

# PLATON, A set of Tools for the Interpretation of Structural Results

Ton Spek National Single Crystal Service Facility, Utrecht University,The Netherlands ACA2007, July 23, 2007

### What is PLATON

- PLATON is a collection of tools for single crystal structure analysis bundled within a single SHELX compatible program.
- The tools are either extended versions of existing tools or unique to the program.
- The program was/is developed in the context of our national single crystal service facility in the Netherlands.

## PLATON USAGE

- Today, PLATON is most widely used implicitly in its validation incarnation for all single crystal structures that are validated with the IUCr CHECKCIF utility.
- Tools are available in PLATON to analyze and solve the reported issues that need attention.
- PLATON also offers automatic structure determination and refinement tools for routine structure analyses from scratch (i.e. the 'Unix-only' SYSTEM S tool and the new STRUCTURE tool that is based on the Charge Flipping Ab initio phasing method).
- Next Slide: Main Function Menu  $\rightarrow$



>>

#### Selected Tools

- ADDSYM Detect and Handle Missed Symmetry
- TwinRotMat Detection of Twinning
- SOLV Solvent Accessible Voids
- SQUEEZE Handling of Disordered Solvents in Least Squares Refinement
- BijvoetPair Absolute Structure Determination

#### ADDSYM

- Often, a structure solves only in a space group with lower symmetry than the correct space group. The structure should subsequently be checked for higher symmetry.
- About 1% of the 2006 & 2007 entries in the CSD need a change og space group.
- E.g. A structure solves only in P1. ADDSYM is a tool to come up with the proper space group and to carry out the transformation
- Next slide: Recent example of missed symmetry



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# Things to be Checked

- Consistency of the new cell parameters with the new crystal system
- New systematic absences
- Pseudo-symmetry
- Analyse potential disorder
- Successful re-refinement

## (Pseudo)Merohedral Twinning

- Options to handle twinning in L.S. refinement available in SHELXL, CRYSTALS etc.
- Problem: Determination of the Twin Law that is in effect.
- Partial solution: coset decomposition, try all possibilities (I.e. all symmetry operations of the lattice but not of the structure)
- ROTAX (S.Parson et al. (2002) J. Appl. Cryst., 35, 168. (Based on the analysis of poorly fitting reflections of the type F(obs) >> F(calc) )
- TwinRotMat Automatic Twinning Analysis as implemented in PLATON (Based on a similar analysis but implemented differently)

## TwinRotMat Example

- Structure refined to R= 20% in the trigonal space group P-3.
- Run TwinRotMat on CIF/FCF
- Result: Twinlaw with an the estimate of the twinning fraction and the estimated drop in R-value
- Example of a Merohedral Twin →

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# Ideas behind the Algorithm

- Reflections effected by twinning show-up in the least-squares refinement with F(obs)
   >> F(calc)
- Overlapping reflections necessarily have the same  $\Theta$  within a tolerance.
- Statistical analysis of possible twin axes





### Solvent Accessible Voids

- A typical crystal structure has only 65% of the available space filled.
- The remainder volume is in voids (cusps) in-between atoms (too small to accommodate an H-atom)
  - Solvent accessible voids can be defined as regions in the structure that can accommodate at least a sphere with radius 1.2 Angstrom without intersecting with any of the van der Waals spheres assigned to each atom in the structure.
- Next Slide: Void Algorithm: Cartoon Style  $\rightarrow$



#### **DEFINE SOLVENT ACCESSIBLE VOID**



STEP #1 – EXCLUDE VOLUME INSIDE THE VAN DER WAALS SPHERE



#### DEFINE SOLVENT ACCESSIBLE VOID



STEP # 2 – EXCLUDE AN ACCESS RADIAL VOLUME TO FIND THE LOCATION OF ATOMS WITH THEIR CENTRE AT LEAST 1.2 ANGSTROM AWAY

#### DEFINE SOLVENT ACCESSIBLE VOID



STEP # 3 – EXTEND INNER VOLUME WITH POINTS WITHIN 1.2 ANGSTROM FROM ITS OUTER BOUNDS P.L.A.T.O.N

P.L.A.T.O	.N										///////// _ 🗖 🗙
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Listing of all voids in the triclinic unit cell

INSTRUCTION INPUT via KEYBOARD or LEFT-MOUSE-CLICKS (HELP with RIGHT CLICKS)

Exit

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SAVE-InstrS ENTRY-LIST

Next

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## **VOID APPLICATIONS**

- Calculation of Kitaigorodskii Packing Index
- As part of the SQUEEZE routine to handle the contribution of disordered solvents in crystal structure refinement
- Determination of the available space in solid state reactions (Ohashi)
- Determination of pore volumes, pore shapes and migration paths in microporous crystals

#### SQUEEZE

- Takes the contribution of disordered solvents to the calculated structure factors into account by back-Fourier transformation of density found in the 'solvent accessible volume' outside the ordered part of the structure (iterated).
- Filter: Input shelxl.res & shelxl.hkl
  - Output: 'solvent free' shelxl.hkl
- Refine with SHELXL or Crystals

## SQUEEZE Algorithm

- . Calculate difference map (FFT)
- 2. Use the VOID-map as a mask on the FFT-map to set all density outside the VOID's to zero.
- 3. FFT<sup>-1</sup> this masked Difference map -> contribution of the disordered solvent to the structure factors
  - Calculate an improved difference map with F(obs)
    phases based on F(calc) including the recovered solvent
    contribution and F(calc) without the solvent
    contribution.
  - . Recycle to 2 until convergence.

#### Comment

- The Void-map can also be used to count the number of electrons in the masked volume.
- A complete dataset is required for this feature.
- Ideally, the solvent contribution is taken into account as a fixed contribution in the Structure Factor calculation (CRYSTALS) otherwise it is substracted temporarily from F(obs)<sup>2</sup> (SHELXL) and reinstated afterwards for the final
  - Fo/Fc list.

#### **Publication Note**

- Always give the details of the use of SQUEEZE in the comment section
- Append the small CIF file produced by PLATON to the main CIF
- Use essentially complete data sets with sufficient resolution only.
- Make sure that there is no unresolved charge balance problem.

#### Absolute Structure Determination

- Generally done as part of the least squares refinement with a 'twinning' parameter.
- Determine Flack parameter + su
- Analysis following the Flack & Bernardinelli criteria.
- Often indeterminate conclusions in the case of light atom structures
- Alternative approaches offered by PLATON  $\rightarrow$

# Scatter Plot of Bijvoet Differences

- Plot of the Observed Bijvoet Differences against the Calculated Differences.
- A Least-Squares line and Correlation Coefficient are calculated
- The Least-squares line should run from the lower left to to upper right corner for the correct enantiomorph and the Correlation close to 1.0



## Practical Aspects of Flack x

- The structure should contain atoms with sufficiently strong anomalous dispersion contributions for the radiation used (generally MoKα) in the experiment (e.g. Br).
- Preferably, but not nesessarily, a full set of Friedel pairs is needed. (correlation !)
- Unfortunately, many relevant pharmaceuticals contain in their native form only light atoms that at best have only weak anomalous scattering power and thus fail the strict Flack conditions.

# Light Atom Targets

- Options for the Absolute Structure Determination of Light Atom Compounds
- Add HBr in case of tertiary N.
- Co-crystallize with e.g. CBr4.
- Co-crystallize with compound with known. absolute configuration.
- Alternative: Statistical analysis of Bijvoet pair differences.

# Statistical Analysis of Bijvoet Pairs

- Many experimentalists have the feeling that the official Flack x method is too conservative.
- Experience based on multiple carefully executed experiments with compounds with known absolute structure.
- The feeling is that also in light atom structures the average of thousands of small Bijvoet differences will point in the direction of the correct enantiomorph.
- Example: The Nonius CAD4 test crystal →





## **Bayesian Approach**

- Rob Hooft has developed an alternative approach for the analyses of Bijvoet differences that is based on Bayesian statistics. Details will be discussed in the lecture of Rob Hooft.
- Under the assumption that the material is enantiopure, the probability that the assumed absolute structure is correct, given the set of observed Bijvoet Pair Differences, is calculated.
- An extension of the method also offers the Fleq y parameter to be compared with the Flack x.
- Example: Ascorbic Acid, MoKa data 🗲





## **Proper Procedure**

- Collect data with an essentially complete set of Bijvoet Pairs
- Refine in the usual way with BASF and TWIN instructions (SHELXL)
- Invoke PLATON with the final .cif and .fcf files
- Bijvoet Pair differences will be recalculated by PLATON with the parameters in the CIF excluding the Flack Parameter.



### THANK YOU

#### More info http://www.cryst.chem.uu.nl Including this ppp

