## S3 Appendix Modeling noise in the target scattering data.

To assess the method's robustness towards errors in the scattering data, we conducted a structure-based LAO holo-to-apo refinement towards theoretical difference data with artificial noise. Absolute reference and target intensities were blurred according to Gaussian distributions with mean  $\mu^q$  and standard deviation  $\sigma^q$ . For each q point, mean and standard deviation were modeled as the related clean intensity value  $\mu^q = I(q)$  and its square root  $\sigma^q = 50 \cdot \sqrt{I(q)}$ , respectively. We calculated noisy difference data by subtracting the blurred reference intensity from the blurred target intensity (see Fig 10).