

# Chemical Crystallography and Structural Chemistry

VO 270063-1

Lecture N° 7 — 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dr. Tim Grüne  
Centre for X-ray Structure Analysis  
Faculty of Chemistry  
University of Vienna  
[tim.gruene@univie.ac.at](mailto:tim.gruene@univie.ac.at)

## Course Schedule

2 <sup>nd</sup>	March	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 1	9 <sup>th</sup>	March	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 2
16 <sup>th</sup>	March	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 3	23 <sup>th</sup>	March	Exercise N <sup>o</sup> 1
30 <sup>st</sup>	March	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 4	20 <sup>th</sup>	April	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 5
27 <sup>th</sup>	April	Exercise N <sup>o</sup> 2	4 <sup>th</sup>	May	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 6
11 <sup>th</sup>	May	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 7	25 <sup>th</sup>	May	Exercise N <sup>o</sup> 3
1 <sup>st</sup>	June	<b>no lecture</b>	15 <sup>th</sup>	June	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 8
22 <sup>nd</sup>	June	Lecture N <sup>o</sup> 9	29 <sup>th</sup>	June	Exercise N <sup>o</sup> 4

## Previous Lecture

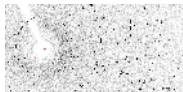
- Refinement and Model Building
- Validation: Data quality
- Validation: Model quality

# Contents

- |          |                                       |           |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Structure Refinement</b>           | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Absolute Structure — Chirality</b> | <b>14</b> |

# 1 Structure Refinement

Data collection



several GB

Data integration

```
0 0 -1    2.7  0.9
0 0  1    4.0  1.0
0 0 -2  1'257.0 35.5
0 0 -2  1'600.0 42.7
```

several files,  
100's MB

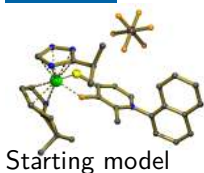
Data Scaling

```
0 0 -1    2.8  0.55
0 0  1    3.8  0.63
0 0 -2  1'432.0 95.7
0 0 -2  1'282.0 85.9
```

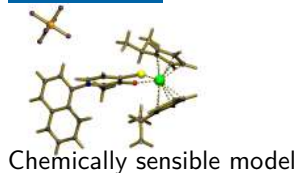
1 "hkl"-file, 50MB



Phasing



Refinement

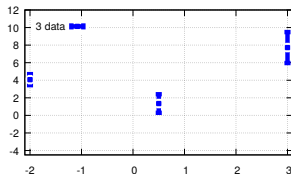
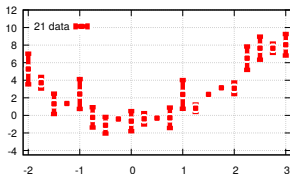


## Example: Stabilisation through restraints

Two hypothetical measurements:

**Experiment 1:** high resolution, 21 pairs of measurements  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_{21}, y_{21})$   
and errors  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{21}$

**Experiment 2:** low resolution, 3 pairs of measurements  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_3, y_3)$   
and errors  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_3$



## Example: Stabilisation through restraints

Testing two models:

**Model 1:**  $g(x) = g_2x^2 + g_1x + g_0$

**Model 2:**  $h(x) = h_3x^3 + h_1x + h_0$

Either model has three parameters,  $g_0, g_1, g_2$  and  $h_0, h_1, h_3$  respectively. These parameters correspond to e.g. the model coordinates  $(x_i, y_i, z_i)$ , or the ADPs  $U_i$ .

We will fit both models to the data to find out which model better represents the data.

## Example: Stabilisation through restraints

Least-squares-minimisation:

$$\text{minimise: } \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} (y_i - g(x_i))^2 \quad \text{model 1}$$

$$\text{minimise: } \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} (y_i - h(x_i))^2 \quad \text{model 2}$$

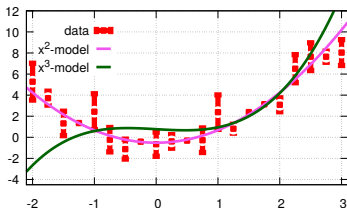
- **Experiment 1:**  $N = 21$  data points
- **Experiment 2:**  $N = 3$  data points

We will start with the high resolution **experiment 1**



## Example: Stabilisation through restraints

experiment 1: high resolution; high data to parameter ratio = 21:3=7



$$\text{Model 1: } 1.2x^2 + 0.0x - 0.5$$

rmsd: 1.07

$$\text{Model 2: } 0.5x^3 - 0.3x - 0.8$$

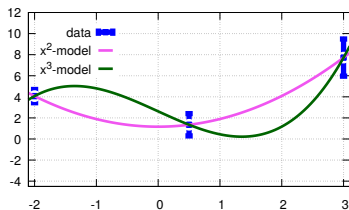
rmsd: 4.74

The *root mean square deviation* rmsd between model and data corresponds to the crystallographic  $R1$  value.

The lower rmsd 1.07 clearly favours model 1. The pink curve also visually fits the data better than the green curve.

## Example: Stabilisation through restraints

experiment 2: low resolution, low data to parameter ration = 3:3 = 1



model 1:  $0.7x^2 + 0.0x + 1.2$

rmsd: 0

model 2:  $0.5x^3 - 2.7x - 2.6$

rmsd: 0

When there are as many parameters as data points, any model can be fitted perfectly to the data. We cannot distinguish between the two models

## Example: Stabilisation through restraints

experiment 2: low resolution with constraint

For some reason we know that the data must pass through the point  $(0, 0)$ .

For the two models this means

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= g(0) \\ &= g_2 * 0^2 + g_1 * 0 + g_0 \\ \Rightarrow g_0 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

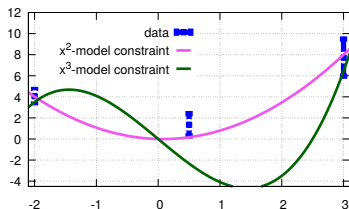
and analogously

$$h_0 = 0$$

The constraint reduced the number of parameters, only two parameters per model

## Example: Stabilisation through restraints

experiment 2: low resolution with constraint



model 1:  $0.9x^2 - 0.1x$

rmsd: 1.13

model 2:  $0.8x^3 - 4.9x$

rmsd: 3.7

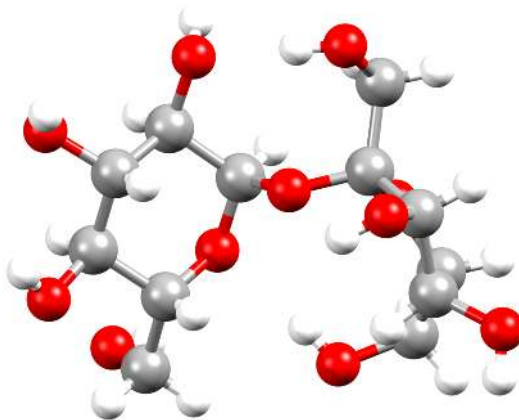
Due to the constraint, data to parameter ratio =  $3:2 = 1.5$ . Now there is an *rmsd*, and it favours (again) the first model.

## Summary Stabilisation through Restraints / Constraints

- Low resolution data means low data to parameter ratio
- high data to parameter ratio: trustworthy parameters
- low data to parameter ratio: risk of overfitting

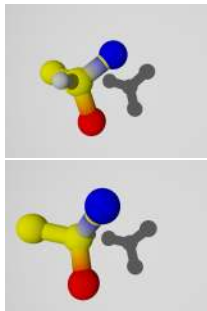
## 2 Absolute Structure — Chirality

## Sucrose



Crystal structure of sucrose

## 2.1 Cahn-Ingold-Prelog *R/S*-System

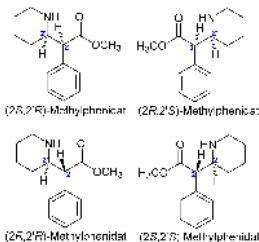


- Heavy atoms arranged around chiral centre with lightest one pointing towards viewer
- Three atoms arranged heavy to light anti-clockwise: *R*
- Three atoms arranged heavy to light clockwise: *S*



## Chirality in Pharmaceuticals

- chiral compounds are optically active: turn the plane of plane-polarised light
- Usually only one stereoisomer pharmaceutically active. Others add to side effects. (cf. E. J. Ariens: *Stereochemistry, a basis for sophisticated nonsense in pharmacokinetics and clinical pharmacology*, European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, **26** (1984), pp. 663–668).



## Technical blindness to chirality

- Most technologies are “blind” to chirality
- All angles and all bond-distances are identical between enantiomers
- Some methods determine chirality, but not structure (polarised light)
- Only (X-ray) crystallography can determine absolute structure

## Friedel's Law

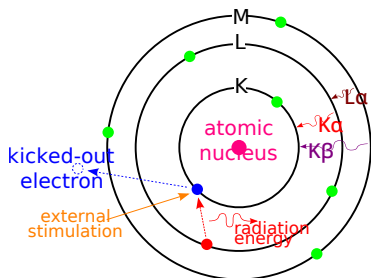
Calculation of the structure factor from atom coordinates (lecture No. 4):

$$F(hkl) = \sum_{\substack{\text{atoms } j \\ \text{in u.c.}}} f_j(\theta) e^{-8\pi^2 U_j(\theta, \lambda)} e^{2\pi i(hx_j + ky_j + lz_j)} \quad (1)$$

This results in Friedel's law,  $I(hkl) = I(\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l})$ : The diffraction pattern is centrosymmetric, and therefore, the diffraction pattern is blind to chirality.

**We have to look more closely!**

## Anomalous (X-ray) dispersion



EDX-scheme.svg, commons.wikimedia.org

- Incident X-rays can kick out an inner-shell electron
- higher-shell electrons fill the hole
- they emit characteristic radiation
- This is called “anomalous dispersion” in crystallography

## Crystallographic description

Anomalous dispersion can be described with a modified atomic scattering factor:

$$f(\lambda, \theta) = f_0(\theta) + f'(\lambda) + if''(\lambda)$$

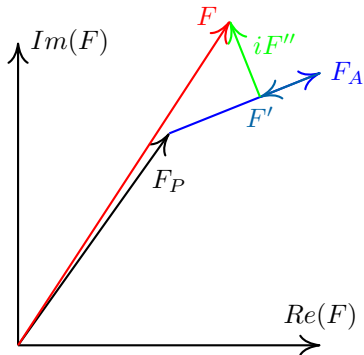
- $f_0(\lambda)$  “normal” form factor, resolution dependent *cf.* Lecture No. 5
- $f'(\theta)$  absorptive component; wavelength dependent
- $if''(\theta)$  imaginary component, *i.e.* phase shift; wavelength dependent

## Anomalous scattering

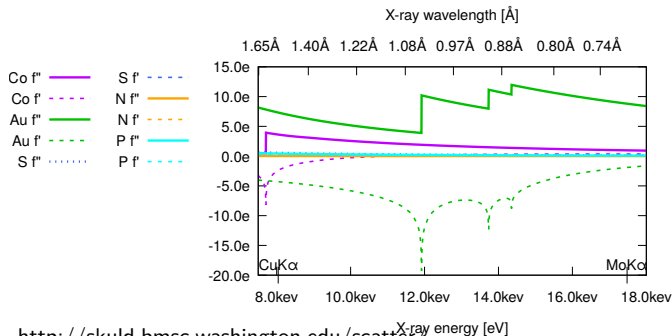
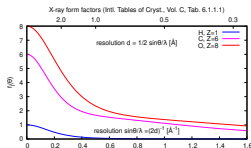
The scattering factor of all atoms,  $F(hkl)$ , consists of non-anomalous contributions and anomalous contributions:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(hkl) &= \underbrace{\sum_{\text{atoms } \nu}^{\text{normal}} f_{\nu} e^{2\pi i \mathbf{hr}_{\nu}}}_{F_P} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\sum f_X e^{2\pi i \mathbf{hr}_X}}_{F_A} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\sum f'_X e^{2\pi i \mathbf{hr}_X}}_{F'} \\
 &+ i \underbrace{\sum f''_X e^{2\pi i \mathbf{hr}_X}}_{iF''}
 \end{aligned}$$

NB:  $f'$  usually negative, pointing backwards



# Form factor components $f_0(\theta) + f'(\lambda) + if''(\lambda)$



$f'' > 0e$

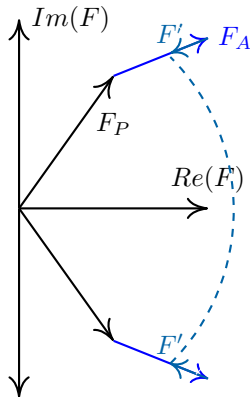
$f' < 0e$

<http://skuld.bmsc.washington.edu/scatter/>

## $iF''$ breaks Friedel's law

Compare  $F(hkl)$  and  $F(\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l})$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l}) &= \underbrace{\sum_{\text{atoms } \nu} f_{\nu} e^{-2\pi i h r_{\nu}}}_{F_P} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\sum f_X e^{-2\pi i h r_X}}_{F_A} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\sum f'_X e^{-2\pi i h r_X}}_{F'} \\
 &+ i \underbrace{\sum f''_X e^{-2\pi i h r_X}}_{iF''}
 \end{aligned}$$



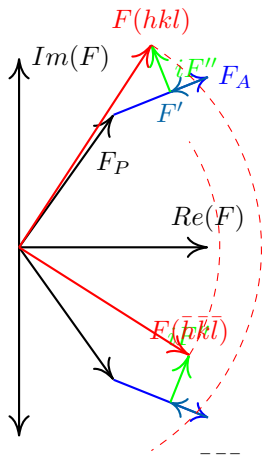
without  $iF''$ : Friedel's law holds



## $iF''$ breaks Friedel's law

Compare  $F(hkl)$  and  $F(\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l})$ :

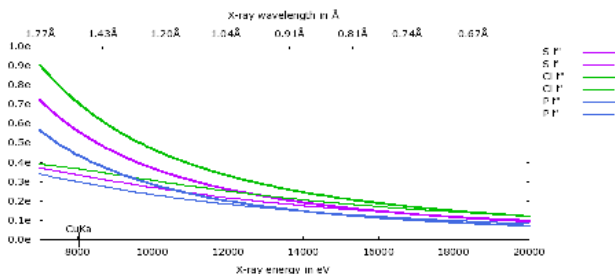
$$\begin{aligned}
 F(\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l}) &= \underbrace{\sum_{\text{atoms } \nu}^{\text{normal}} f_{\nu} e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{h} \mathbf{r}_{\nu}}}_{F_P} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\sum f_X e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{h} \mathbf{r}_X}}_{F_A} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\sum f'_X e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{h} \mathbf{r}_X}}_{F'} \\
 &+ i \underbrace{\sum f''_X e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{h} \mathbf{r}_X}}_{iF''}
 \end{aligned}$$



$iF''(hkl)$  breaks the symmetry with  $iF''(\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l})$

## Measuring the anomalous difference

- Anomalous effect can be very small (organic compounds)
- requires very accurate data
- Consider choice of wavelength (near, but below absorption edge)
- In presence of anomalous signal:  $F(hkl)$  and  $(F\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l})$  are called “Bijvoet pair”, instead of “Friedel pair”



## Chirality from anomalous data

Both model and inverted model are compared with the data

1. Refine structure “model 1”
2. Calculates  $|F_{\text{calc}}^1(hkl)|$
3. Invert the structure “model 2” and calculate  $|F_{\text{calc}}^2(hkl)|$
4. Calculate  $R1$  and  $wR2$  via

$$|F_{\text{calc}}(hkl)| = (1 - k)|F_{\text{calc}}^1(hkl)| + k|F_{\text{calc}}^2(hkl)|$$

## Chirality from anomalous data (cont'd)

4. Calculate  $R1$  and  $wR2$  via

$$|F_{\text{calc}}(hkl)| = (1 - k)|F_{\text{calc}}^1(hkl)| + k|F_{\text{calc}}^2(hkl)|$$

5. Optimise  $k$  by minimising  $R1$

$k \approx 0$  correct hand

$k \approx 1$  incorrect hand: invert model

**between 0 and 1** mixture of both hands or poor data

$k$  is called the **Flack parameter** (Howard D. Flack, University of Geneva).

## Flack parameter & Parsons' coefficient

- Parsons' quotient

$$Q(hkl) = \frac{I(hkl) - I(\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l})}{I(hkl) + I(\bar{h}\bar{k}\bar{l})}$$

- same as before: compare calculated with observed data
- Parsons' coefficient more sensitive than “conventional” Flack parameter
- cf: S. Parsons, H.D. Flack, T. Wagner, *Acta Crystallogr.* (2013) B69, S. 249–259
- enables absolute structure determination from light-atom only structures

## Chirality of light-atom only structures

All atoms exhibit an anomalous signal. For  $C, H, N, O$ , it is very weak, requires very good data.

Options in case the anomalous signal is too weak, data too poor:

- soak single heavy (salt): same structure, amplification of anomalous signal
- Co-crystallisation of molecule with known chirality (*cf.* NMR)

→ X-ray data determine chirality relative to the known molecule

→ If know molecule inverted: also invert the model.

## Summary absolute structure

- (physical) origin of anomalous signal
- anomalous signal breaks Friedel's law
- Flack parameter to determine chirality