Training Plan

PhD Student: Ryan Brook

Primary supervisor: Dmitry Shalashilin

Secondary Supervisor: Marcelo [Pessoa](https://research.leeds.ac.uk/82492/dr-marcelo-pessoa-de-miranda) de Miranda

Areas of focus

Development of experimental knowledge

This was a self-identified weakness and also feedback from the transfer meeting. Due to the entirely theoretical nature of my project(s), I haven’t dedicated sufficient time to understanding the experiments that our groups calculations are compared to. The ideal end scenario for my project would be application to real world scenarios and it is vital in that instance to understand how chemists would design their experiments.

Development of personal skills

Managing time between both advancing my project and the preparation of a report/presentation has been difficult and now with the adoption of an additional project I now have to find an efficient and effective balance that allows me to produce work in both projects without burnout. In order to do this, it will be necessary to develop time management skills.

Another aspect I wish to develop is presentation skills as my project is often far removed from the average Chemist’s field here at Leeds and so being able to explain and translate my work to a more general Chemist is something I’m still finding difficult. The balance between over explaining basic concepts but ensuring that a solid foundation has been laid has proven to be tricky.

Development of coding skills

A large part of my project is computational time and achieving faster and more efficient results. In order to achieve results of this type, an efficient codebase needs to be produced. Also as it is likely that a future student could resume my work, a well-documented code base is the equivalent of keeping well-ordered laboratory notes. Many groups, including my own, are investigating the possibility of writing GPU code in order to greatly improve the speeds of certain code routines or modules. However, coding on GPUs requires different programming languages and in certain cases, different file structures.

Upcoming training events:

* Shut Up and Write! For Postgraduates and Staff webinar sessions
* In house writing consultations for post-graduate researchers
* ARC4 workshop on containers and advanced modules
* Well-being webinars
* Online GPU coding course provided by Coursera
* Presentation skill workshops at the library
* Time management skills at the library