



Julia Gasol Cardona<sup>1 2\*</sup>, Martin R. Ward<sup>1 2</sup>, Daniel Markl<sup>1 2</sup>, Andrew G.P. Maloney<sup>3</sup>, Iain D. H. Oswald<sup>1 2</sup>

1. Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences (SIPBS), University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK  
 2. EPSRC Future Manufacturing Research Hub for Continuous Manufacturing and Advanced Crystallisation (CMAC), University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK  
 3. Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC), Cambridge, UK

\*Email: julia.gasol-cardona@strath.ac.uk, Twitter: julia\_gasol, LinkedIn: julia-gasol-cardona-155955117

## BACKGROUND



How can we improve the current, often iterative tablet formulation process?

With a deeper understanding of **pharmaceutically relevant materials**:

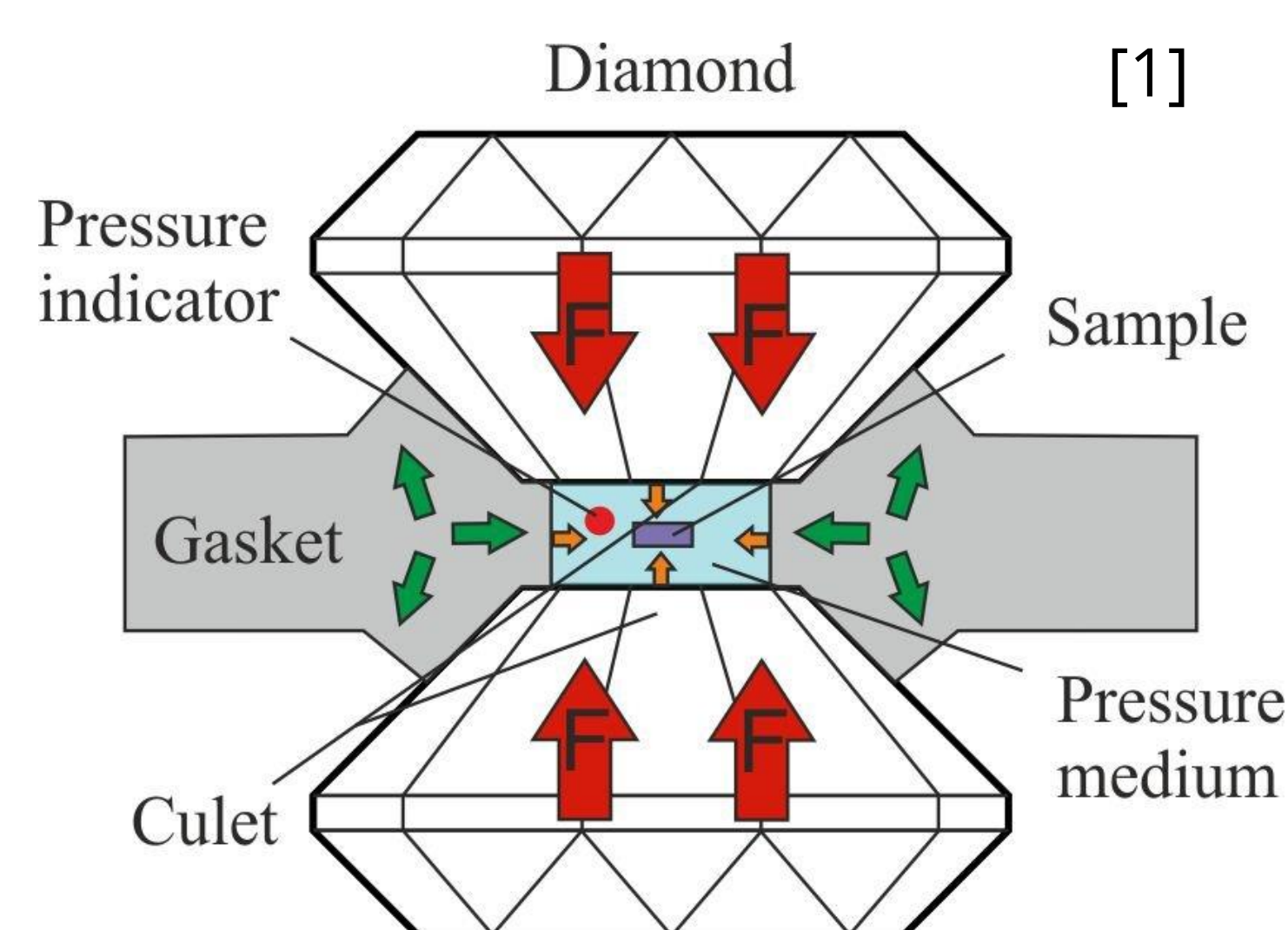
- Structural characteristics
  - Behaviour under pressure
- Within the pressure range used in the tablet manufacturing process (i.e., < 1000 MPa)

## DIAMOND ANVIL CELL (DAC)

- Used to carry out pressure studies to follow changes in the internal structures of crystalline materials

How does it work?

- Diamond culets allow electromagnetic radiation to pass through (e.g. X-rays)
- Pressure is monitored using **ruby fluorescence**
- A hydrostatic environment can be achieved with a **pressure transmitting medium (PTM)**:

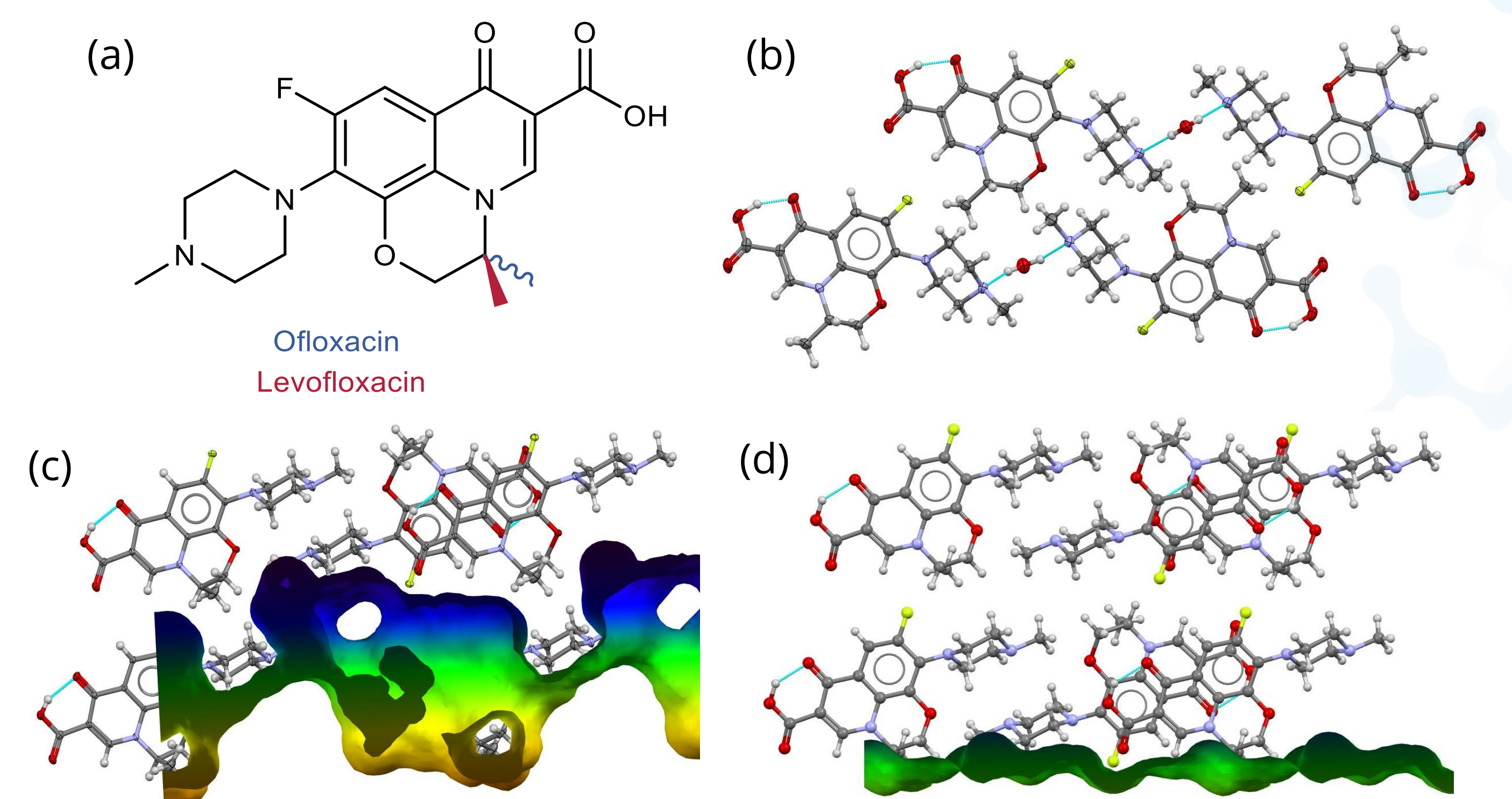


Solvent	Abbrev.	Hydrostatic limit (GPa)	Solubility
Petroleum ether	Pet	~ 6 [2]	Inert
4:1 Methanol:ethanol	4:1 M-E	~ 10.5 [3]	Slight solubility in OA and LH

## OFLOXACIN AND LEVOFLOXACIN

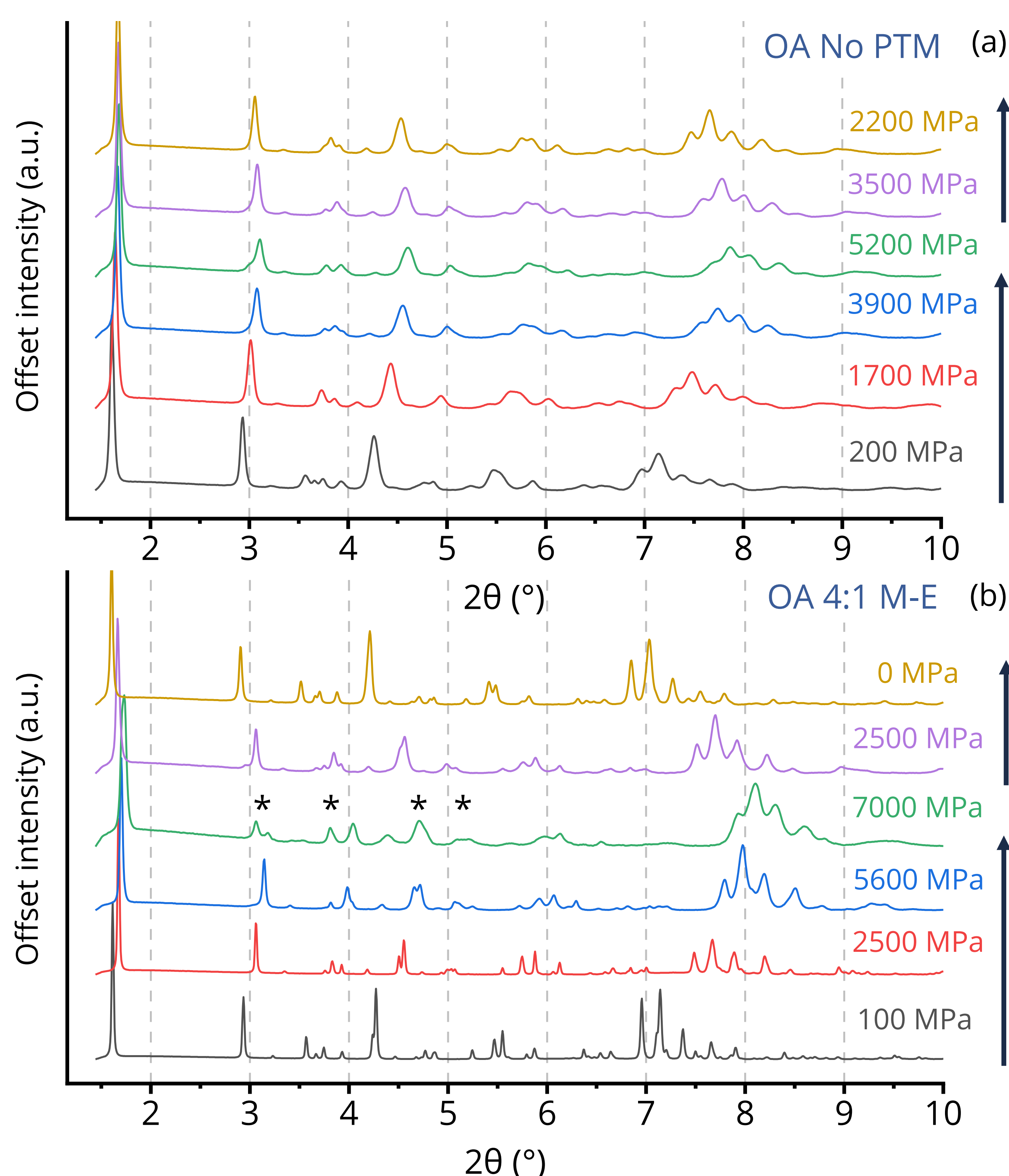
Sample	Abbrev.	CSD refcode	Space group	Slip plane(s)	Hydrogen bonded
Levofloxacin hemihydrate	LH	YUJNUM01	C2	-	N/A
Levofloxacin anhydrate Y form	LAY	LICWOM	C2	(200)	No
Ofloxacin anhydrate	OA	CUYCEF	C2/c	(20-2)	No

(Above) Table summarising the crystal structures studied, their predicted slip planes and whether they display hydrogen bonding interactions bridging across the slip plane slabs; (Below) (a) Chemical structure of ofloxacin and levofloxacin (b-d) Structures and topological surfaces for the predicted slip planes of (b) LH (c) OA (d) LAY [4]



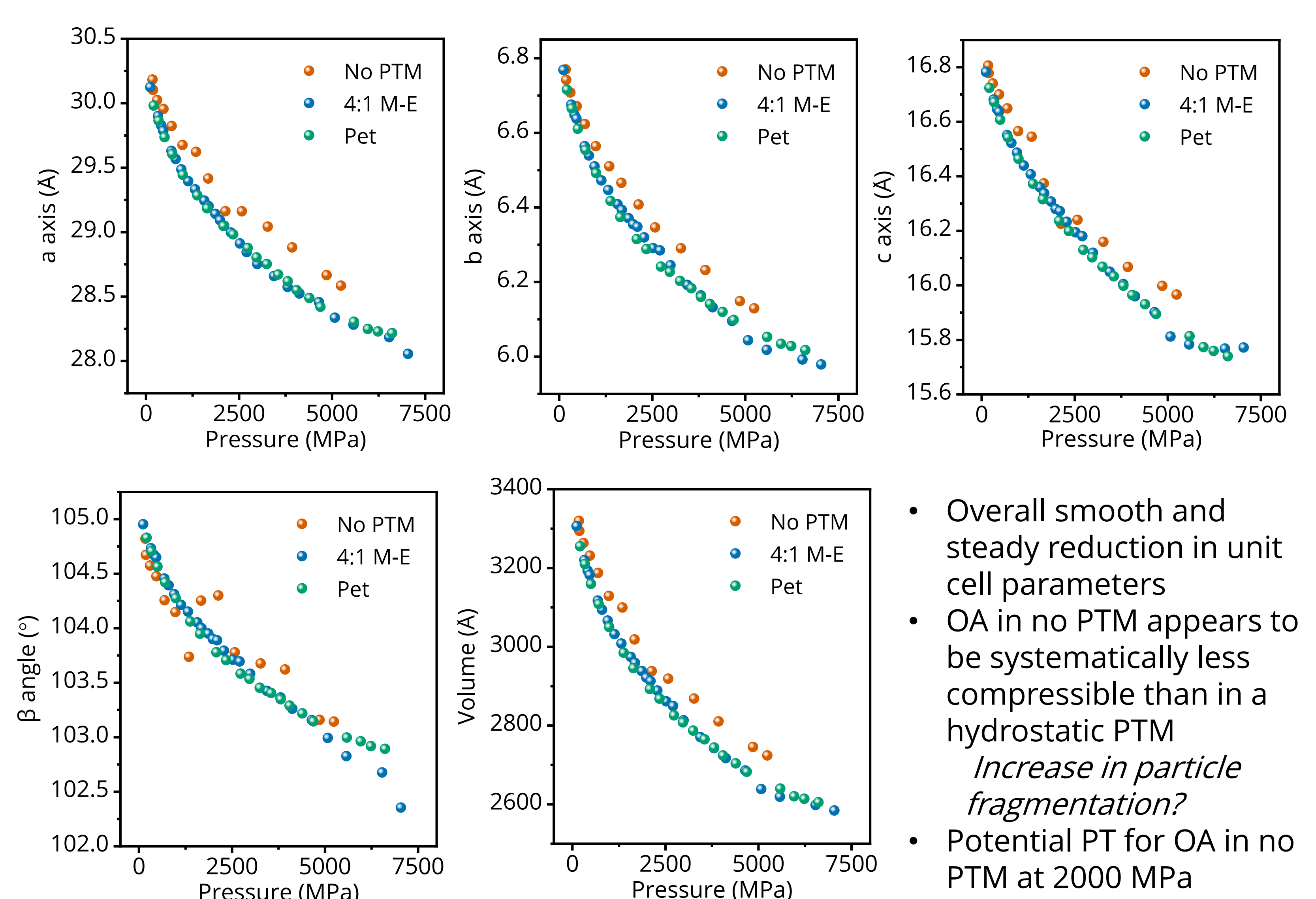
- Powder X-ray diffraction data under hydrostatic (Pet, 4:1 M-E) and non-hydrostatic (no PTM) pressure was collected at ESRF (beamline ID15B)

## X-RAY POWDER DIFFRACTION (XRPD)



Plots of XRPD during non-hydrostatic (a) and hydrostatic (b) compression & decompression

- OA Pet displays similar behaviour to OA 4:1 M-E, but slightly broader peaks
- Solubility of OA in 4:1 M-E helps maintain crystallinity upon compression
- Potential reversible phase transition (PT) at 7000 MPa for OA in 4:1 M-E



- Overall smooth and steady reduction in unit cell parameters
- OA in no PTM appears to be systematically less compressible than in a hydrostatic PTM  
*Increase in particle fragmentation?*
- Potential PT for OA in no PTM at 2000 MPa

## CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK

- Potential phase transitions observed
  - Collect single crystal X-ray diffraction data for structural comparison
  - Mimic non-hydrostatic environment using a PTM with a low hydrostatic limit (e.g. Silicone oil)
- Different rate of compression under hydrostatic and non-hydrostatic pressure, potentially linked to an increase in particle fragmentation due to more particle-particle interactions being present
- Collect PXRD data for LAY and LH to compare against OA