The joys of SAXS and other toys. Wim Bras, ESRF.

The information content of an average SAXS pattern is in practice rather low. However, the combination with information derived from other techniques can turn SAXS into a very powerful tool especially when dealing with time-resolved data-sets.

The DUBBLE beam lines have specifically been designed to make such technique combinations possible. The obvious partner of SAXS is WAXS and these two techniques are routinely combined in a single experiment. However, also the combination of SAXS/WAXS and EXAFS has been implemented.

In the presentation I will show how combined SAXS/WAXS data sets in combination with neutron scattering and electron microscopy can unravel the story of crystallisation in a glass ceramic in full detail. The glass used is cordierite which is a low expansion, high shock resistance material used in car exhaust and electronic chip packaging. Even though this is a technologically relevant material the emphasis will be on the benefits of the technique combination for which cordierite is a textbook example.

The second part will deal with the combination of scattering and spectroscopic techniques on a catalytically important material. Here it will be discussed that no change still can mean a lot even outside the context of a political party program.