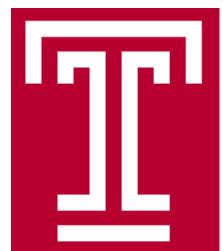


# Measurement of partial atomic charges by least-squares refinement of variable electron density crystallographic models.

Michael J. Zdilla

Temple University

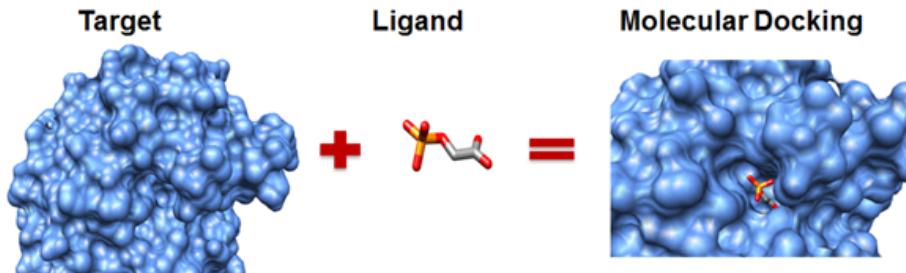


The Zdilla Lab at  
Temple University



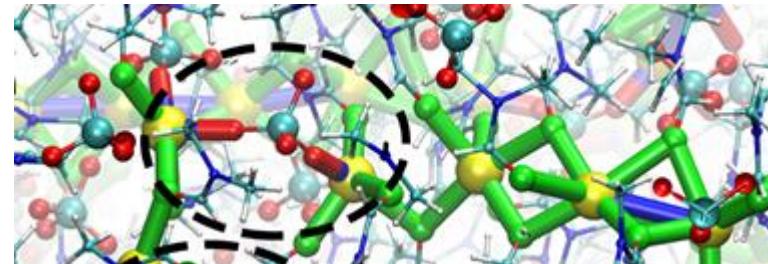
# Determination of partial atomic charges for molecular simulation

- Drug Design (source: autodock)

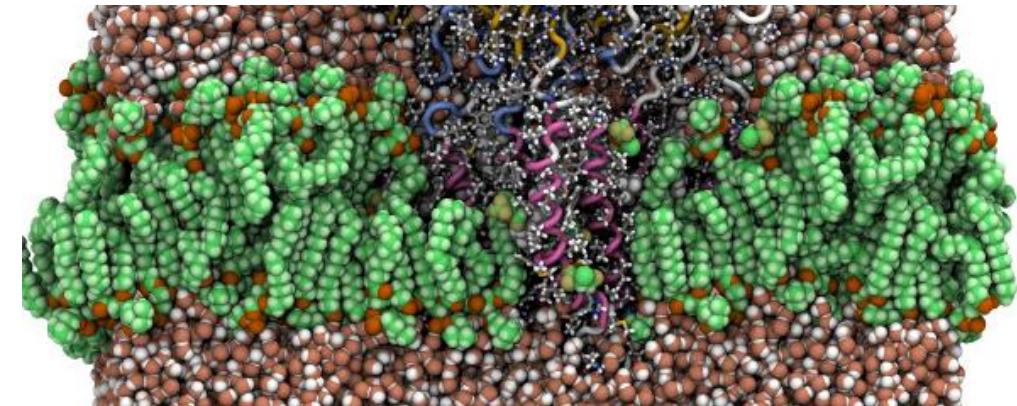


- Molecular dynamics simulation

- Materials (source, Zdilla group)



- Biology (Source, Klein group, Temple)

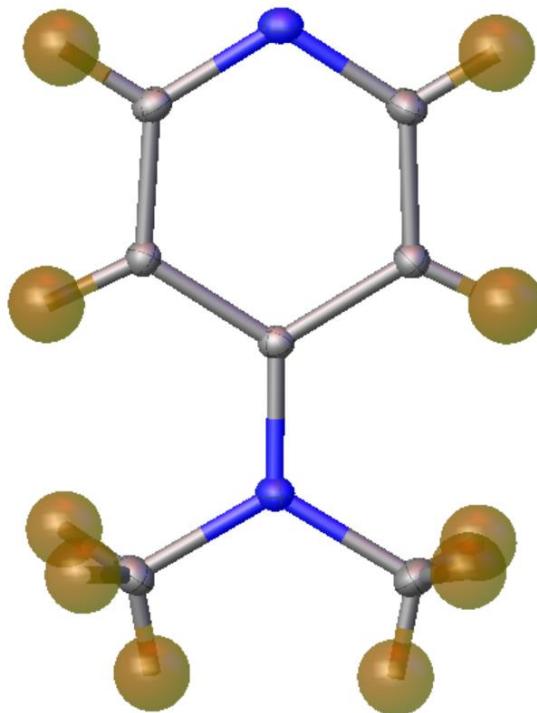


# How are partial atomic charges determined and verified

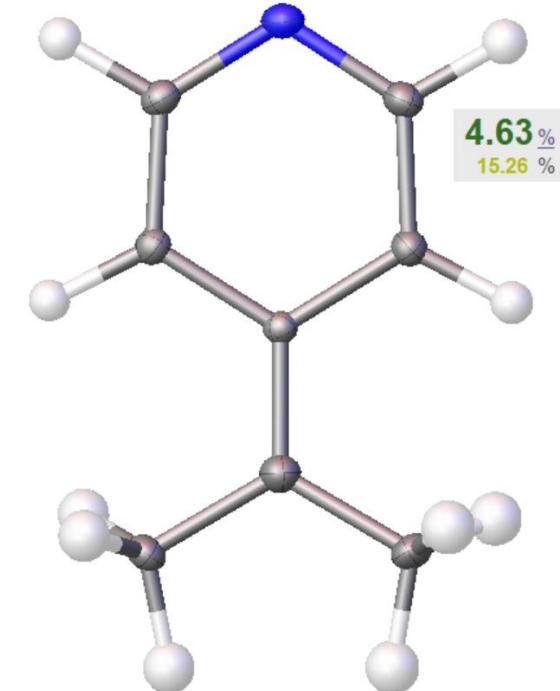
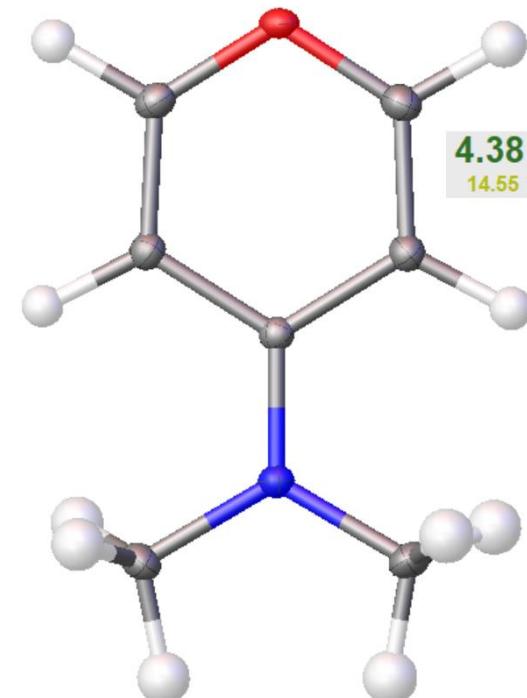
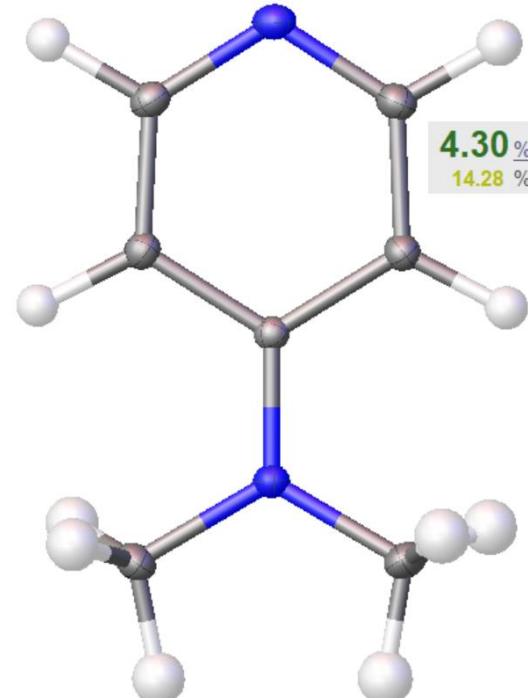
- Theoretical methods describe electronic structure
  - DFT (B3LYP)
  - MP2
- Various approaches to determine atomic charges
  - CHelpG (calculation of charge at surface points)
  - NBO (natural bonding orbitals: orbital description of electron density surrounding an atom)
  - Mulliken Charges (use of atomic orbital basis sets and coefficients describing the population of those basis sets)
  - Lowdin Charges
- Verified by comparison of physical properties
  - Melting point
  - Boiling Point
  - Dipole Moment
- Direct experimental approach to measure individual atomic charges is desired.

X-ray crystallography can see sub-electron charge densities.

Visible H atoms

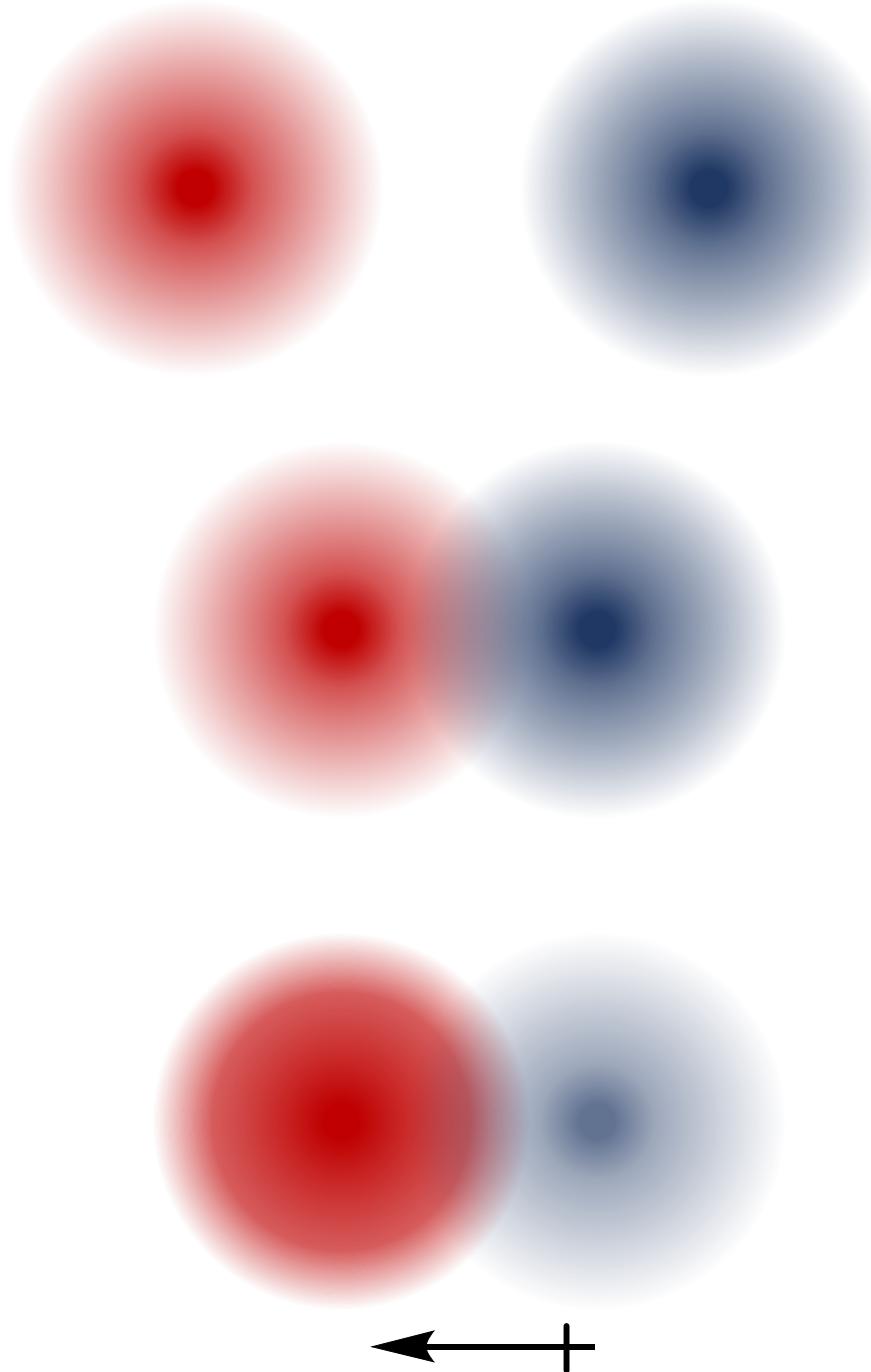


One-electron misassignments



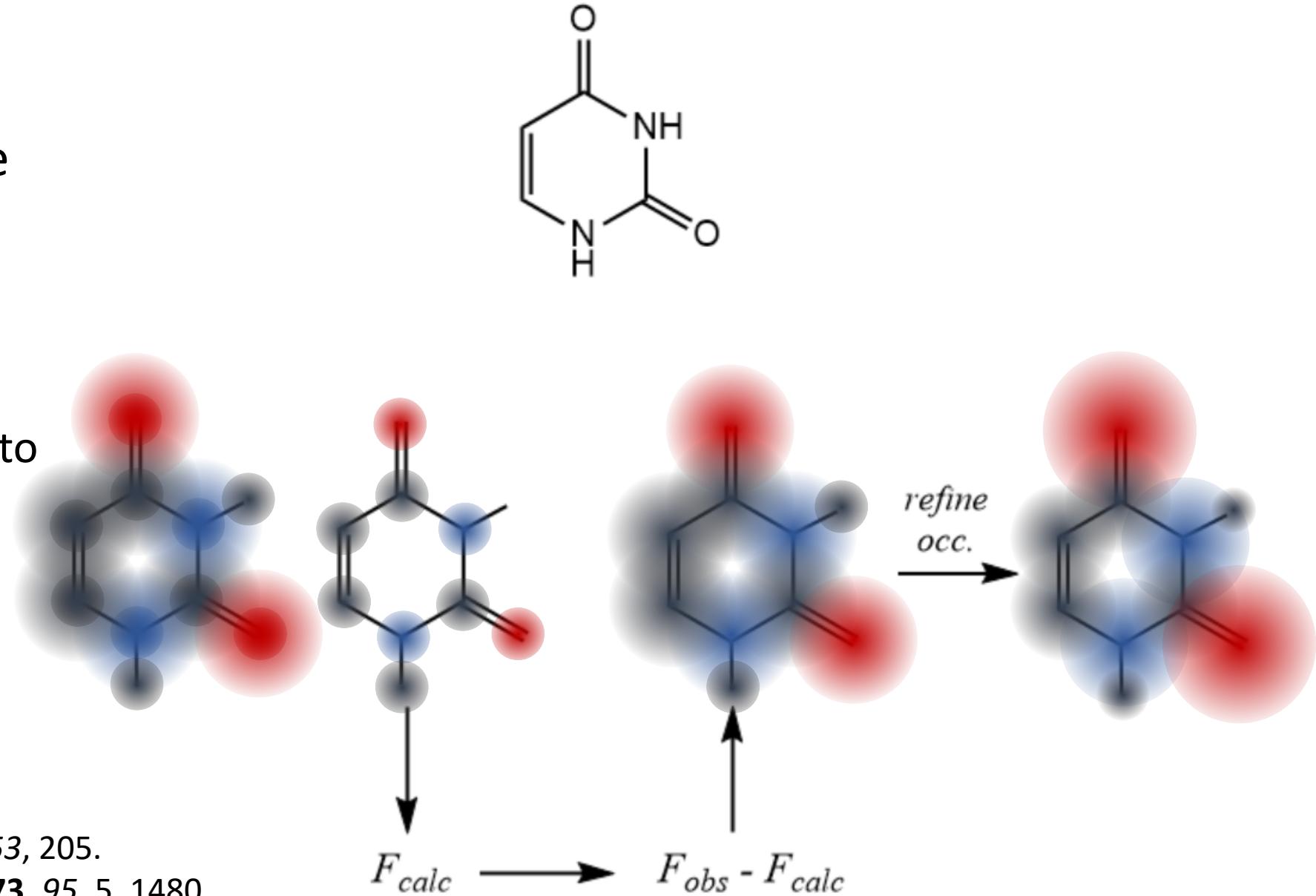
# A simpler approach

- Use spherical atomic models
- “Polarize” bonds by refining occupancy rather than distorting orbitals
- $\text{Occ}^*Z = \text{polarized electron count}$
- $Z - \text{Occ}^*Z = \text{charge.}$
- Spherical Dirac atoms
- Overlapped atoms (normal X-ray model)
- Refined occupancy (polar spherical atom model)



# Could XRD see bond polarization?

- Valence-shell structure factor refinement
  - Subtract FT of core electrons from data to generate an Fmap.
  - FS the difference map to get valence electron density.
- Refine using valence-only structure factors

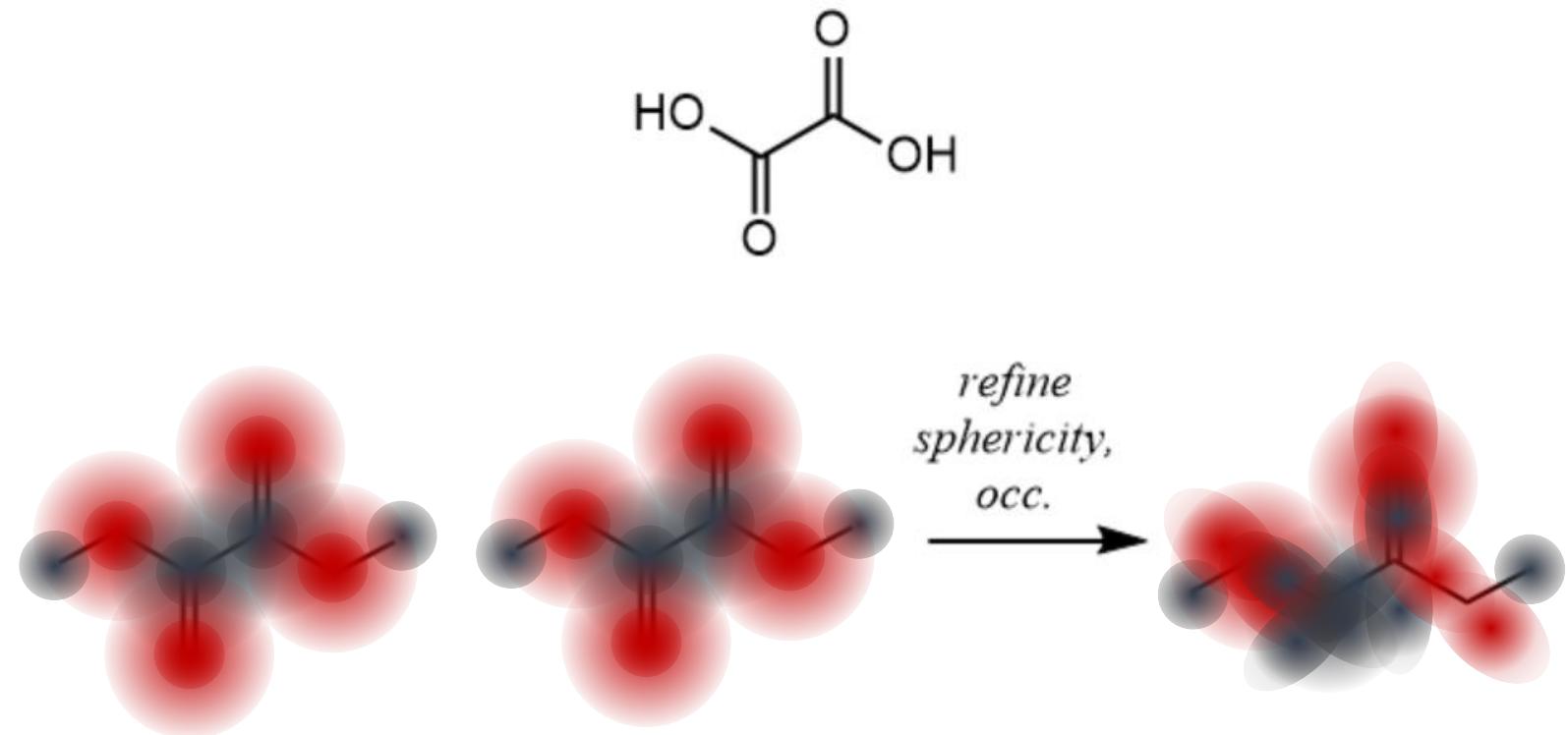


Stewart, R. F. J. *Chem. Phys.* **1970**, 53, 205.

Corfield et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1973**, 95, 5, 1480

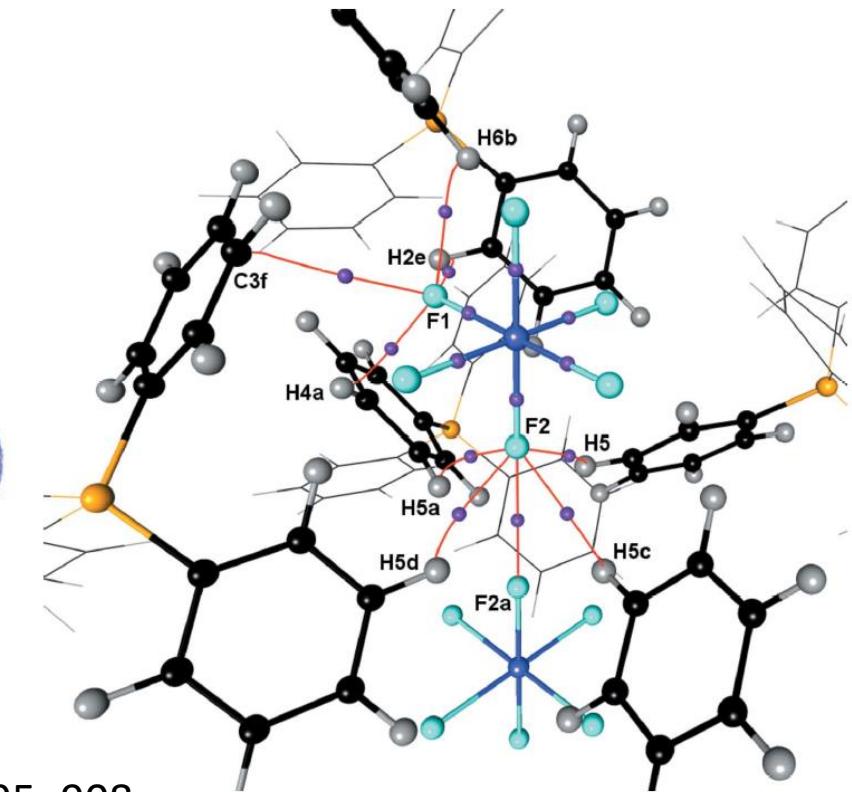
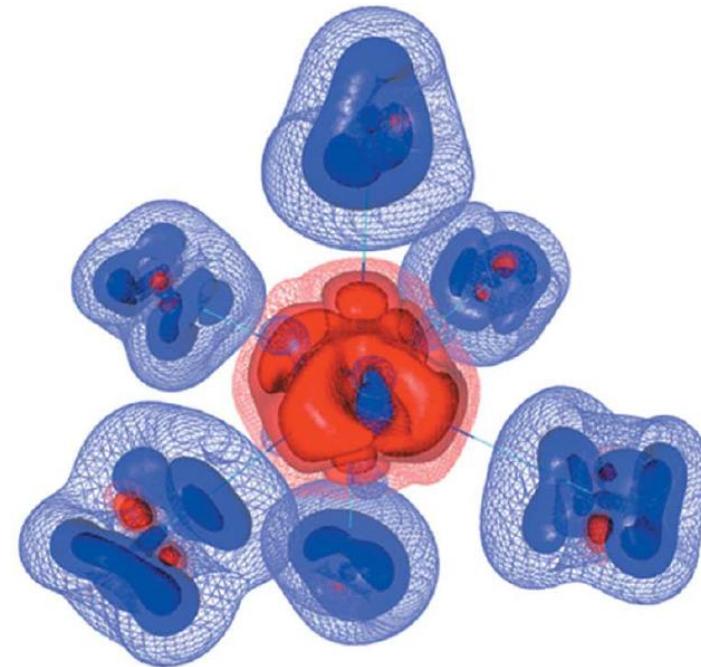
# Could XRD see bond orbital distortion?

- Valence-shell structure factor refinement
  - Fix 1s, 2s orbitals
  - Refine size of *p* orbitals
  - Refine atomic occupancy
- Requires careful treatment of theoretical quantum models
- Challenge: orbital stretching correlates with vibrational parameters. Need vibrational parameters from neutron data.



# Could XRD see valence electronic structure?

- What has been done in the past:
  - Subtract FT of core electrons from data to generate an Fmap.
  - FS the difference map to get valence electron density.
- Powerful, but requires specialization sophistication



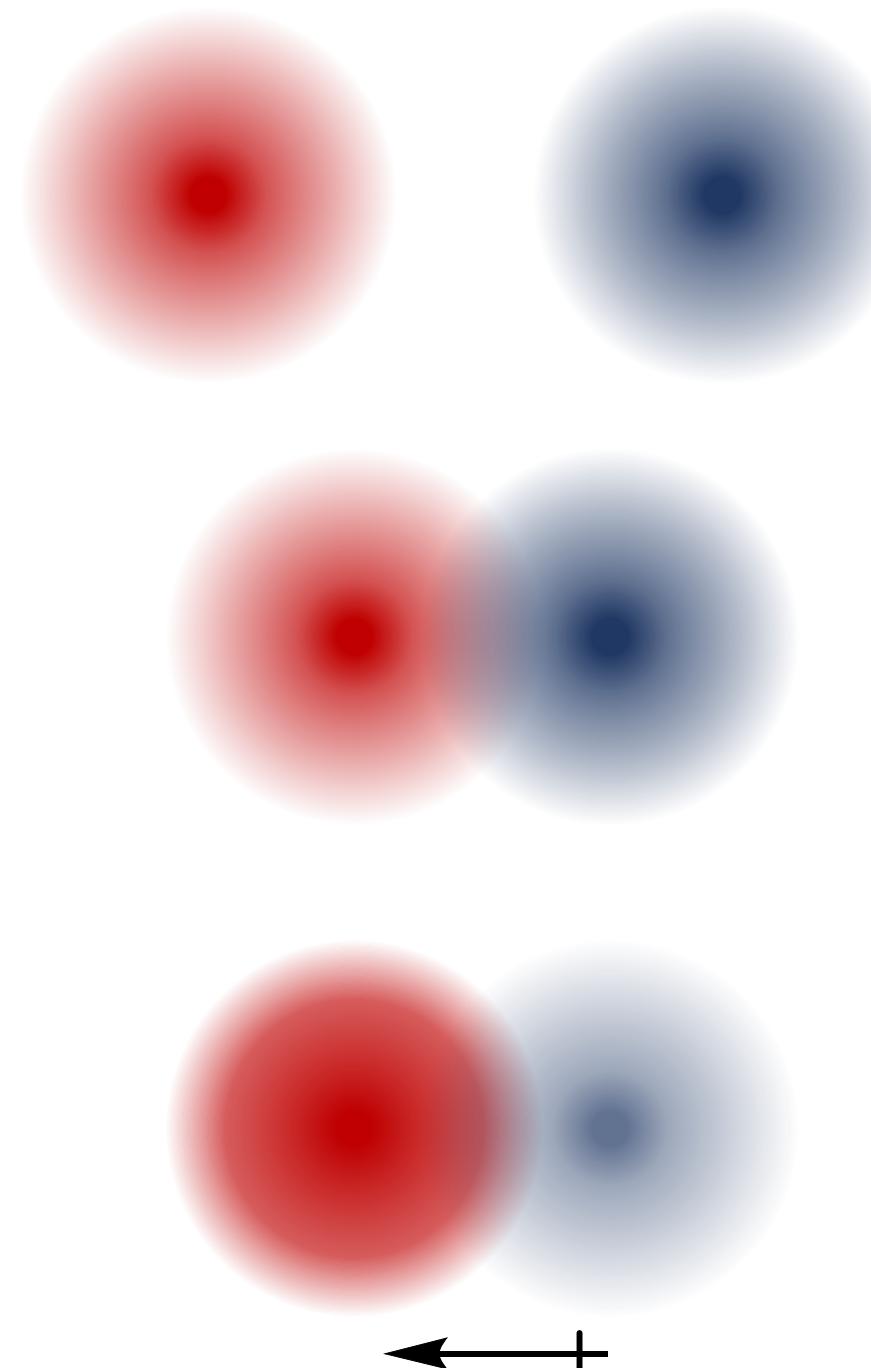
# A simpler approach

- Can we take advantage of superior modern technology to simplify the process
  - Better, more sensitive detectors
  - Software that makes occupancy refinement simple and shows unaccounted for electron density automatically.
  - Use thermal parameters to account for orbital smearing

- Spherical Dirac atoms

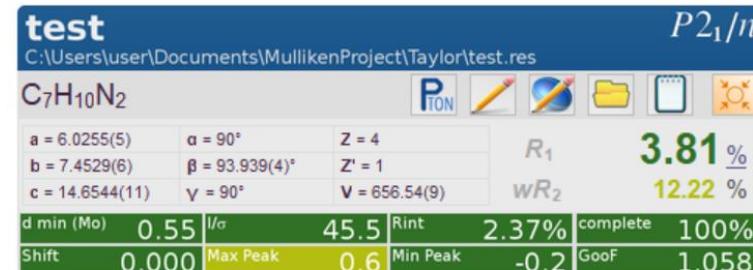
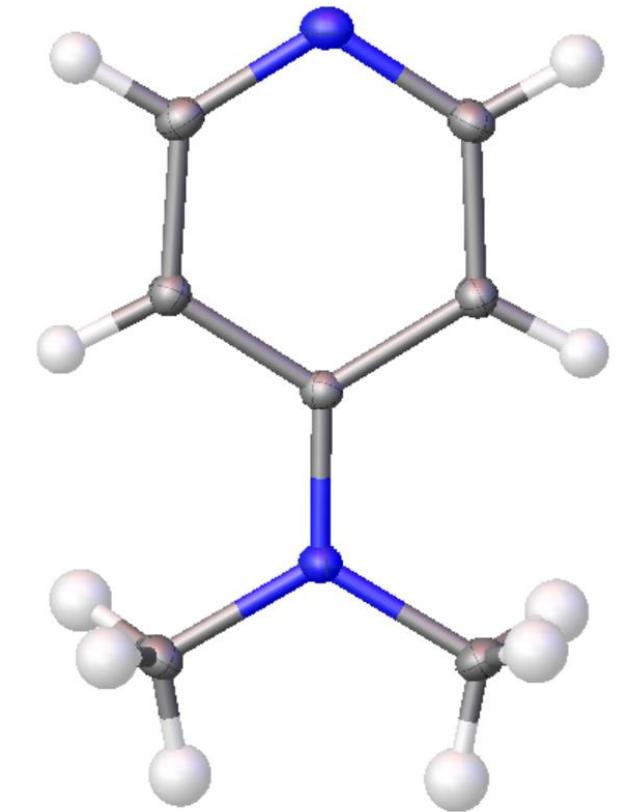
- Overlapped atoms (normal X-ray model)

- Refined occupancy (polar spherical atom model)



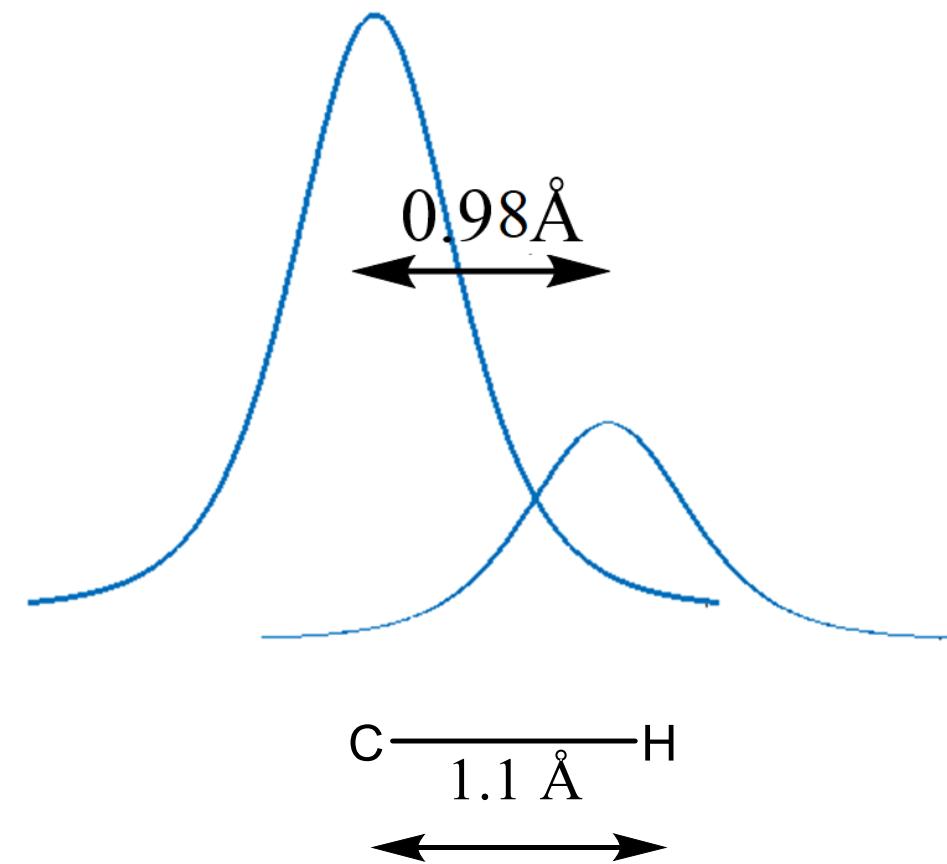
# First Test: *p*-dimethylaminopyridine

- Plan:
  - Refine a structural model for an excellent data set
  - Fix atom locations and refine atomic occupancies
- Presumptions and potential pitfalls
  - Presumably, higher resolution is better
  - Want an isotropic crystal
  - Want low temperature (we can do 100 K)
  - Do we want to lengthen the C-H bonds?
  - Do we want to fix thermal parameters of non-H atoms?
  - Do we want to refine hydrogen thermal parameters?



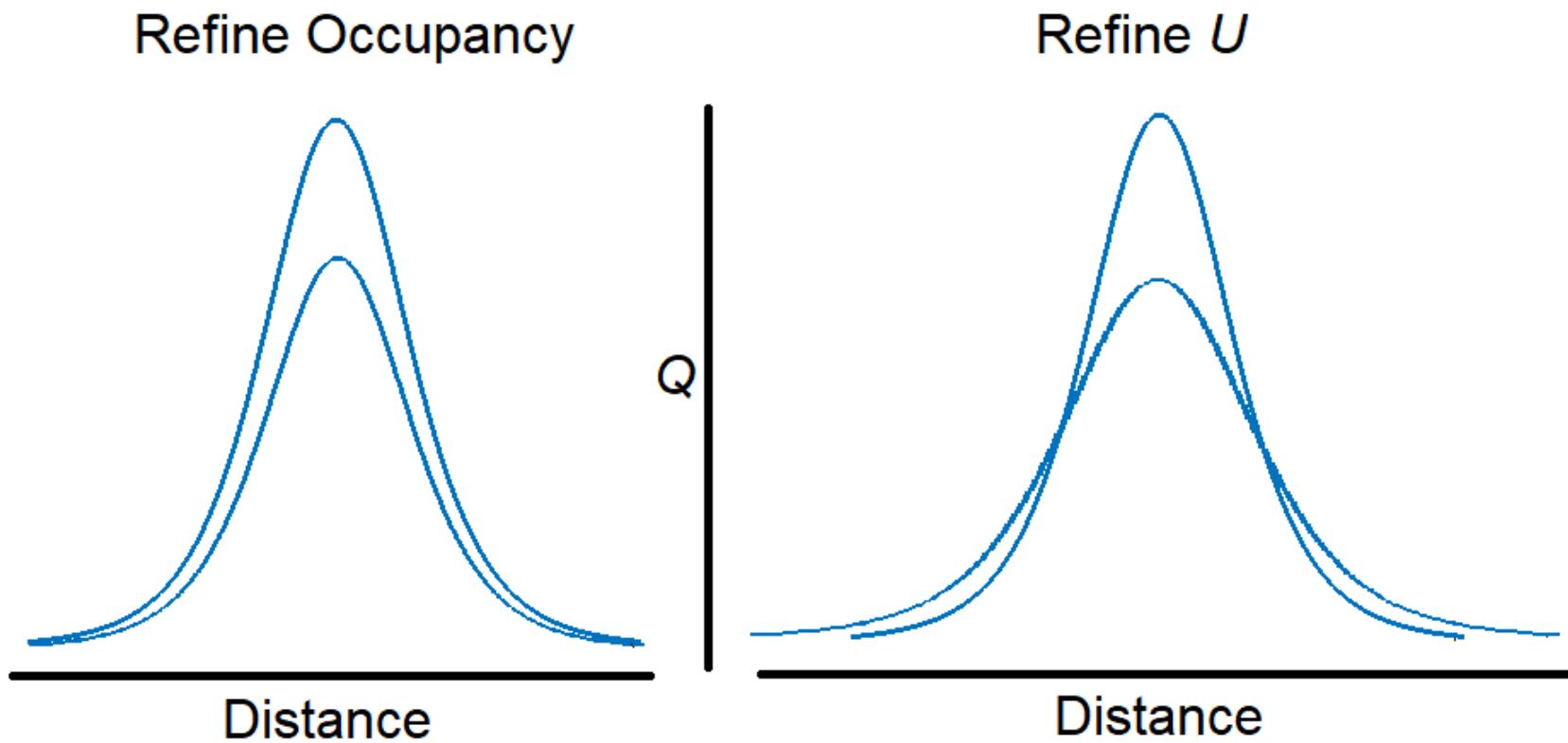
# Do we want to lengthen C-H bonds?

- We typically model X-H bonds as  $\sim 0.1 \text{ \AA}$  short ( $e^-$  polarized into the bond)
- C-H bonds very slightly polar, H atoms slightly positive.
- Force realistic X-H distance?



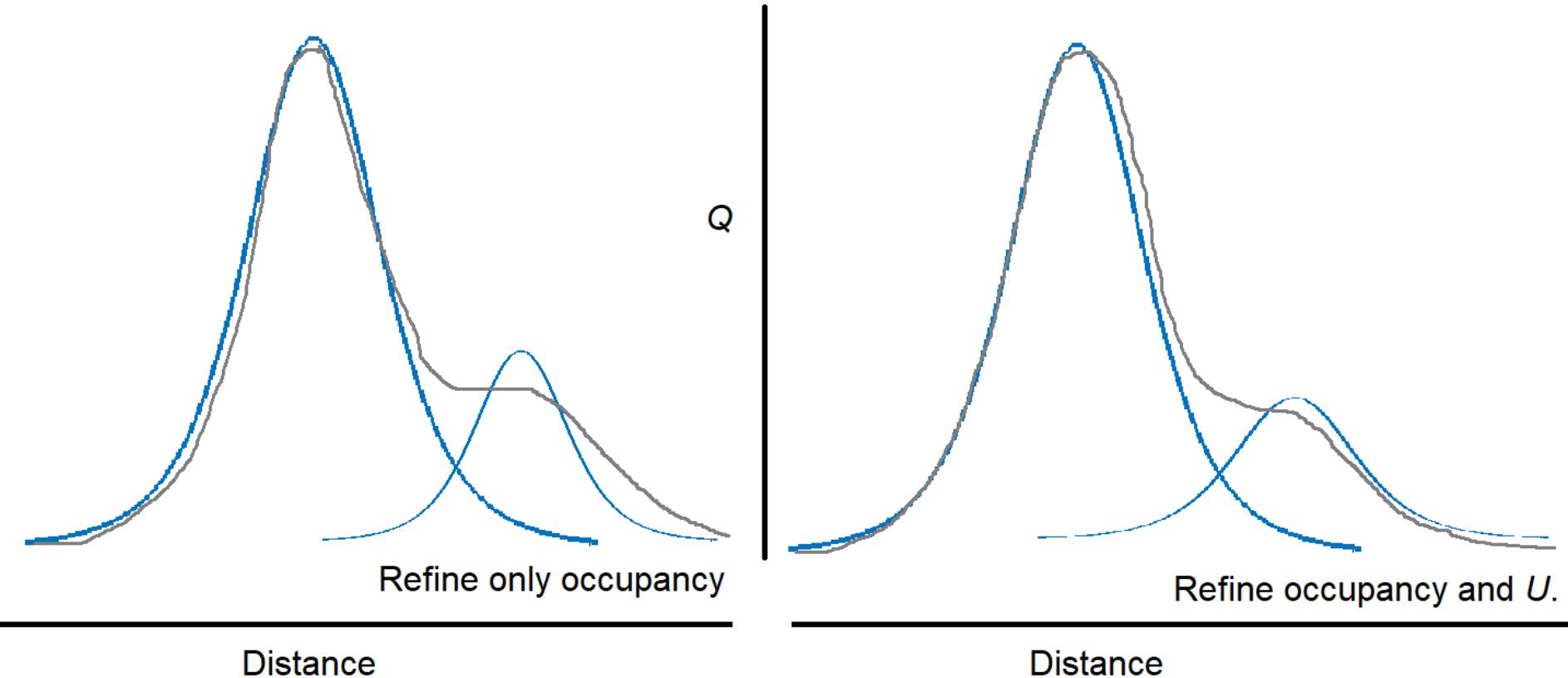
# Fix thermal parameters of non-H atoms?

- Two ways to fit the electron density curve
  - Occupancy (increases height and width)
  - $U$  (decreases height and increases width)



# Fix thermal parameters of hydrogen atoms?

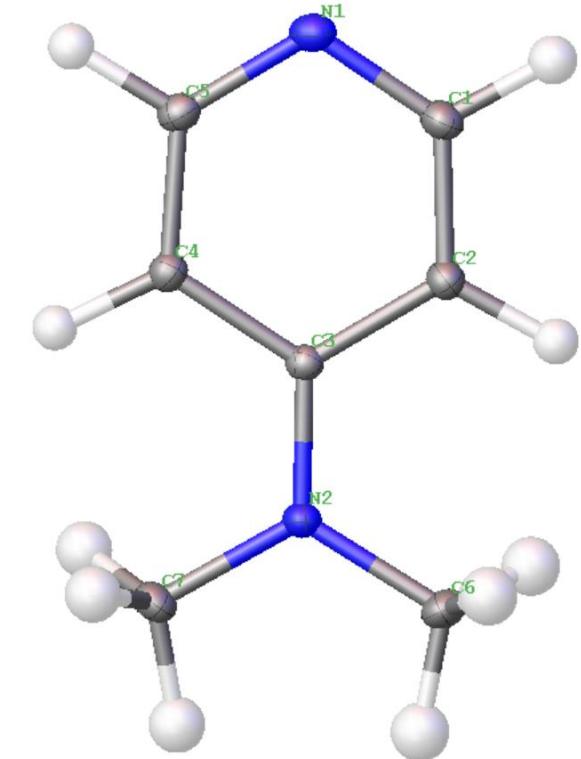
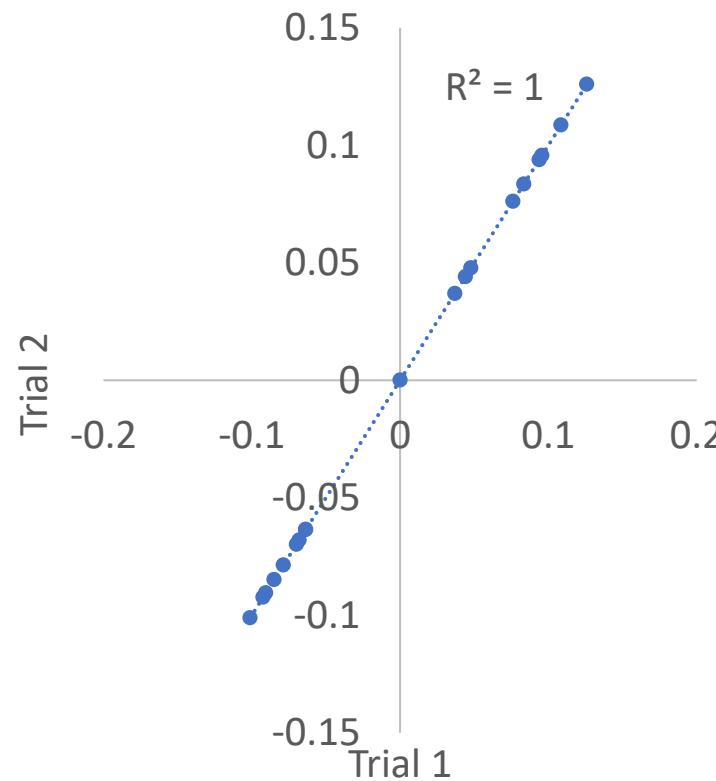
- Refining H thermal parameter could better fit the electron density curve, but could cause correlation.



# Reproducibility test – same crystal

- All atoms fixed
- Resolution = 0.55 Å
- C-H bonds lengthened to 1.1 Å
- Non-H *U*'s refined (anisotropically)
- H *U*'s refined (isotropically)
- Experiment done twice from scratch
- Reproducible
- Occupancy/thermal parameters not correlating

Atom	Solve11Aa
C1	-0.097641294
C2	-0.154443136
C3	-0.047393511
C4	-0.130108158
C5	-0.042781395
C6	-0.08192369
C7	-0.033010993
N1	-0.027963623
N2	-0.081559235
H1	0.101911907
H2	0.094235162
H4	0.032244691
H5	0.080904531
H6A	0.082269959
H6B	0.118489225
H6C	0.059512811
H7A	-0.007615718
H7B	0.102073735
H7C	0.032800977

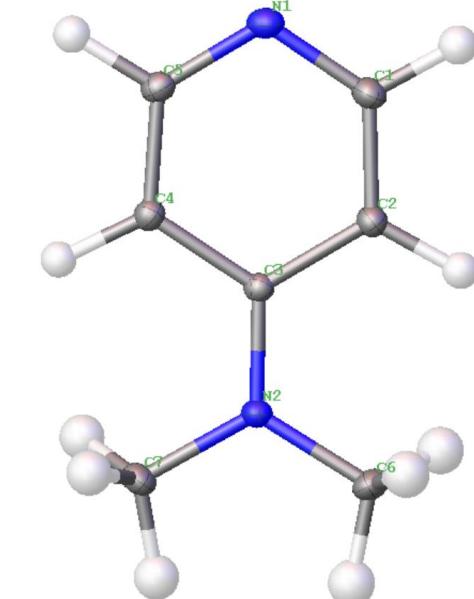
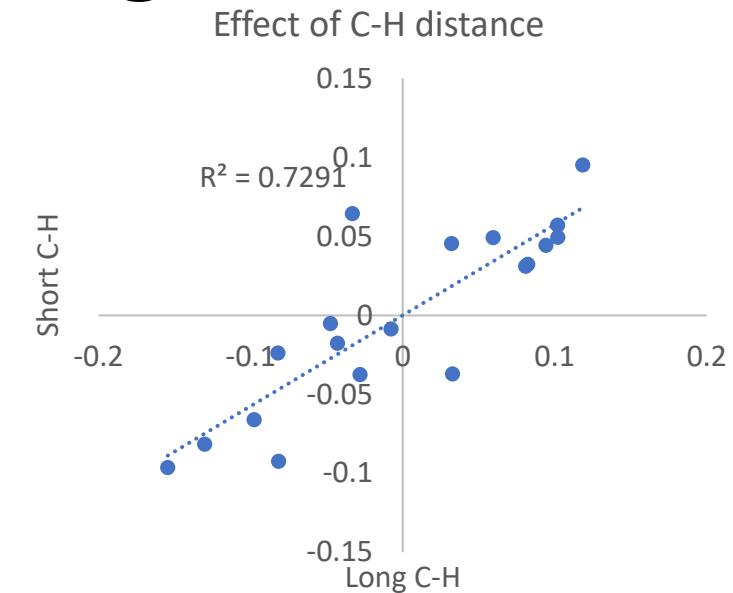


**Solve11Aa**  
C:\Users\user\Documents\MullikenProject\Taylor\Solve11Aa.res  
C7H10N2   
a = 6.0255(5)  $\alpha$  = 90° Z = 4  $R_1$  4.31 %  
b = 7.4529(6)  $\beta$  = 93.939(4)° Z' = 1  $wR_2$  13.95 %  
c = 14.6544(11)  $\gamma$  = 90° V = 656.54(9)

# Reproducibility tests: Short vs. Long C-H

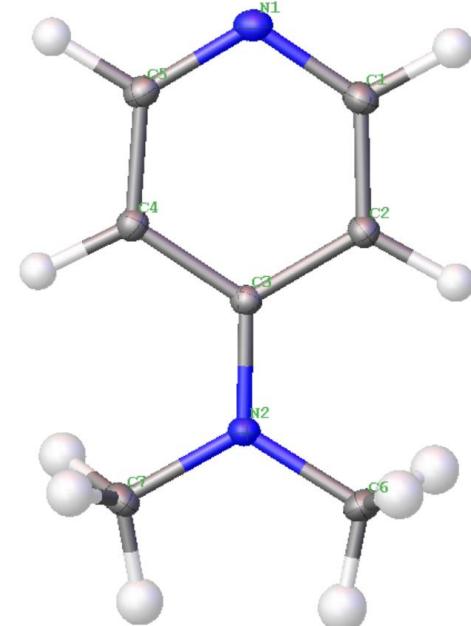
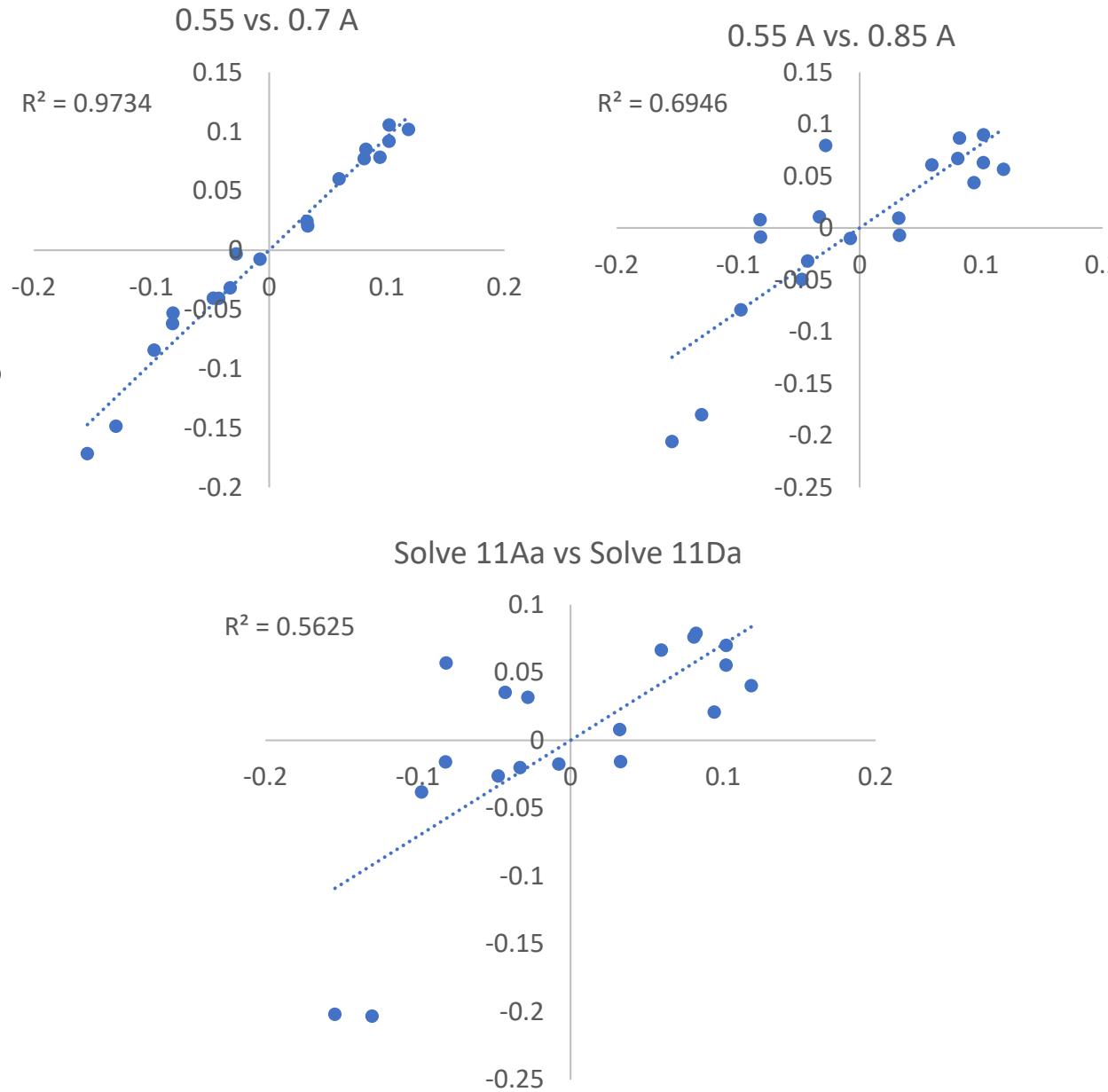
- All atoms fixed
- Resolution = 0.55 Å
- Non-H  $U$ 's refined (anisotropically)
- H  $U$ 's tied to connected atom
- Lengthened hydrogens (vertical) compared to shorter (0.9) hydrogens (horizontal)
- Same trend with some scatter.
- Overall C-H charges move closer to 0
- Nitrogen charges become more negative

Atom	Long C-H	Short C-H
C1	-0.097641294	-0.066170798
C2	-0.154443136	-0.096486252
C3	-0.047393511	-0.005298331
C4	-0.130108158	-0.081690861
C5	-0.042781395	-0.017738537
C6	-0.08192369	-0.023898251
C7	-0.033010993	0.064270203
N1	-0.027963623	-0.037674433
N2	-0.081559235	-0.092558289
H1	0.101911907	0.057050463
H2	0.094235162	0.044227791
H4	0.032244691	0.045365124
H5	0.080904531	0.030922004
H6A	0.082269959	0.03219018
H6B	0.118489225	0.095095755
H6C	0.059512811	0.049109263
H7A	-0.007615718	-0.00879406
H7B	0.102073735	0.049330691
H7C	0.032800977	-0.03724751



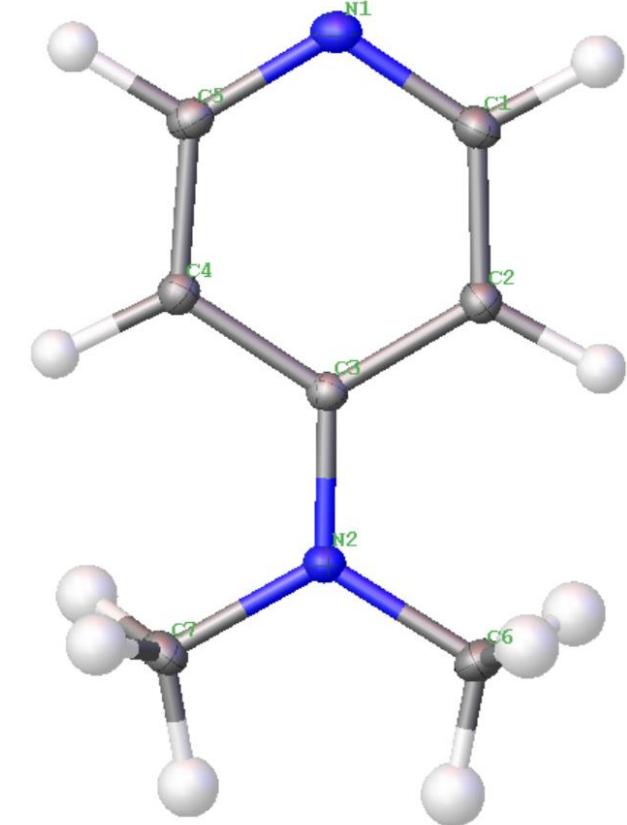
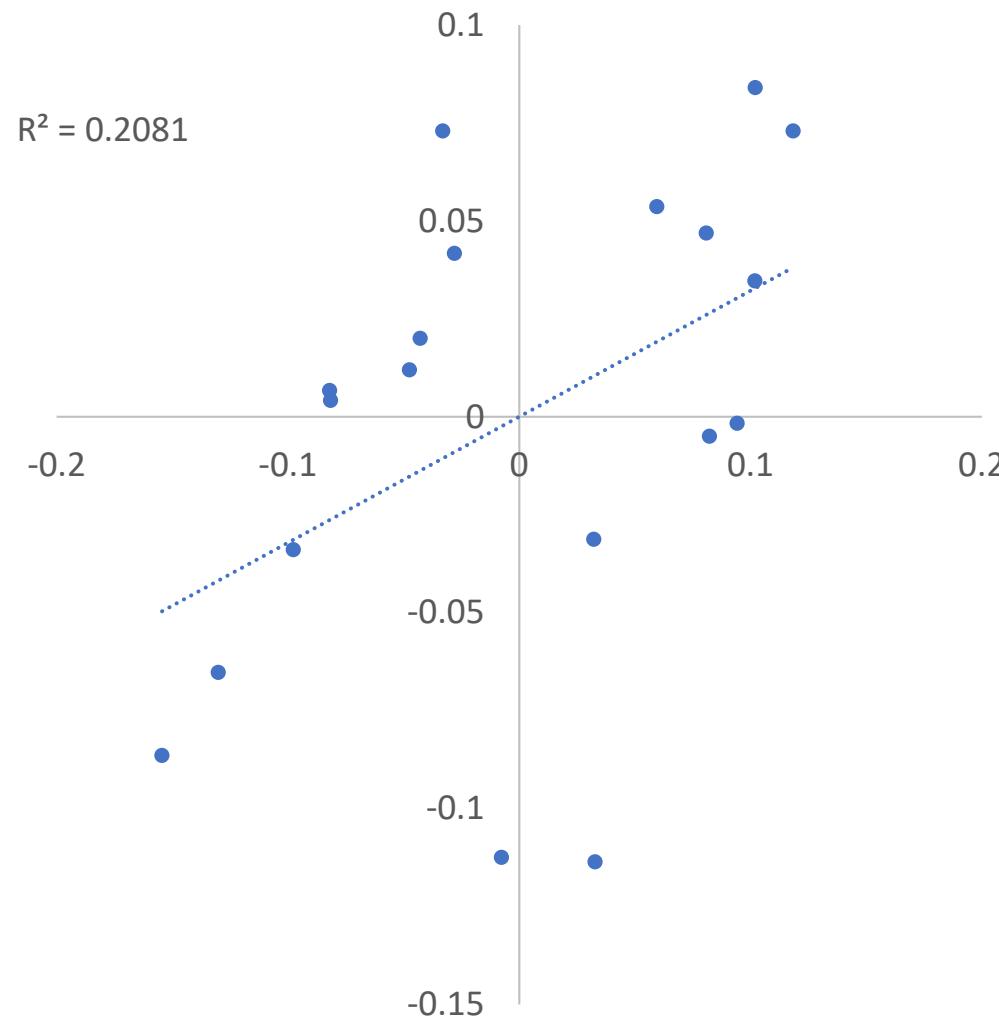
# Reproducibility tests, Resolution effects

- One sample
- All atoms fixed
- Resolution varied
- C-H bonds lengthened to  $1.1 \text{ \AA}$
- Non-H  $U$ 's refined (anisotropically)
- H  $U$ 's refined



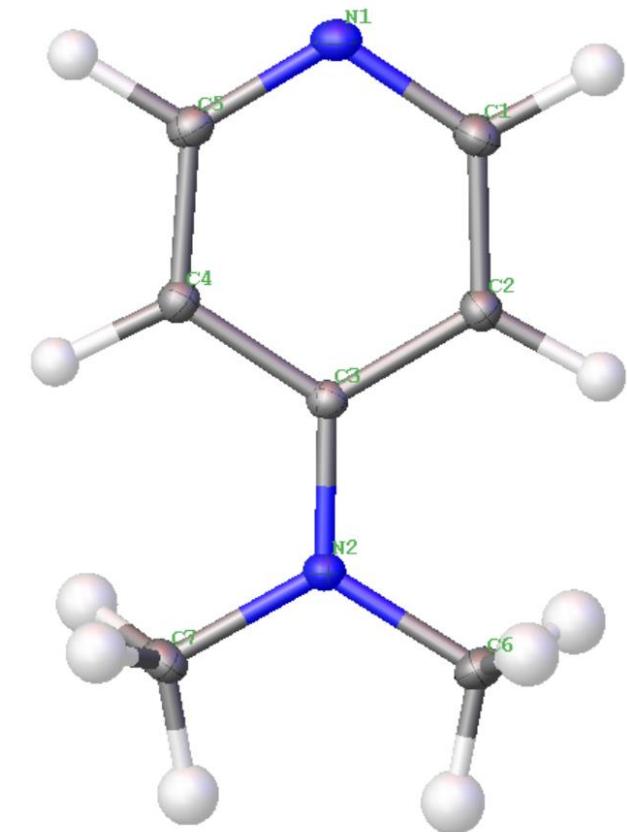
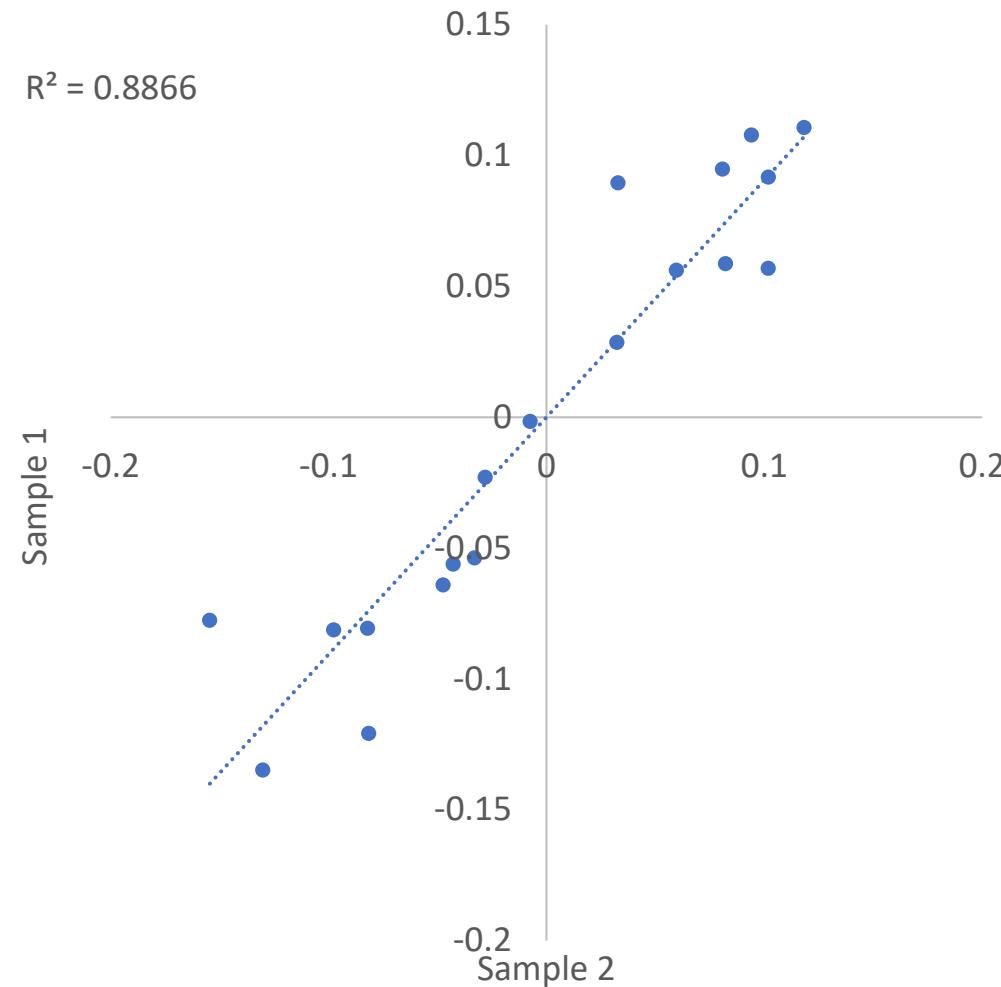
# Reproducibility tests, fix or float H $U$

- One sample
- All atoms fixed
- Resolution = 0.55 Å
- C-H bonds lengthened to 1.1 Å
- Non-H  $U$ 's refined (anisotropically)
- H  $U$ 's refined vs  $U$ 's fixed
- H  $U$  refinement appears to introduce random scatter



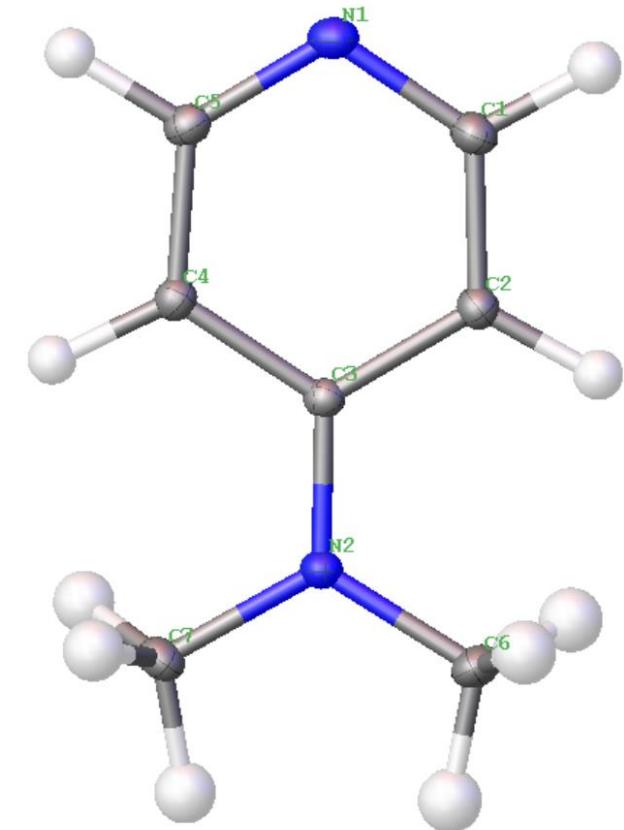
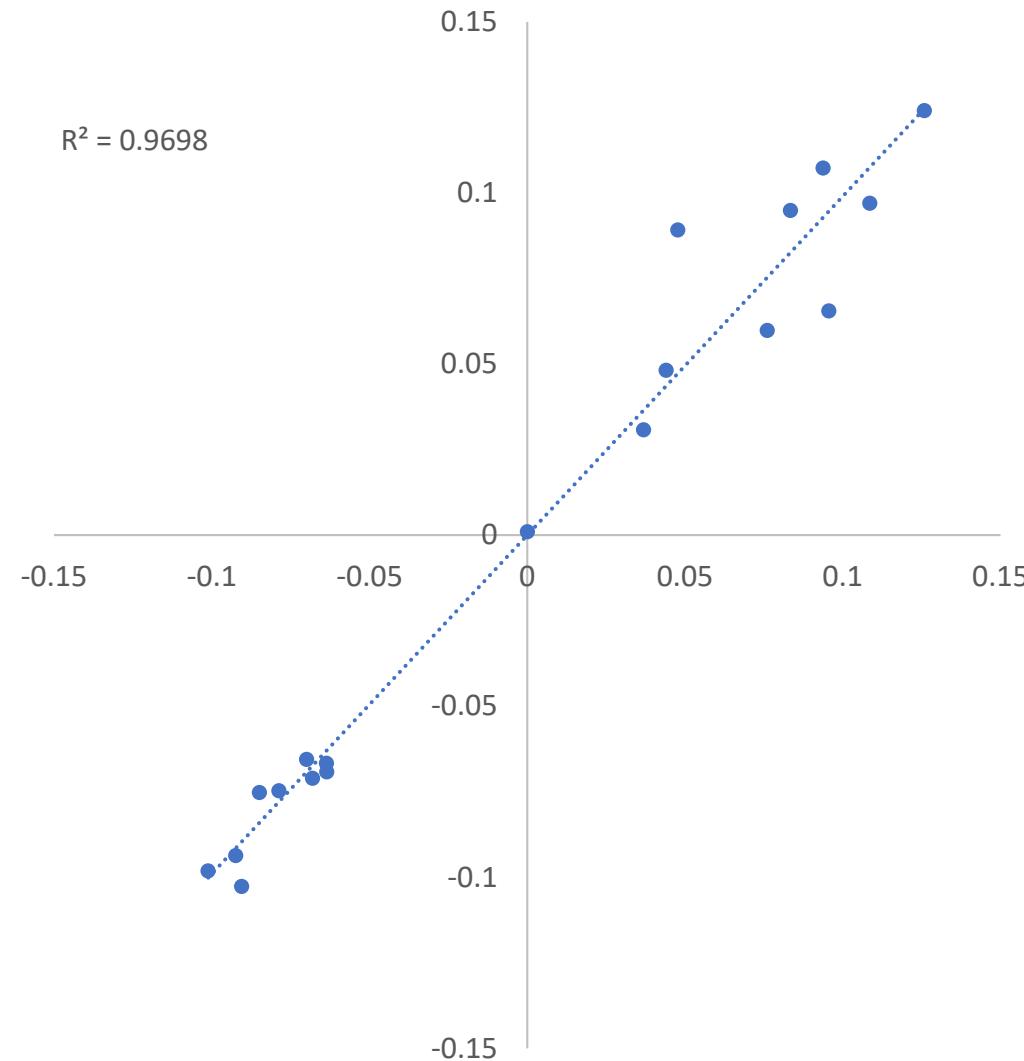
# Reproducibility tests, two samples, floating H $U$

- Compare two crystals
- All atoms fixed
- Resolution = 0.55 Å
- C-H bonds lengthened to 1.1 Å
- Non-H  $U$ 's refined (anisotropically)
- H  $U$ 's refined (isotropically)
- Reasonably reproducible



# Reproducibility tests, two samples – Fixed H $U$

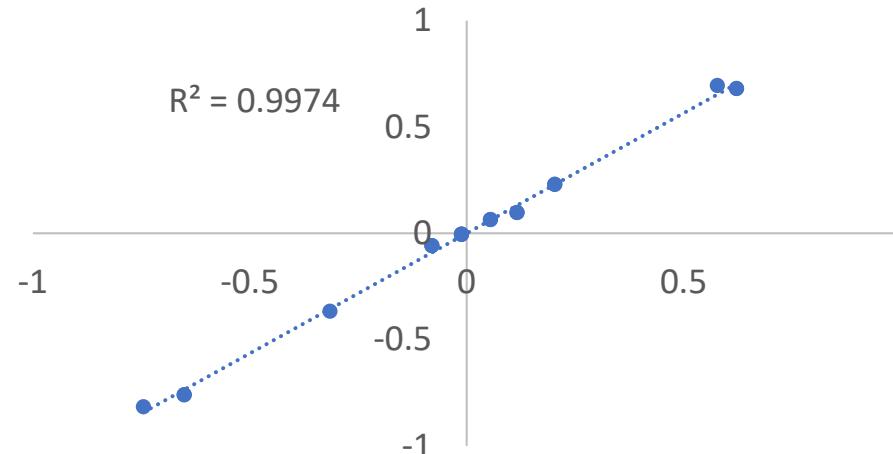
- Compare two crystals
- All atoms fixed
- Resolution = 0.55 Å
- C-H bonds lengthened to 1.1 Å
- Non-H  $U$ 's refined (anisotropically)
- H  $U$ 's tied to neighbor
- Improved reproduciblity



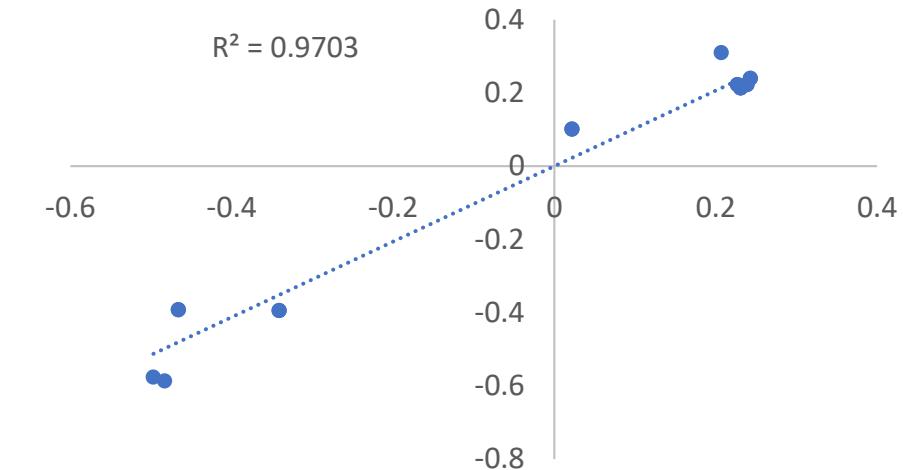
# Theoretical calculations

- Compared MP2 and DFT (6-31g\*).
- Considered
  - CHELPG (surface charge)
  - NBO (natural bond orbital)
  - Mulliken (atomic orbital basis set polarization)

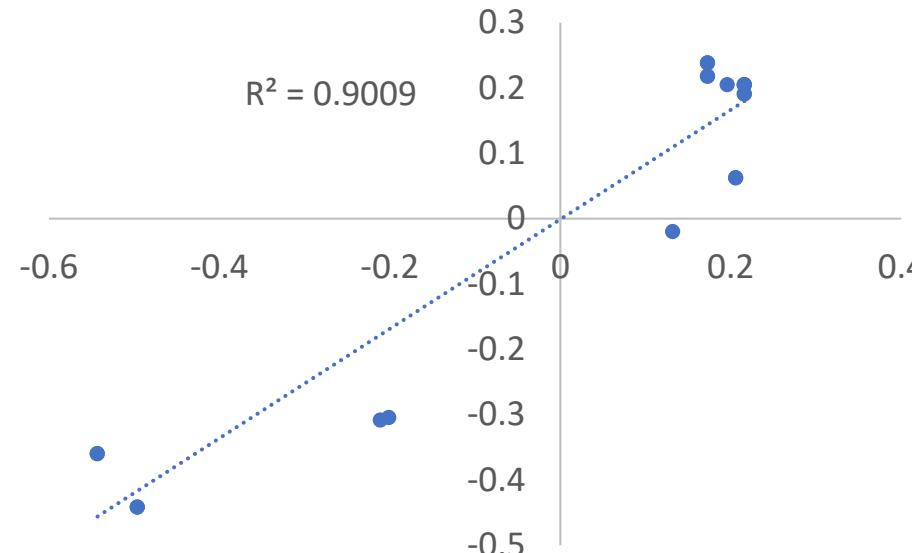
MP2 6-31 Chelp vs. DFT 6-31 Chelp



MP2 6-31 NBO vs. DFT 6-31 NBO

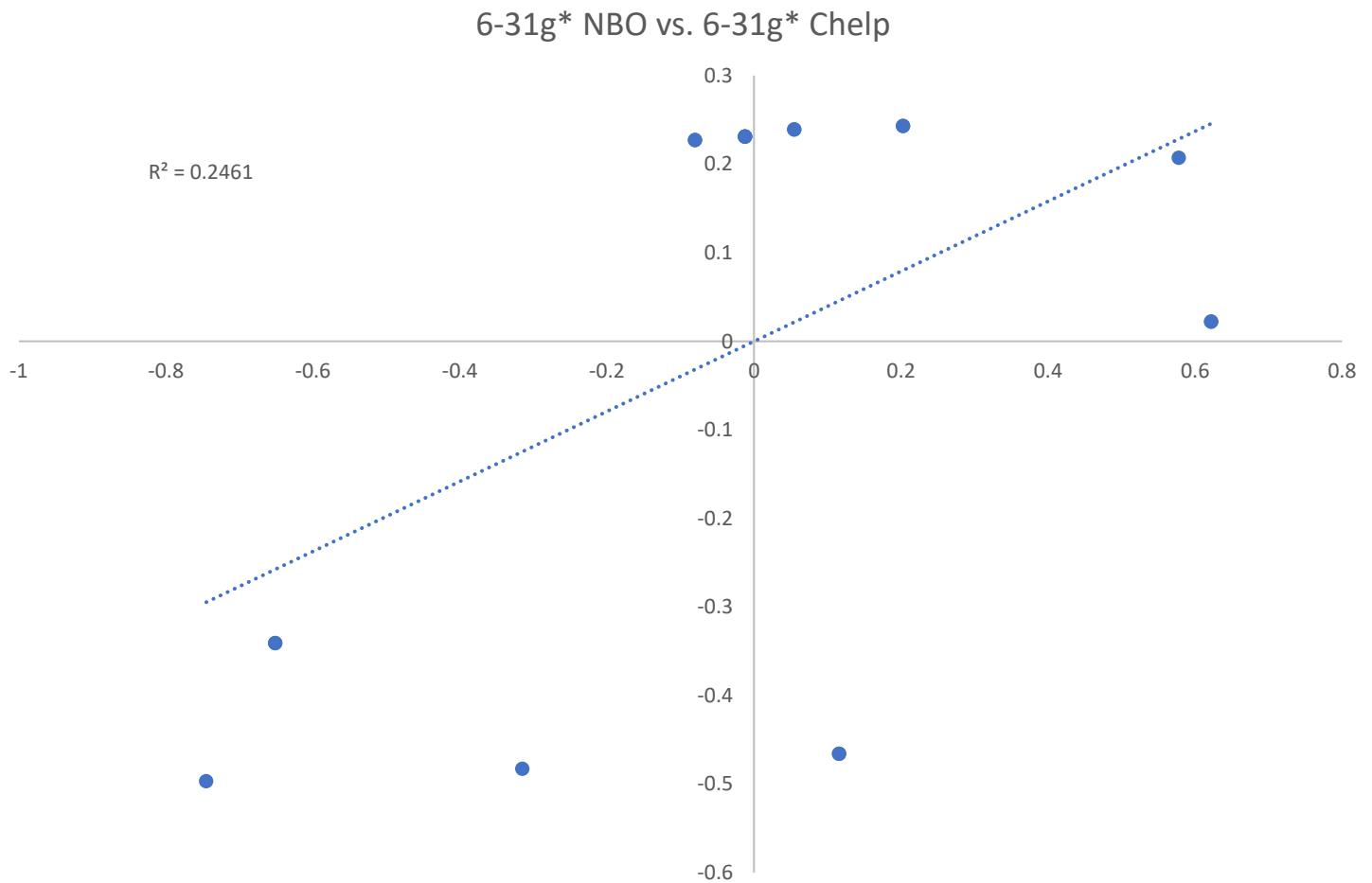


MP2 6-31 Mul vs. DFT 6-31 Mul



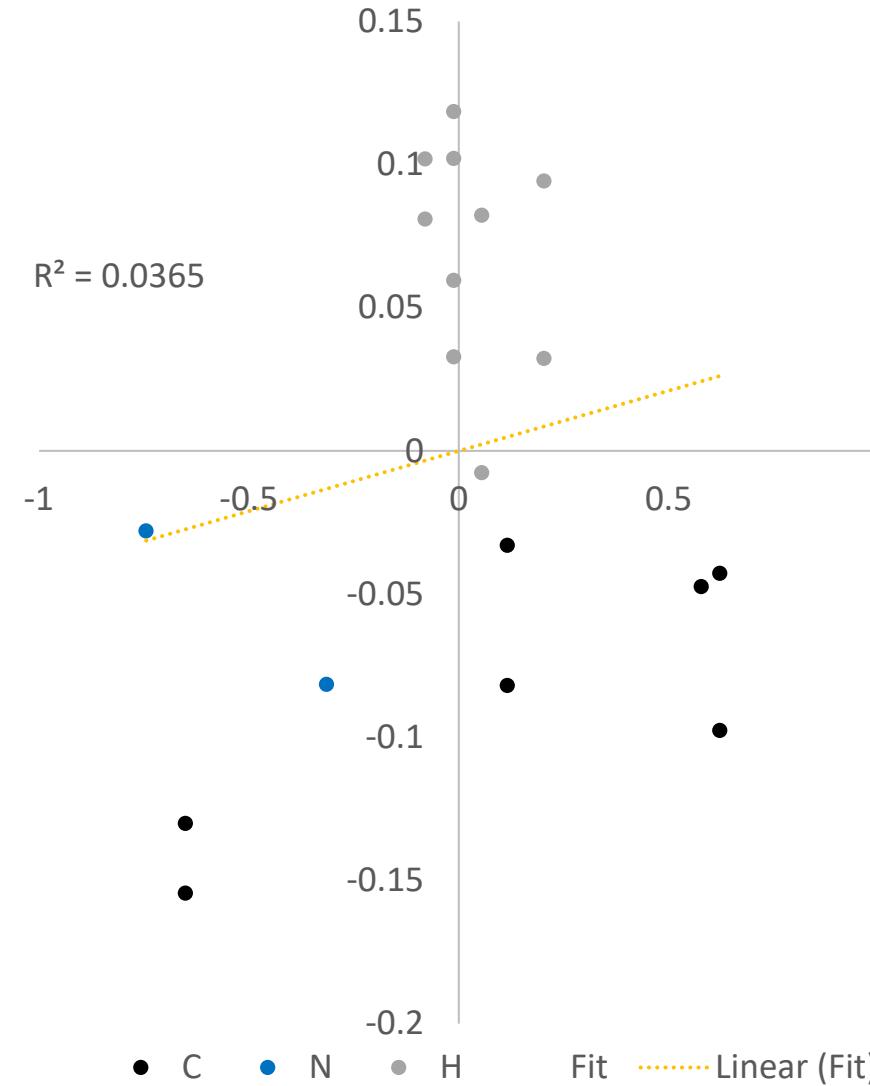
# Theoretical methods vs. theoretical method

- Different theoretical methods disagree with one another

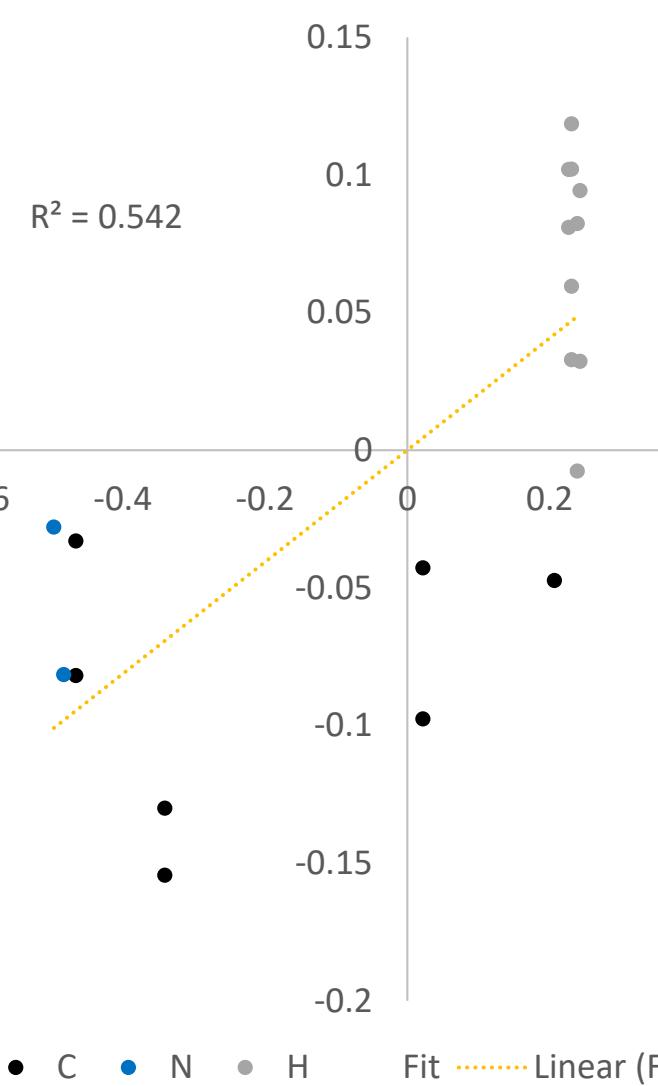


# Experiment Vs. Theory

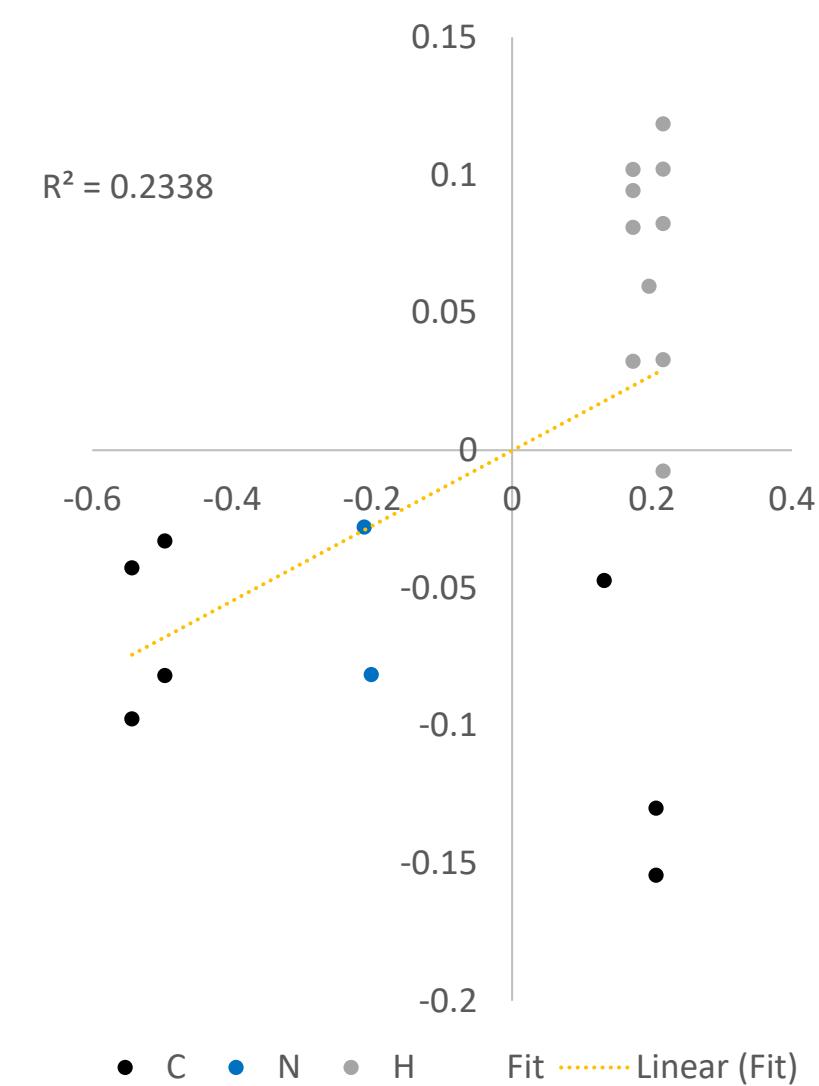
Exp vs. DFT CHELPG



Exp vs. DFT NBO

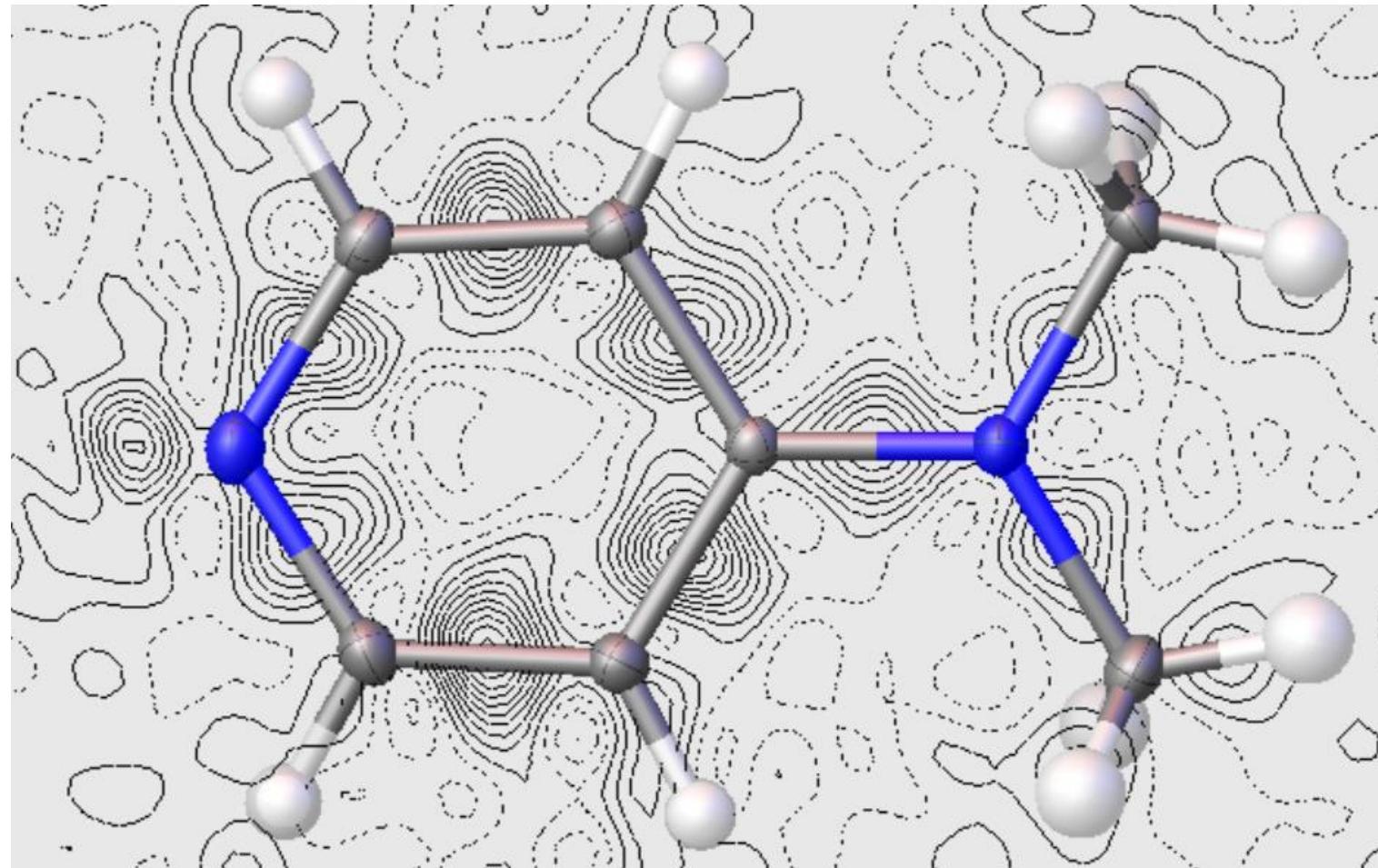


Exp vs. DFT Mulliken



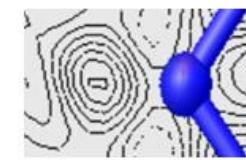
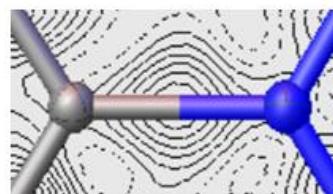
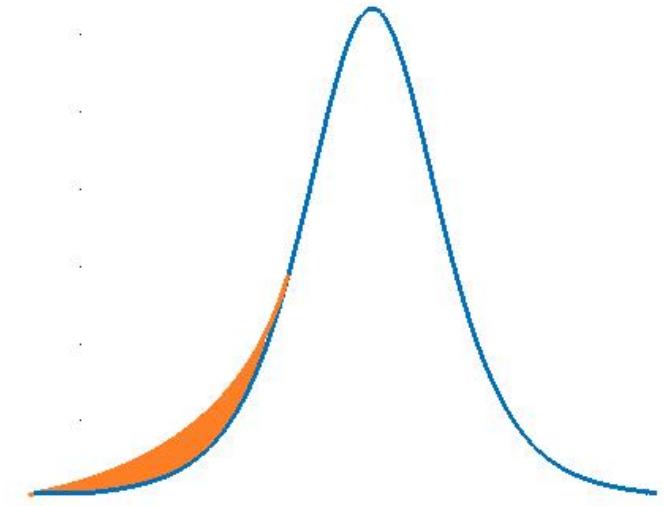
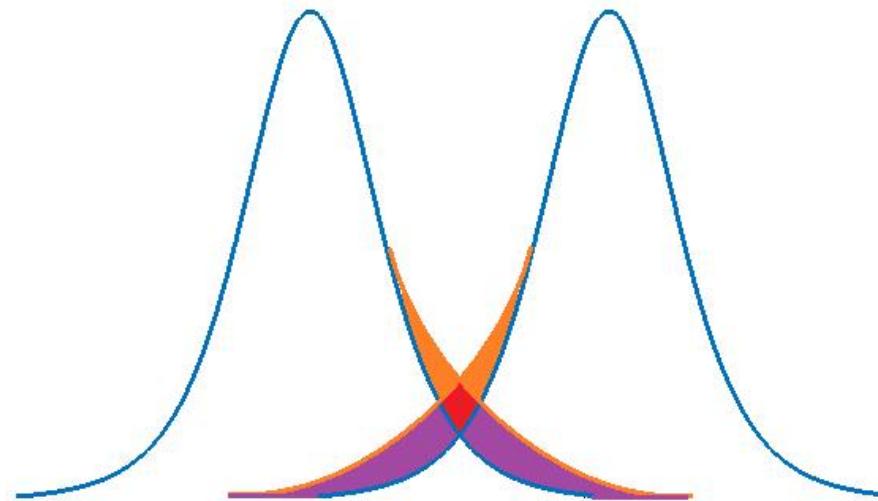
# Why are the nitrogens low in charge?

- The use of spherical atoms results in residual electron density peaks
  - In bonds
  - “lone pairs”



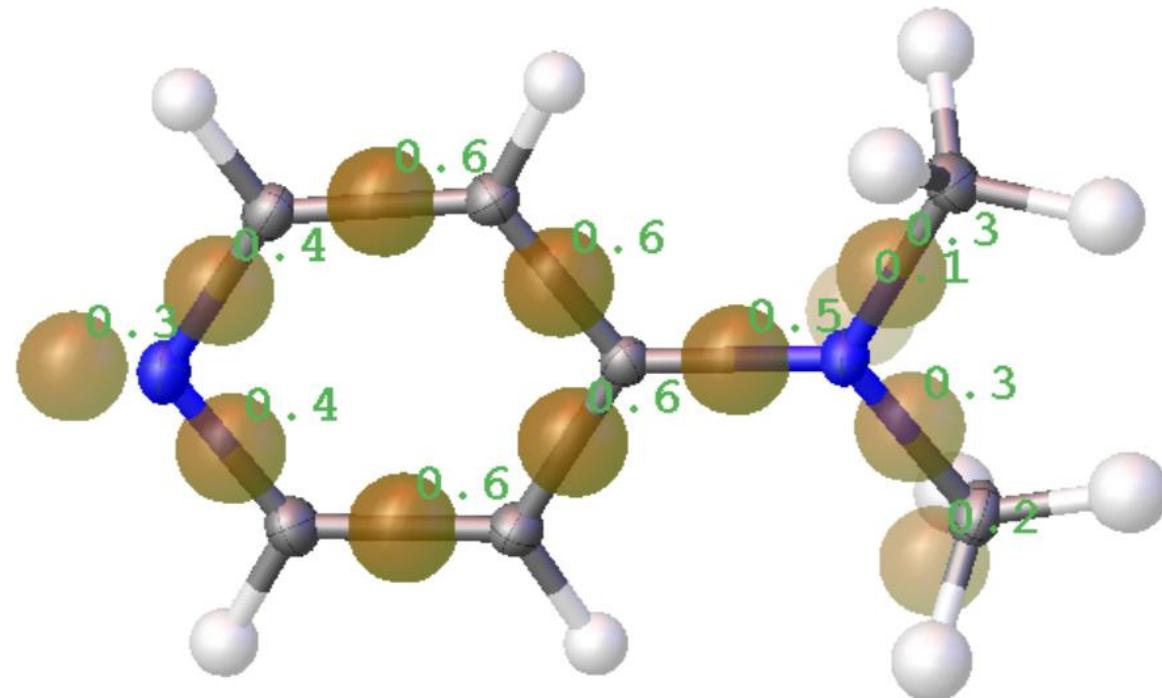
This introduces a low-electron bias on “terminal” atoms with lone pairs.

- Bonding residuals can be ignored because the overlap of adjacent atoms compensates for each other
- Lone pair residuals cannot be ignored because they are not integrated at all.

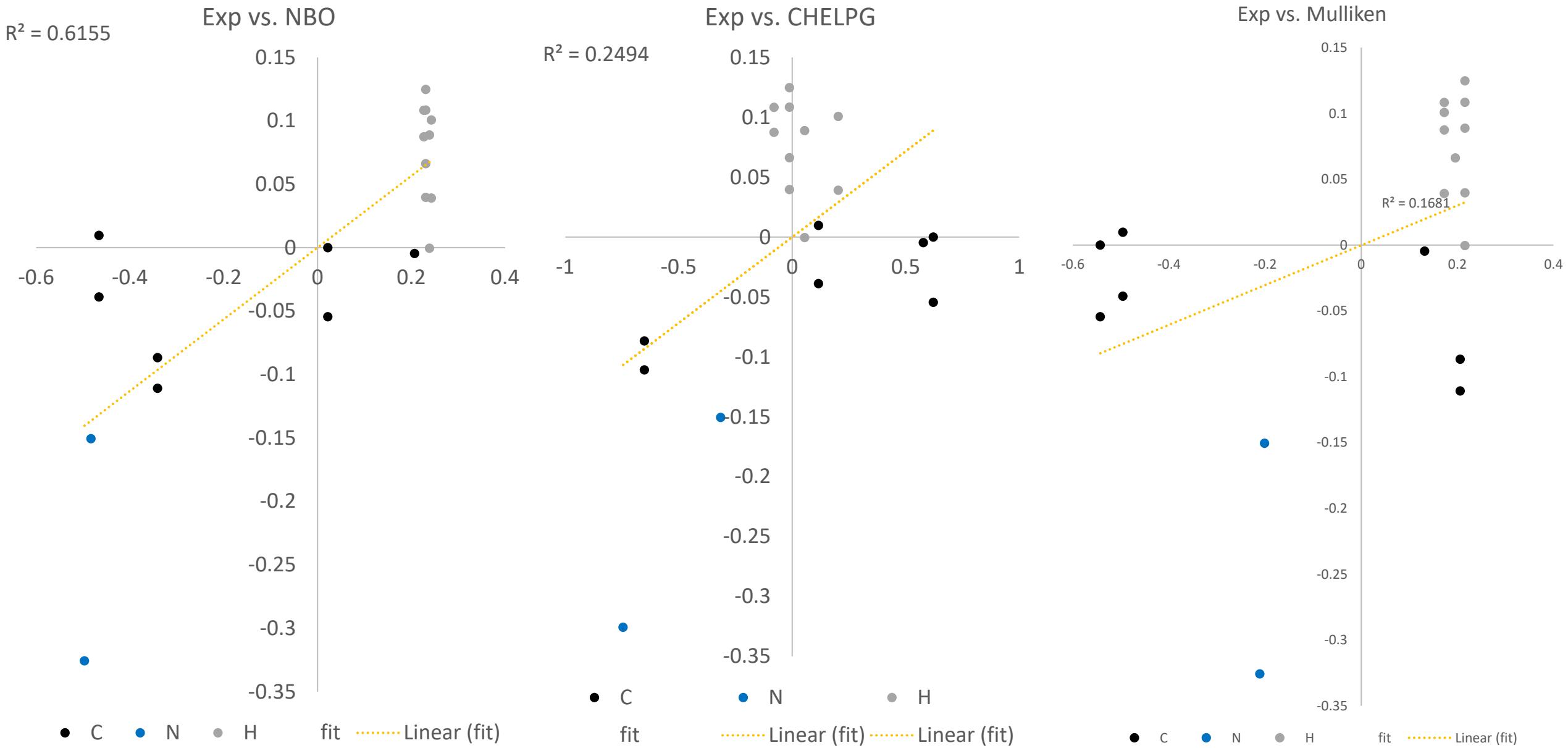


# Modern ShelX GUIs make it easy to quantify (Q-peaks)

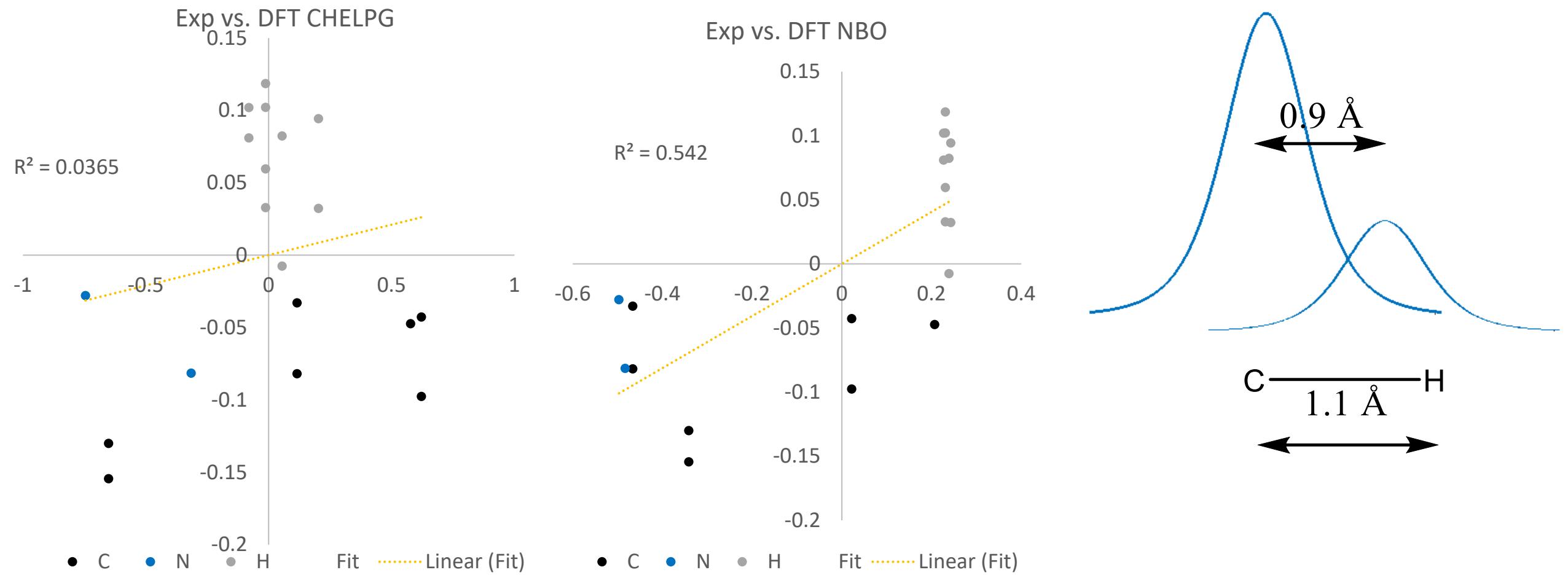
- Q peaks are  $e^-/\text{\AA}^3$  (a hydrogen is about  $0.9 \text{\AA}^3$ )
- Lone pair Q peak represents an approximation of the missing charge from a terminal atom.



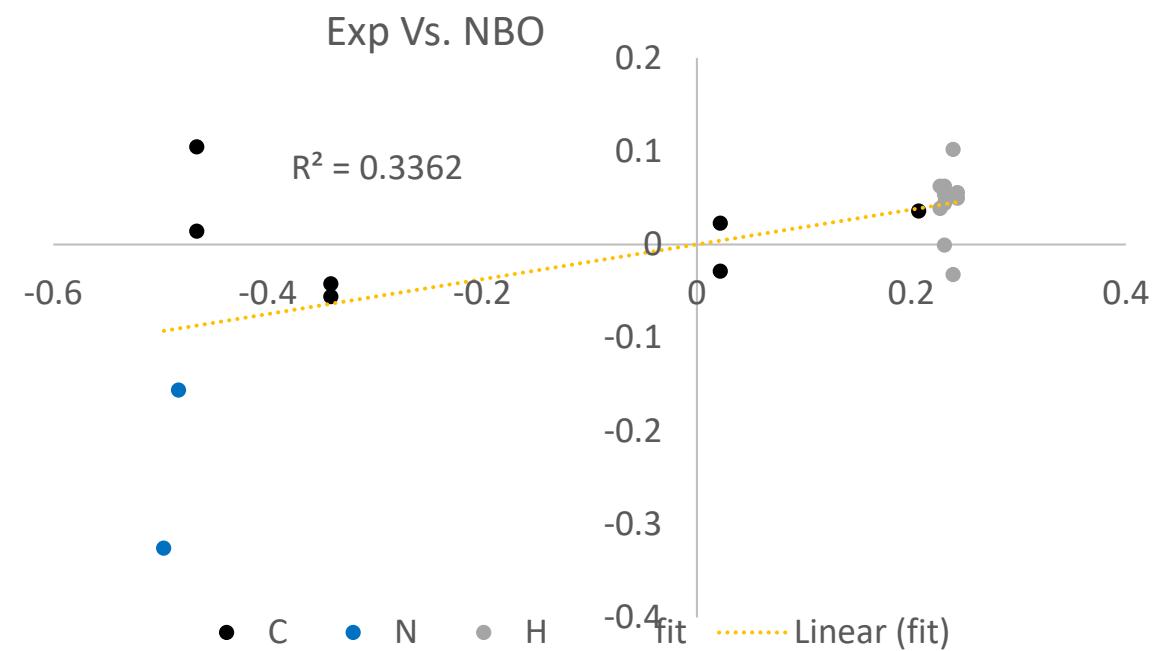
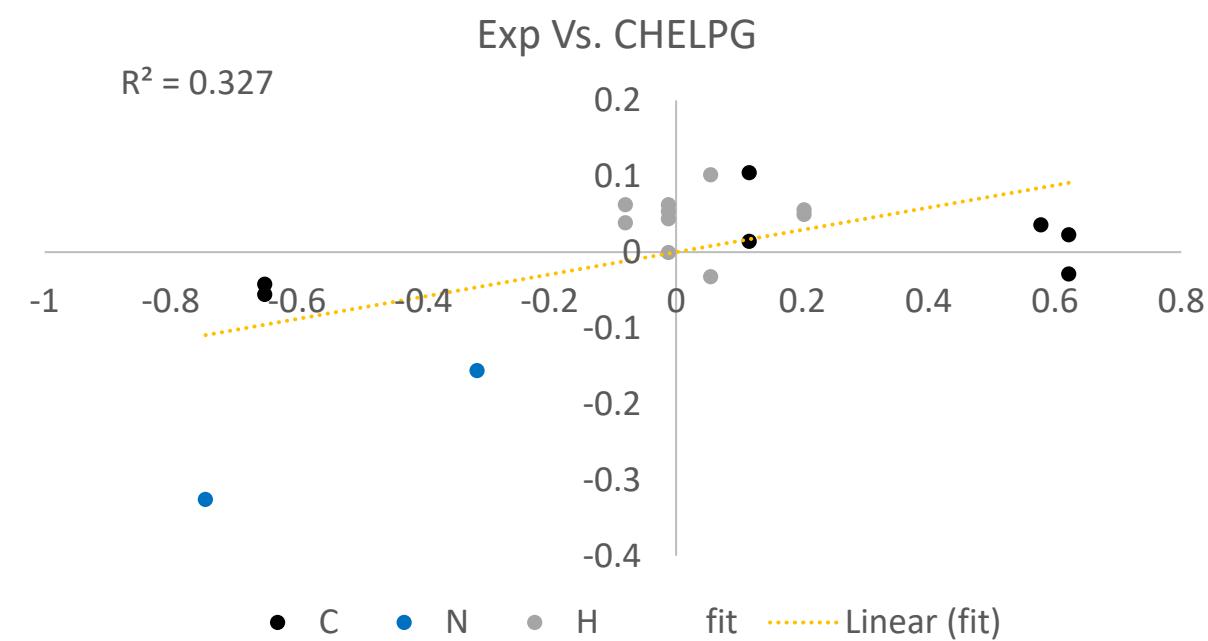
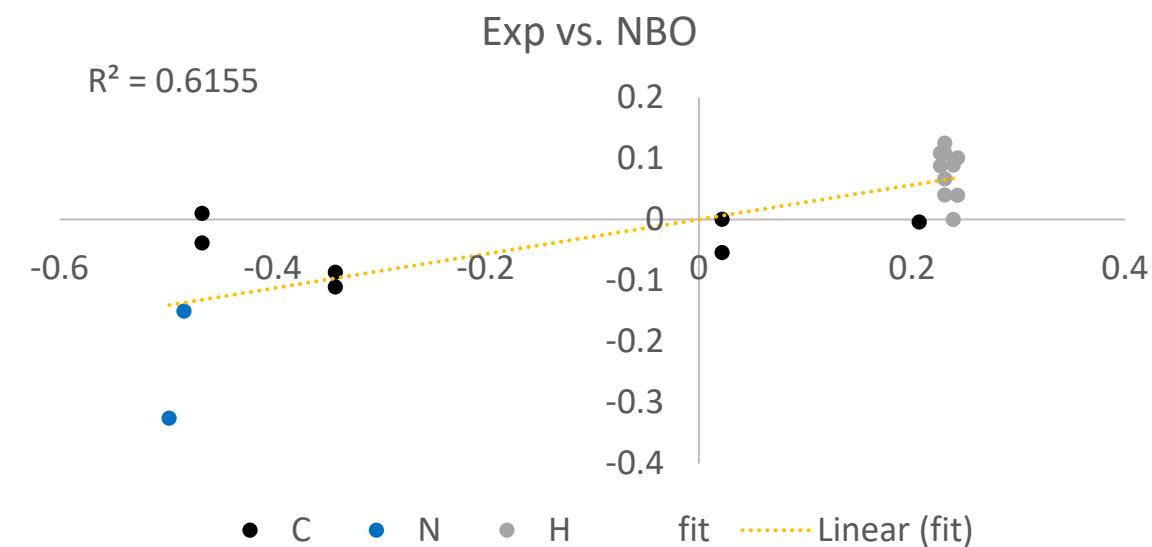
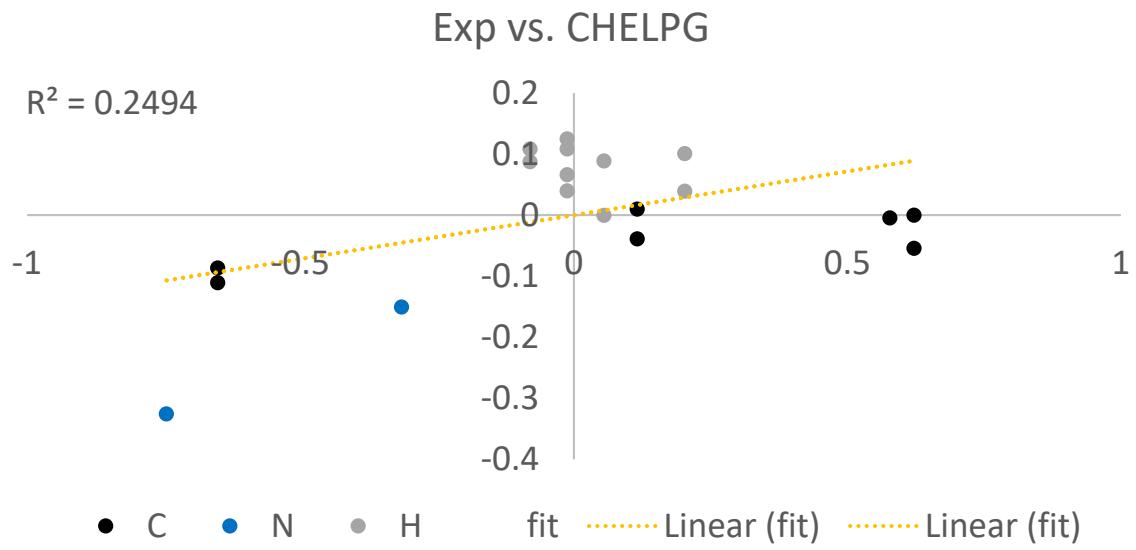
# Experiment Vs. Theory (with lone pair correction)



# Shorten the bonds?

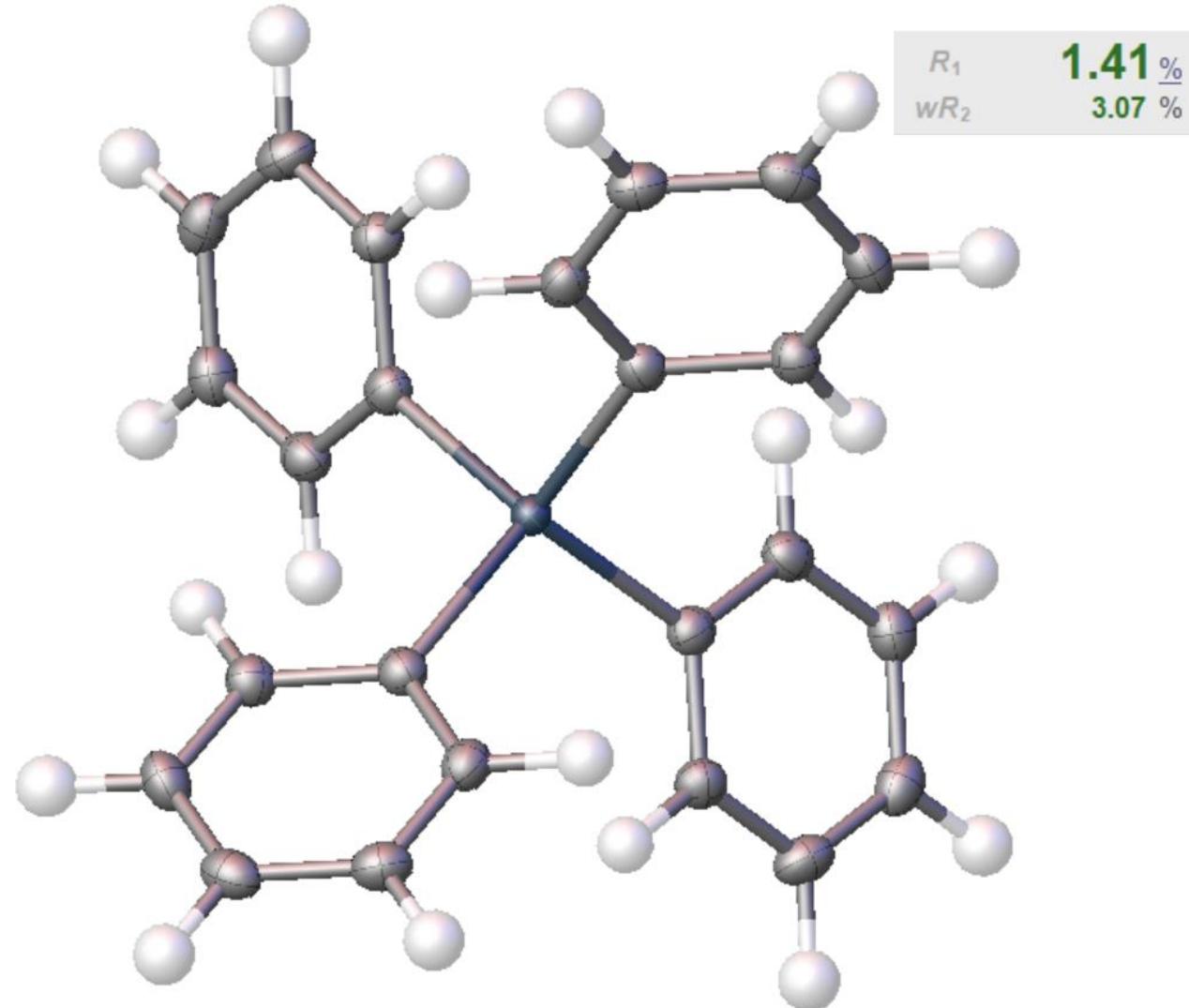


# Experiment Vs. Theory (“long” vs. “short” C-H)

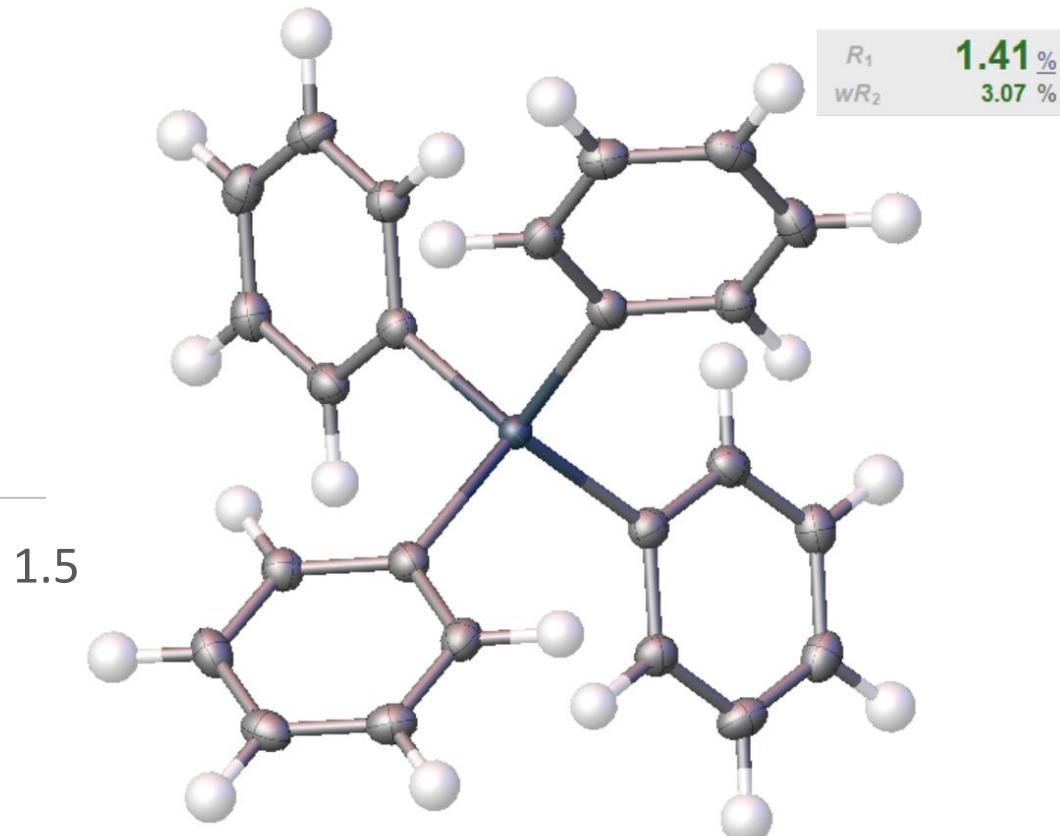
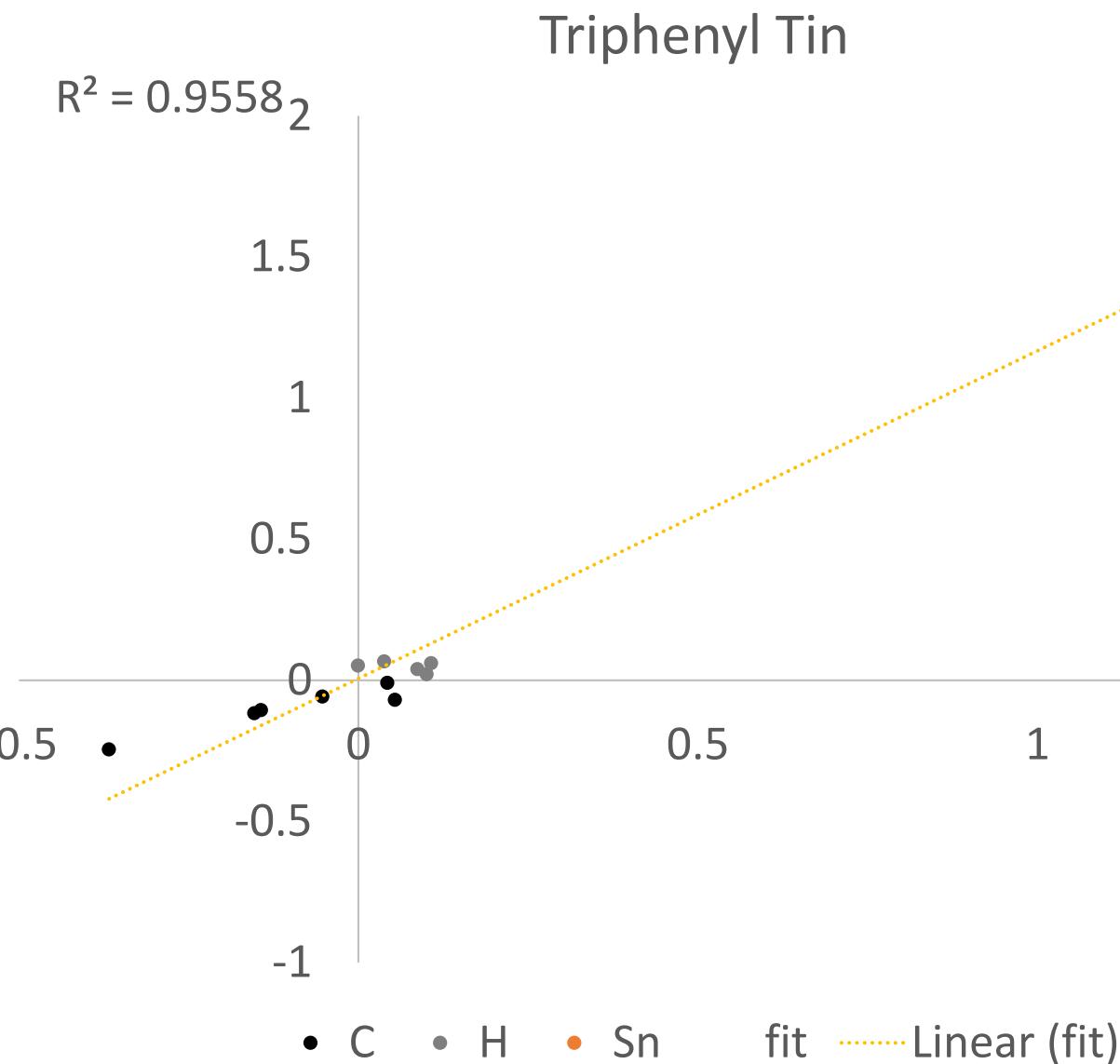


# A molecule with very polar bonds and no terminal heteroatoms: $\text{Ph}_4\text{Sn}$

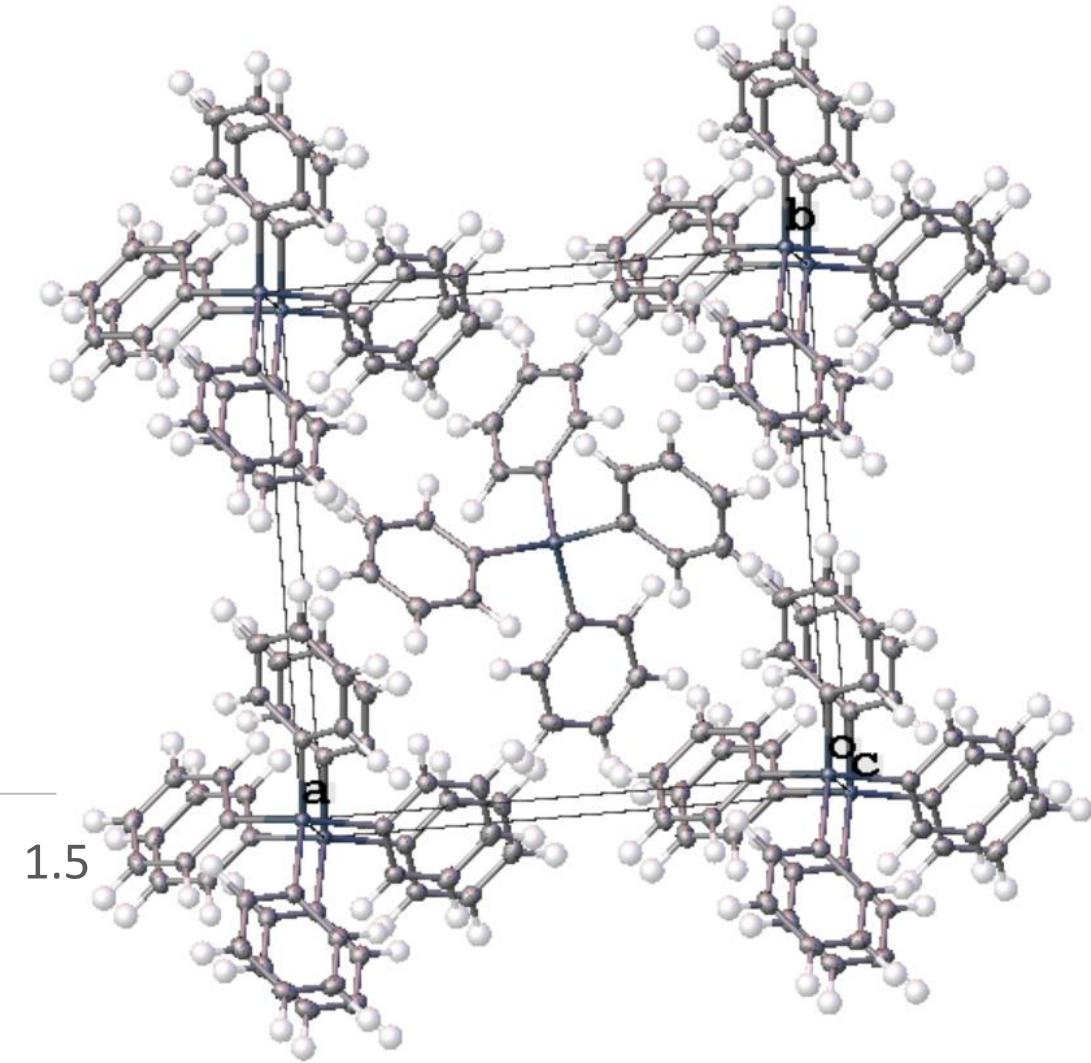
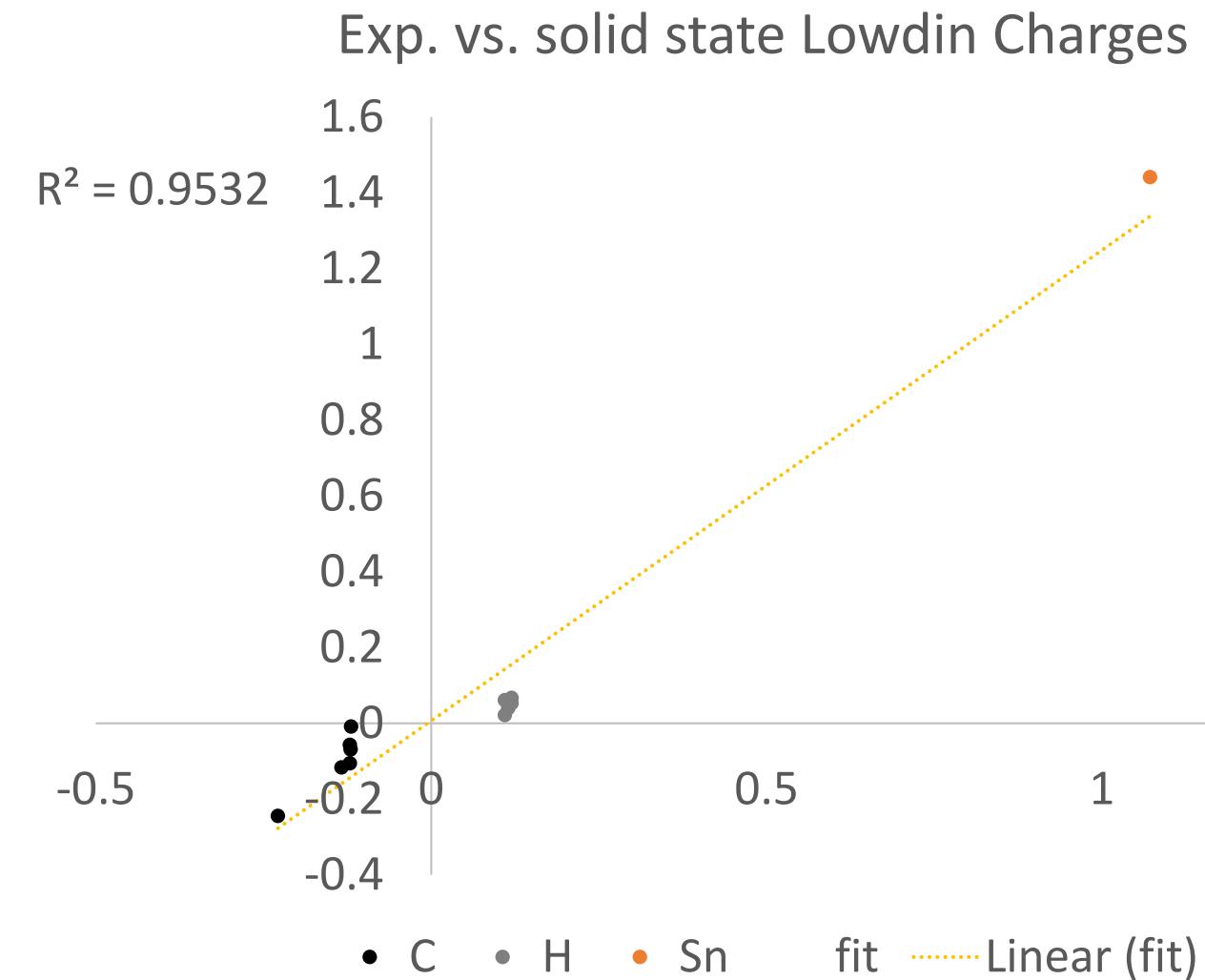
- Thermal parameters refined on non-H atoms
- Hydrogen thermal parameters fixed
- C-H bonds lengthened to 1.09 Å
- No Q-peak corrections
- A test of charge calculations for large K-shells!



# Good correlation



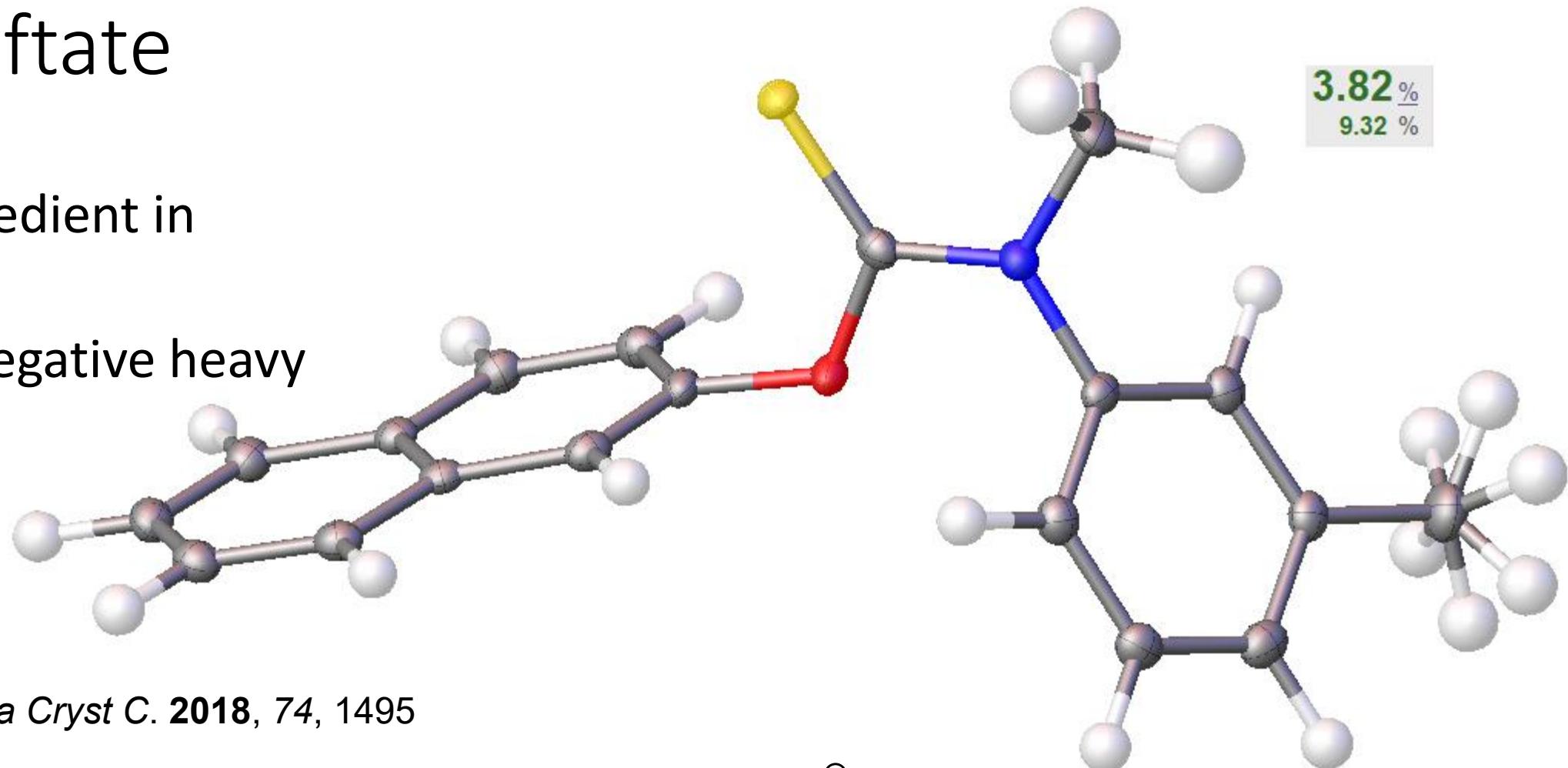
# Good correlation also with solid-state charges



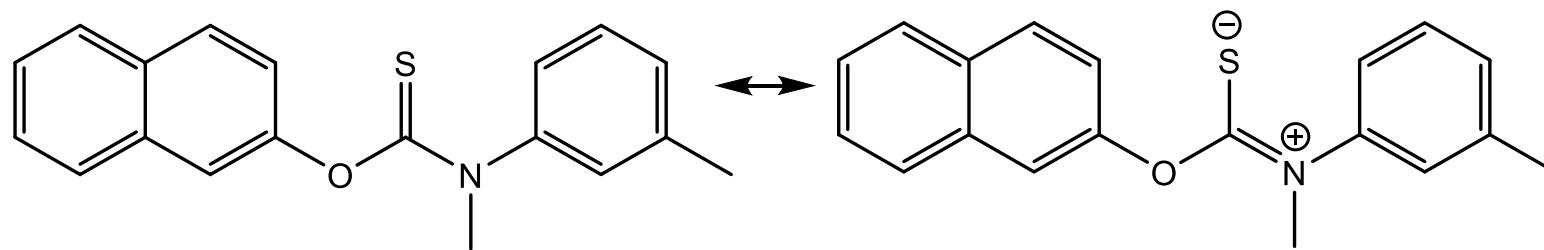
# Tolnaftate

3.82 %  
9.32 %

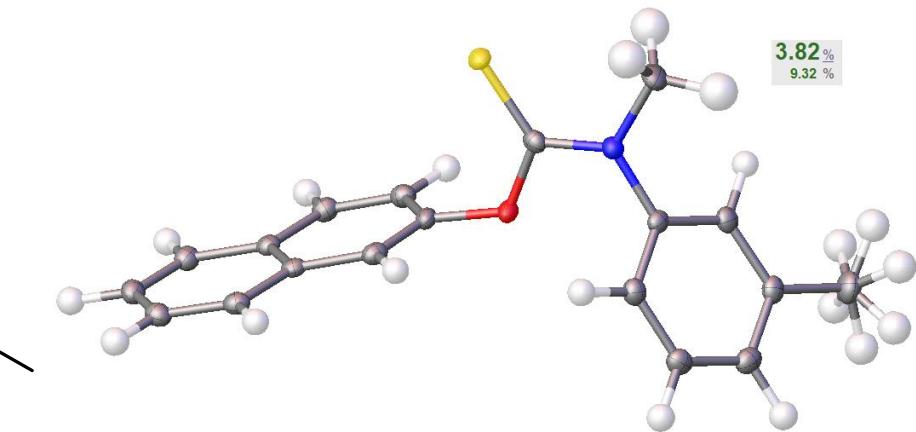
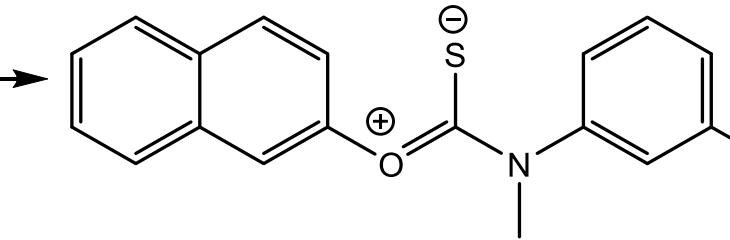
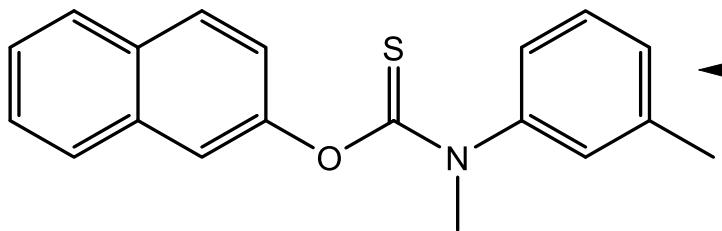
- Active ingredient in Tinactin
- Terminal negative heavy atom



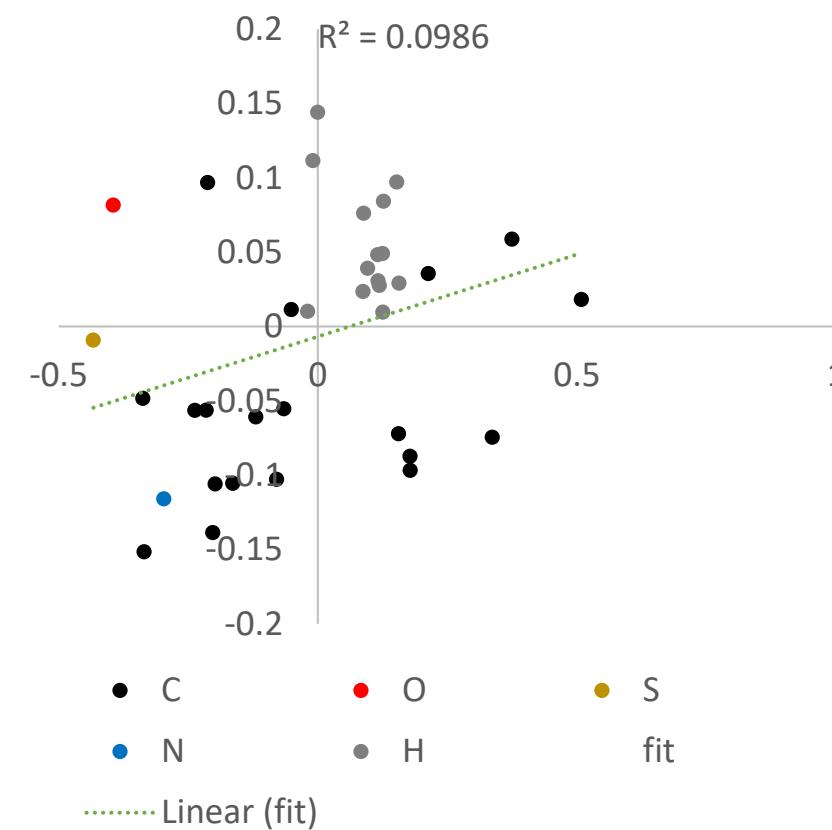
Ho et al., *Acta Cryst C*. 2018, 74, 1495



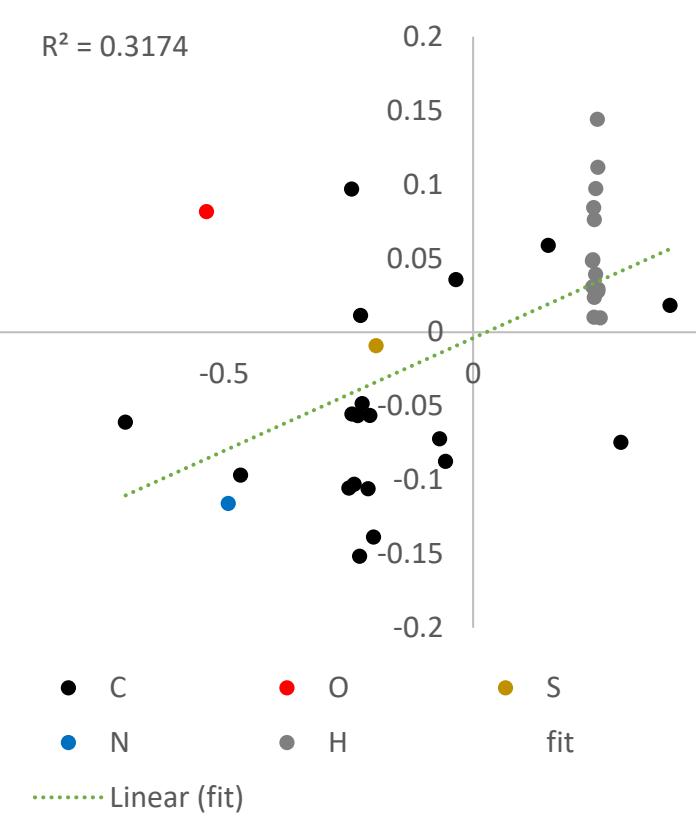
# Tolnaftate



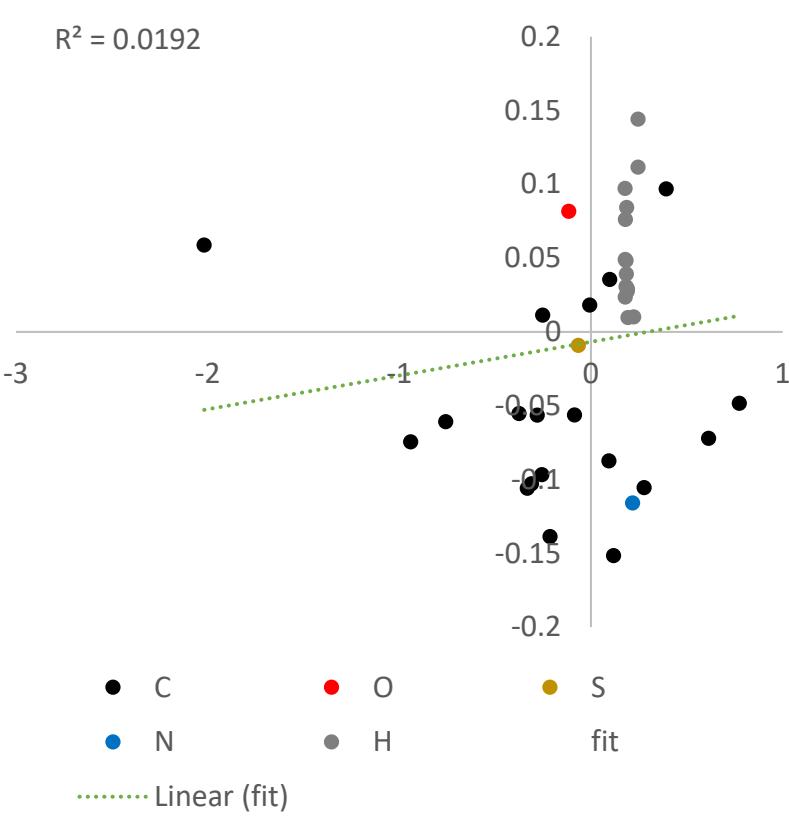
Exp. vs. CHELPG



Exp. Vs. NBO



Exp. Vs. Mulliken



# Conclusions from Studies of *p*-dimethylaminopyridine

- Calculated atomic charges consistent from crystal to crystal and from test to test
- Higher resolution is best: ideally in the 0.7 Å range
- We can refine the occupancy and the thermal parameters of non-H atoms without correlation problems
- Probably best to tie the H *U*'s to neighbors
- Lengthening the C-H bonds to a more realistic distance has a minor effect on the charges; it increases their magnitude, and suppresses heteroatom charge, but gives better correlations.
- Terminal heteroatoms charge are underestimated without inclusion of Fourier difference “lone pair” electron density
- Qualitatively, charges are similar to theory (at least as similar as theories are to each other).

# The Zdilla Lab at Temple University

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