## C7270

# Biological X-Ray Crystallography and Cryo-Electron Microscopy 

Fall 2022

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## 1. Expression \& purification


3. Diffraction data

## 4. Solve structure



1. Expression \& purification 2. Grid preparation

2. cryo-EM data

3. Reconstruction

## Aims of the course

- Diffraction of light
- Approaches to resolve phase problem in crystallography
- Use of electrons to display objects with high magnification and fine detail
- Calculation of three-dimensional reconstruction from two-dimensional projections


## What is asked of you:

- Be present and awake
- Participate in discussions
- I am here to help, learning is up to you!
- Ask questions - it will help to clarify the issue not only for you but for your peers as well!
- In class discussions, be respectful of other students' opinions.


## Not part of this course:

- Basic math - mental overload by dealing with simple equations. (Observed before.)
- Reserve time for thinking.


## Course textbooks:

## Principles of Protein X-Ray Crystallography

Thiril Pilitha


Three-Dimensional
Electron Microscopy of Macromolecular Assemblies


JOACHIM FRANK

| L\# | Date | Time | Lecturer | Topic | Chapter reading |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 13.9. | 12:00-13:25 | Pavel Plevka | Development of X-ray crystallography, crystallization of macromolecules, phase diagram, Crystal symmetry, symmetry operators, point groups, space groups. | Drenth: 1, 2, 3 |
| 2 | 20.9. | 12:00-14:30 | Pavel Plevka | Diffraction of light by electrons, atoms, unit cell, crystal. Bragg's law. Diffraction images and indexing. | Drenth: 4 |
|  | 27.9. |  |  | No lecture |  |
| 3 | 4.10. |  | Pavel Plevka | Fourier transform, structure factor, intensity of diffraction spots. | Drenth: 4, 5 |
| 4 | 11.10. |  | Pavel Plevka | Solutions to phase problem in X-ray crystallography. Isomorphous replacement, SAD, MAD, Molecular replacement. Rotation and translation function. Model building and refinement. | Drenth: 7, 10 |
| 5 | 18.10. |  | Tibor Füzik | Electron microscope. Interaction of electrons with matter, electron imaging. Amplitude and phase contrast. Contrast transfer function. | Frank: 1, 2 |
| 6 | 25.10. |  | Tibor Füzik | Fourier transform and its properties, convolution, point spread function. | Frank: 2 |
| 7 | 1.11. |  | Jiří Nováček | Analysis of electron micrographs. 2D classification. Principal component analysis. | Frank: 3, 4 |
| 8 | 8.11. |  | Jiří Nováček | Three dimensional reconstruction - single particle reconstruction and tomogram calculation. 3D classification. | Frank: 5 |
| 9 | 15.11 |  | Jiří Nováček | Improving cryo-EM reconstruction, particle polishing, Ewalds, sphere correction, per particle CTF, ... Model building and refinement. Detection of errors, validation and detection of mistakes. | Frank: 6 |
| 10 | TBD | TBD | Holger Stark | State-of-the-art cryo-EM of macromolecular complexes. |  |
| 11 | TBD | TBD | Holger Stark | State-of-the-art cryo-EM of macromolecular complexes. |  |

## No lecture

Fourier transform, structure factor, intensity of Drenth: 4, 5
diffraction spots.
Solutions to phase problem in X-ray crystallography.
Isomorphous replacement, SAD, MAD, Molecular
replacement. Rotation and translation function. Model g and refinement.

Electron microscope. Interaction of electrons with de and phase

Fourier transform and its properties, convolution, point spread function.
Analysis of electron micrographs. 2D classification.
Principal component analysis.
Three dimensional reconstruction - single particle
classification.
Improving cryo-EM reconstruction, particle polishing, Ewalds, sphere correction, per particle CTF, ... Model building and refinement. Detection of errors, validation and detection of mistakes.

11 .

## Can we start

 at 14:00 or 14:30?Frank: 6

## Biological X-Ray Crystallography




Why do single snowflakes, before they become entangled with other snowflakes, always fall with six corners? Why do snowflakes not fall with five corners or with seven?


Although crystals of quartz and hematite appear in a great variety of shapes and sizes, the same interfacial angles persisted in every specimen. "Law of Constancy of Angles"


Niels Stensen (1638-1686)

## "Law of Constancy of Angles"



René Just Haüy (1743-1822)

## "Law of Constancy of Angles"



## History of fundamental discoveries

## WILHELM CONRAD RÖNTGEN (1845-1923)

- 1901 Nobel Laureate in Physics
discovery of the remarkable rays subsequently named after him




## MAX VON LAUE (1879-1960)

- 1914 Nobel Laureate in Physics for his discovery of the diffraction of X-rays by crystals


Friedrich and Knipping

## Wavelength and diffraction



## Waves



## Coherent beam



## Addition of waves




## Particles \& waves



## Diffraction of light



## Diffraction of light



## Wavelength and diffraction



## Wavelength comparison of X-rays and visible light



## Crystallizing a Protein



## Protein expression and purification



Vapor-diffusion


## Batch and microbatch



## Microdialysis



## Protein crystallization phase diagram



Crystallizing agent concentration

| $\square$ |  | Supersaturation |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\square$ | Undersaturation |



## Preparing crystals for diffraction experiment



Diffractometer with goniometer


## Diffractometer with goniometer



## X-ray sources

- sealed X-ray tube



## Spectrum of copper anode


$\lambda(\AA)$
$K_{\alpha}(1) \quad 1.54051$ The weight average value for $K_{\alpha}(1)$ and $K_{\alpha}(2)$ is taken as $1.54178 \AA$
$K_{\alpha}(2) \quad 1.54433$ because the intensity of $K_{\alpha}(1)$ is twice that of $K_{\alpha}(2)$
$\begin{array}{ll}K_{\beta} & 1.39217\end{array}$

## Synchrotron

- Bending magnet
- Wavelength shifter
- Wiggler
- Undulator



## X-ray detectors

Single photon counter
Film
Image plates
Area detectors:

- CCDs
- Direct X-rays detectors - Pilatus


## Crystals



Figure 3.1. Crystals of trimethylammonium bromide belonging to the same crystal form but exhibiting a range of morphologies.


- Origin

Figure 3.3. One unit cell in the crystal lattice.


Figure 3.4. A crystal lattice is a three-dimensional stack of unit cells.
$\uparrow$

## Lattice

Translationally periodic arrangement of points

## Crystal

Translationally periodic arrangement of motifs
Crystal = Lattice + Motif

```
Lattice > the underlying periodicity of the crystal
Motif > atom or group of atoms associated with each lattice point
```


## Lattice

## Motif

## Crystal



## Unit cells

## Instead of drawing the whole structure I can draw a representative part and specify the repetition pattern

- A cell is a finite representation of the infinite lattice
- A cell is a parallelogram (2D) or a parallelopiped (3D) with lattice points at their corners.
- If the lattice points are only at the corners, the cell is primitive.
- If there are lattice points in the cell other than the corners, the cell is nonprimitive.


a primitive unit cell (P)

a body-centered unit cell (I)

a unit cell centered in the (010) planes (B)

a face-centered unit cell ( F )


## Arrangement of lattice points in the unit cell No. of Lattice points / cell

|  |  | Position of lattice points | Effective number of Lattice <br> points / cell |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | P | 8 Corners | $=8 \times(1 / 8)=1$ |
| 2 | I | 8 Corners <br> + <br> 1 body centre | $=1$ (for corners) $+1(\mathrm{BC})$ |
| 3 | F | 8 Corners <br> + <br> 6 face centres | A/ for corners) $+6 \times(1 / 2)$ <br> 4 |
| 4 | 8 corners <br> + <br> C | 2 centres of opposite faces | $=2$ |

## SYMMETRY



If an object is brought into self-coincidence after some operation it said to possess symmetry with respect to that operation.

## Bravais Lattice

A lattice is a set of points constructed by translating a single point in discrete steps by a set of basis vectors. In three dimensions, there are 14 unique Bravais lattices (distinct from one another in that they have different space groups) in three dimensions. All crystalline materials recognized till now fit in one of these arrangements.


Table 3.2. The Seven Crystal Systems

| Crystal system | Conditions imposed on cell geometry | Minimum point group symmetry |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Triclinic | None | 1 |
| Monoclinic | $\alpha=\gamma=90^{\circ}$ (b is the unique axis; for proteins this is a 2-fold axis or screw axis) or: $\alpha=\beta=90^{\circ}$ ( $c$ is unique axis; for proteins this is a 2 -fold axis or screw axis) | 2 |
| Orthorhombic | $\alpha=\beta=\gamma=90^{\circ}$ | 222 |
| Tetragonal | $a=b ; \alpha=\beta=\gamma=90^{\circ}$ | 4 |
| Trigonal | $a=b ; \alpha=\beta=90^{\circ} ; \gamma=120^{\circ}$ (hexagonal axes) or: $a=b=c ; \alpha=\beta=\gamma$ (rhombohedral axes) | 3 |
| Hexagonal | $a=b ; \alpha=\beta=90^{\circ} ; \gamma=120^{\circ}$ | 6 |
| Cubic | $a=b=c ; \alpha=\beta=\gamma=90^{\circ}$ | 23 |



Figure 3.12. A 2-fold axis (left) and a 2-fold screw axis (right); the latter relates one molecule to another by a $180^{\circ}$ rotation plus a translation over half of the unit cell.

a three-fold rotation axis

a three-fold screw axis

Figure 3.13. A 3-fold axis (left) and a 3-fold screw axis (right); the latter relates one molecule to another by a $120^{\circ}$ rotation and a translation over one-third of the unit cell.

center of symmetry or inversion center

Figure 3.14. The effect of a mirror and of an inversion center.

## Guide to the recognising of wallpaper groups

1. Identify the smallest unit cell that represents all the symmetry included in the pattern. (Be particularly careful in the case of centered symmetry. Use rhomb shaped cells for patterns with 3 and 6 -fold rotation axes.)
2. Search for mirror and glide planes, mark rotation axes if any.
3. Use the following table to identify the wallpaper group:
i. Find the least rotation.
ii. Are there mirror planes in the pattern?
iii. Answer the subsequent question(s) if there are any.




End of lecture \#1 in 2022

SIR WILLIAM HENRY BRAGG (1862-1942) SIR WILLIAM LAWRENCE BRAGG (1890-1971)

- 1915 Nobel Laureates in Physics
for the analysis of crystal structure by means of $X$-rays


There is NO PHASE DIFFERENCE if the path differences are equal to whole number multiplies of wavelength ( $\lambda$ )

Bragg's law:


$$
\mathrm{n} \lambda=2 \mathrm{~d} \sin \theta
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sin \theta=w / d \\
& 2 w=n \lambda
\end{aligned}
$$



There is NO PHASE DIFFERENCE if the path differences are equal to prime number multiplies of wavelength ( $\lambda$ )

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$$


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


