Things you don't want to see in your diffraction data

(Why we do want to see diffraction patterns in 3D)

Andrey Lebedev, CCP4

- Graphical facilities in DIALS
- Low resolution and anisotropy
- Inter-grown crystals
- Non-merohedral twinning
- OD-structures
- Partially disordered OD-structures
- Pseudo-translation
- Non-commensurate modulated structures

Graphical facilities in DIALS

- A simple example
- Operating DIALS and viewers from the command line

Import and image viewer

Cubic insulin, the experiment 1 from HZB MX tutorial

dials.import template=images/exp1_ins_ssad_###.img dials.image_viewer datablock.json



Sweep of images as 3D map

dials.rs_mapper map_file=output.ccp4 datablock.json coot --map output.ccp4





PyMol can be used as well

Sweep of images: spots positions in 3D

dials.find_spots datablock.json dials.reciprocal_lattice_viewer datablock.json strong.pickle



More details are available after indexing

dials.index datablock.json strong.pickle
dials.refine experiments.json indexed.pickle scan_varying=True
dials.reciprocal_lattice_viewer refined.pickle refined_experiments.json
dials.image_viewer datablock.json



orange: indexed white: not indexed

icture: slow=1906.875 / fast=1085.000 pixels. Readout: slow=1906.875 / fast=1085.000 pixels. I=56.000 Resolution:

-6. 18. -17

Aimless pipeline is used for data reduction

dials.integrate refined_experiments.json refined.pickle nproc=4
dials.export integrated_experiments.json integrated.pickle

ccp4i # aimless pipeline



Summary

DIALS:

- Command line tool
- Easy to use in simple cases
- Viewers for visual control
- In complicated cases command line options
- Reference materials and tutorials: <u>http://dials.diamond.ac.uk</u>
- XDS results can be imported to DIALS and visualised in 3D

dials.import_xds xds/
dials.import_xds method=reflections xds/SPOT.XDS
dials.reciprocal_lattice_viewer experiments.json spot_xds.pickle

More

- Viewer for web-browsers combining both views, intensities as maps and spots as dots (by Marcin Wojdyr, CCP4, https://github.com/uglymol)
 - also suitable for working with XDS results



Low resolution and anisotropy

Low resolution data

dials.reciprocal_lattice_viewer experiments.json spot_xds.pickle



These are not 1.5 A data

But both Dials and XDS can happily "index" and "integrate" the noise at high resolution



orange: indexed white: not indexed

ligh resolution:

Min Z 0 Max Z 1798 Show rotation axis

Anisotropy: many ways to see



spot representation in DIALS viewer

CC(1/2) plots for three orthogonal directions in Aimless



DLS-CCP4 workshop

Anisotropy and low resolution

- Anisotropy correction (automatically by respective program)
 - is shown to work for MR
 - not relevant for refinement: I and sig(I) encapsulates all needed information
 - important for generation of ED maps
- Low resolution and anisotropic data are much harder to deal with than with anything I'll show later
 - almost inevitably high R-factors
 - almost inevitably difficult-to-interpret density, at least in part of the structure

STARANISO Server

staraniso.globalphasing.org

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The STARANISO Server Anisotropy of the Diffraction Limit

and Bayesian Estimation of Structure Amplitudes



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- <u>ABOUT ANISOTROPY</u>
- <u>ABOUT THIS SERVER</u>
- Gallery of results obtained from the STARANISO server contributed by our users.

If you have some results that illustrate some beneficial effect of using the server on your data, and that you are happy to share with the community, please email the contact address at the bottom of the page.

Non-spherical data truncation

- Removes noise
 - Better refinement stats
- Keeps (and optionally corrects) all useful data
 - In some cases is critical for structure solution, model building and ligand fitting



Inter-grown crystals (multi-lattice data)

- Visualisation (detection)
- Simultaneous indexing

Example of random crystal inter-growth

dials.rs_mapper ...
coot --map output.ccp4

beta-lactamase OXA-163 PDB ID 4s2m

Data from Vlatko Stojanoski Baylor College of Medicine





Example of random crystal inter-growth

dials.index datablock.json strong.pickle max_lattices=3 hkl_tolerance=0.1
dials.reciprocal_lattice_viewer refined.pickle refined_experiments.json

- different colour means different lattice
- individual lattices can be switched off and on



Example of random crystal inter-growth

Easy case:

- Lattices are mainly separated, with only very few reflection overlapping
- Signal from one lattice is substantially higher than from others

The intensities for the strongest lattice were processed, structure solved and refined to R=0.20 R-free=0.26

An extreme case

Example from Leela Ruckthong

• How many lattices you can spot here?





Click and drag to pan; middle-click and drag to plot intensity profile, right-click to zoom



21

03/12/17 Picture: slow=1860.000 / fast=2944.000 pixels. Readout: slow=1860.000 / fast=2944.000 pixels. I=13.000 Resolution: 2.406

















Seven lattices: too many overlapping spots?

- Only the strongest single lattice gave reasonable merged data
 - » all others were incomplete or had much lower I/sig(I)
 - » merging data from several lattices did not work well
- Unfortunately, the merged data were not good enough for modelling the protein residues of interest
 - » possibly because of too many overlapping reflections from different lattices.

Summary on multiple lattices

- Usually it is reasonable to use the data derived from one singe lattice To have a peace of mind:
 - » Visual confirmation that there are not very many overlapping spots
 - » Check that dataset derived from the main lattice is complete
- Completeness can in principle be improved by merging datasets derived from two or more lattices
 - » In practice, data derived from second etc. lattices are usually worse
- Sometimes the best lattice can come second in Dials
 - » visual control using Dials viewers
 - » integrate and merge data from all lattices and compare merging stats
 - » Dials multi-lattice tutorial can help (see Dials web site)
- DIALS: Indexing all the lattices together facilitates refinement of the parameters for each individual lattice
 - » this is because of assignment of spots to lattices rather than as indexed and unindexed

Non-merohedral twinning

- Visualisation (detection)
- Effect on structure solution and refinement

A special case with many overlapping spots

L-2-haloacid dehalogenase from *Sulfolobus tokodaii* Rye *et al.* (2007) *Acta Cryst.* **D**67



Special case with many overlapping spots



Non-merohedral twin

in this example: reflections exactly overlap in one reciprocal lattice plane, at h = 0 and partially overlap at h = 10 n



Comments on non-merohedral twins

- Individual crystals are in special relative orientations
 - as a result there are many (partially) overlapping spots
- It is difficult to deal with (partially) overlapping spots in general case
 - Integrate with SAINT (Bruker) with large reflection boxes, refine with SHELXL
 - CCP4 paradigm: iMosflm and Feckless deal with overlaps
 - » this needs support on refinement side.
- However, in protein crystals situation is usually favourable for quite a simple treatment of such cases.
 - Next section is about OD-structures which is what protein non-merohedral twins usually are.

OD-structures

- Definition
- Example of an OD twin
- Demodulation of data
- Example of allotwin
Order-disorder structures (OD-structures)

- identical layers
- identical interfaces between the layers
- but: two or more ways of packing three adjacent layers
 - *) MX: "identical" means Ca r.m.s.d. < 1 A





- *) S_1 and S_2 . are called stacking vectors
- two-dimensional periodicity
- a potential for disorder in the third dimension

OD-structures



Example 1

Example 2

Partially disordered OD-structure



Examples in the next section

Example 1: OD-twin

L-2-haloacid dehalogenase from *Sulfolobus tokodaii* Rye *et al.* (2007) *Acta Cryst.* **D**67

dials.rs_mapper + coot



Example 1: OD-twin



L-2-haloacid dehalogenase from *Sulfolobus tokodaii* Rye *et al.* (2007) *Acta Cryst.* **D**67

The diffraction images can be indexed in C2 with two different orientation of the crystal

Some reflections from two lattices overlap.

C2

C2

Real and reciprocal lattices





Twinning by reticular pseudo-merohedry (Non-merohedral twinning)

What to do?

- Process data from one lattice and ignore twinning
- Process data from one lattice and demodulate the data
- Deconvolute overlapping sport during data processing
- Record total intensity of overlapping spots and deal with it at refinement

Intensities of the overlapping reflections



Fourier transform of the tetramer

Diffraction pattern of domain 1 Diffraction pattern of domain 2

Tetramers in different twin domains are in the same orientation

Therefore, if reflections of the two lattices overlap, they have close intensities. The stronger the overlap, the closer the intensities are.

Demodulation

Original data: R / R-free = 0.21 / 0.27



Modulation function





 $q'(h) = p_0 + p_1 \cos(2\pi th) + p_2 \cos(4\pi th) + \dots$

Corrected data: R / R-free = 0.16 / 0.23





Improvement in the electron density

Visually, improvement occurred only for the electron density for solvent molecules (Poor density for solvent was the original reason for data revision)

The electron density maps (2-1 at 1.5σ and 1-1 at 3σ) around the pyruvate molecule before and after demodulation





R / R-free = 0.21 / 0.27

R / R-free = 0.16 / 0.23

Diagnostics: Patterson Map



The second lattice



Non-origin peaks in the Patterson map:

- contribution from the second lattice
- because of the overlapping spots

Dials' 3D viewers provide more straightforward diagnostics

Example 2: allotwin



Crystals of Lon protease Resolution 3Å

Dauter *et al.* (2005). *Acta Cryst.* D**61**, 967-975.



P2₁ a = 48.5 Åb = 86.3 Åc = 138.0 Å $\beta = 92.3^{\circ}$



a = 86.3 Å b = 90.6 Å c = 148.0 Å

Example 2: allotwin

Crystals of Lon protease Resolution 3Å

Dauter et al. (2005). Acta Cryst. D61, 967-975.



Structures of both crystal forms were solved

P2₁2₁2₁

0.19 / 0.35

0.21/0.31

Example 2: allotwin

- More frequently, the presence of very different indexing solutions means that the indexing program is struggling rather than domains belonging to different space groups actually exist.
- 3D viewers will help to check what is actually happening.
- Merging several fine-sliced images together may help indexing

Twinning by (pseudo)merohedry

Yesterday's presentation by Andrea Thorn

Important special case:

- This type of twinning can NOT be recognized from diffraction images >> All spots overlap with related spots from another individual crystal
- Detection requires analysis of intensity statistics
- Significant effect on model if ignored during refinement
- Point group and, consequently, space group determination may be a problem

Partially disordered OD-structures

- Visualisation (detection)
- Ghost density
- Indexing
- Effect on structure solution and refinement

OD-structures



Examples 1,2 & 3

Partially disordered OD structures



Diffraction of partially disordered structures

White arrow - direction in which global periodicity is missing







Example 1: ghost density

White arrow - direction in which global periodicity is missing



dials.rs_mapper + coot

An example from **Rafael Ciges**, Biomedical Institute of Valencia

- Space group P2₁2₁2
- Resolution 1.2Å
- The diffraction images were processed with XDS
- Structure was solved with MR
- Preliminary refinement R_{free} = 0.35
- Extra residues were expected compared to MR model

| P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| | |

Example 1: after initial refinement



Example 1: helix added



Example 1: after refinement with extra helix



Example 1: demodulation of intensities

| • | Data were demodulated and | | | |
|---|---|----------------|------|--------|
| | structure re-refined | | R | R-free |
| | » demodulation procedure was | Original data | 0.33 | 0.34 |
| | conceptually similar to the one used in the OD-twin example | Corrected data | 0.25 | 0.26 |

Example 1: after refinement with extra helix



Example 1: after refinement against demodulated data ...



Example 1: ... there is no ED for the extra helix



Example 1: ghost density





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White arrow direction in which global periodicity is missing

Example 1: Summary

- Partial disorder in OD structures results in a ghost density
- Structure can be solved and refined ignoring partial disorder
- Demodulation procedure removes ghost density and therefore helps with interpretation of the ED maps
 - » Not always badly needed and not always works
 - » There are several bespoke scripts around
 - » A general automated software solution is needed

Example 2: auto-indexing failure

| Fast DP @ DIAM | IOND | Refinement | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| R _{meas} CC(1/2) = 0.3 | = 0.12 at 1.56 Å | ? | | | | $R_{cryst} = 0.33$ $R_{free} = 0.36$ | ? | | |
| | N | lolecul | lar Repla | acement | on Functio | on | | | |
| | + | | theta | phi | chi | Rf/sigma | | | |
| | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 | 63.62 80.19 149.48 107.22 87.46 111.97 157.20 58.77 75.76 102.46 | 174.24 -58.05 -148.30 84.22 75.99 -14.20 173.73 -96.16 -63.11 82.67 | 148.98 61.61 170.26 129.22 136.16 175.28 153.99 51.96 54.46 133.90 | 13.70 13.63 13.34 13.04 12.18 12.10 11.25 11.24 6.21 5.83 | | | |

Example 2: evidences of wrong indexing

Maps





R/RC Map ⊙ ⊕ ♥

Example 2: evidences of partial disorder

front view

There is global 2D translational symmetry in the plane of figure



side view

White arrow indicates direction in which translational symmetry is not global (only within individual domains)



Example 2: correct indexing



White arrow indicates direction in which translational symmetry is not global (only within individual domains) There are also areas with less spots White "spots" are not indexed; actually, these are tails of diffuse reflections

Indexing program may take them for real spots and fail.



Example 2: what initially was wrong



Example 2: happy end

Maps







Refinement

 $R_{cryst} = 0.23$ $R_{free} = 0.26$

Example 2: wrong and correct





(mol. no: 0) N /1/B/185 ASP -X,Y+1/2,-Z + (-1 -1 -1) & { 0 0 } occ: 1.00 bf: 10.57 ele: N pos: (7.73,54.61,-111.60)

Example 2: Summary

- Partial disorder a frequent reason of indexing failure
- Diffraction analysis in 3d is a good diagnostic tool for both partial disorder and for incorrect indexing
- Warning: high contrast in MR can be obtained even for wrongly indexed data provided that the search model is highly similar to the target
- Molecular replacement is quite tolerant to partial crystal disorder
 - » Especially RF
 - » In the next example this property of RF will be utilised

Example 3: unsolvable structure

Input information:

Example from Rui Wu

- Images are good
 - But there a several different indexing solutions
- 99% homologue for Molecular Replacement
 - But no MR solution
 - Even more, no contrast on Rotation Function
- Twinning?


Example 3: first and last images

Partial disorder was not detected directly from images

first image



Blue arrow – direction of missing global translation

Example 3: checking diffraction in 3D

front view

side view



Clear partial disorder

dials.index datablock.json strong.pickle dials.refine_bravais_settings experiments.json indexed.pickle

| | | | | | | | | 📘 1_spots — - | bash — 117×9 | | | | | | |
|----------|--------|------|-------|-----------|-----|--------|---------|---------------|--------------|----------------|-------|-------|--------|---------|----------------|
| Solution | Metric | fit | rmsd | min/max | сс | #spots | lattice | | | | | uni | t_cell | volume | cb_op |
| 5 | 2. | 9808 | 1.922 | 0.400/0.8 | 828 | 12000 | oI | 87.66 | 103.91 | 117.35 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 1068882 | -c,a+b-c,a-b |
| 4 | 2. | 9808 | 1.873 | 0.400/0.4 | 00 | 12000 | mI | 103.84 | 87.53 | 117.25 | 90.00 | 89.69 | 90.00 | 1065729 | a+b-c,c,a-b |
| 3 | 2. | 9805 | 1.924 | 0.425/0.4 | 25 | 12000 | _mI_ | 87.50 | 103.84 | 117.17 | 90.00 | 90.13 | 90.00 | 1064596 | -c,-a-b+c,-a+b |
| 2 | 0. | 0443 | 0.341 | 0.828/0.8 | 328 | 12000 | mI | 89.10 | 117.66 | 104.81 | 90.00 | 92.98 | 90.00 | 1097231 | -c,a-b,-a-b+c |
| 1 | 0. | 0000 | 0.343 | - | -/- | 12000 | аР | 89.09 | 89.15 | 89 . 05 | 62.01 | 62.04 | 82.57 | 547871 | a,b,c |

dials.index datablock.json strong.pickle unit_cell=118,134,139,90,90,90 space_group=C222
dials.refine_bravais_settings experiments.json indexed.pickle

| 000 | | | | | 📄 1_spots — -ba | sh — 117×9 | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|----------------------|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| Solution Metric fit | rmsd | min/max cc | #spots | lattice | | | | | uni | t_cell | volume | cb_op |
| 5 0.0000 4 0.0000 3 0.0000 2 0.0000 1 0.0000 | 0.067 0.066 0.067 0.062 0.060 | 0.871/0.913 0.913/0.913 0.871/0.871 0.912/0.912 -/- | 12000 12000 12000 12000 12000 | oC mC mP aP | 117.62 133.96 117.62 89.14 89.14 | 133.96 117.62 133.96 139.13 89.09 | 139.16 139.14 139.16 89.09 139.12 | 90.00 90.00 90.00 90.00 90.00 89.98 | 90.00 90.02 90.00 97.43 90.01 | 90.00 90.00 90.00 90.00 90.00 97.43 | 2192669 2192369 2192772 1095633 1095521 | a+b,-a+b,c a-b,a+b,c a+b,-a+b,c -a,-c,-b a,b,c |

Example 3: wrong and correct indexing

• Yellow spots are indexed, the white ones are not.



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Example 3: wrong and correct indexing



2, C (wrong)

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Example 3: unsolvable structure

Input information:

- Images are good
 - But there a several different indexing solutions
- 99% homologue for Molecular Replacement
 - But no MR solution
 - Even more, no contrast on Rotation Function
- Twinning?

Despite very clean sample a minor contaminant has crystallised:



Do not blame crystal defects for not finding a solution!

An example of misinterpreted structure of a contaminant protein is described here:

Manfred S. Weiss, M., S. et al. (2016). A critical examination of the recently reported crystal structures of the human SMN protein. *Hum. Mol. Genet.*

Partial disordered OD structures

- Data processing
 - Indexing can go wrong (use higher "gain" parameter, merge several adjacent images together etc. to correct)
- Structure solution:
 - Molecular Replacement yes
 - Experimental phasing required demodulation
 - » otherwise ghost substructure atoms confuse the phasing program?
- Refinement / model building:
 - Some features of electron density may not be interpreted (ghost density)
 - Expect (substantially) higher R-factors
- Crystals with translocation defects
 - Term usually used in MX for partially disordered pseudo-orthorhombic crystals

Pseudo-translation

- Visualisation
- Effect on indexing
- Pseudo-origin MR solutions

Pseudotranslation





No pseudotranslation



c' = 2 c $c'^* = c^*/2$

С

*c**

Planes 2L+1 contain weak reflections

Crystallographic translation





Example: two pseudo-translation vectors

Example from Victor Lamzin, YSBL-DESY

| | point group | lattice type | <i>a</i> (Å) | <i>b</i> (Å) | <i>c</i> (Å) |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Space group | 222 | С | 74.9 | 122.8 | 125.0 |
| Pseudo-symmetry space group | 222 | 1 | 37.5 | 61.4 | 125.0 |





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Example: two pseudo-translation vectors

Images imported as they were, oscillation 0.1°

dials.import template=images/SeMet_38_04_0####.cbf
dials.find_spots ...
dials.index ...
dials.refine ...
dials.reciprocal_lattice_viewer ...

white – not indexed orange – indexed





Example: two pseudo-translation vectors

Merged each 5 adjacent images to make oscillation 0.5°, then imported

dials.merge_cbf images/SeMet_38_04_0####.cbf merge_n_images=5
dials.import template=sum_####.cbf
dials.find_spots ...
dials.index ...
dials.refine ...
dials.reciprocal_lattice_viewer ...

white – not indexed orange – indexed





Pseudo-translation and indexing

The last example:

- structure solved using SAD
- then native structure was solved by MR

Week reflections may confuse indexing programs

Visual control using 3D viewers is useful

- check if pseudo-translation is not overlooked
- check if pseudo-translation is not an indexing artefact

How important is to use the weak reflections?

- there are examples when these only make refinement stats worse
- usually improve both density and refinement stats
- sometimes ignored to simplify the first steps of structure solution and used later

Non-commensurate modulated structures

• Example

» from Ivan Campeotto, Oxford and Arwen Pearson, DESY (PDB id 2wnq)

Non-commensurate modulated structure



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END

Pseudotranslation: what else can go wrong?

Cell and H-M symbol are the same

Crystallographic and pseudosymmetry axes are interchanged



Molecular Replacement:

- If two structures are globally very similar (e.g. rmsd = 0.5A)
- MR can in some cases pick up a wrong solution

Pseudotranslation: what else can go wrong?

Cell and H-M symbol are the same

Crystallographic and pseudosymmetry axes are interchanged



Molecular graphics: structure is shifted relative to the unit cell





Four alternative solutions in two space groups

GAF (N-terminal) domain of CodY protein from Bacillus subtilis Levdikov, V. M. et al. (2006). J Biol Chem 281, 11366-73.



CCP4 online

http://www.ccp4.ac.uk/ccp4online



Zanuda is also included in CCP4 program suite