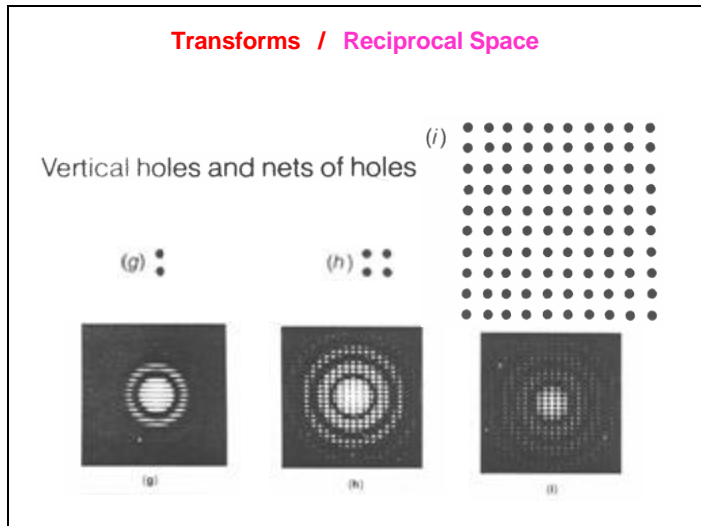


X-Ray Crystallography

“If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a macromolecular structure is priceless to a physical biochemist.” – van Holde

Topics:

1. Protein Data Bank (PDB)
 - Data mining and Protein Structure Analysis Tools
2. Image Formation
 - Resolution / Wavelength (Amplitude, Phase) / Light Microscopy / EM / X-ray / (NMR)
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X-RAYS: Bragg's, What Are They? 4.7 X-rays, What Are They? 3.7.4

More About the Bragg Formula

X-rays scattered from different layers of atoms can interfere with each other. The interference depends on the wavelength of the X-ray and on the distance between the atom layers. An X-ray with well-known wavelength can be used to explore the structure of the crystal. For a well-known crystal, the X-ray properties can be examined.

$n\lambda = 2d \sin\theta$

Crystal planes, in NaCl, ordinary salt. Other planes are also possible.

X-ray scattering from three crystal planes, separated by the distance d . For constructive interference in a direction θ the path difference must be an even number of wavelengths.

Related Laureates

The Nobel Prize in Physics 1915 - Sir William Henry Bragg >

The Nobel Prize in Physics 1915 - William Lawrence Bragg >

Diffraction: Scattering from (two) “atoms”

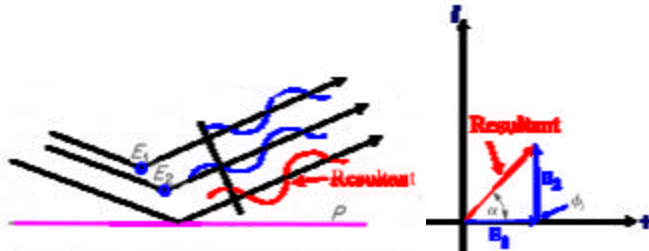
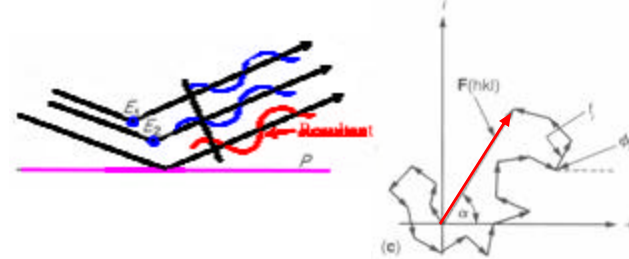


Figure 2.10. Diffraction from E_1 and E_2 as if reflected from plane P .

Scattering from “many atoms”

$$F(hkl) = F(hkl)e^{i\alpha(hkl)} = \sum_{j=1}^{N'} f_j(hkl) = \sum_{j=1}^{N'} f_j(hkl)e^{i\phi_j(hkl)}$$

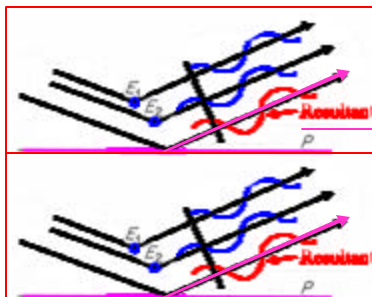
← Calculated
← Experimental
 $F(hkl) = \text{SQRT}[c_l(hkl)]$



The structure factor for a reflection may be thought of as the vector sum of the x-ray scattering contributions from many atoms.

Each of the j contributions may be represented as a vector in the complex plane, with amplitude f_j and phase ϕ_j .

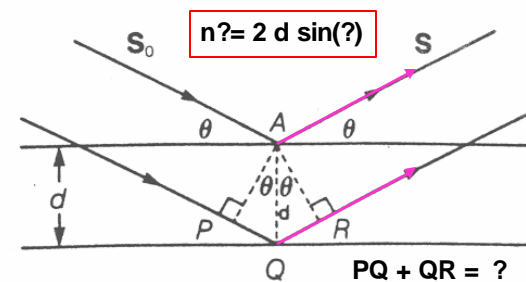
Scattering from “atoms in two unit cells”



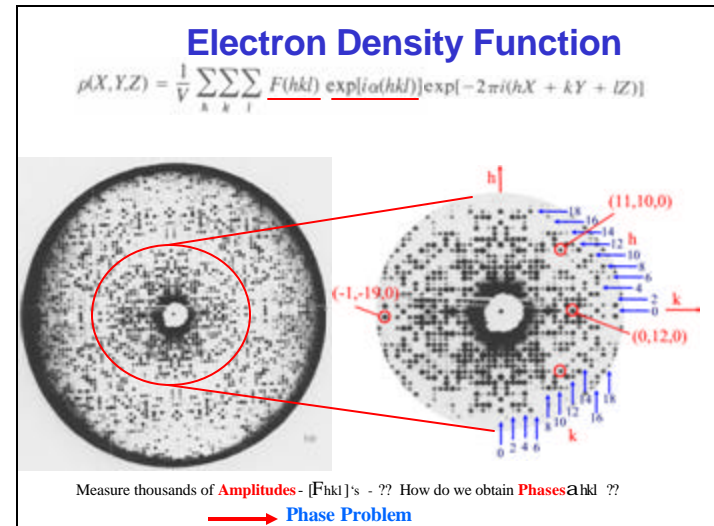
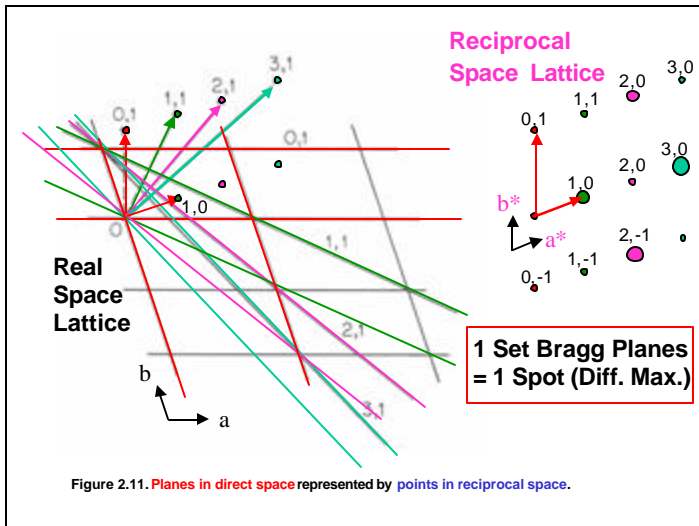
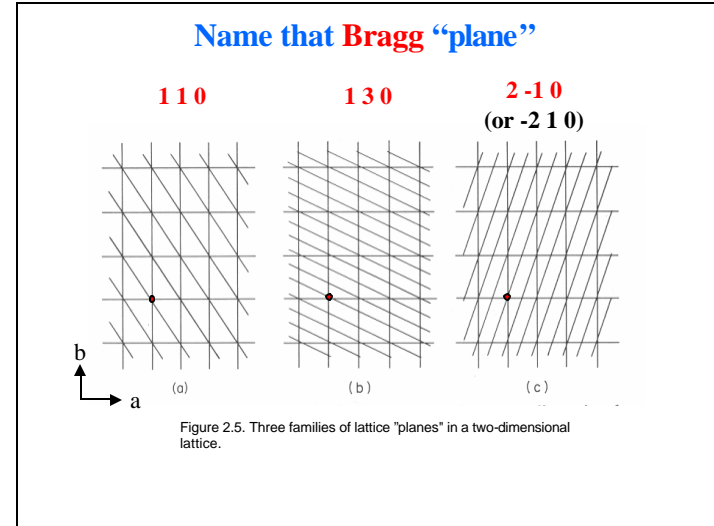
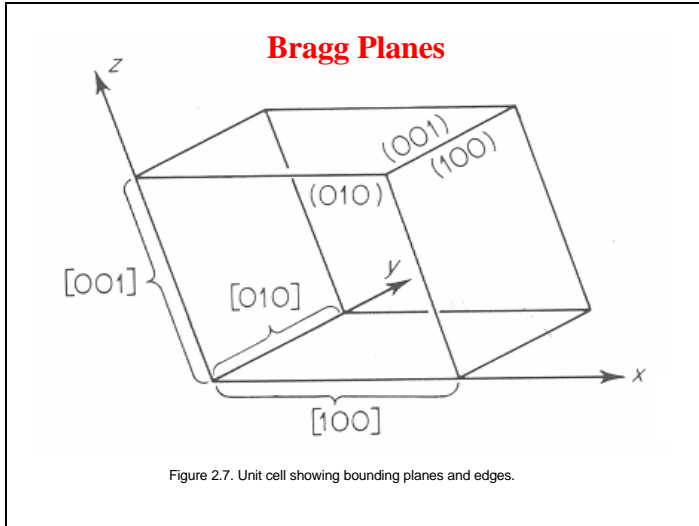
Crystals: Scattering from “planes”

Resultant scattering of resultant scattering!

Bragg Equation



→ Scattering will only be “observed” at discrete **Bragg angles** (θ)
The spacings of the Bragg reflections → **Lattice Constants**



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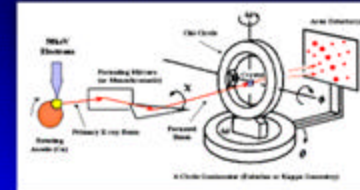
f) Structure Solution – Phase Problem: MIR / MR / MAD

h) Refinement, Analysis and Presentation of Results

i) Use of Difference Fourier's



The information we get from a single diffraction experiment.....



The reflections are indexed (consistent assignment of reciprocal cell indices h, k, l) and all we get for the money is a long list of intensities from several ten thousand reflections

2	10	1	124	58
3	10	1	1644	72
4	10	1	1258	85
5	10	1	1279	83
6	10	1	138	88
7	10	1	775	63
8	10	1	1344	56
9	10	1	432	75
10	10	1	1746	18
11	10	1	789	38
12	10	1	29	37
13	10	1	488	72
14	10	1	51	36
15	10	1	114	72
16	10	1	774	26
17	10	1	87	57
18	10	1	36	52
19	11	1	89	30
1	11	1	2258	68
2	11	1	778	58

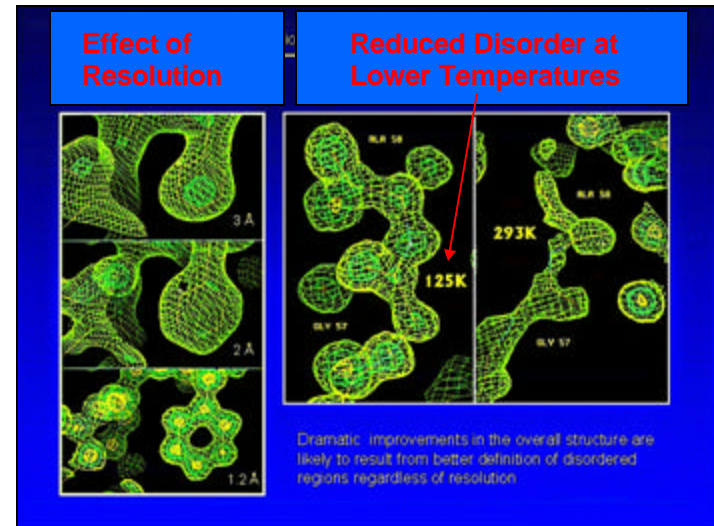
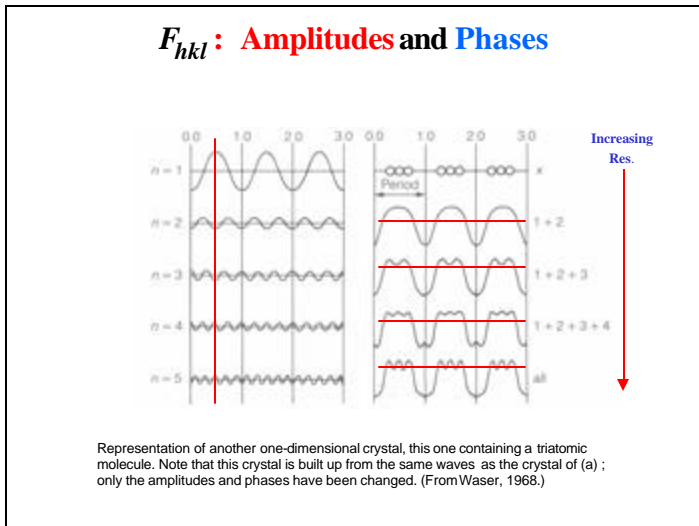
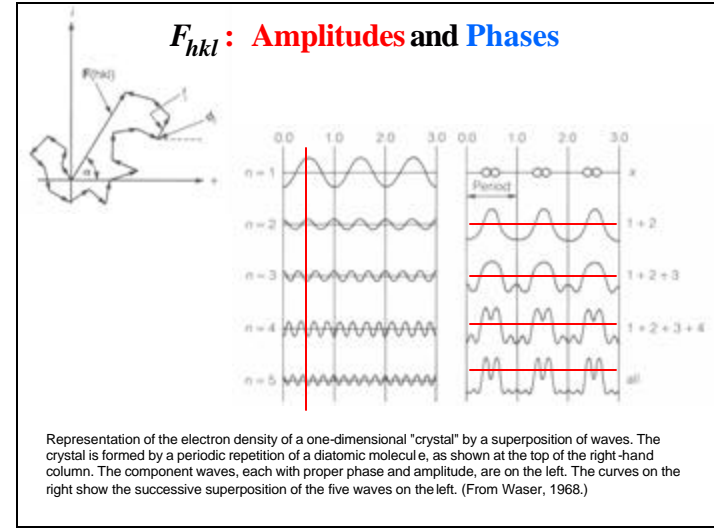
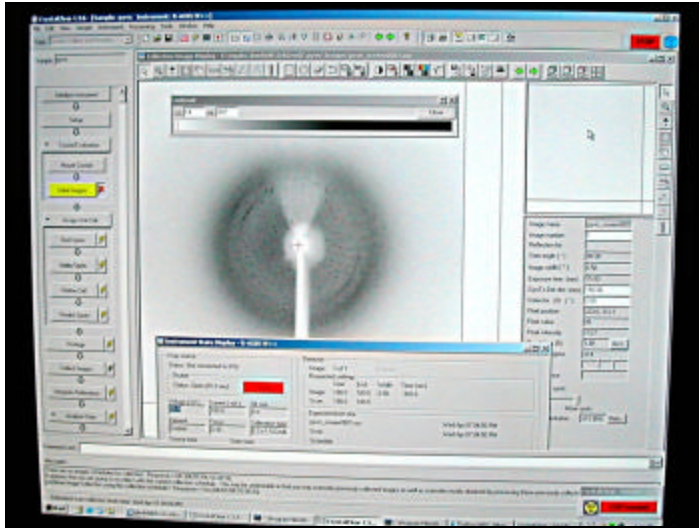


Cryo-cooling efficiently improves data quality



- Crystals are rapidly cooled (**NOT FROZEN**) to near liquid nitrogen temperature
- Reduced thermal vibrations
- **Increased resolution**
- Reduced disorder
- **Eliminated radiation damage**
- No merging and scaling errors





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- e) Data Collection – Methods / Detectors / Structure Factors

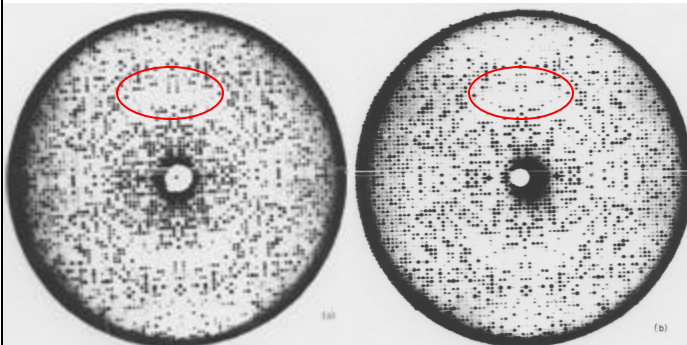


- h) Refinement, Analysis and Presentation of Results
- i) Use of Difference Fourieris

Solving the Phase Problem

1. **MIR:** Multiple Isomorphous Replacement (Heavy Atom)
 2. **MR:** Molecular Replacement
 3. **MAD:** multiwavelength anomalous dispersion
- *****
- **Molecular Modeling** (predicting starting structure from sequence alone)

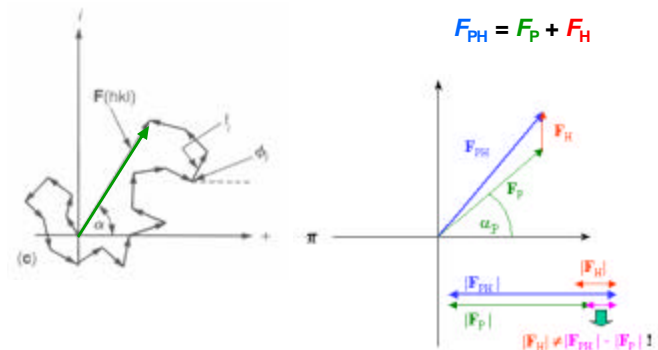
Use of Heavy Metal Ions for Phasing by MIR Methods



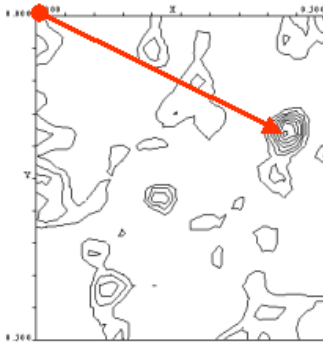
Native Phosphorylase

Phosphorylase + Ethyl Hg thiosalicylate

Effect of adding 1 “heavy” atom with lots of electrons!



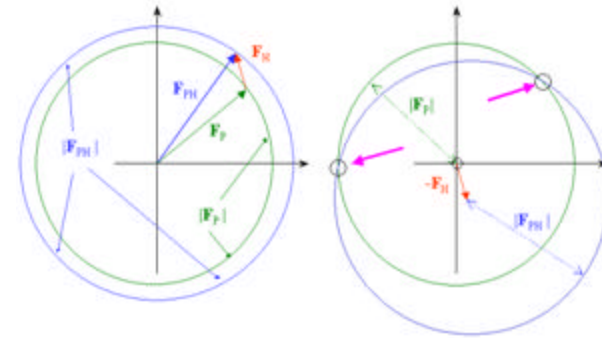
Difference Patterson Map $(F_{hkl})^2$



Multiple Isomorphous Replacement (MIR) method

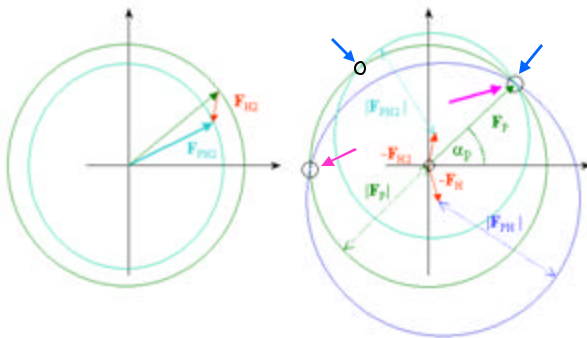
$$F_{PH} = F_P + F_H$$

$$F_P = F_{PH} - F_H$$



Multiple Isomorphous Replacement (MIR) method

$$F_P = F_{PH} - F_H$$



Solving the phase problem by "**Molecular Replacement**".

If an approximate model of the protein structure is known in advance, approximate phases can be guessed, and the unknown parts of the structure can be calculated in an iterative procedure.

No heavy atom derivative required.

BUT – need starting model and orientation (rotation and translation)

For example, molecular replacement can be used to determine the structure of an **complex with inhibitor** bound to an enzyme active site, if the structure of the enzyme itself is already known. Also, MR is often used to solve the structures of **closely related proteins** in a superfamily.

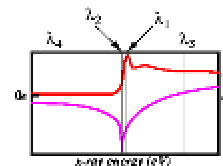
"Multiwavelength Anomalous Dispersion"

(MAD) methods

Additional information used in calculating phases can be obtained if x-ray diffraction intensities can be measured at **wavelengths near the absorption edge** of the heavy atom derivative.

A **tunable x-ray source** is required (provided by a **synchrotron**). In a synchrotron, accelerated electrons traveling near the speed of light emit intense x-rays.

- often only a single heavy atom derivative is required to solve a structure (**selenomethionine**).
- it is possible to solve structure of higher molecular weight molecules (such as the ribosome, at MW = 2,500,000).



What should they be?

- The largest signal will come from choosing the wavelength with maximal f'' (λ_1 in the figure above).
- The second wavelength is usually chosen to have maximal $|f'|$ (λ_2 in the figure above). Note that (1 and 2) are very close together, requiring great precision in setting up the apparatus which controls wavelength during data collection.
- Additional wavelengths (3 and 4) are chosen at points remote from the absorption edge. The available signal increasing slowly as the distance from the first two wavelengths increases. However the diffraction conditions (crystal absorption and diffracting power, diffraction geometry, etc) become more disparate as the distance increases. The choice usually comes down to the practical limitations imposed by the particular beamline apparatus being used. Typically λ_3 and λ_4 are between 100eV and 1000eV from the absorption edge.

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- Structure Solution – Phase Problem: MIR / MR / MAD



Least-Squares Refinement

$$\sum_{j=1}^m w_j \left(\frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_1} \right)^2 \Delta p_1 + \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_1} \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_2} \Delta p_2 + \dots$$

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_1} \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_n} \Delta p_n = \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \Delta F_o \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_1}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^m w_j \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_2} \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_1} \Delta p_1 + \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_2} \right)^2 \Delta p_2 + \dots$$

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_2} \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_n} \Delta p_n = \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \Delta F_o \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_2}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^m w_j \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_n} \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_1} \Delta p_1 + \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_n} \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_2} \Delta p_2 + \dots$$

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \left(\frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_n} \right)^2 \Delta p_n = \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \Delta F_o \frac{\partial |kF_{o,j}|}{\partial p_n}$$

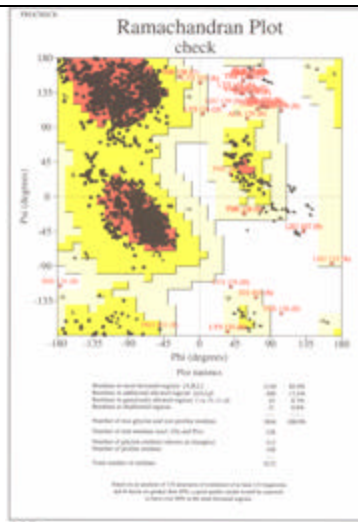
Energy Refinement

(Simulated Annealing)

$$E_{TOTAL} = E_{EMPIRICAL} + E_{EFFECTIVE}$$

$$E_{EFFECTIVE} = E_{XREF} + E_{NOE} + E_{HARM} + E_{CDIH} + E_{NCS} + E_{DG} + E_{RELA} + E_{PLAN}$$

$$E_{EMPIRICAL} = \sum_{\rho=1}^N [w_{BOND} E_{BOND} + w_{ANGL} E_{ANGL} + w_{DIHE} E_{DIHE} + w_{IMPR} E_{IMPR} + w_{VDW} E_{VDW} + w_{ELEC} E_{ELEC} + w_{PVDW} E_{PVDW} + w_{PELE} E_{PELE} + w_{HBON} E_{HBON}]$$



Crystal Structure of *M. tuberculosis* Alanine Racemase

Table 1: Data Collection and Processing Statistics for the MAD and Native Data Sets of Alr₂₀₀

	MAD 1	MAD 2	MAD 3	MAD 4	native
λ (Å)	0.9788	0.9790	0.9562	0.9809	0.9160
resolution (Å)		2.20		1.80	
completeness		0.50		0.65	
no. of reflections observed $\geq I_{\sigma}$	432370	446744	431524	336135	779600
no. of unique reflections $\geq I_{\sigma}$	35817	37506	36020	36242	67592
R_{merge} (%)	6.9	6.4	5.1	3.7	6.0 (67.2)
completeness (%)	91.8	95.8	92.1	92.1	99.3 (95.6)
I/σ	30.3	34.3	41.6	50.9	34.5 (2.6)

$$*R_{merge} = \sum |I_{\sigma} - \langle I_{\sigma} \rangle| / \sum I_{\sigma}$$

Table 2: Final Refinement Statistics for Alr₂₀₀ at 1.9 Å Resolution

R factor (%)	20.4
R _{int} (%) (for 1747 reflections)	25.4
average R factor (A ²)	
main chain	25.5
side chain	31.5
PLP	21.9
waters	32.4
r.m.s. deviations	
bond lengths (Å)	0.006
bond angles (deg)	1.9
no. of reflections $\geq 2\sigma$	35001
no. of residues	722
no. of protein atoms	5360
no. of PLP atoms	30
no. of water molecules	350

$$*R\text{-factor} = \sum |F_o - F_c| / \sum F_o$$

Biochemistry 2001, 40, 1471-1481

The 1.9 Å Crystal Structure of Alanine Racemase from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Contains a Conserved Entryway into the Active Site¹

Paula Lippert¹, Marking Xu², Amy Edwards¹, Chuck Smith¹, Michael J. Benedl¹, James R. Drenth¹, David Kelly¹, and Earl S. Kanner^{1*}

¹Department of Biology and Biochemistry, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 77501-0801, Department of Biology, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843-0212, ²Division of Molecular Chemistry and Biophysics, School of Pharmacy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599-7060 and

³North Carolina Central University, P.O. Box 6171, Durham, North Carolina 27688

Received June 27, 2001; Accepted November 15, 2001

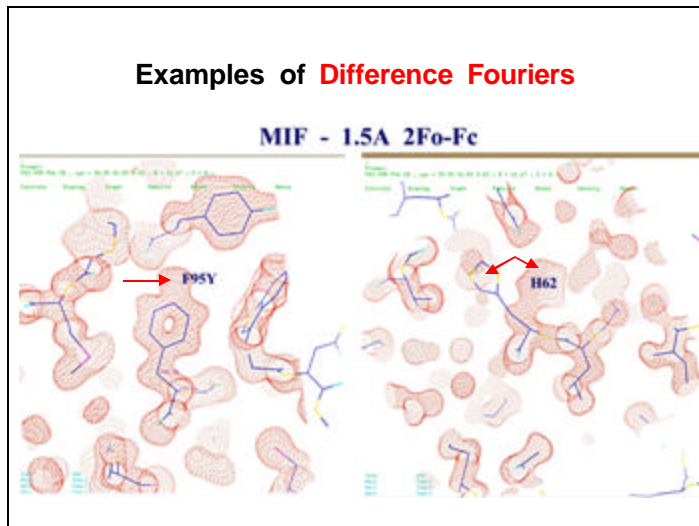
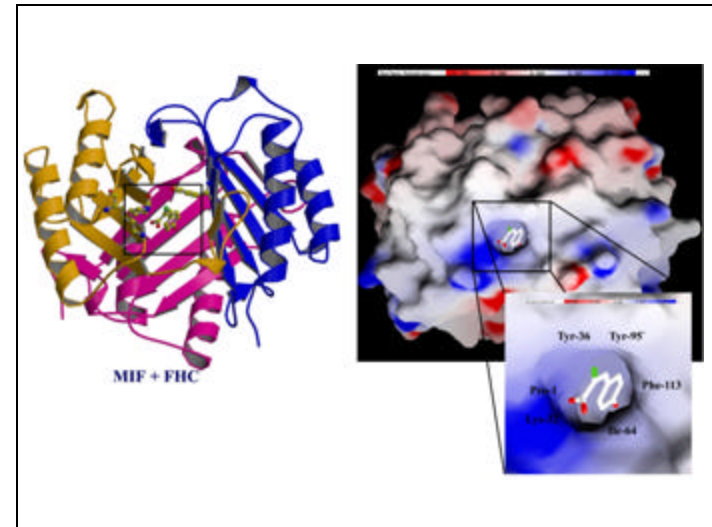
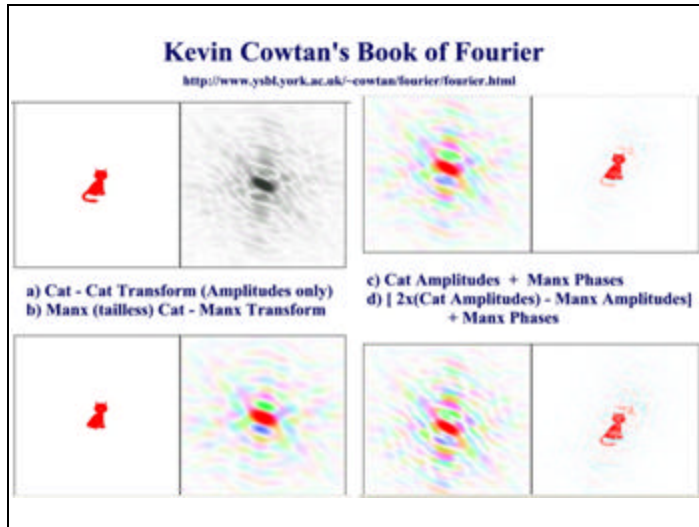
Difference Fourier

$$\text{Obs. } \rho_o(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_h \sum_k \sum_l F_{o,hkl} e^{-2\pi i(hx+ky+lz)} + R$$

$$\text{Calc. } \rho_c(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_h \sum_k \sum_l F_{c,hkl} e^{-2\pi i(hx+ky+lz)} + R'$$

$$\rho_o(x, y, z) - \rho_c(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_h \sum_k \sum_l (F_o - F_c)_{hkl} e^{-2\pi i(hx+ky+lz)} + R - R'$$

$$\rho_o - \rho_c = \frac{1}{V} \sum_h \sum_k \sum_l \Delta F_{hkl} e^{-2\pi i(hx+ky+lz)}$$



X-Ray Crystallography

Quiz questions:

- Crystal Growth – Materials / Methods**
 - What is the single most important factor that determines crystal growth?
 - What are the two most common precipitating agents for growing protein crystals?
- Crystal Lattices - Lattice Constants / Space Groups / Asymmetric Unit**
 - Identify the unit cell, asymmetric unit and symmetry present in the pattern shown.
- X-ray Sources – Sealed Tube / Rotation Anode / Synchrotron**
 - What is responsible for “characteristic” X-rays?
 - What are the major advantages of using synchrotron radiation?
- Theory of Diffraction – Bragg’s Law / Reciprocal Space**
 - When collecting an X-ray data set, what is being measured and how is that data useful?
- Phasing and Refinement**
 - Identify the meaning of the terms: MIR, MR, MAD, Difference Map, Simulated Annealing