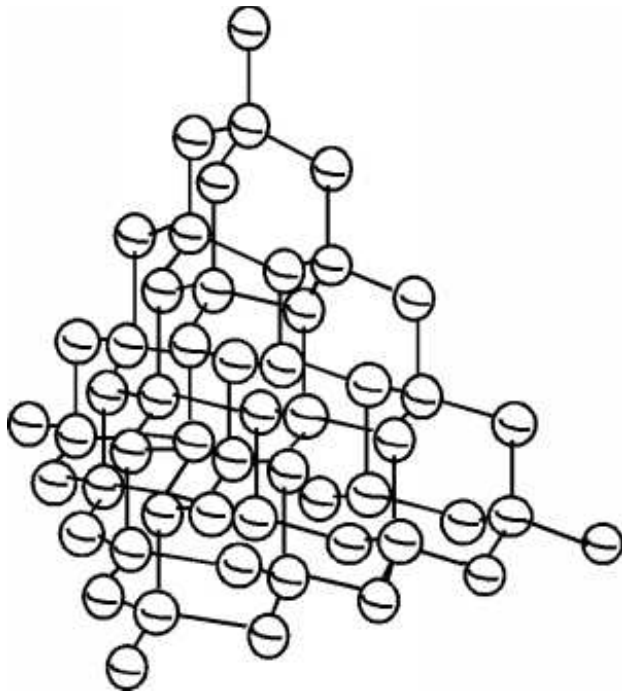
$g=10\%$



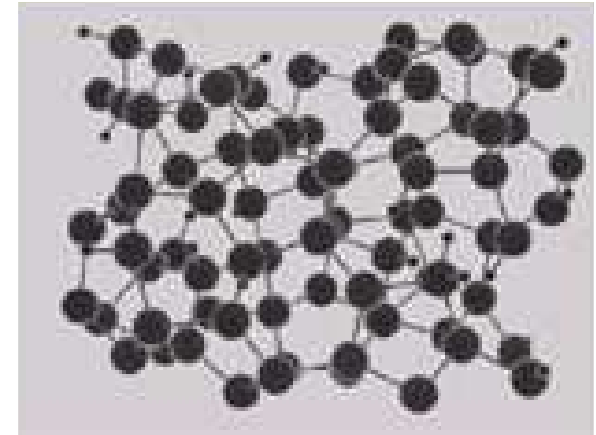
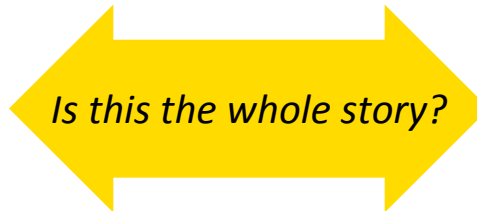
$g=15\%$



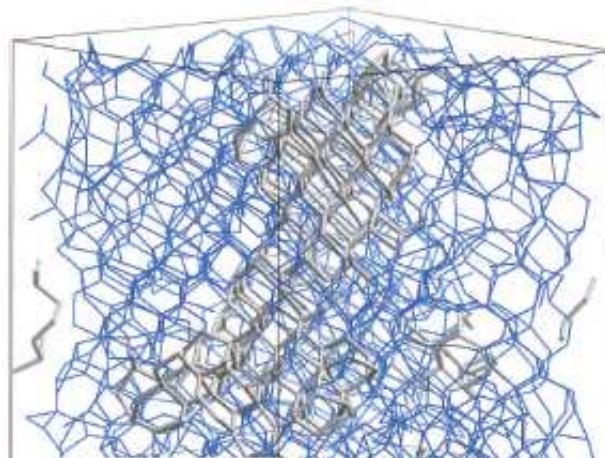
# Paracrystallinity in Silicon



**Crystalline silicon**



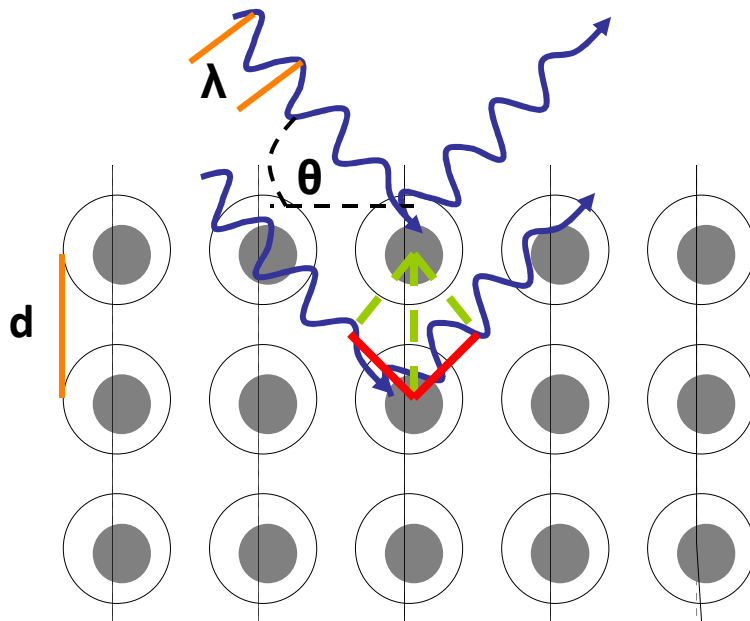
**Amorphous silicon**



**Paracrystalline silicon**



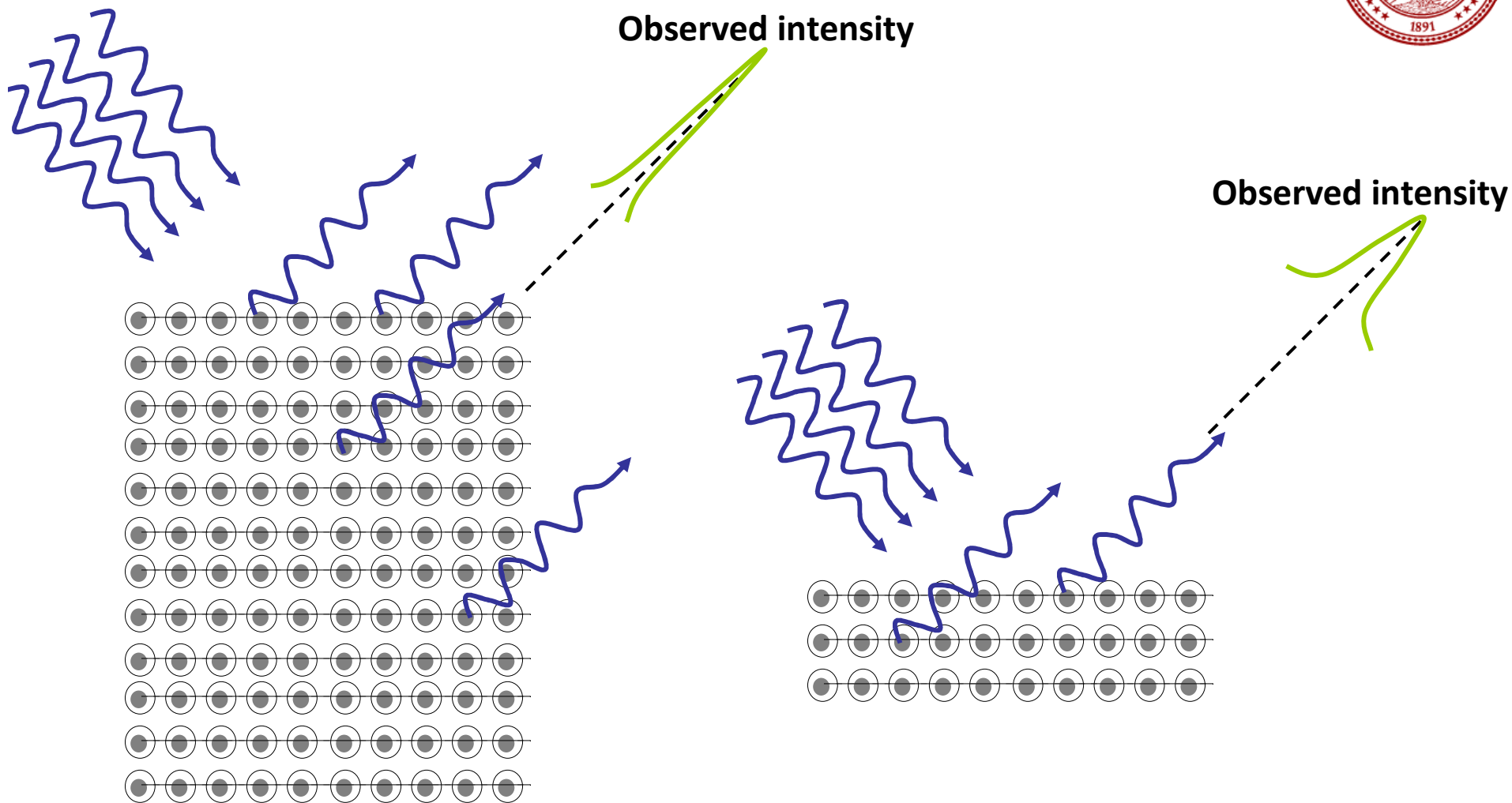
# Bragg's law recap



Constructive interference happens if  
 $2d\sin\theta = n\lambda$

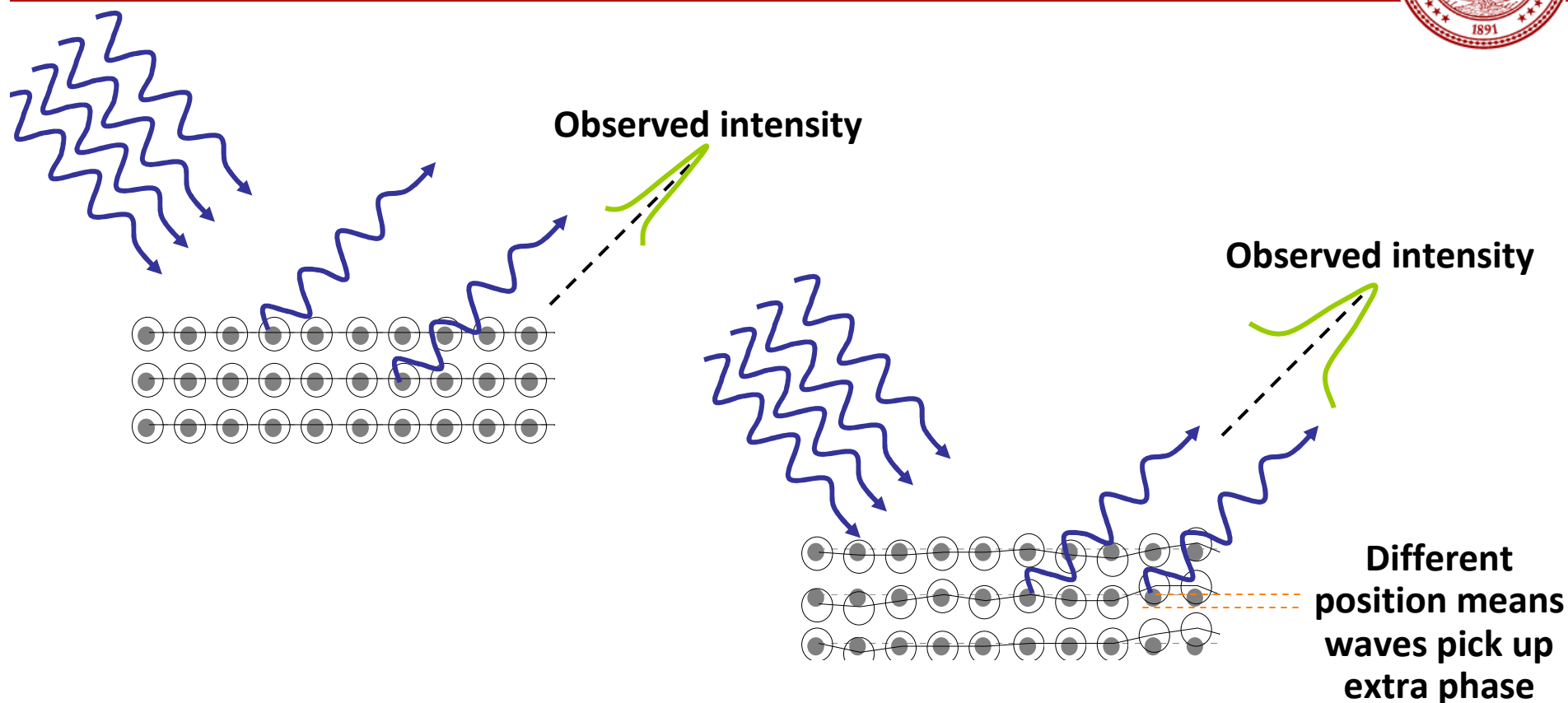
In terms of the scattering vector:  
 $q = 4\pi\sin\theta/\lambda = Q_{\text{rec}}$

# X-ray scattering is sensitive to imperfections



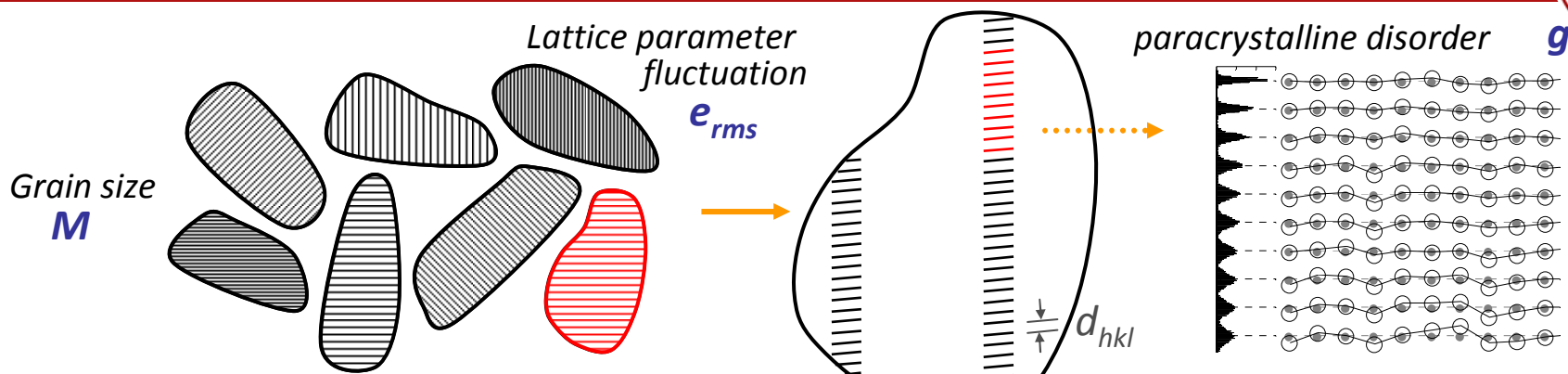
**Finite-size crystals have nonzero breadth diffraction peaks.**

# X-ray scattering is sensitive to imperfections

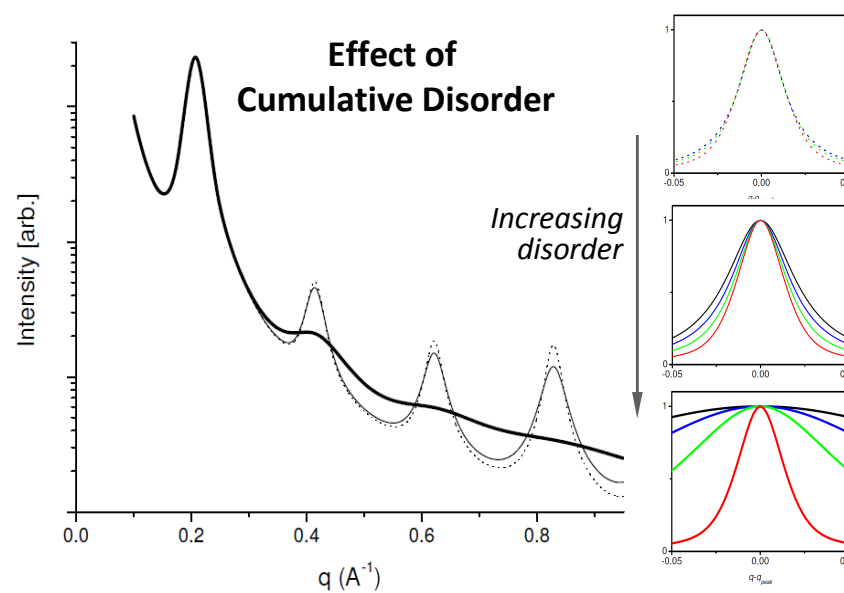
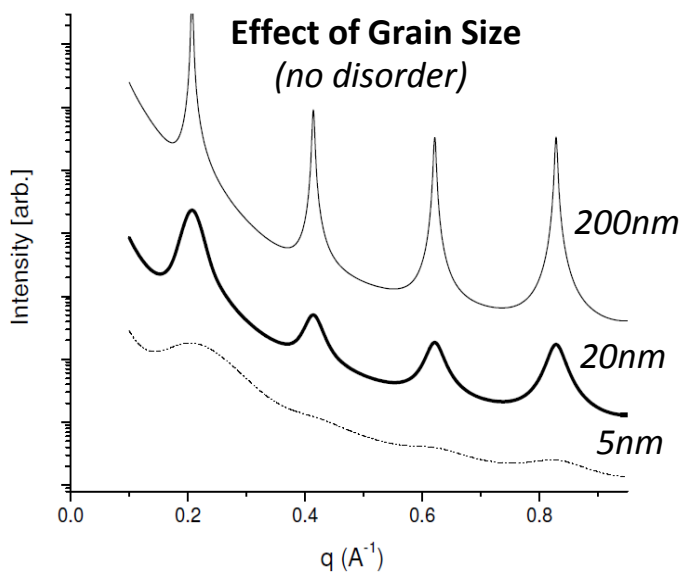


The width of a diffraction peak is increased when we add disorder to the lattice.  
More importantly, the peak width increases with diffraction order.

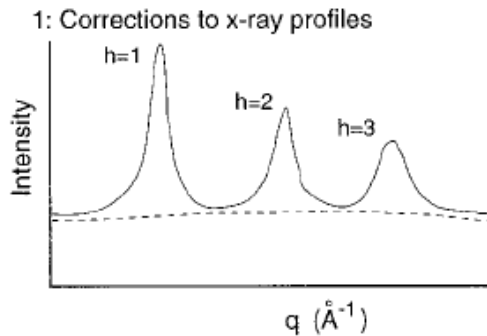
# Measuring disorder quantitatively using X-ray diffraction



$$A_n = \left(1 - \frac{d_{hkl}n}{M}\right) e^{-2\pi^2 m^2 n g^2} e^{-2\pi^2 m^2 n^2 \langle e^2 \rangle}$$

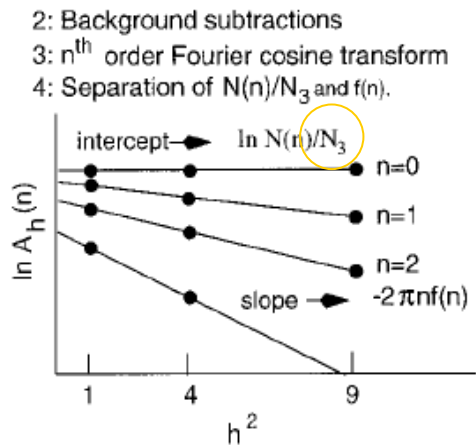


# Warren-Averbach Graphical approach



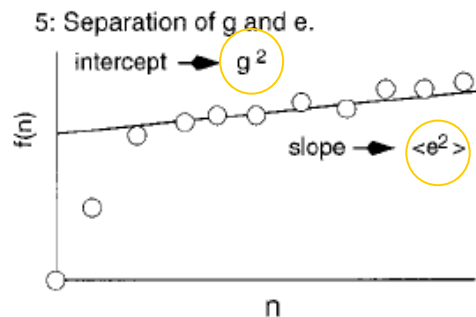
Diffraction peaks can be represented by Fourier series

$$A_m(n) = A^S(n) A_m^e(n) A_m^g(n)$$



$$\ln A_m(n) = \ln N(n) / N_3 - 2\pi^2 m^2 n f(n)$$

$$f(n) = g^2 + n \langle e^2 \rangle$$



+ Extracting more information from peaks

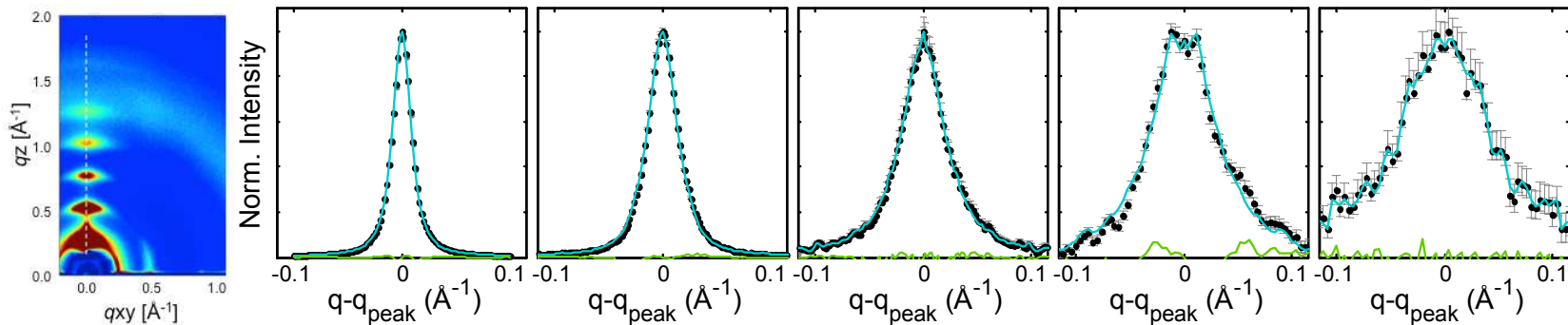
- Prone to inaccuracies

*Multiple steps*

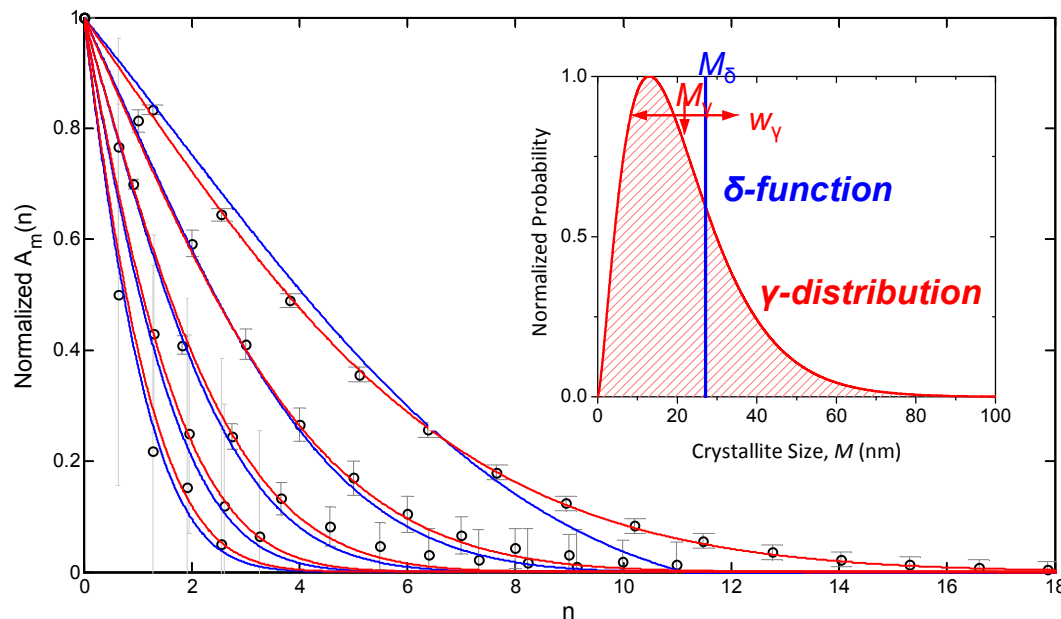
*Fitting lines to as few as 2-3 points*

*Basing fits on previous fit results*

# Line-shape analysis applied to Polyera N2200

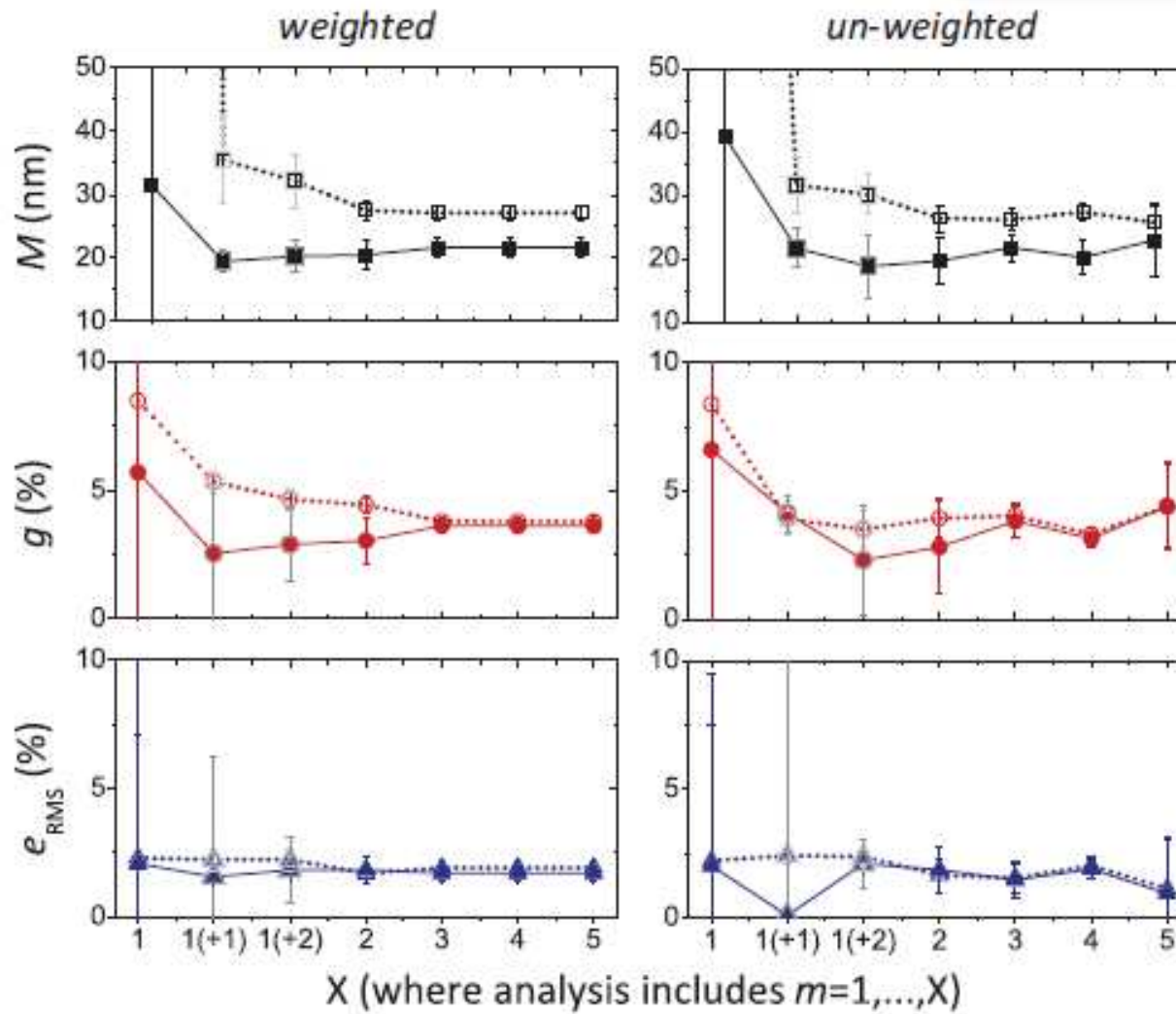


$$A_n = \left( 1 - \frac{d_{hkl}n}{M} \right) e^{-2\pi^2 m^2 n g^2} e^{-2\pi^2 m^2 n^2 \langle e^2 \rangle}$$

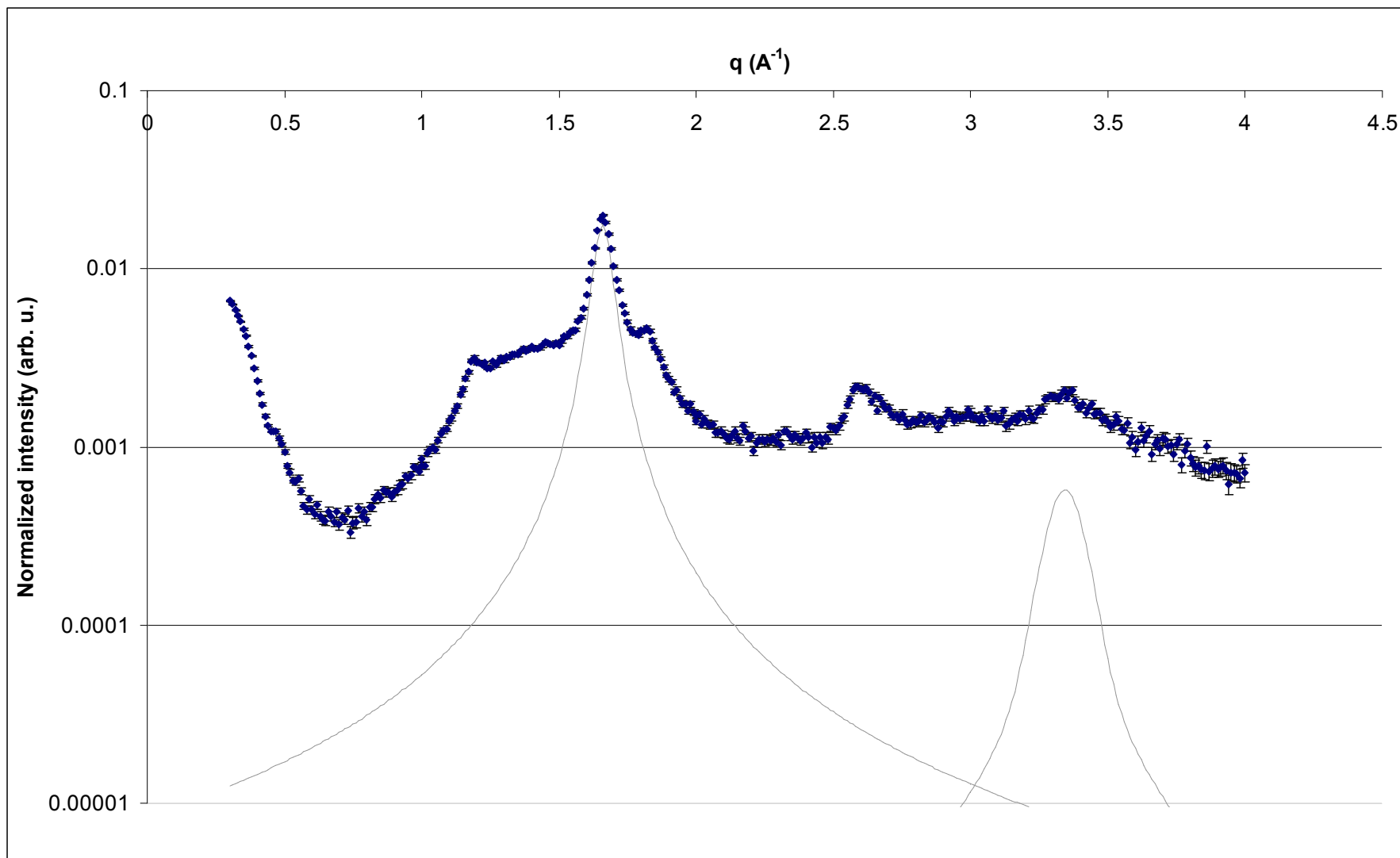


	$M$ (nm)	$g$ (%)	$e_{rms}$ (%)
$\delta$ -distribution	$27 \pm 1$	$3.8 \pm 0.2$	$1.9 \pm 0.2$
$\gamma$ -distribution	$22 \pm 2$	$3.6 \pm 0.2$	$1.7 \pm 0.3$
	$W_\gamma \sim 14$ nm		

# Fits converge quickly with more data

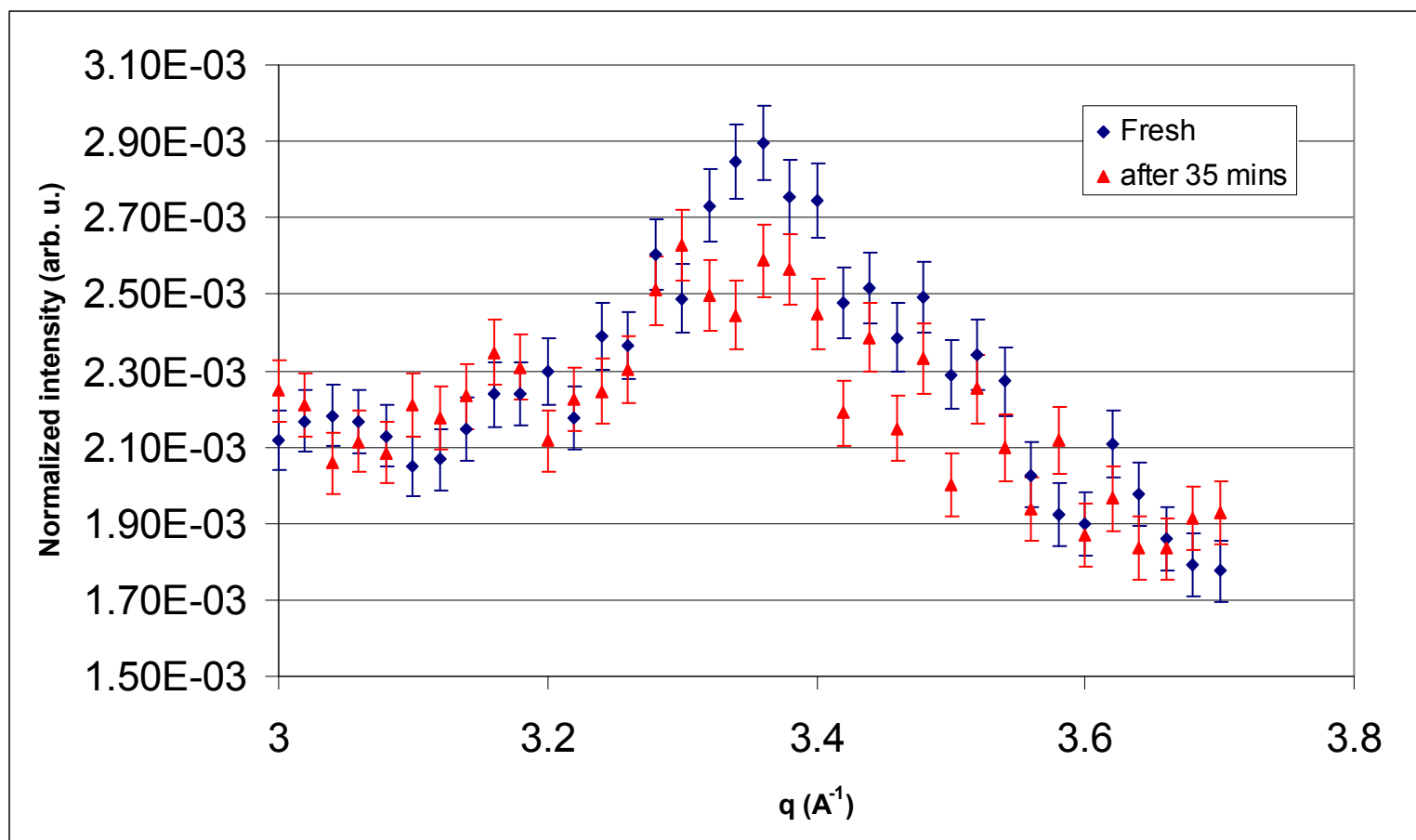


# Data is not always that nice

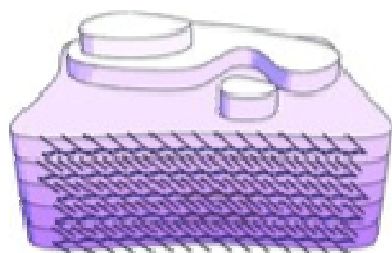
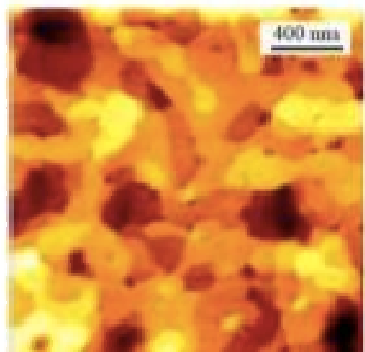
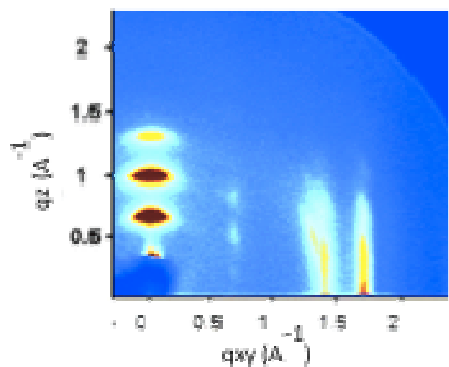




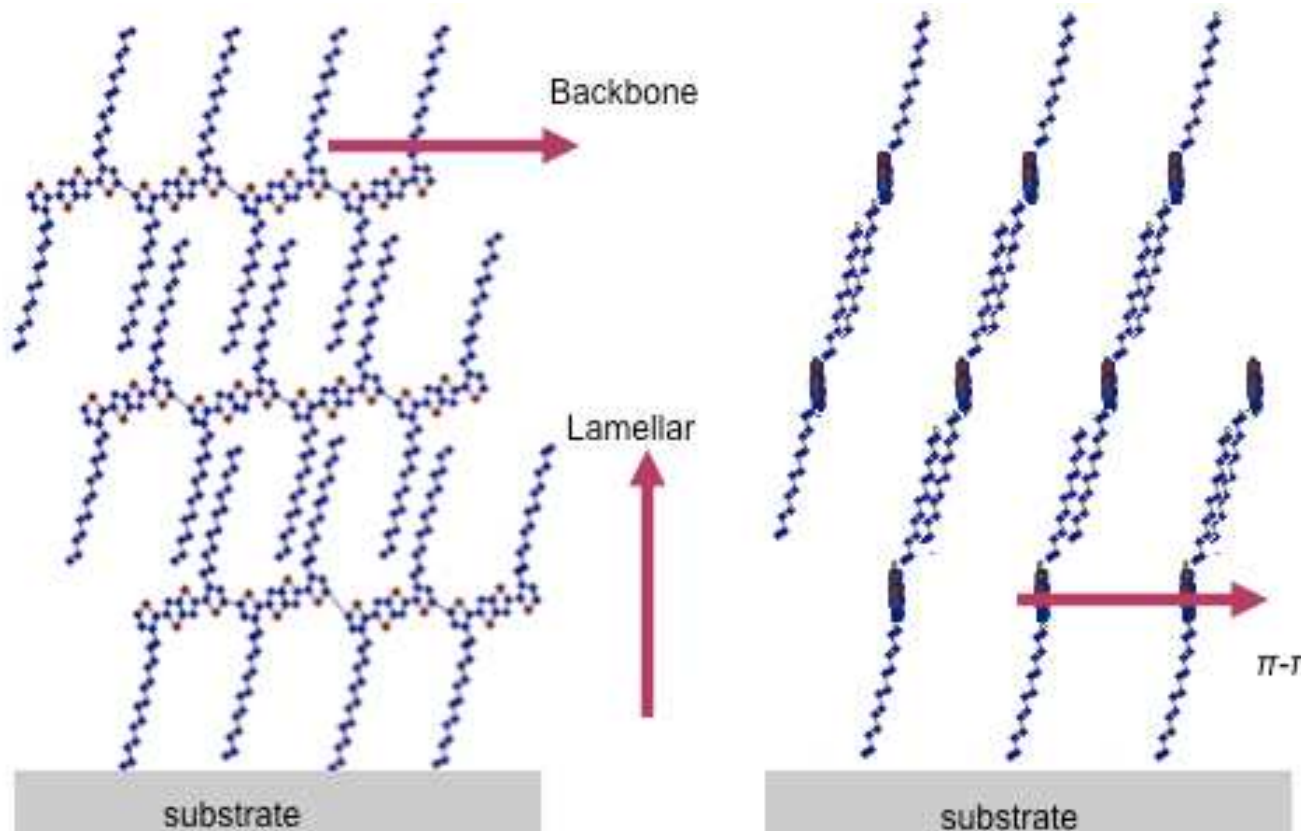
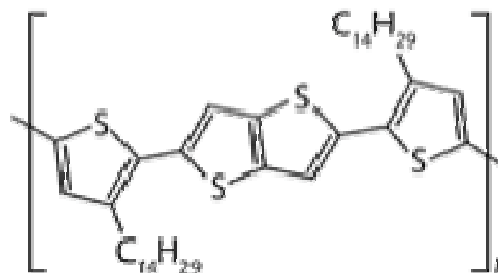
# Beam damage is something to be aware of



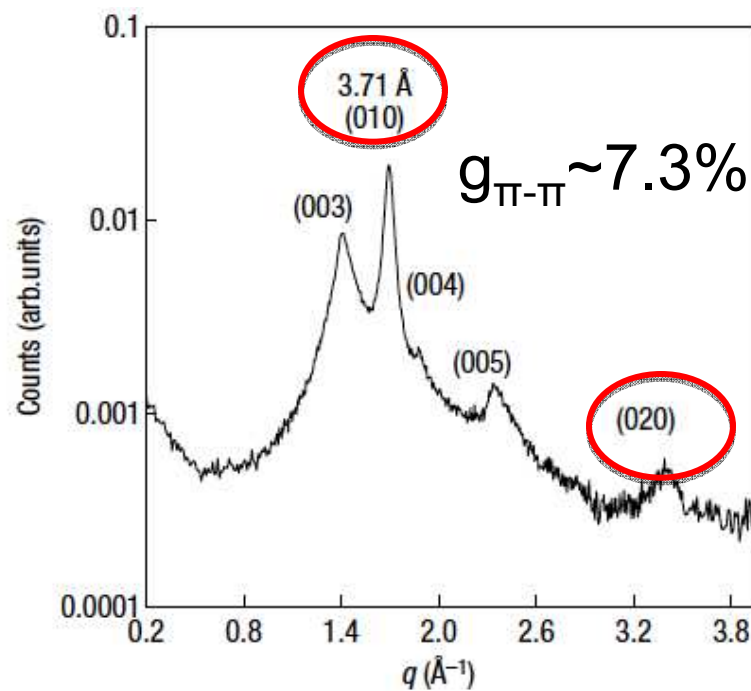
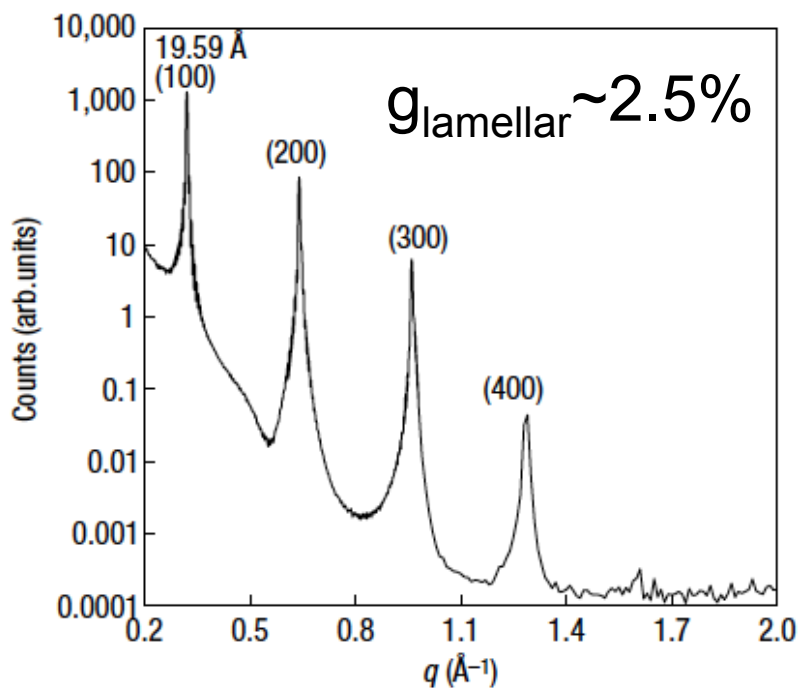
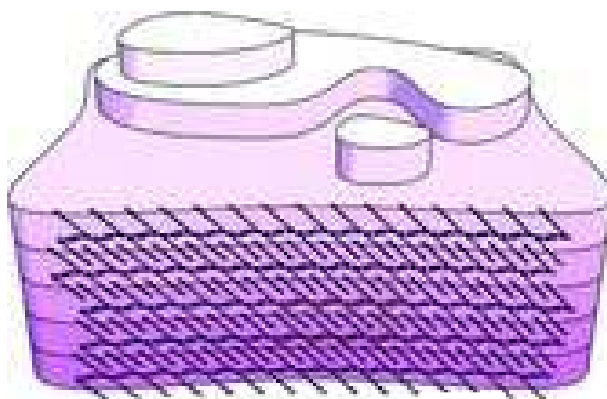
# A model system for anisotropic disorder: PBTTT



PBTTT:



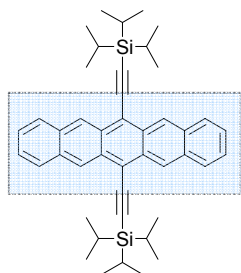
# PBTTT appears very ordered in the direction perpendicular to the substrate



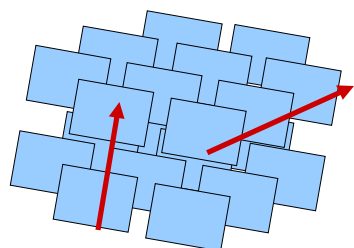
# High performing materials vary in paracrystallinity



## Small Molecule TIPS-Pentacene



$$\mu_{\text{FET}} \approx 0.5\text{-}5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$$



In plane  
[100] direction

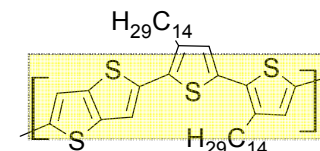
$M$ :  $47 \pm 7 \text{ nm}$   
 $g$ :  $0.9 \pm 0.6 \%$   
 $e_{\text{rms}}$ :  $\approx 0 \%$

Out of plane  
[001] direction

$M$ :  $55 \pm 8 \text{ nm}$   
 $g$ :  $\approx 0 \%$   
 $e_{\text{rms}}$ :  $\approx 0 \%$

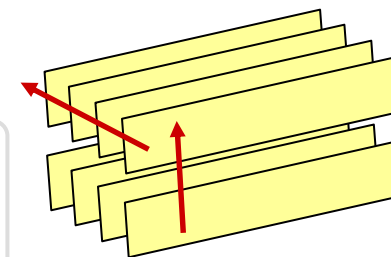
## Polymer PBTTT

$$\mu_{\text{FET}} \approx 0.1\text{-}1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$$



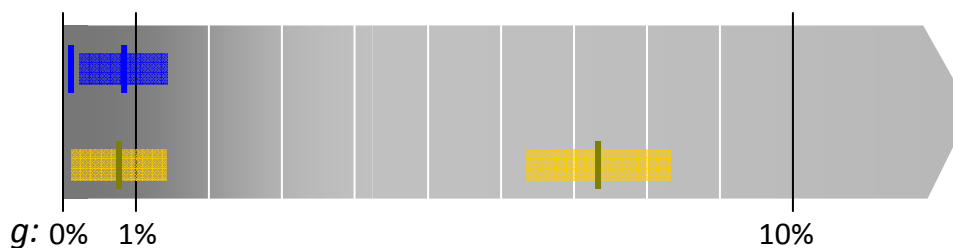
In plane  
[010],  $\pi$ -stacking

$M$ :  $34 \pm 7 \text{ nm}$   
 $g$ :  $2.6 \pm 1.4 \%$   
 $e_{\text{rms}}$ :  $1.3 \pm 0.6 \%$

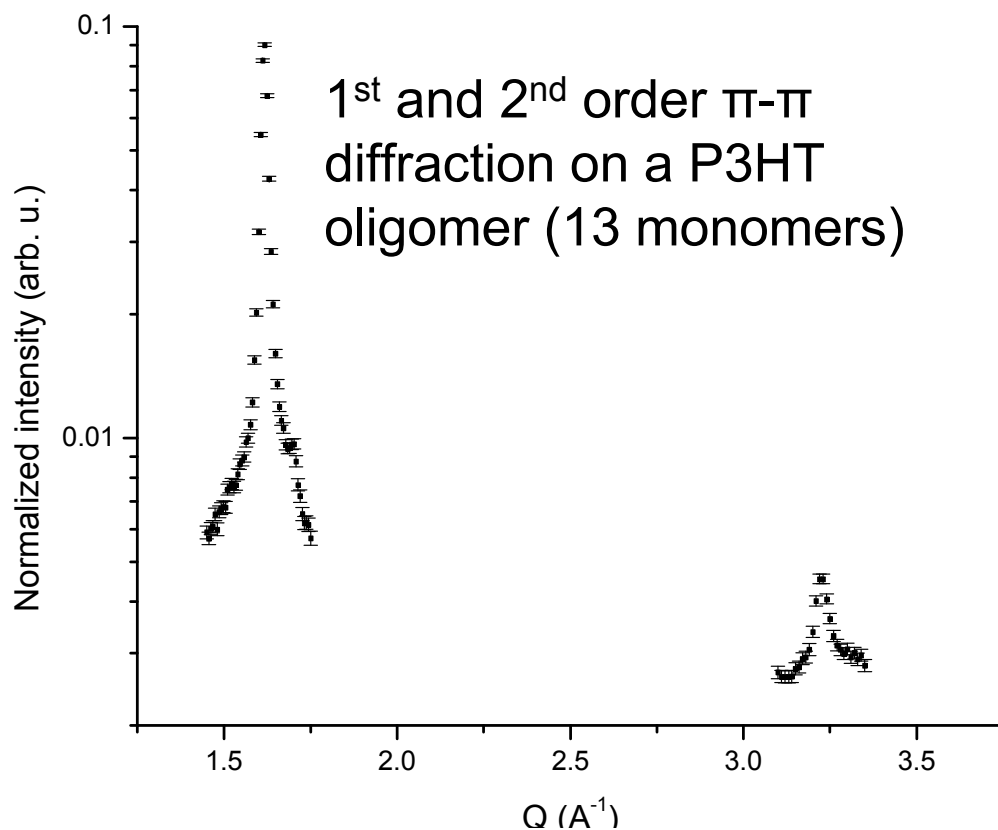


Out of plane  
[100], lamellar-stacking

$M$ : n/a  
 $g$ :  $7.3 \pm 0.7 \%$   
 $e_{\text{rms}}$ :  $0.9 \pm 0.6 \%$

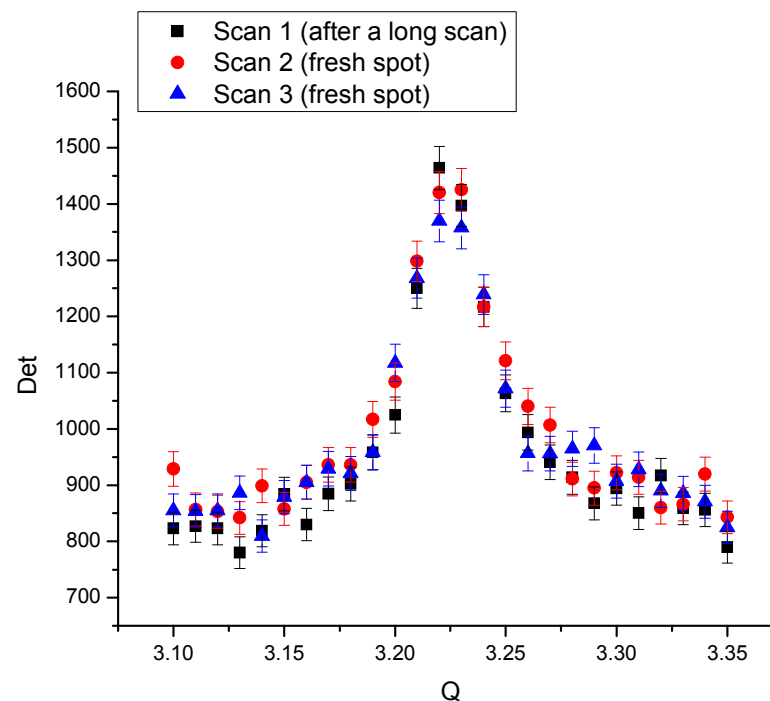


# Shortcuts are sometimes OK, sometimes not



$$g = \sqrt{\frac{\Delta_q}{2\pi q_o}}$$

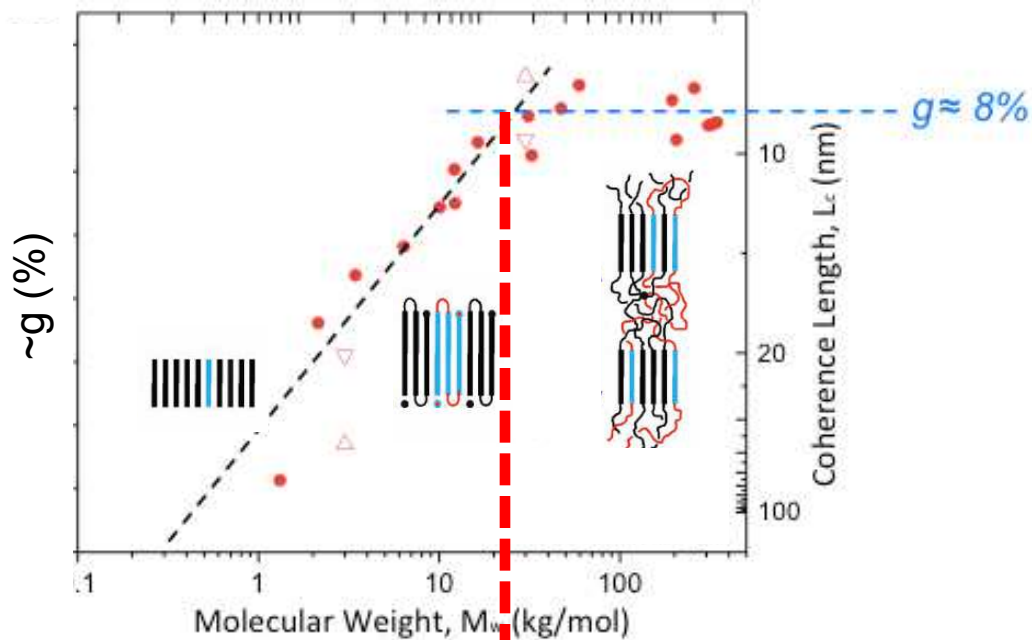
$$g_{\text{estimate}} \sim 4.7\%$$



$$g_{\text{full}} \sim 2.7 \pm 0.6\%$$

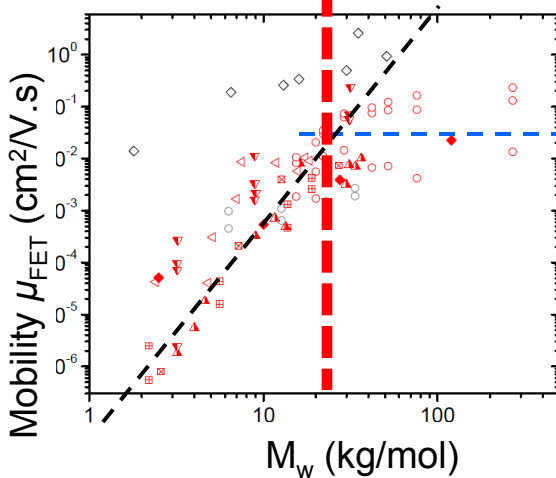
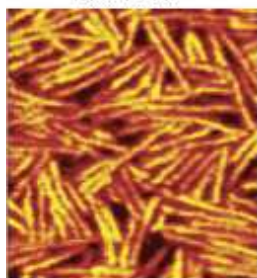
$$M_{\text{full}} \sim 18 \text{ nm}$$

# Molecular-weight dependence of disorder is related to transport in P3HT



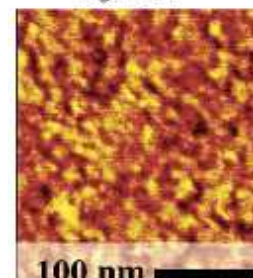
limited by connectivity

Low MW



limited by paracrystallinity

High MW



# Potential Sources of Disorder



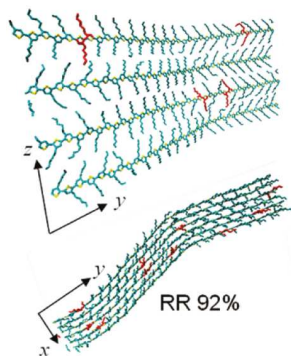
## Extrinsic

### Impurities

*catalysts, degradation impurities, additives*

### Polydispersity

*broad distribution of chain lengths*

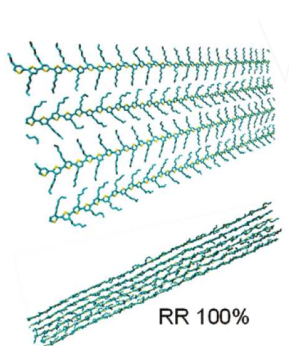


Regioregularity defects

## Side chain-induced

### Alkyl chain (or side chain) disorder

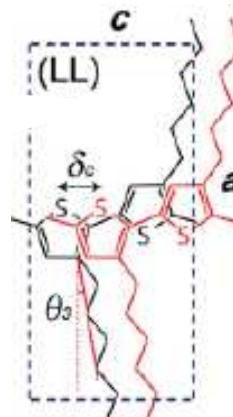
*Even for perfectly RR chains, side chains may cause perturbation in local packing*



## Intrinsic

## Chain entanglement dependent

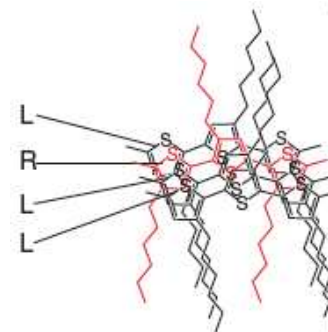
### Torsion from entanglement



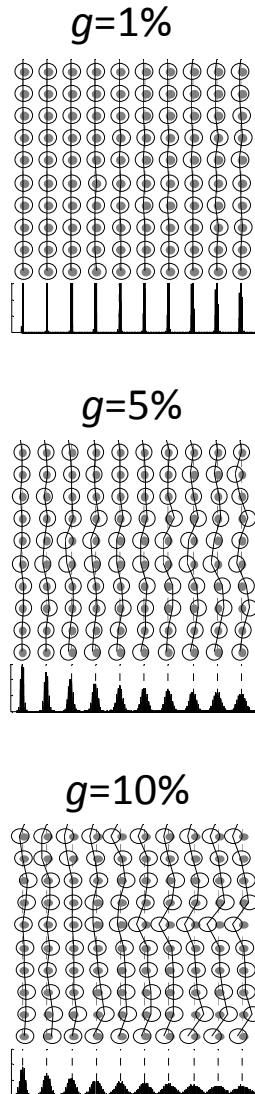
### Poor lateral stacking

*Can cause repulsion and vary  $\pi$ -stacking*

### Stacking Faults

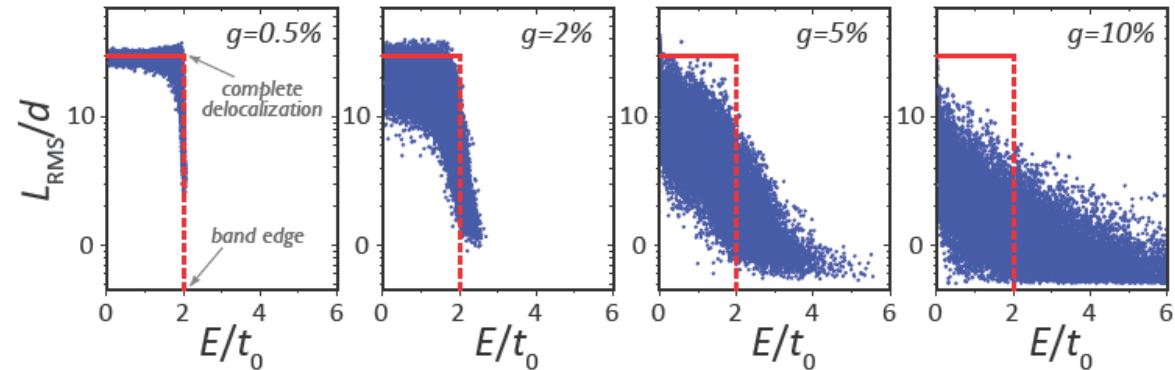


# Paracrystalline disorder creates electronic traps



## Modeling inter-chain disorder in PBTBT pi-stacks:

### Localization length vs. energy

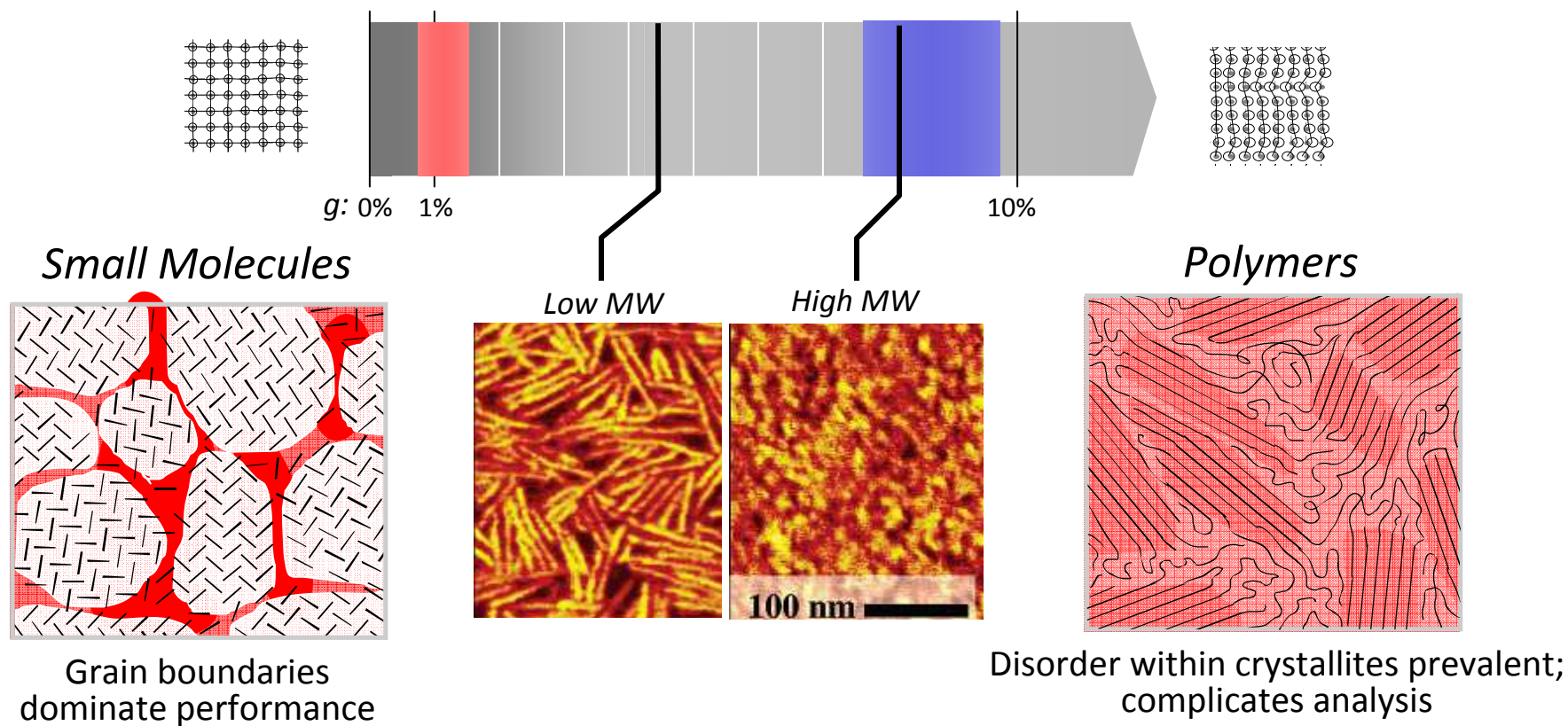


Tail states are highly localized, but for higher disorder, even states within the band become more localized

**Large disorder causes localization (traps) and creates deep tail states.**



# Macromolecules can span transport regimes



# Conclusions – round 1

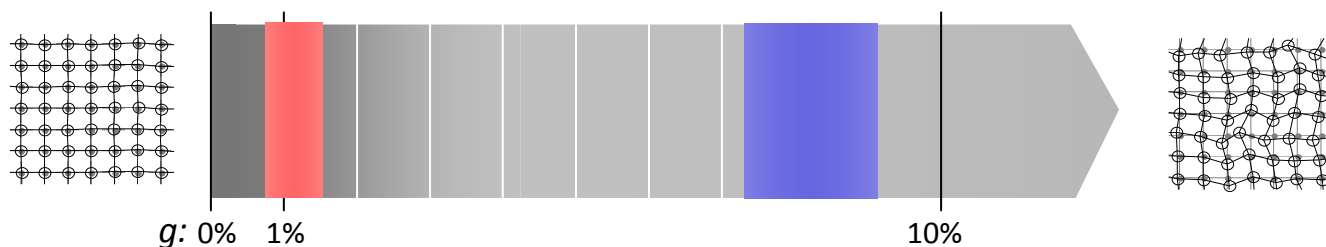


- Synchrotron-based XRD allows to quantify lattice disorder.
- Tradeoff between good statistics and beam damage.
- Every little thing counts toward making your life easier when it comes to data analysis: align the film, use the right scattering geometry, etc.

# Conclusions – round 2



- Disorder at all length-scales affect transport in organic semiconductors.
- Lattice disorder can be described as a continuous scale, it can be quantified.



- Most (all until now) high Mw, **high mobility** polymers are disordered in the  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking direction.

# Acknowledgements



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Stefan Mannsfeld (WxDiff)*



*Palo Alto Research Center  
John Northrup*



*Imperial College  
Martin Heeney  
Iain McCulloch  
Natalie Stingelin*



*Polyera Corp.  
Antonio Facchetti*



*Nat. Inst. of Standards  
and Technology  
Joe Kline*



*Northwestern Univ.  
Tobin Marks*