







Some practical aspects of bio-crystallography (preparing the afternoon tutorial)

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### **Biocrystallography in Structural Biology**

#### Towards the observation of life molecular bases



## Structural studies by X-ray bio-crystallography



- **1. Crystallogenesis**
- 2. Mounting crystal
- 3. X-ray data collection



7. Structure analysis



6. Electron density

refinement

maps and structural



$$\rho(x, y, z) = TF^{-1}(|F_{hkl}| \times e^{i\alpha_{hkl}})$$

$$\rho(x, y, z) = TF^{-1}(|F_{hkl}| \times e^{i\alpha_{hkl}})$$

5. Data phasing 4. Data treatment

#### 1. Crystallogenesis



Crystals generally obtained by an evaporation method (**slow concentration**) in an aqueous medium that promotes crystallization (salt, pH ...)



Protein crystals are often **fragile** and **difficult** to obtain

Thousands of trials may be required to obtain crystals of sufficient size 1mm to  $10 \mu m$  that grow in 1h to 1year



## 2. Crystal fishing and mounting on a goniometer head





Crystal **fishing** with a cryoloop and **freezing** to preserve the crystal (dehydration, radiation damage)

Automated crystal mounting at the ESRF beamline **FIP BM30A**, Grenoble

#### 3. Ewald representation for the diffraction of a 3D crystal

The crystal is centered on the Ewald sphere of radius  $1 / \lambda$ 

A grid centered on the intersection of the sphere and the RX incident beam depicts X-ray diffraction conditions (**constructive interferences**)

Reciprocal unit cell parameters

a\*=b^c/V; b\*=c^a/V; c\*=a^b/V

For a crystal with  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^{\circ}$  (*e.g.* quadratic) a\*=1/a, b\*=1/b et c\*=1/c



A wave is scattered in a direction **OB** and with a  $2\theta$  angle when a node of the **hkl** grid intersects with the Ewald sphere.

The structure factor (**amplitude** F and **phase**  $\phi$ ) of the scattered wave is:

 $\boldsymbol{F}_{hkl} \exp i\phi_{hkl} = \sum_{j=1}^{N} f_j [\exp i2\pi (hx_j + ky_j + lz_j)] \quad \longleftarrow \quad \text{(Fourier Transform)}$ 





## **Data collection by oscillation steps**



4. Data processing (iMosflm/XDS)

1/ Indexing (calculating crystal unit cell & orientation with one or more images)



Autoindexing a=b=79 Å c=38 Å  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^{\circ}$ 



2/ Integrating (measuring intensities image)



from first to last

3/ Scaling intensities by blocks of images (10° in iMosflm for the lysozyme crystal). Conserved <I> between blocks



4/ Merging symmetry-related I(hkl) (*Laue class 422 for the lysozyme crystal*) with assessment of data quality

$$R_{sym} = \frac{\sum_{hkl} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left| I_i(hkl) - I_i(\overline{h}\,\overline{k}\overline{l}) \right|}{\sum_{hkl} \sum_{i=1}^{n} I_i(hkl)}$$

Good data set usually means overall  $\rm R_{svm}$  between 2% and 7%

### 5/ Amplitudes from merged intensities I=F<sup>2</sup> (*resulting file*)

h	k	1	F	SIGF	DANO	SIGDANO	F(+)	SIGF(+)	F(-)	SIGF(-)
0	0	1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	2	-1.00	0.00	-1.00	0.00	-1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	3	-1.00	0.00	-1.00	0.00	-1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	0	4	101.12	6.29	0.00	0.00	100.92	9.00	100.05	9.11
0	0	5	5087.18	868.91	5087.18	868.91	5087.18	868.91	5004.75	871.44
0	0	6	-1.00	868.91	-1.00	868.91	-1.00	868.91	5004.75	871.44
0	0	7	-1.00	868.91	-1.00	868.91	-1.00	868.91	5004.75	871.44
0	0	8	712.77	26.26	0.00	0.00	713.90	35.18	706.38	40.04
0	0	9	251303.12	24365.59	251303.12	24365.59	251303.12	24365.59	246856.75	27390.66
0	0	10	-1.00	24365.59	-1.00	24365.59	-1.00	24365.59	246856.75	27390.66
0	0	11	-1.00	24365.59	-1.00	24365.59	-1.00	24365.59	246856.75	27390.66
0	0	12	374.42	11.63	0.00	0.00	377.39	14.45	367.19	<mark>19.85</mark>
36 1	20	1	239.06	4.01	-32.37	8.15	221.41	<mark>6</mark> .19	253.78	5.30

resolution limit

#### 5. Difference between X-ray diffraction and optical microscopy

#### - X-ray diffractometer



X-rays are high energy waves. There is no physical way to change their trajectories to directly observe a magnified image  $\rightarrow$  **Phasing problem** in X-ray crystallography



# A. Phasing with molecular replacement

**Experimental Fobs** 

Calcul of TF<sup>-1</sup>(Fobs ¢calc)

Assessment with R<sub>factor</sub> (<50%)

$$R = \frac{\sum_{hkl} ||F_{obs}| - k|F_{calc}||}{\sum_{hkl} |F_{obs}|}$$

#### **Use of the Patterson function in Molecular Replacement**

1. The Patterson function is defined as the TF<sup>-1</sup> from intensities

$$P(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{V_c} \sum_{\mathbf{h}} F(\mathbf{h})^2 \exp(-2\pi i \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{u}) \text{ with } \mathbf{u} = u\mathbf{a} + v\mathbf{b} + w\mathbf{c}$$

2. It is also defined as a unit cell with N<sup>2</sup>-N+1peaks of height ZjZj' positioned at the end of interatomic vectors **r**j-**r**j'

$$P(\mathbf{u}) = \sum_{j} \sum_{j'} Z_j Z_{j'} \delta(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_{j'})$$

where  $Z_j$  is the number of electrons of the atom j positioned at  $\mathbf{r}_j$ 

3. Suppose a **model** consisting of four atoms similar to the crystallized molecule

 $\rightarrow$  the Patterson map of the model is calculated in a crystal with arbitrary large unit cell parameters



## I. the rotation function

**Overlay** between  $P_A$  native and  $P_B$  model is calculated between the 2 cards within a region of radius R and centered in u=0,v=0,w=0

Intramolecular vectors are kept and intermolecular vectors are excluded



The orientation of the four atom model in the experimental unit cell is determined at the **maximum overlay** (maximum of the rotation function R([R]))

#### **II. the translation function**

Superimposition between **the observed intermolecular vectors** and the **calculated intermolecular vectors** by moving the **oriented model** along the axes u, v and w:



$$T(\mathbf{t}) = \int_{V} P_{1,2}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{t}) \times P(\mathbf{u}) d\mathbf{u}$$
  
v calculated Patterson observed Pattersor

The solution will correspond to the maximum of the Translation function T(t)

 $\rightarrow$  The four atom model is now **oriented** and **positioned** in the experimental cell.

#### **III. Crystallographic assessment and refinement**

The first validation of the structure is the measure of the confidence factor R<sub>factor</sub>

$$R = \frac{\sum_{hkl} ||F_{obs}| - k|F_{calc}||}{\sum_{hkl} |F_{obs}|}$$

A second confidence factor, R<sub>free</sub>, is calculated on 5% of the data, which are not included in the restrained positional refinement

$$R_T^{\text{free}} = \frac{\sum_{hkl \in T} ||F_{\text{obs}}| - k|F_{\text{calc}}||}{\sum_{hkl \in T} |F_{\text{obs}}|}$$

If the restrained refinement is correct (*performed with Refmac5*), the  $R_{free}$  must decrease with the  $R_{factor}$ 



# **B.** Phasing with anomalous signal

Correction to the scattering factor of an atom in case of anomalous scattering



Anomalous correction f" is proportional to absorption and fluorescence and f' is its derivative



#### Anomalous signal of Selenium near K-edge ( $\lambda$ =0.98 Å)

#### The breakdown of Friedel's law



The difference between F(h,k,l) and F(-h,-k,-l) is DANO



Two possible phases for the protein **Fp** -> be **MAD** or **SAD** 

Phases probabilities in SAD



The crystallographer may take the **mean** of the two possible phases and use this along with a weight:  $\mathbf{F} = w |F_P| \exp(i\phi_{mean})$  and then use solvent flattening

## Improving phases by solvent flattening (Solomon)

Calculating a mask where the protein zone is set to 1 and the solvent to 0

11212321112212112 **45475**1222**563678677845676867559877685567798775**12234221221132141

mask

Electron density maps

Determination of the average density in the solvent mask region set to 0 ( $\rho_s = 2$ ).

Better phases will then be obtained by Fourier Transform and cycling



The procedure of solvent flattening can be improved in case of **noncrystallographic** symmetry.

The density of the protein is considered to be identical between regions linked by non-crystallographic symmetry and is **averaged** within masks (powerful for **icosahedral viruses**)

$$\rho_{avg}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{N} M_i(x) \sum_{j=1}^{N} \rho(x_{ij})$$

# Model Building: Steps in making the first trace in electron density map

- Generating  $C\alpha$  chain trace
- recognize secondary structures
- Identifying chain direction
- sequence assignment
- add water molecules, etc...

•The sulfur or Se-methionines are the perfect starting point for the sequence fitting if the map is from sulfur-SAD or Se-MAD phases.

• The large tryptophan may well be recognized in electron density maps.













# **Structure Validation and Deposition**

Generate symmetry related molecules and check contacts

Missing density is much better than extra density

The model should make chemical sense

The stereochemical parameters such as bond length, bond angle etc, should be within the standard deviation from their ideal values

The Ramachandran Plot should be normal

==> WHATCHECK, MOLPROBITY, ...





#### Protein Data Bank, > 100 000 atomic structures



Why water boils at 100°C and methane at -161°C, why blood is red and grass is green, why diamond is hard and wax is soft... The answers to all these problems have come from structural analysis.

Max Perutz, July 1996, Churchill College, Cambridge

Class	Laue Class	Space group (65 without mirror symmetry out of 230)
Triclinic	1	P1
Monoclinic	2	P2, P21, C2
Orthorhombic	222	P222, P222 <sub>1</sub> , P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2, P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> , C222 <sub>1</sub> , C222, F222, I222, I2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>
Quadratic	4 422	P4 P4 <sub>1</sub> , P4 <sub>2</sub> , P4 <sub>3</sub> , I4, I4 <sub>1</sub> , P422, P42 <sub>1</sub> 2, P4 <sub>1</sub> 22, P4 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2, P4 <sub>2</sub> 22, P4 <sub>2</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2, P4 <sub>3</sub> 22, P4 <sub>3</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2, I422, I4 <sub>1</sub> 22
Trigonal	3 32	P3, P3 <sub>1</sub> , P3 <sub>2</sub> , P312, P321, P3 <sub>1</sub> 12, P3 <sub>1</sub> 21, P3 <sub>2</sub> 12, P3 <sub>2</sub> 21, R32
Hexagonal	6 622	P6, P6 <sub>1</sub> , P6 <sub>5</sub> , P6 <sub>2</sub> , P6 <sub>4</sub> , P6 <sub>3</sub> , P622, P6 <sub>1</sub> 22, P6 <sub>5</sub> 22, P622, P6 <sub>4</sub> 22, P6 <sub>3</sub> 22
Cubic	23 432	P23, F23, I23, P2 <sub>1</sub> 3, I2 <sub>1</sub> 3, P432, P4 <sub>2</sub> 32, F432, F4 <sub>1</sub> 32, I432, P4 <sub>3</sub> 32, P4 <sub>1</sub> 32, I4 <sub>1</sub> 32
$H_{3} \xrightarrow{R} H = H = H$	oo α NH3 hinoacid Quadratic Primitive lattic asymetric unit	$\frac{1}{1}$

b A a	node	0 0 0 0 0 0	Motif COC COC	CUBIC a = b = c $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90$ TETRAGOI $a = b \neq c$ $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90$ ORTHORH( $a \neq b \neq c$ $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90$ HEXAGON $a = b \neq c$ $\alpha = \beta = 90^{\circ}$ $\gamma = 120^{\circ}$ MONOCLIN $a \neq b \neq c$ $\alpha = \gamma = 90^{\circ}$ $\beta \neq 120^{\circ}$ TRICLINIC $a \neq b \neq c$	NAL P OMBIC AL IIC	$\mathbf{F}$	4 Types of Unit Cell P = Primitive I = Body-Centred F = Face-Centred F = F
	Class Brav	aislattice	Symmetry axis	α ≠ β ≠ γ ≠ 90'	· 🧹	ameters	→ 14 Bravais Lattices
	Triclinic	P	none		a≠b≠c	α≠β≠γ	
	Monoclinic	P, C	one 2-fold (//b)		a≠b≠c	α=γ=90°≠β	
	Orthorhombic	P, C, I, F	three 2-fold (//a,	//b, //c)	a≠b≠c	α=β=γ=90°	
	Quadratic	P, I	one 4-fold (//c)		a=b≠c	α=β=γ=90°	
	Trigonal	P ( or R )	one 3-fold (//c)		a=b≠c a=b=c	α=β=90° ; γ=120 α=β=γ<120°≠90°	0
	Hexagonal	Ρ	one 6-fold (//c)		a=b≠c	α=β=90°, γ=120°	
	Cubic	P, I, F	four 3-fold (alon cube diagonals)	g	a=b=c	α=β=γ=90°	





I(hkl) respect the Laue class = keep crystal rotation symmetry



~100% of the I(hkl) collected (0°-1°, 1°-2°, ...,179°-180°) to the resolution limit (1.2 Å)



# Data merging and reducing in asymmetric unit (Scala/Xscale)

Merging data (I(hkl)averaging with Laue class 422, assessing data quality with R<sub>sym</sub>)

$$R_{sym} = \frac{\sum_{hkl} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left| I_i(hkl) - I_i(\overline{h}\,\overline{k}\overline{l}) \right|}{\sum_{hkl} \sum_{i=1}^{n} I_i(hkl)}$$

RESOLUTION	NUMBER	OF REFL	ECTIONS	COMPLETENESS	<b>R-SYM</b>	I/SIGMA
LIMIT	OBSERVED	UNIQUE	POSSIBLE	OF DATA	observed	
10.00	3042	1247	1650	75.6%	<b>2.7</b> %	31.09
6.00	22426	6027	6034	99.98	2.8%	37.73
5.00	21552	5615	5615	100.0%	2.8%	37.37
4.00	48765	12658	12659	100.0%	3.0%	35.23
3.00	137230	35606	35610	100.0%	5.4%	19.25
2.70	88181	22953	22955	100.0%	19.4%	6.66
2.60	38834	10124	10124	100.0%	<b>26.4</b> %	3.88
total	360030	94230	94647	99.6%	4.1%	19.08

#### La fonction de Patterson

La fonction de Patterson est définie comme une TF-1 sur les intensités

$$P(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{V_c} \sum_{\mathbf{h}} F(\mathbf{h})^2 \exp(-2\pi i \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{u})$$
  
avec  $\mathbf{u} = u\mathbf{a} + v\mathbf{b} + w\mathbf{c}$ 

Cette fonction est également définie comme étant la fonction de convolution de la densité électronique  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ :

$$P(\mathbf{u}) = \rho(\mathbf{r}) * \rho(-\mathbf{r}) = \int_{V} \rho(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{r}) d^{3}\mathbf{r}$$

En décrivant la densité électronique comme ponctuelle, on trouve:

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{j} Z_{j} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{j})$$

où Zj est le nombre d'électrons de l'atome j situé en rj. La fonction de Patterson devient :

$$P(\mathbf{u}) = \int_{V} \sum_{j} Z_{j} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{j}) \sum_{j'} Z_{j'} \delta(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{j'}) d^{3}\mathbf{r} = \sum_{j} \sum_{j'} Z_{j} Z_{j'} \int_{V} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{j}) \delta(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{j'}) d^{3}\mathbf{r}$$
$$= \sum_{j} \sum_{j'} Z_{j} Z_{j'} \delta(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{r}_{j} - \mathbf{r}_{j'})$$

La fonction de Patterson est réduite à des pics de hauteur ZjZj'situés aux extrémités des vecteurs interatomiques **r**j-**r**j'

Le nombre de pics de hauteur ZjZj'est égal à N<sup>2</sup>, dont N pics à l'origine et Le nombre de pics en dehors de l'origine est donc de **N(N-1)** 



**Figure** : cristaux 2D avec 2 puis 3 atomes par maille et correspondance dans la maille de Patterson

-Le groupe de symétrie de la carte de Patterson est différent de celui du cristal. Il implique la création d'un centre de symétrie et la disparition de la symétrie hélicoïdale.

- Les atomes les plus lourds vont produire **les pics les plus intenses** sur les cartes de Patterson





Il est possible de résoudre informatiquement la structure d'une petite molécule (**cinquantaine** d'atomes) après inspection d'une carte de Patterson.

La fonction de Patterson est également employée dans la méthode de **Remplacement Moléculaire** comme utilisé ci-après

## **Energy minimisation**

Calcul of potential energy from all atoms :

$$E_{\text{bond}} = \frac{1}{2} K_{\text{bond}} (b - b_0)^2$$

$$E_{\text{bond angle}} = \frac{1}{2} K_{\tau} (\tau - \tau_0)^2$$

$$E_{\text{torsion}} = \frac{1}{2} K_{\xi} (\xi - \xi_0)^2$$

$$E_{\text{dihedral}} = K_{\theta} \{1 + \cos(m\theta + \delta)\}$$

$$E_{\text{van der Waals}} = A \times r^{-12} + B \times r^{-6}$$

Plus weighted crystallographic energy from merged hkl :  $E_{xray}=|Fobs-Fcalc|^2$  $E_{pot} = E_{covalent} + E_{non-covalent} + W E_{cryst}$ 

## **Energy minimization**

#### Potential energy from all atoms :

	E liaison = $\sum k_{\rm h} (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{\rm o})^2$				
	r <sub>o</sub> = Longueur idéale de liaison (1.53 Å pour C -C) r = Longueur réelle de la liaison k, constante de force (1000 kcal/m ol.A <sup>2</sup> )				
	+ E angle = $\sum k_{\theta} (\theta - \theta_{\theta})^2$				
Covelent energy	θ <sub>o</sub> = Angle de valence idéal (109 °C -C -C) θ = Angle de valence mesuré (sur la structure) k <sub>e</sub> constante de force (500 kcal/m ol.rad²)				
Covalent energy	+ E angle = $\sum k_{\delta} (1 + \cos(n\delta + \phi_0)) = 1,2,3,4,6$				
	δ= Angle de torsion n = Périodicité				
	$k_g$ constante de force				
	+ E impropre = $\sum k_{\omega} (\omega - \omega_0)^2$				
	$\omega_0 = Angle de planarité idéale (180 °N -C\alpha -CO)\omega = \text{Angle de planarité mesurée}$				
	k, constante de force				
	+ $\sum_{i} 4 \mathcal{E}_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{r_o}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{r_o}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$ r o distance de Van der Waals r ij distance entre les atomes i et j				
Non-covalent energy	$+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{332 \dots q_{i} \dots q_{j}}{D \dots r_{ij}} = D \text{ constante diélectrique (80 dans l'eau, 1 dans le vide)}$				
	+ $\sum \left[ \left( \frac{A}{r_{\alpha d}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{B}{r_{\alpha d}} \right)^{10} \right]^{r}$ ad distance donneur-accepteur A et B sont des constantes				

Plus weighted experimental crystallographic energy : Exray= (|Fobs|- k |Fcalc|)<sup>2</sup>



Cette procédure peut être améliorée en cas de symétrie non-cristallographique

La densité de la protéine est considérée comme devant être identique entre zones reliées par une **symétrie non-cristallographique** et est moyennée à l'intérieur de masques délimitant ces zones (**molecular averaging, important pour virus**)

$$\rho_{avg}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{N} M_i(x) \sum_{j=1}^{N} \rho(x_{ij})$$