



MX Tutorial 3

Refinement and Validation of the crystal structure of Hen Egg White Lysozyme

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In this tutorial, the crystal structure of Hen Egg White Lysozyme will be refined using REFMAC and PHENIX, and the resulting structure analyzed using the validation tools in PHENIX.

ECS7 - 7th European Crystallographic School – July 13, 2022

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Getting started



- Login to your account and start a shell terminal;

- Type the command:

```
%cd ECS7/Lysozyme ↵
```

- Start CCP4i

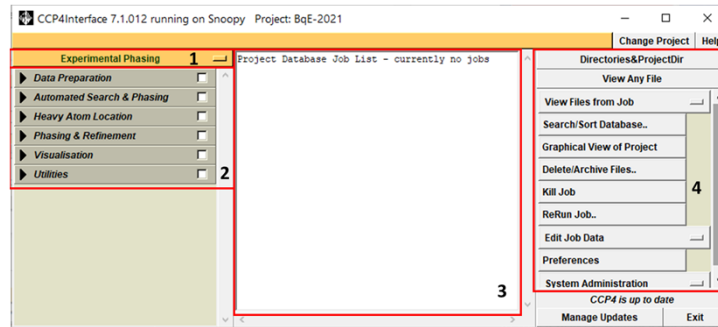
```
% ccp4i & ↵
```

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Overview of the CCP4i interface - recap



This is what the main window of the CCP4 GUI looks like:



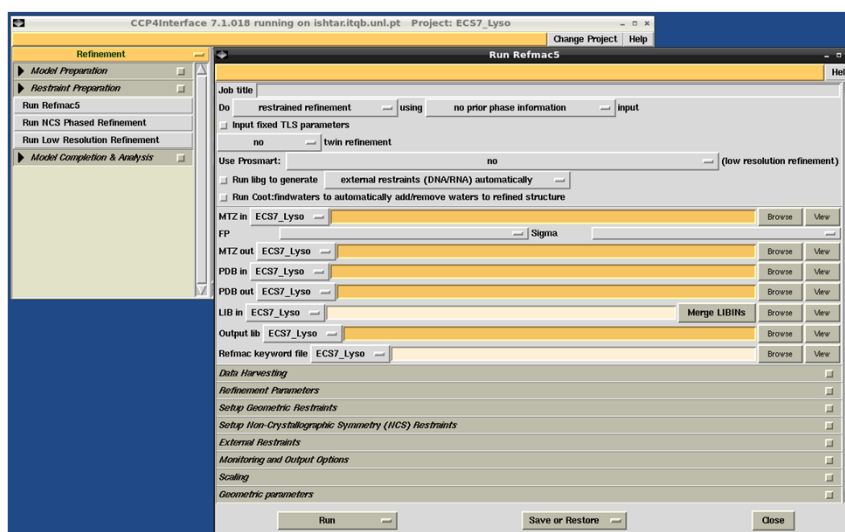
1. This button selects groups of programs;
2. Buttons in this window open a program list or select a program in the group;
3. This window lists all the run and running jobs in the current project;
4. This window contains buttons for acting on jobs and interface management;

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Start the REFMAC5 job window



- o Select the Refinement program group and click on **Run Refmac5**

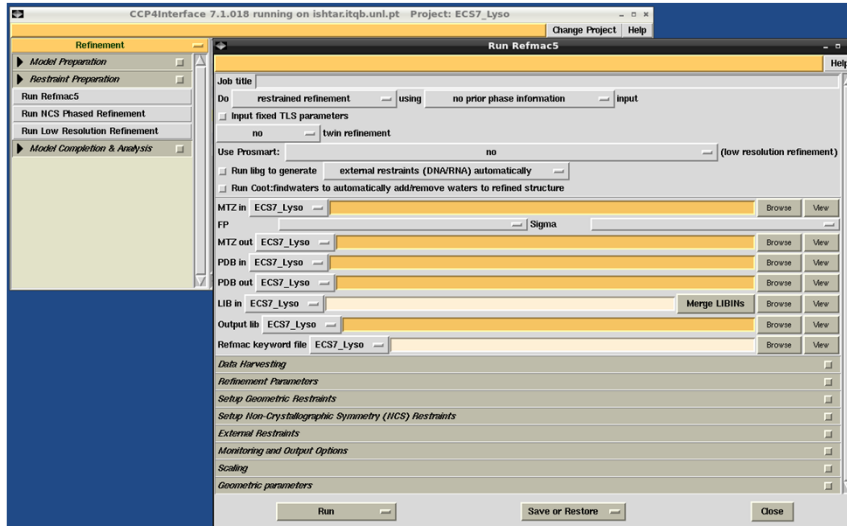


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- Select the Refinement program group and click on Run Refmac5

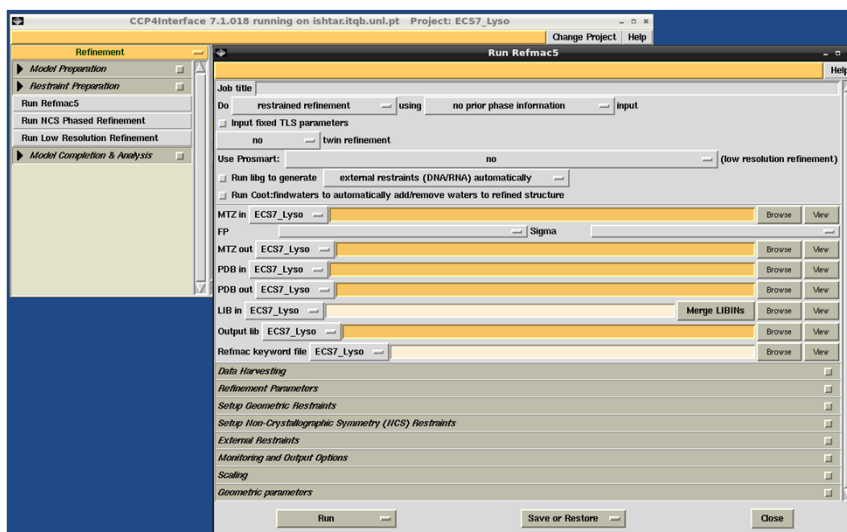


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- Select the Refinement program group and click on Run Refmac5

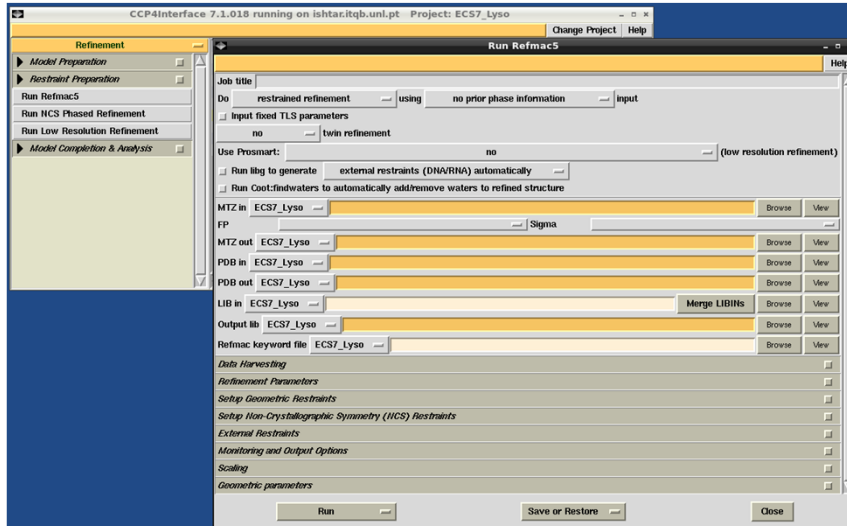


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- Select the Refinement program group and click on Run Refmac5

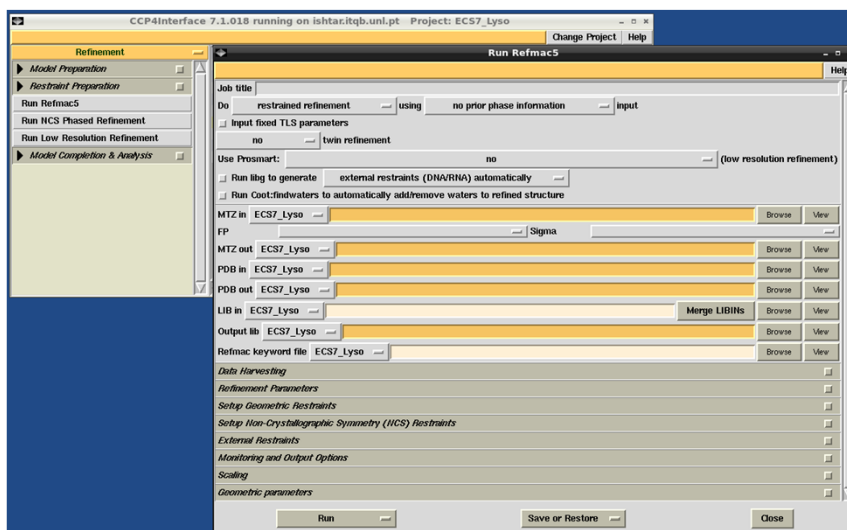


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- Select the Refinement program group and click on Run Refmac5

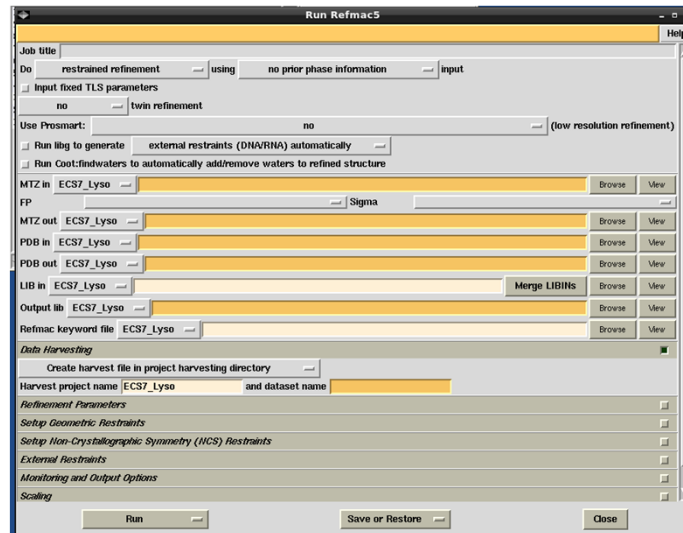


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- o Data harvesting option (I turn it off)

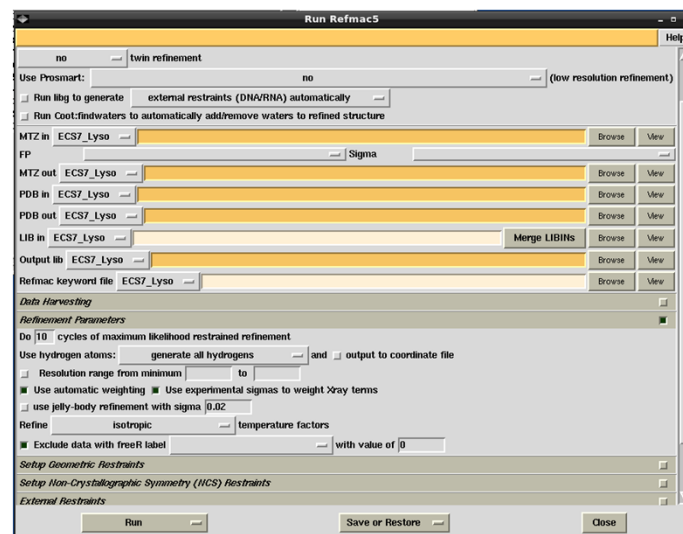


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- o Refinement parameters (the defaults are usually OK)

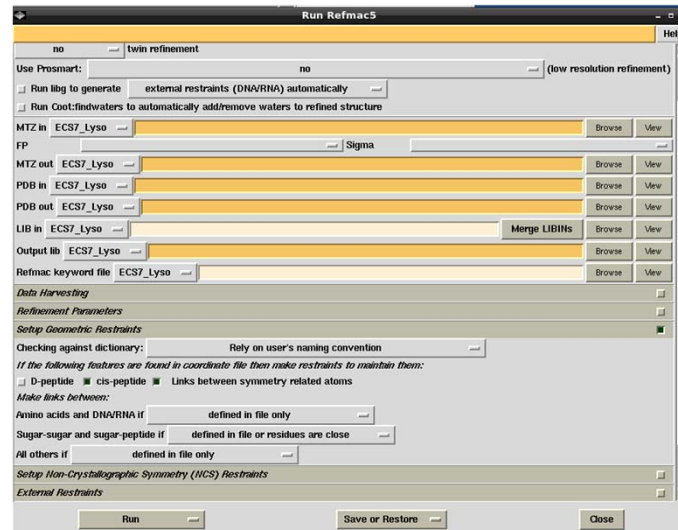


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- o Setup geometric restraints (the defaults are usually OK)

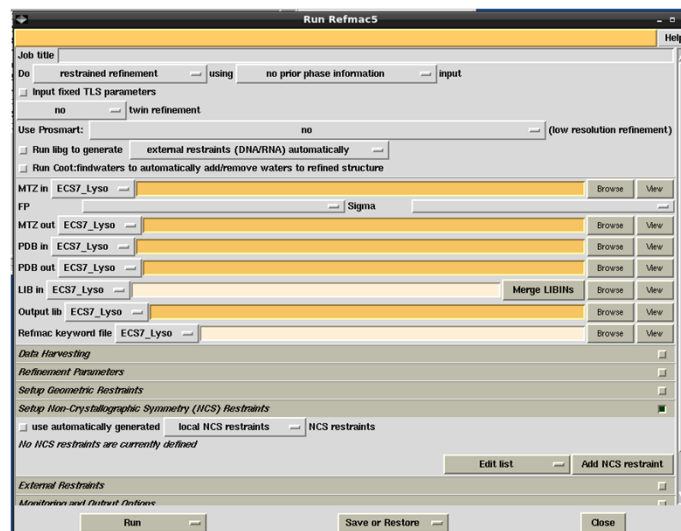


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- o NCS restraints (should be used if more than one copy in the asymmetric unit.)

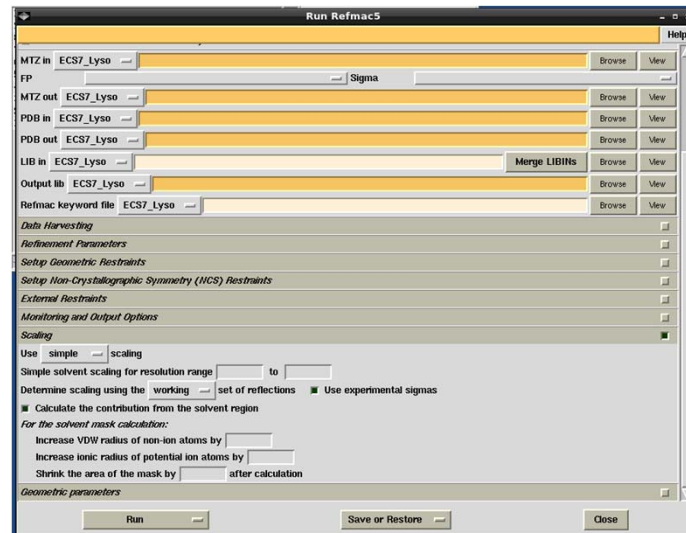


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The REFMAC5 job window – an overview



- Scaling between $|F_{obs}|$ and $|F_{calc}|$ (the default settings are usually OK)

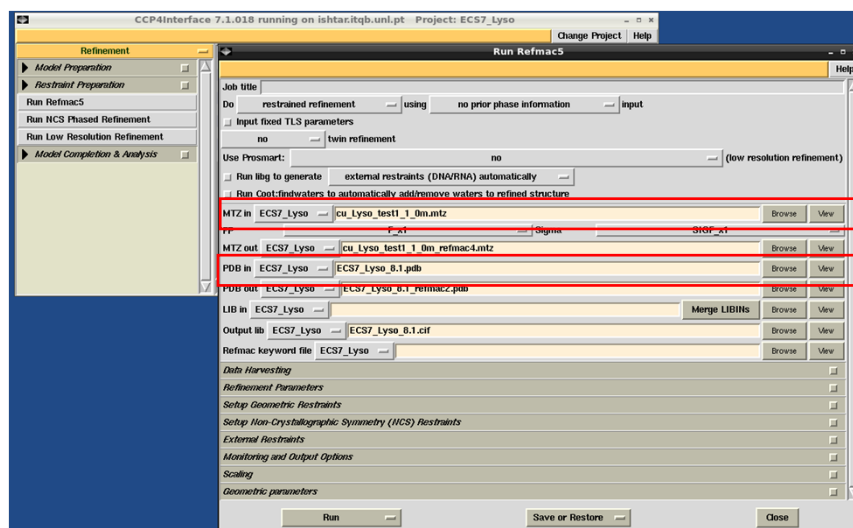


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Load the refinement files



- Click on the **Browse** button to select the input **reflection** and **coordinate** files to be used in the refinement
- Notice that the output filenames are automatically generated by the program

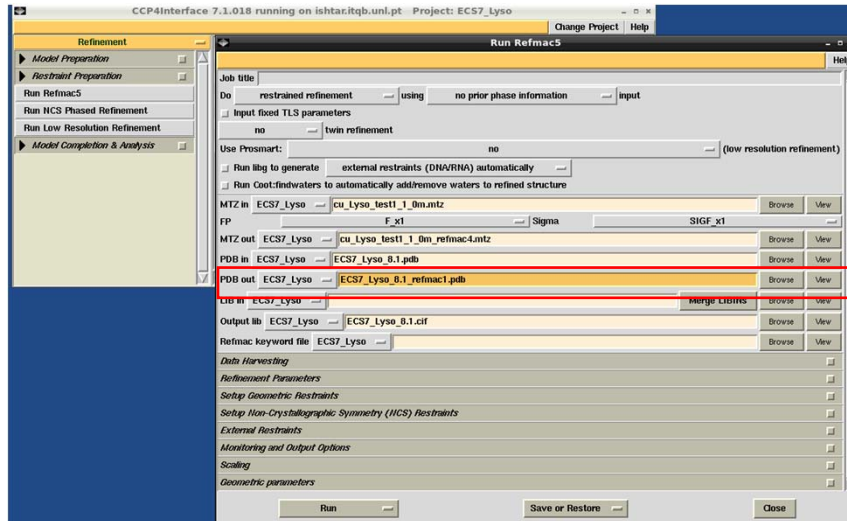


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Load the refinement files



- A **dark orange background** indicates a **missing mandatory file** or a **file that already exists** and will be overwritten if the program is executed.

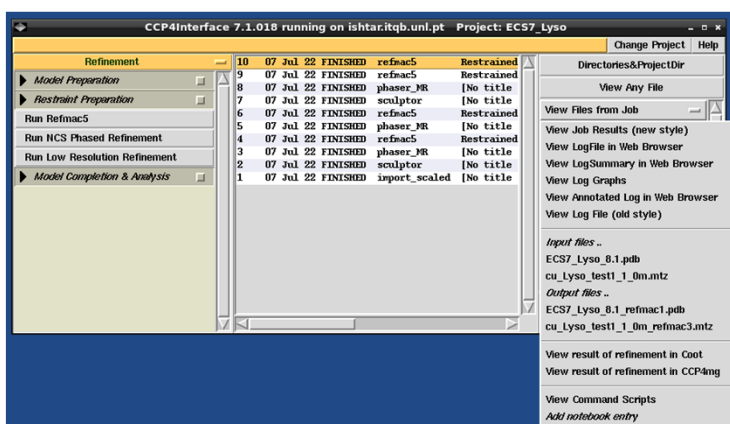


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Running the REFMAC5 job and looking at the results



- Click on the **Run** button, select **Run Now** from the drop-down menu and then click the **Close** button.
- When the program is **FINISHED** in the central GUI window, click on the **View Files from Job** button and inspect the results.



Log files and graphs

Open a Coot window with the coordinate and maps from the refinement

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Running the REFMAC5 job and looking at the results



- Click on the **View Log file (old style)** button and scroll down to the bottom.

```

$TABLE: Rfactor analysis. stats vs cycle :
$ORAPHS:<Rfactor> vs cycle :N:1,2,3:
:FOM vs cycle :N:1,4:
:-LL vs cycle :N:1,5:
:-LLfree vs cycle :N:1,6:
:Geometry vs cycle:N:1,7,8,9,10,11:
$$
  Ncyc  Rfact  Rfree  FOM    -LL    -LLfree  rmsBOND  zBOND  rmsANGL  zANGL  rmsCHIRAL  $$
  0  0.4700  0.4372  0.496  76147.  3823.6  0.0178  1.542  1.964  1.255  0.644
  1  0.4489  0.4288  0.507  75636.  3808.6  0.0070  0.512  1.444  0.894  0.556
  2  0.4333  0.4229  0.527  75238.  3794.8  0.0064  0.460  1.559  0.950  0.534
  3  0.4209  0.4153  0.547  74864.  3779.8  0.0064  0.456  1.623  0.984  0.523
  4  0.4093  0.4064  0.569  74406.  3761.8  0.0065  0.460  1.647  0.998  0.518
  5  0.3955  0.3973  0.592  73955.  3744.9  0.0079  0.548  1.721  1.045  0.515
  6  0.3839  0.3900  0.613  73575.  3729.4  0.0085  0.584  1.733  1.054  0.512
  7  0.3714  0.3810  0.635  73093.  3709.9  0.0092  0.646  1.738  1.060  0.510
  8  0.3663  0.3776  0.642  72953.  3706.8  0.0090  0.619  1.780  1.083  0.509
  9  0.3624  0.3752  0.646  72826.  3702.5  0.0092  0.634  1.803  1.096  0.509
 10  0.3593  0.3733  0.649  72736.  3700.3  0.0092  0.639  1.813  1.102  0.508
$$
$TEXT:Result: $$ Final results $$
      R factor    Initial    Final
      R free      0.4700    0.3593
      Rms BondLength  0.0178    0.0092
      Rms BondAngle   1.9641    1.8130
      Rms ChirVolume  0.6441    0.5082
$
Harvest: NO PNAME_KEYWORD given - no deposit file created
Refmac: End of Refmac_5.8.0267
Times: User:      23.0s System:    0.0s Elapsed:   0:23
  
```

Check the variation of R and Rfree

Check the geometry statistics

Time for some Cooting...

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Refining the structure with PHENIX – creating a new project

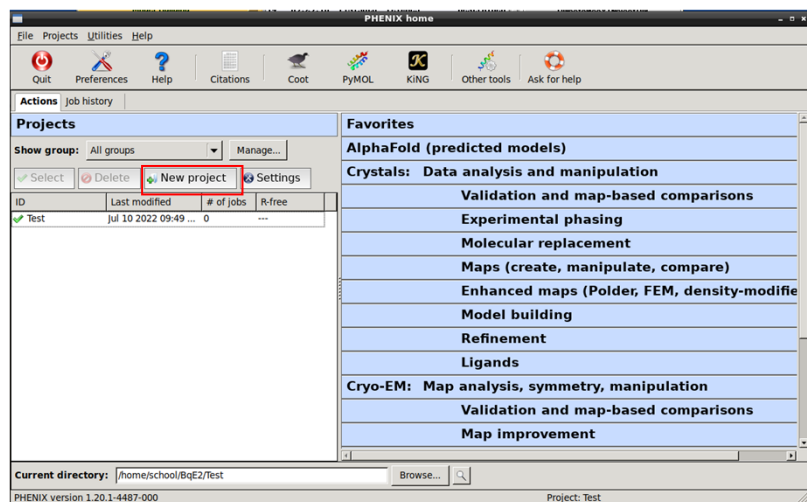


Phenix.refine runs much slower but is much more flexible than REFMAC for crystal structure refinement.

- Exit ccp4i or start a new shell terminal
- Start the PHENIX GUI

```
% phenix & ↵
```

- You will probably have already a project named **Test** on your computer, but you need to create a new one for the present tutorial in the same directory where the tutorial files are located
- Click on the **New project** button

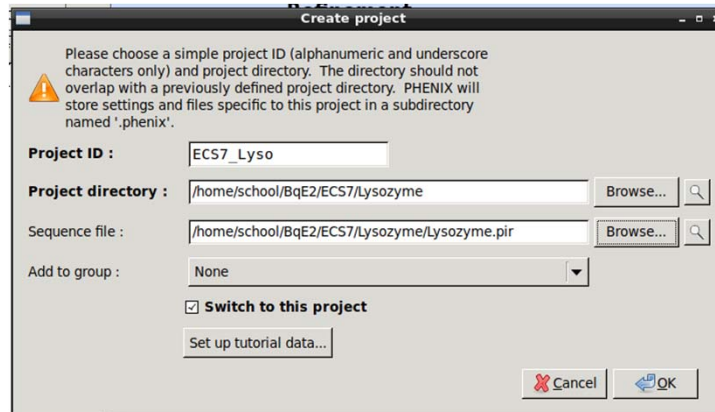


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – creating a new project



- Fill out the information as shown and click on the OK button

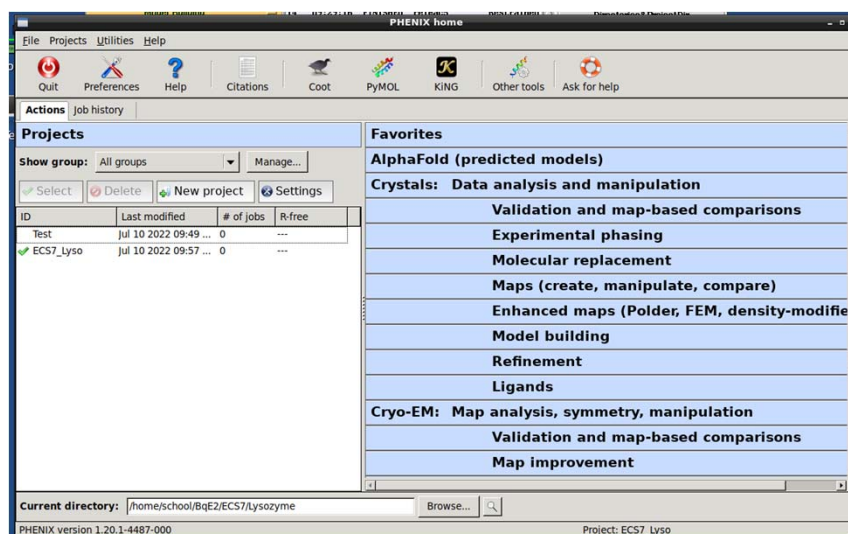


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – creating a new project



- You now have created your PHENIX project for this tutorial session

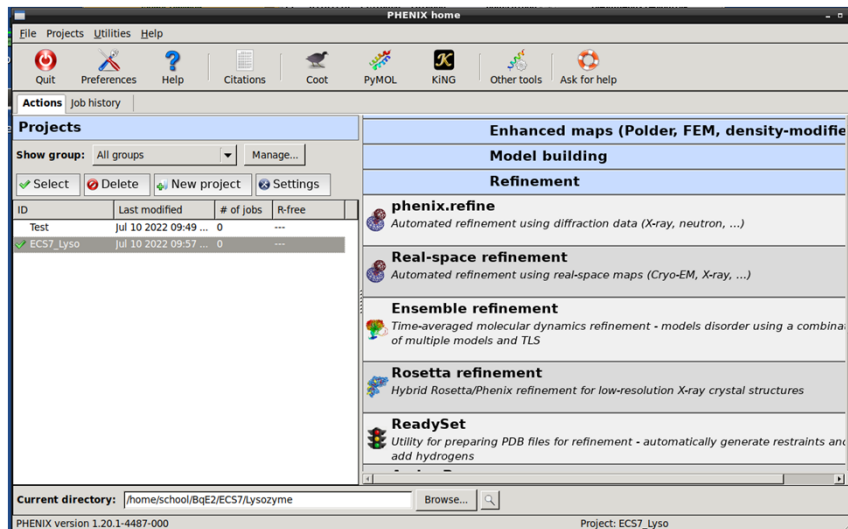


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – adding hydrogen atoms



- Click on the **Refinement bar** to open it and click on the **ReadySet** button to open its GUI

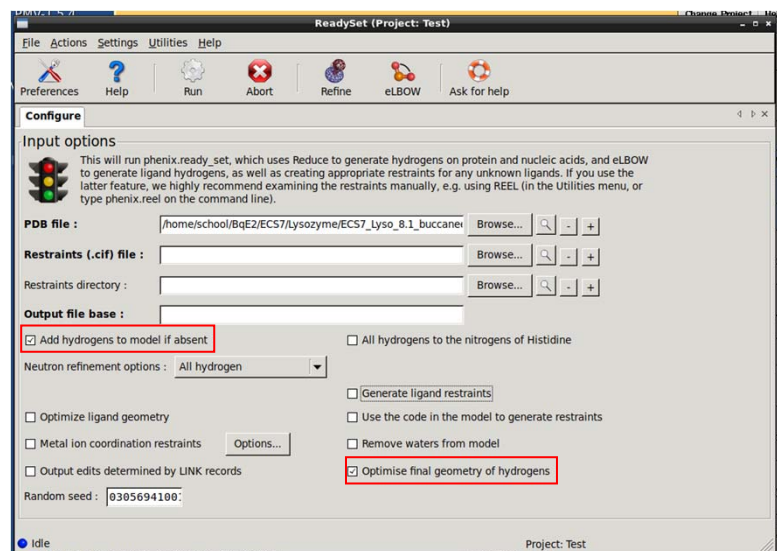


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – adding hydrogen atoms



- Click on the **Refinement bar** to open it and click on the **ReadySet** button to open its GUI (it takes a few seconds!)
- Load the PDB file from REFMAC and COOT in the PDB file window
- Make sure only the indicated check boxes are ticked
- Click on the Run button.

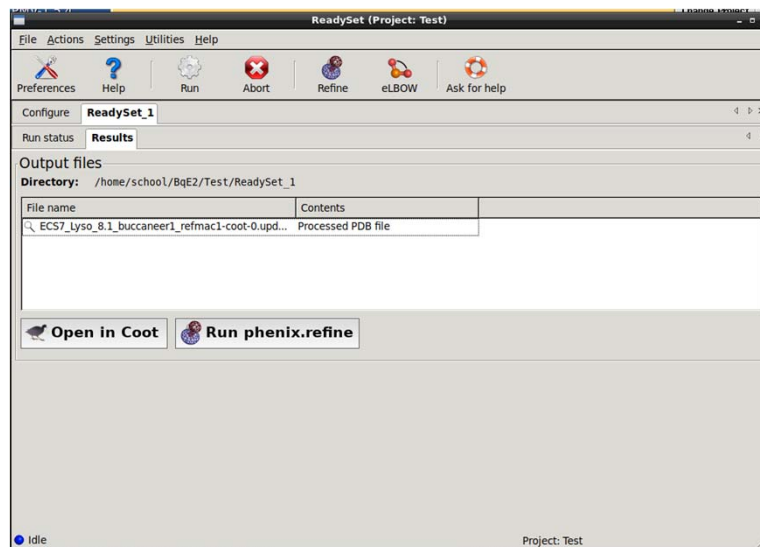


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – adding hydrogen atoms



- After a few seconds the job will be finished, and you can view the file in COOT

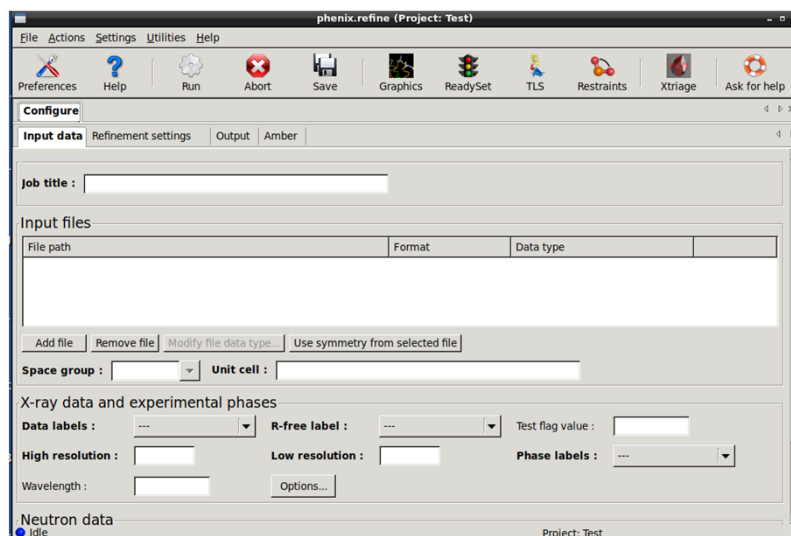


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



- Now click on the **File** menu and select **close** (you can also click on the **x**) and click on the **phenix.refine** button



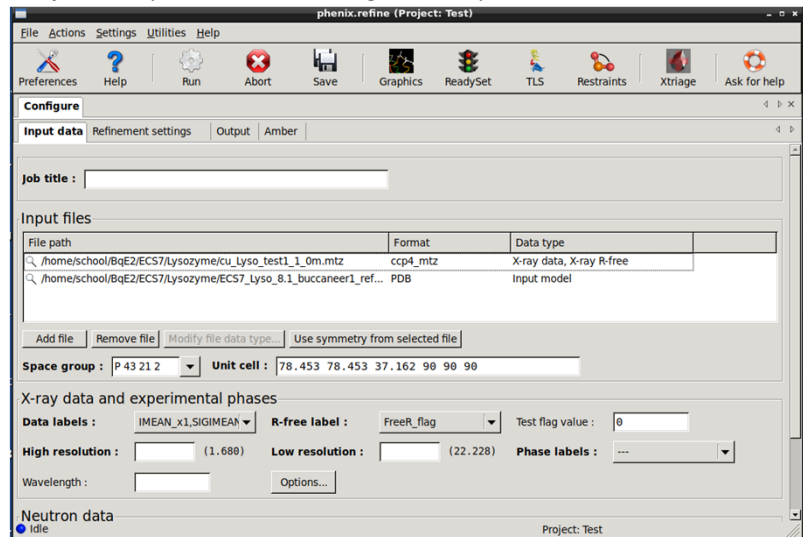
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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



- We need to load a **reflection** and a **coordinate** file using the **add file** button
- PHENIX can **identify** the file type **automatically** and complains if it cannot recognize the input file.

- Notice that the reflection and PDB files have been correctly identified and that the crystal information has been read in.
- PHENIX uses the **diffraction intensities** in the refinement by default.

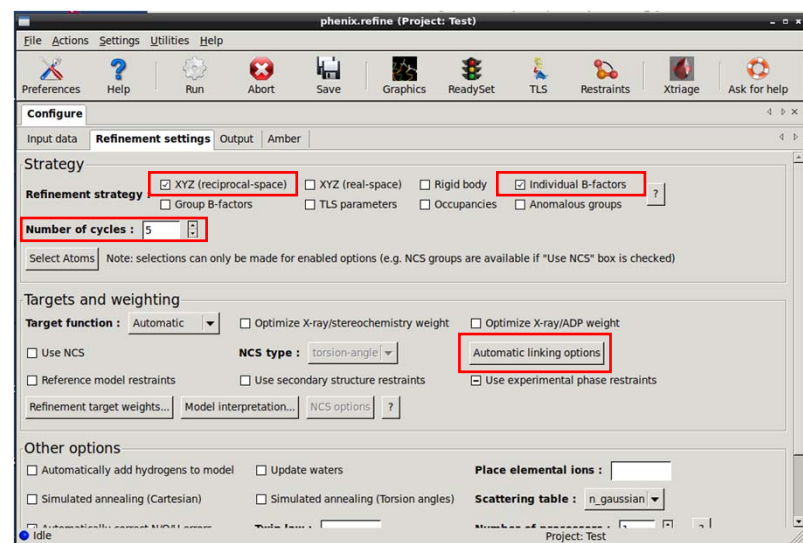


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



- Click on the **Refinement Settings** tab, make sure that only the **XYZ (reciprocal space)** and **Individual B-factors** boxes are checked and change the **Number of cycles** to **5**.
- Next, click on the **Automatic linking options** button.

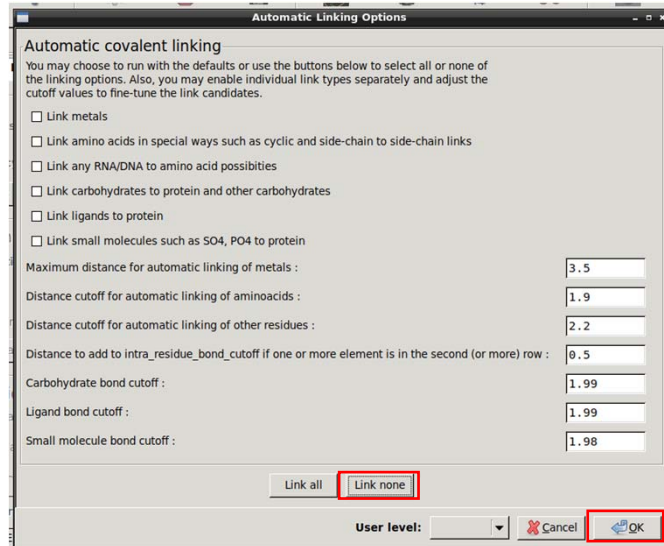


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



- Click on the **Link none** then on the **OK** buttons to exit this menu.

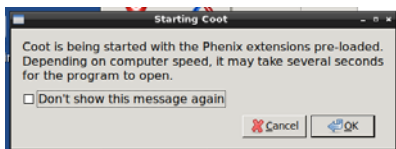


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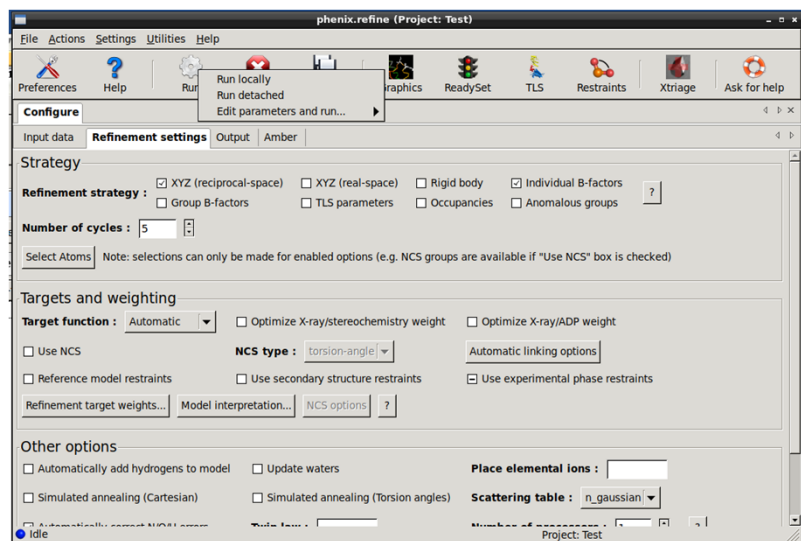
Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



- Back on the main menu, click on **Run** and then on **Run locally** from the drop-down menu.
- A Coot window will open, and the refinement will start



- The Coot window will be updated during the refinement
- You can move around the molecule but any changes you make to the model will not be saved

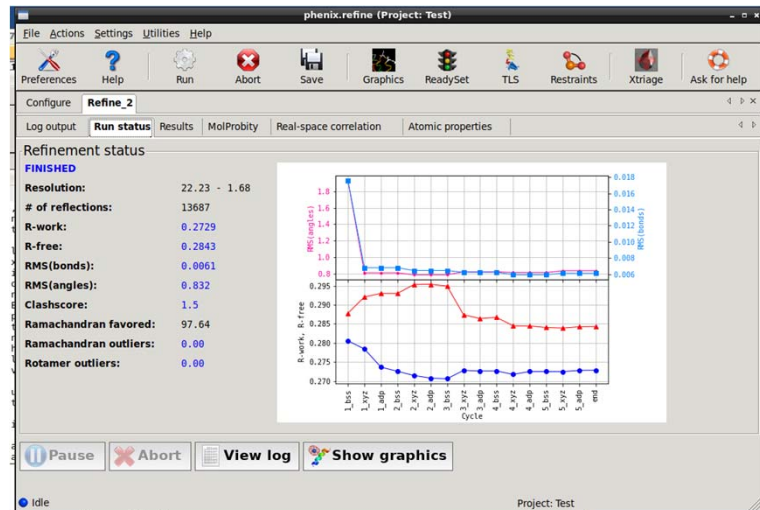
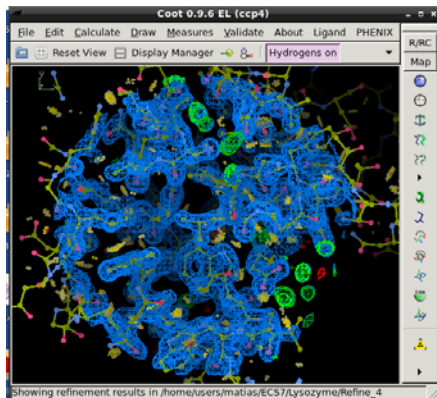


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



- The Run status tab shows the refinement statistics.
- Due to some reason, the R-work and the R-free will often increase in the first 2-3 cycles and sharply decrease afterwards



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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



- The $2F_o - F_c$ map should look a lot better, but you can still go through the whole structure again to fix any problems you may notice. You will notice many green spheres of electron density (positive $F_o - F_c$ peaks). These are **water molecules**.
- In the next PHENIX run, we're going to add water molecules automatically to the structure.
- Use as input coordinates the output coordinate file from the previous run (or the one from Coot).

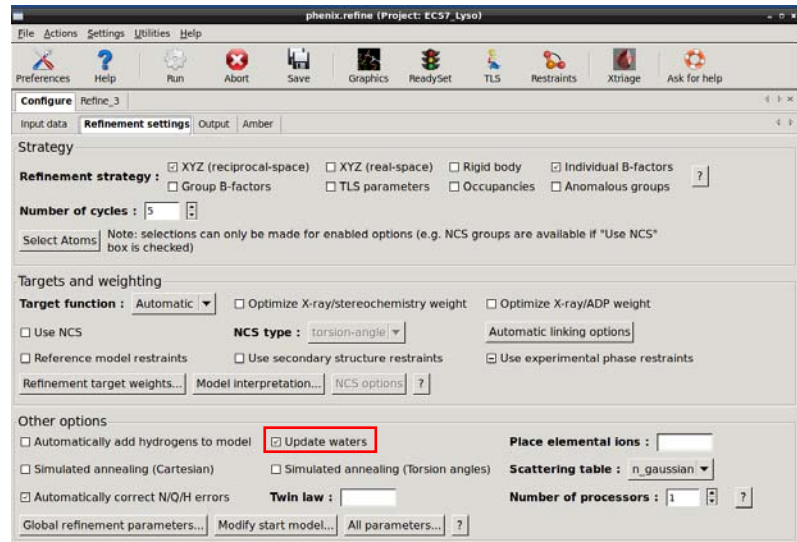
File path	Format	Data type
/home/school/BqE2/EC57/Lysozyme/cu_lyso_test1_1_0m.mtz	ccp4.mtz	X-ray data, X-ray R-free
/home/school/BqE2/EC57/Lysozyme/Refine_2/EC57_Lyso_refine_2.pdb	PDB	Input model

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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine

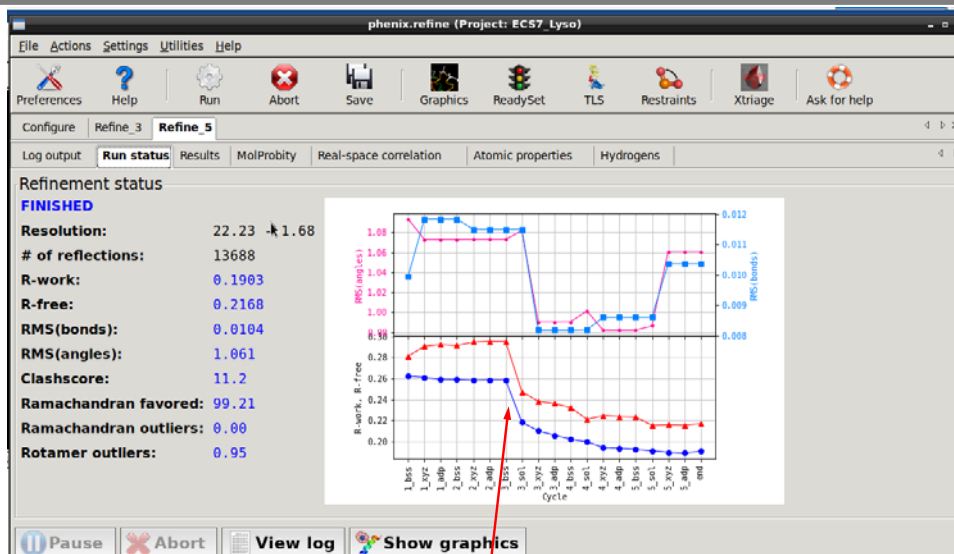


- Keep the same Refinement settings as before but check the **Update waters** box.



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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



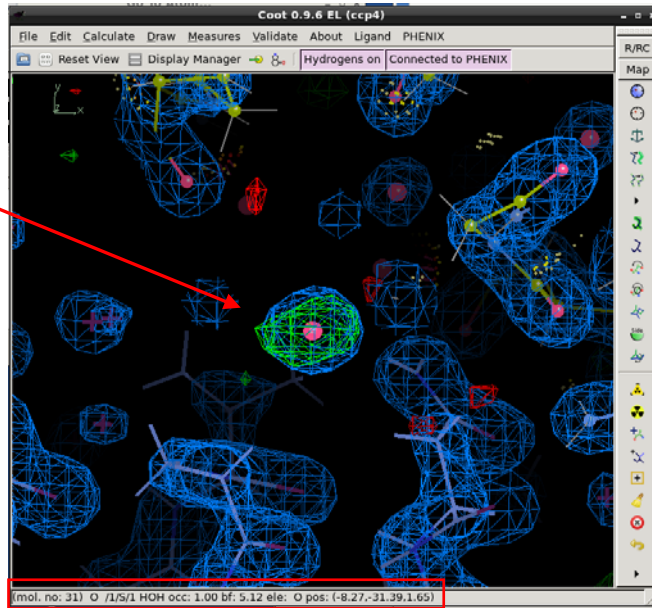
- Note the large decrease in R-work and R-free when the first group of water molecules are added.

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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



Is this a water molecule?

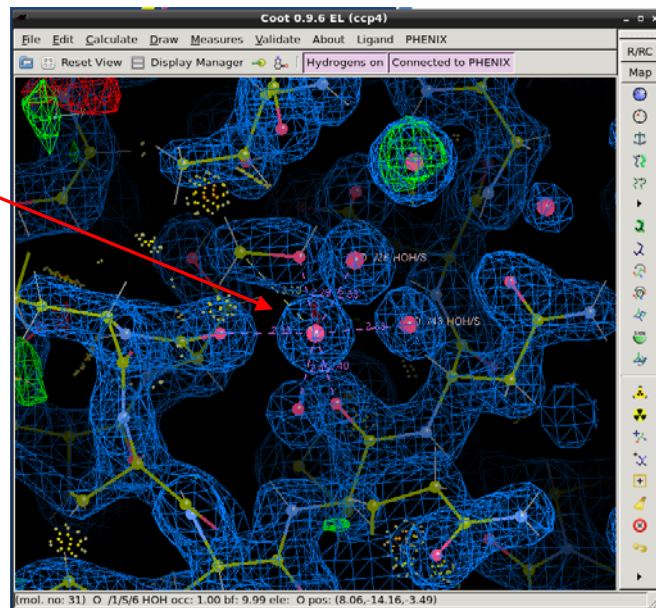


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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



Is this a water molecule?



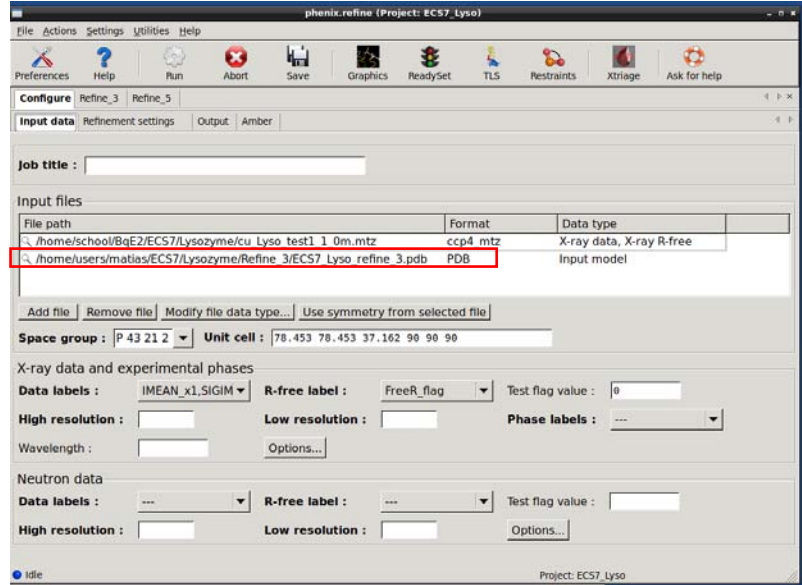
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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



Next, we can try TLS refinement of anisotropic thermal motion parameters.

First, load the final **coordinate file** after the last Coot edit. This file contains only the **isotropic** thermal motion parameters.



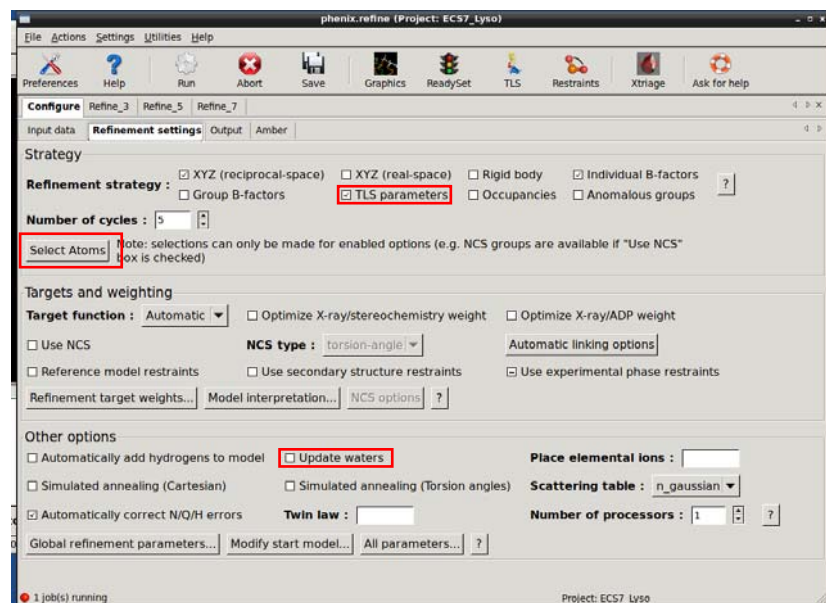
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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



Next, in the **Refinement settings** tab check the **TLS parameters** box and click the **Select Atoms** button.

For a proper comparison we should uncheck the **Update waters** box.



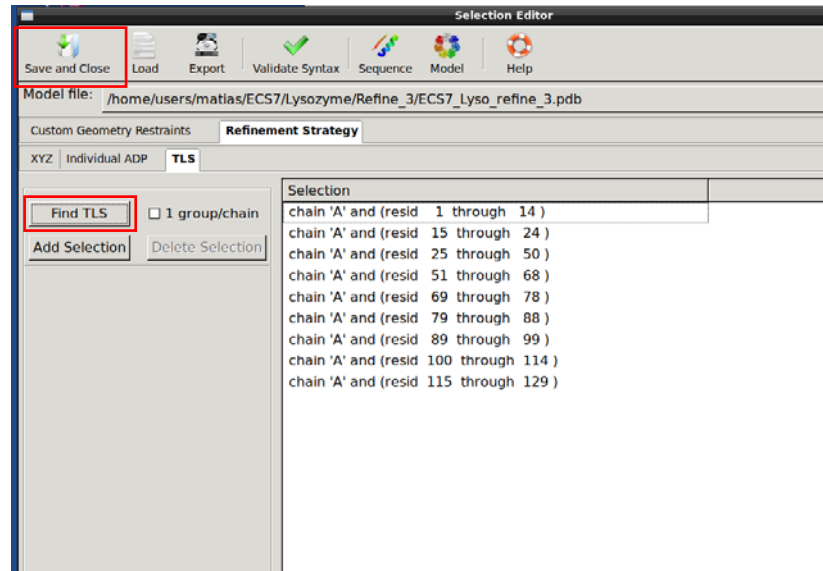
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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine



Now, in the **Refinement Strategy** tab select **TLS** and then click on the **Find TLS** button.

When the list of rigid body groups appears, click on the **Save and Close** button to exit this menu.



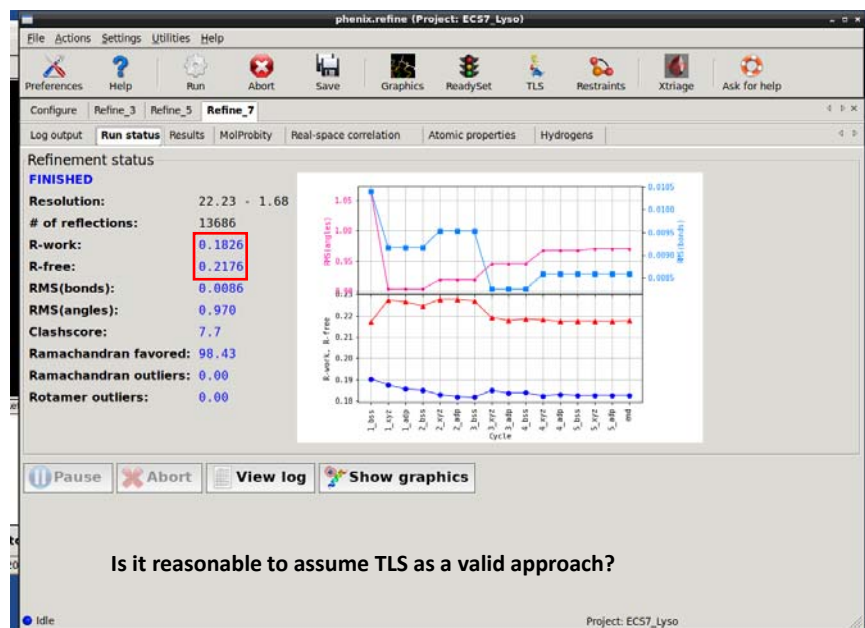
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Refining the structure with PHENIX – running phenix.refine

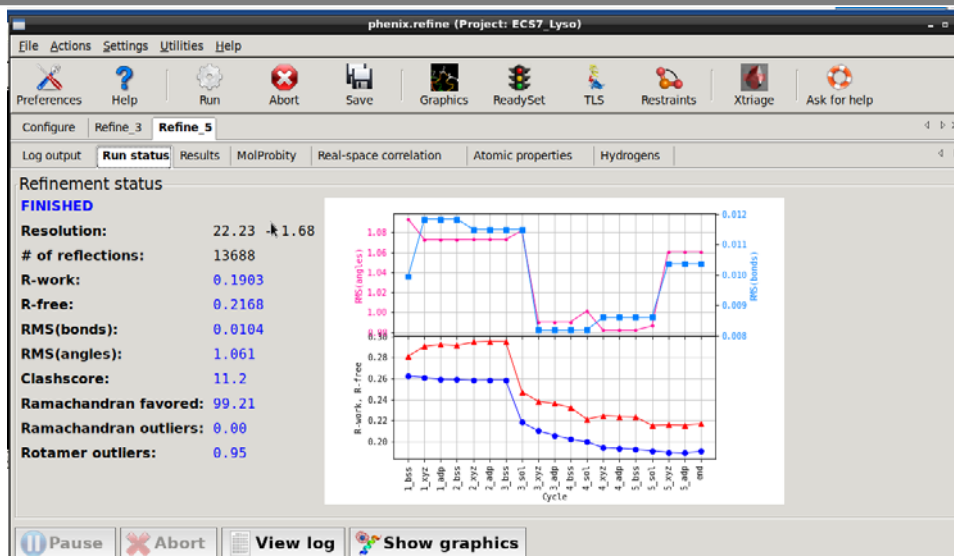


R-work and R-free w/o TLS:

0.1903
0.2168



Refining the structure with PHENIX – validation



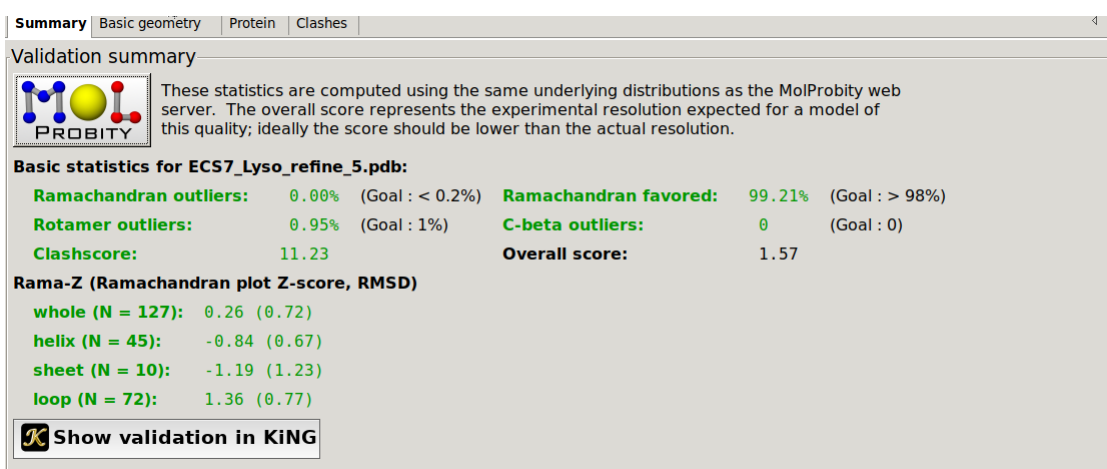
- Once we're satisfied that the structure cannot be improved any further, it's time to look at the Validation tools.

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Refining the structure with PHENIX – validation



- The Validation summary gives an overall view of the validation statistics, but we can inspect the details in each of the tabs **Basic Geometry**, **Protein** and **Clashes**.



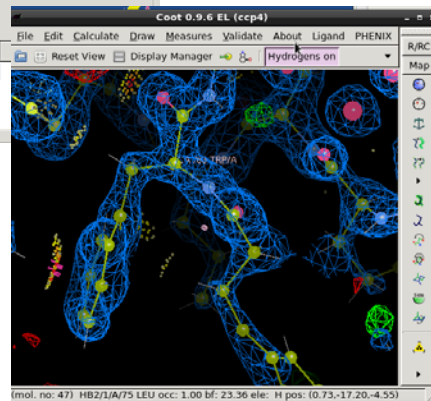
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Refining the structure with PHENIX – validation



- Everything is fine, except for slightly distorted **peptide dihedral angles** between PHE3 and GLY4, and between TRP62 and TRP63.

Summary		Basic geometry	Protein	Clashes
Number of restraints:		611		
RMS(deviation):		12.184		
Max. deviation:		81.797		
Number of outliers > 4sigma:		2		
List of outliers (sorted by deviation):				
Atoms		Ideal val	Model val	Deviation (sigmas)
A 3 PHE CA , A 3 PHE C , A 4 GL...		180.000	159.797	4.0
A 62 TRP CA , A 62 TRP C , A 63 TR...		180.000	-154.932	5.0



- However, this unusual geometry is **validated** by the electron density map.

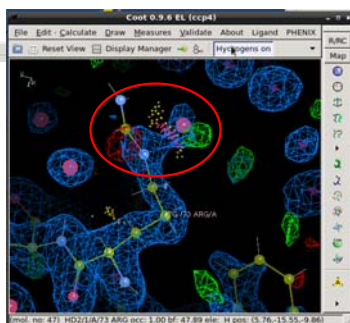
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Refining the structure with PHENIX – validation



- Another flagged issue is a bad rotamer (side-chain conformation) at ARG73

Summary		Basic geometry	Protein	Clashes		
No Ramachandran outliers detected.						
Rotamer analysis						
View Chi1-Chi2 plots (only for residues with both Chi1 and Chi2 angles)						
Note that although a residue may lie in the favored regions of the Chi1-Chi2 plot, outliers are flagged based on the distribution of all non-branched Chi angles in a residue.						
Zero outliers is not the goal. Rotamer outliers can be justified by sufficiently strong electron density, van der Waals packing, and/or hydrogen bonds.						
Rotamer outliers:						
Chain	Residue	Score	Chi1	Chi2	Chi3	Chi4
A	ARG 73	0.01	275.4	324.9	250.6	165.3



- We can see that the guanidinium group is in the wrong place and that there is a water molecule where one of the nitrogen atoms should be. We should **delete the water molecule, adjust the side chain** and run **another refinement** to fix this issue.

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Refining the structure with PHENIX – validation



- o Finally, there are several “bad contacts” listed. Many involve hydrogen bonds but not all. It may be worth while to inspect these to see if they can be eliminated by tweaking the structure, but it will very likely be impossible to get rid of all of them.

Summary Basic geometry Protein **Clashes**

All-atom contact analysis

Coot display

Show Probe dots in Coot Only show bad overlaps [Reload data](#) [Re-run PROBE](#)

Bad contacts from PROBE: 22 overlapping atom pairs

This list summarizes all severe clashes (more than 0.4 Angstrom non-H-bond overlap) found by PROBE; you can view these graphically in Coot. If no hydrogens were present, REDUCE was used to add them prior to running PROBE.

Atom 1	Atom 2	Overlap
A 45 ARG NH2	S 79 HOH 0	0.708
A 68 ARG HD2	S 79 HOH 0	0.703
A 109 VAL HG12	S 55 HOH 0	0.697
A 125 ARG NH1	S 135 HOH 0	0.68
A 121 GLN HG3	S 162 HOH 0	0.676
A 109 VAL CG1	S 55 HOH 0	0.632
A 45 ARG NH1	S 79 HOH 0	0.62
A 73 ARG NE	S 80 HOH 0	0.611
A 45 ARG CZ	S 79 HOH 0	0.583
A 21 ARG NH2	S 164 HOH 0	0.551
A 129 LEU C	S 156 HOH 0	0.544

[Save to text...](#)

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