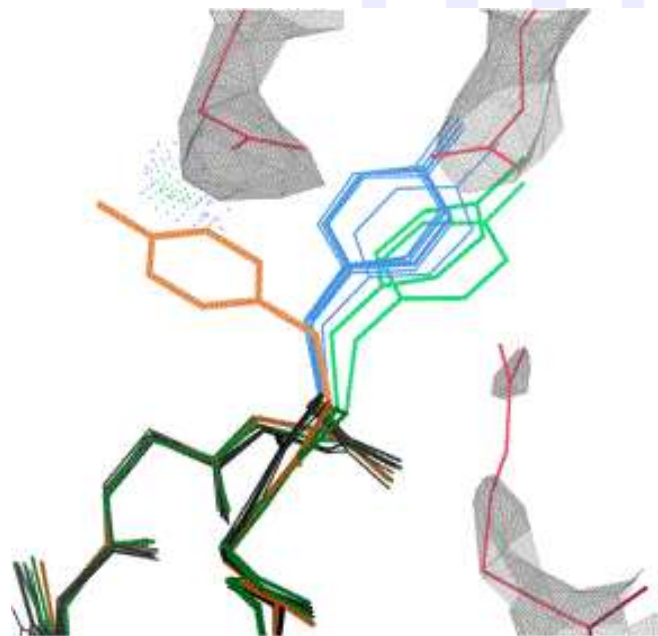


Symmetry-Aware Placement of Hydrogens in Molecules: Reduce & cctbx

Jack Snoeyink
Auston Sterling
Vishal Verma
Computer Science
UNC Chapel Hill



Outline

Determining Molecular Structure

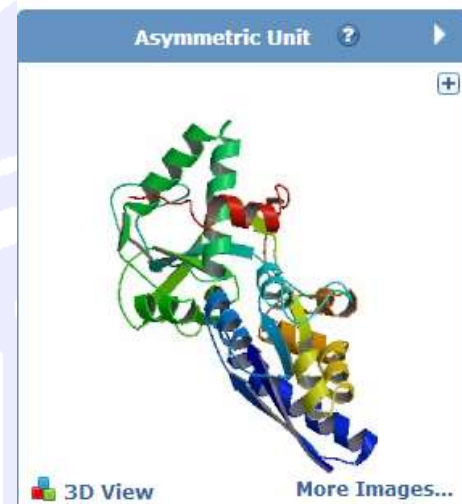
- Why: "central dogma"
- How: X-ray crystallography
 - Role of symmetry

Structure Validation

- All Atom Contact Analysis: Molprobity
- Hydrogen placement: Reduce

Symmetry-aware Reduce:

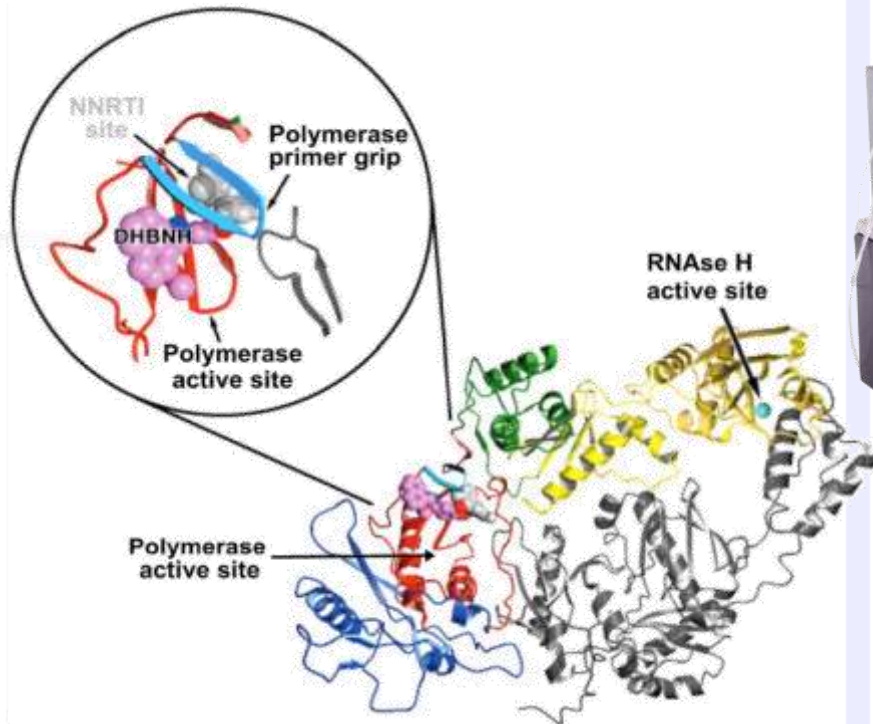
- SMP: simple matter of programming



Central Dogma of Biochemistry

Sequence $\xrightarrow{\text{folding}}$ Structure $\xrightarrow{\text{mechanism}}$ Function

VAL	LEU	SER	GLU	GLY
LEU	HIS	VAL	TRP	ALA
VAL	ALA	GLY	HIS	GLY
ARG	LEU	PHE	LYS	SER
GLU	LYS	PHE	ASP	ARG
THR	GLU	ALA	GLU	MET
LEU	LYS	LYS	HIS	GLY
ALA	LEU	GLY	ALA	ILE
HIS	HIS	GLU	ALA	GLU
GLN	SER	HIS	ALA	THR
ILE	LYS	TYR	LEU	GLN
ILE	ILE	HIS	VAL	LEU
GLY	ASP	PHE	GLY	ALA
MET	ASN	LYS	ALA	LEU
ASP	ILE	ALA	ALA	LYS
TYR	GLN	GLY		



X-ray crystallography to find structure

Sequence → Structure → Fun

Make
crystal

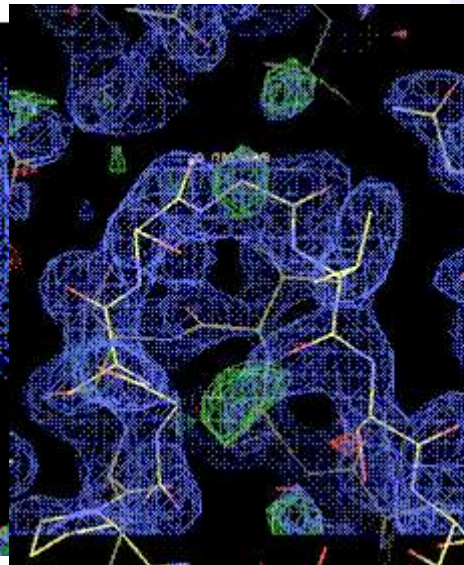
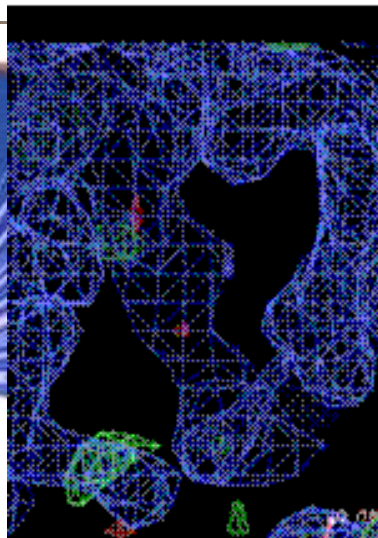
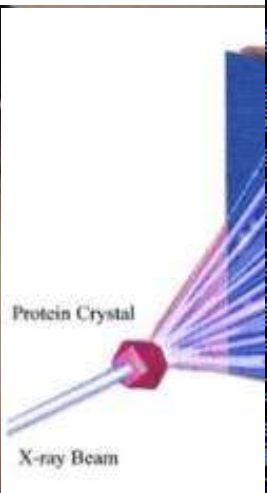
X-ray
diffraction

Electron
density

Backbone
threading

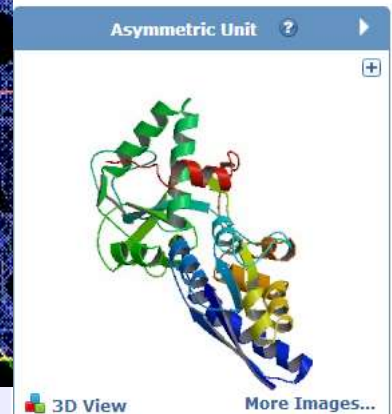
Rotamer
placement

Structure
Validation



1SBP

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Role of symmetry

Sequence → Structure → Fu

Make
crystal

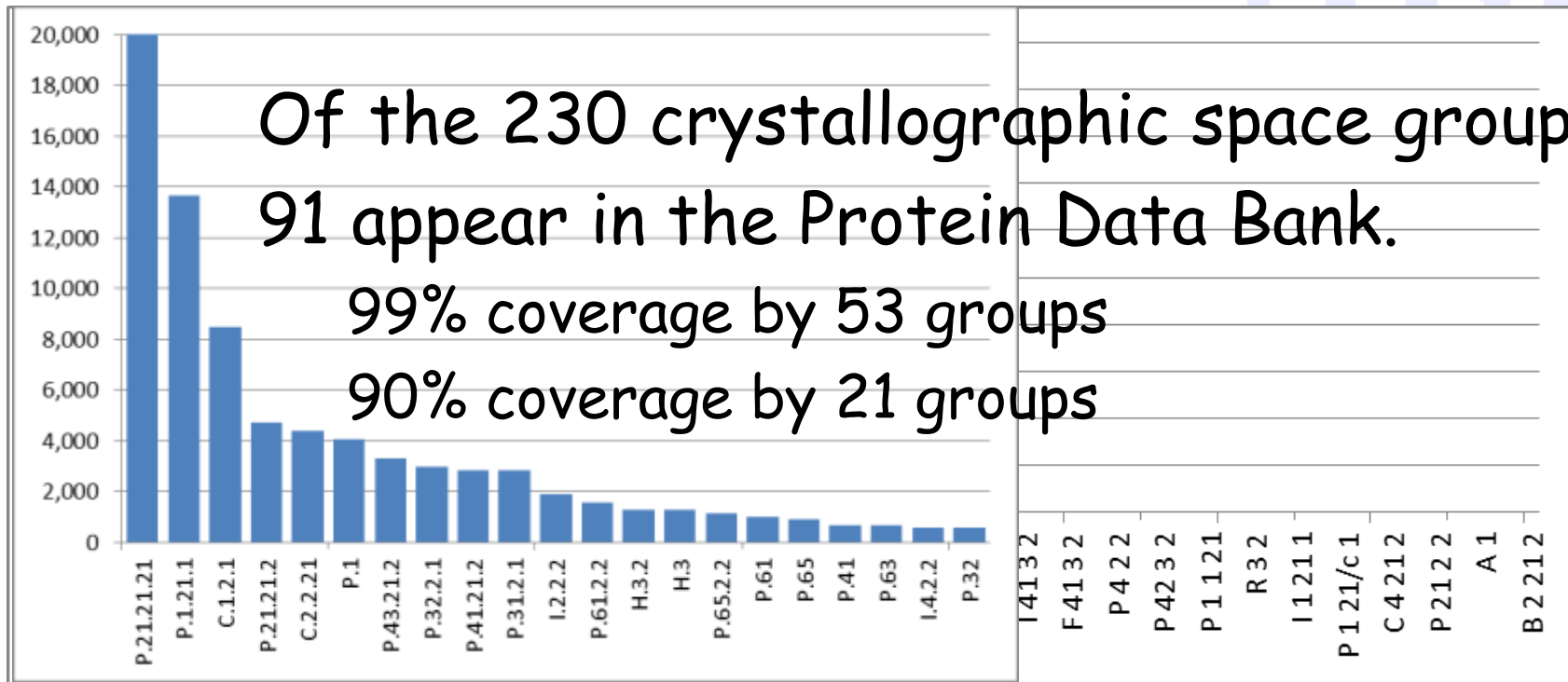
X-ray
diffraction

Electron
density

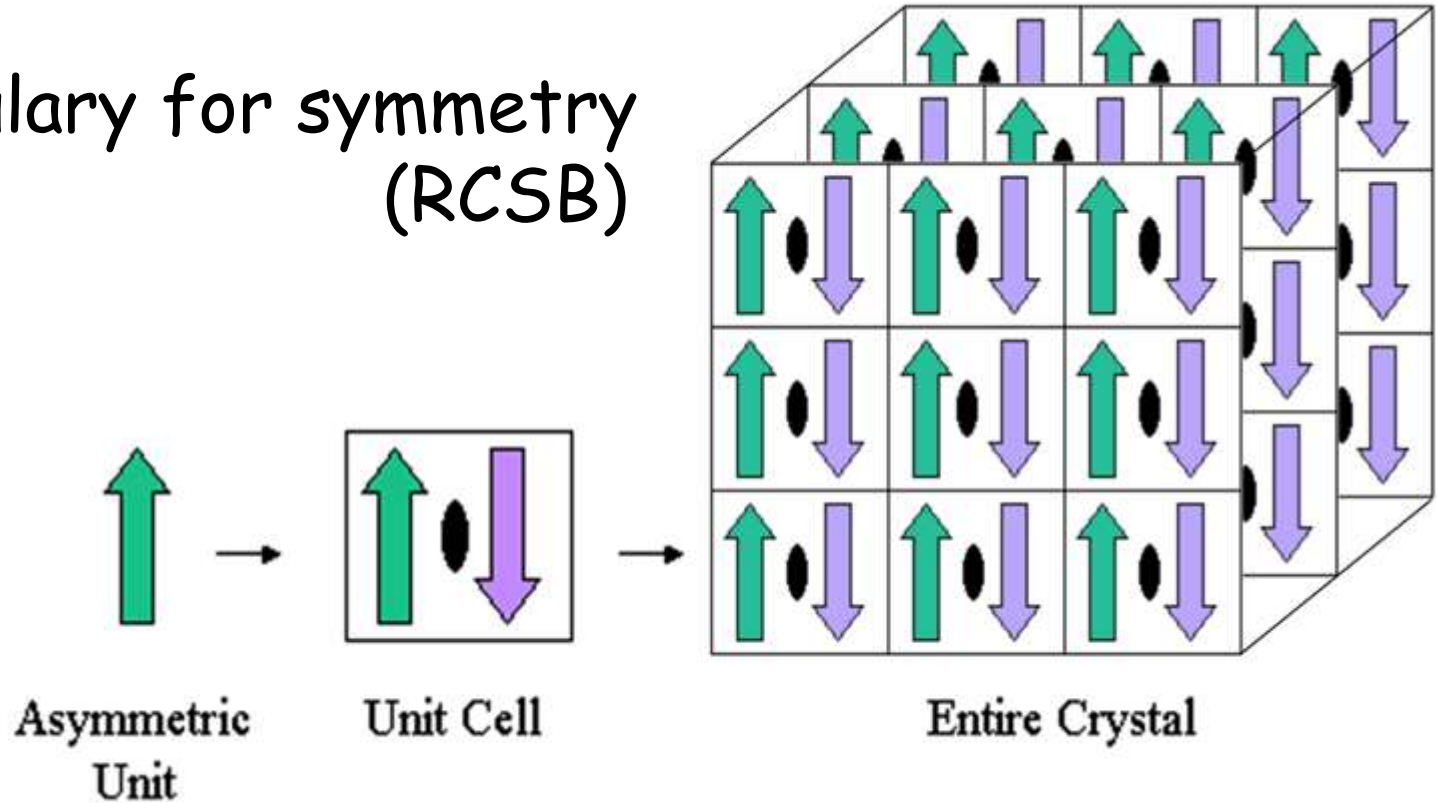
Backbone
threading

Rotamer
placement

Structure
Validation




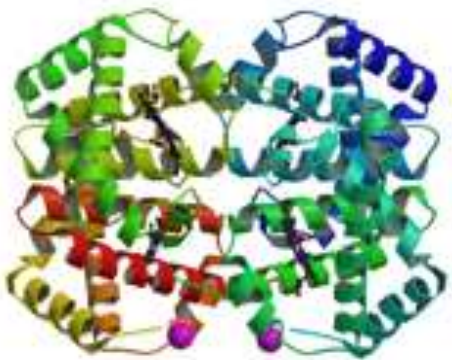
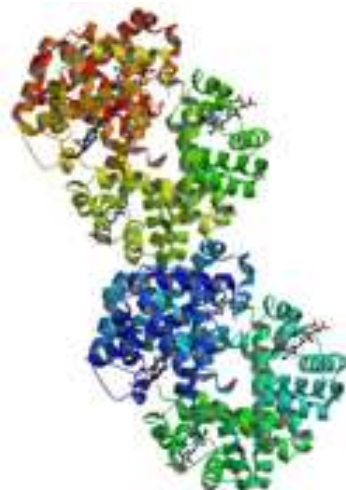
Vocabulary for symmetry (RCSB)



Symmetry group action on Asymmetric unit gives Unit cell.

Note: Asymmetric unit has a model;
Model need not lie inside it, or inside the unit cell.

Asymmetric unit vs. Biological assembly

Asymmetric unit with portion of a biological assembly	Asymmetric unit with one biological assembly	Asymmetric unit multiple biological assemblies
		
<p>Entry <u>1hho</u> contains half a hemoglobin molecule (2 chains) in the asymmetric unit. A crystallographic two-fold axis generates the other 2 chains.</p>	<p>Entry <u>2hhb</u> contains one hemoglobin molecule (4 chains) in the asymmetric unit.</p>	<p>Entry <u>1hv4</u> contains two hemoglobin molecules (8 chains) in the asymmetric unit.</p>

X-ray crystallography to find structure

Sequence → Structure → Fun

Make
crystal

X-ray
diffraction

Electron
density

Backbone
threading

Rotamer
placement

Structure
Validation

Protein Crystal

X-ray Beam

1SBP

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Asymmetric Unit ?

3D View

More Images...

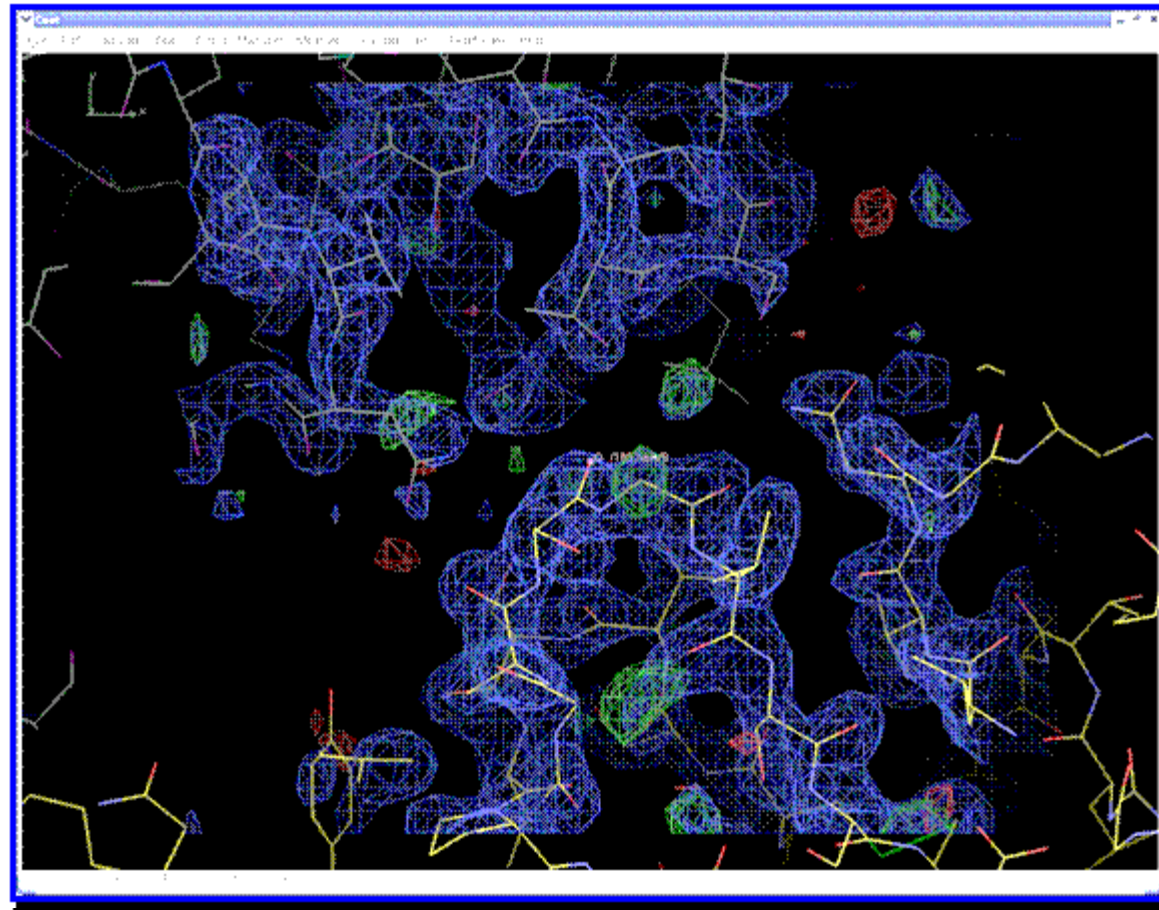
Role of symmetry in threading

Coot tutorial:

- Density without structure may be symmetric copy
- Check: turn on model symmetry

Key point for me:

- for consistency use their library:
Comp. Cryst.
Toolbox (cctbx)



All atom contact analysis: [Molprobit](#) demo

Dave & Jane Richardson's Protein Structure Software

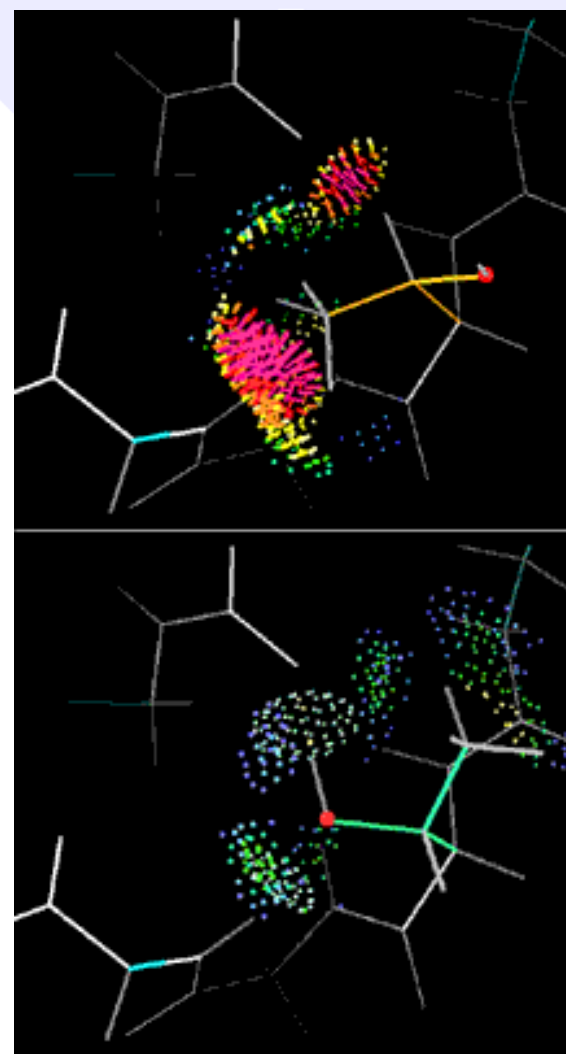
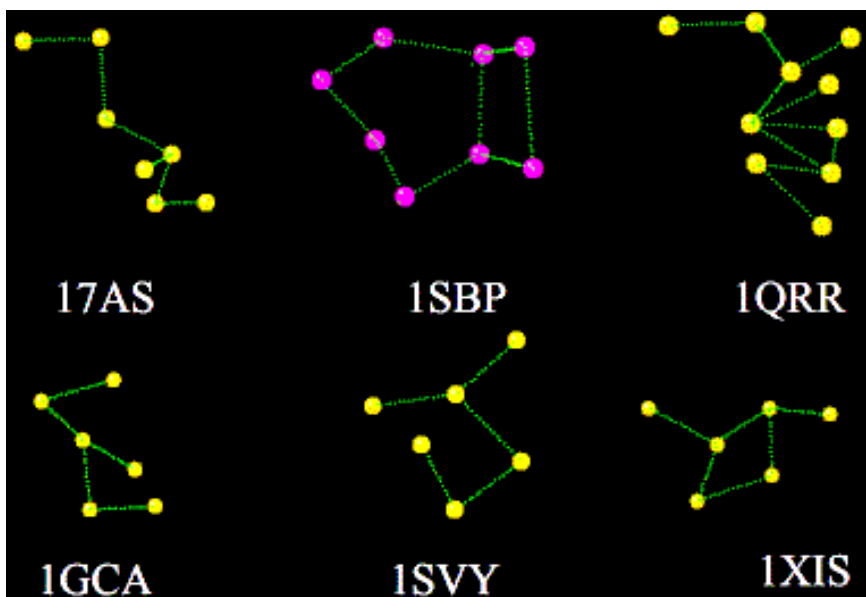
Software:

- Kinemage
- Prekin
- Probe
- Reduce



Reduce: Hydrogen placement by dynamic programming on graphs of small treewidth

- Reduce considers flips & rotations, which may interact.
- Interaction graphs' small treewidth allows fast dynamic programming.

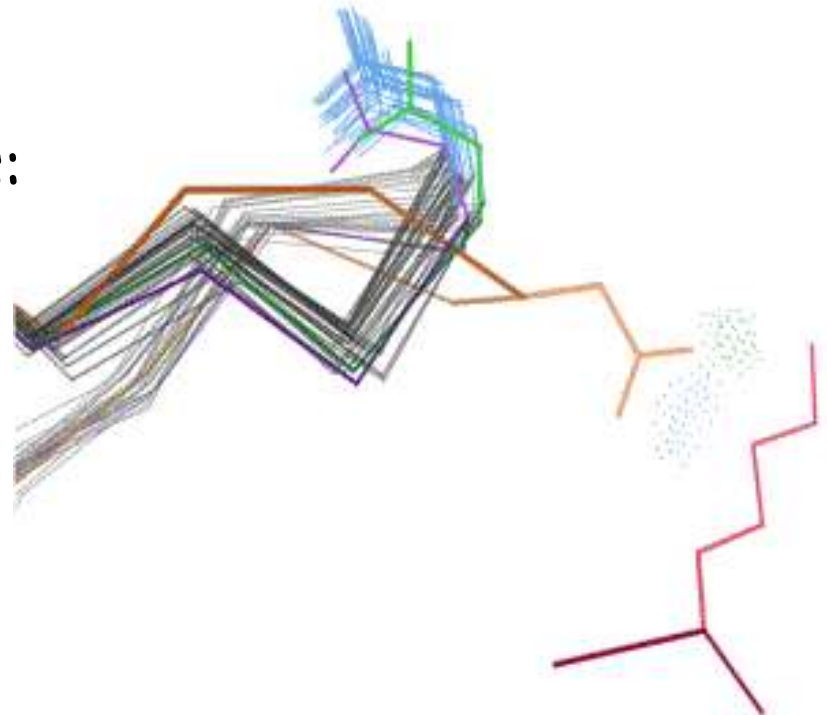
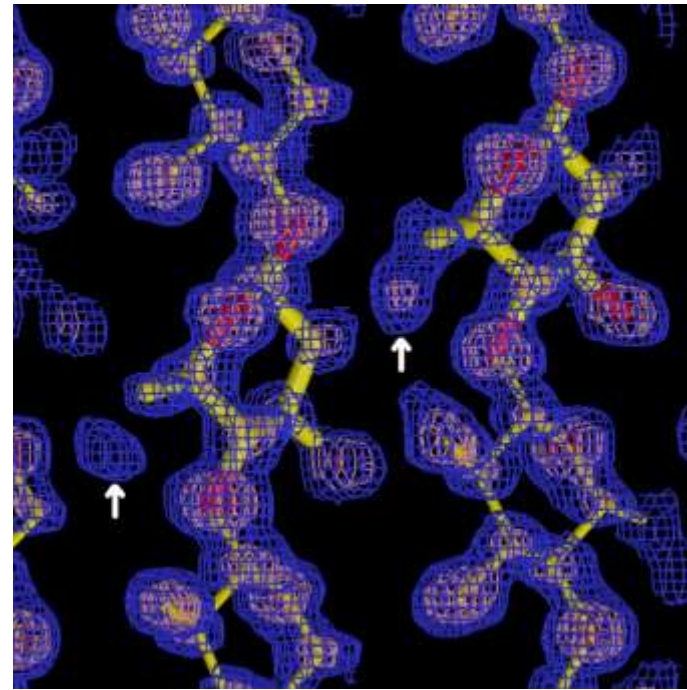


Single model analysis misses "crystal contacts"

- Validation
(Reduce)
- Crystallography
(PHENIX/Coot)
- Protein folding
(Rosetta)

eg. analysis of Rosetta decoys:

- native
- decoys
- symmetric natives



SymReduce: find neighbors

Q: How should Reduce find its neighbors using the crystallographic symmetries?

A: Bucketing...Reduce folds lattice into unit cell;
cctbx library folds into asymmetric unit



Euclidean geometry
in Cartesian space

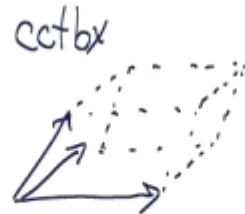
Data:

vdW Spheres

Queries:

dots (200-600/atom)

or candidate H positions



Fractional coordinates
in unit cell

atoms

atoms

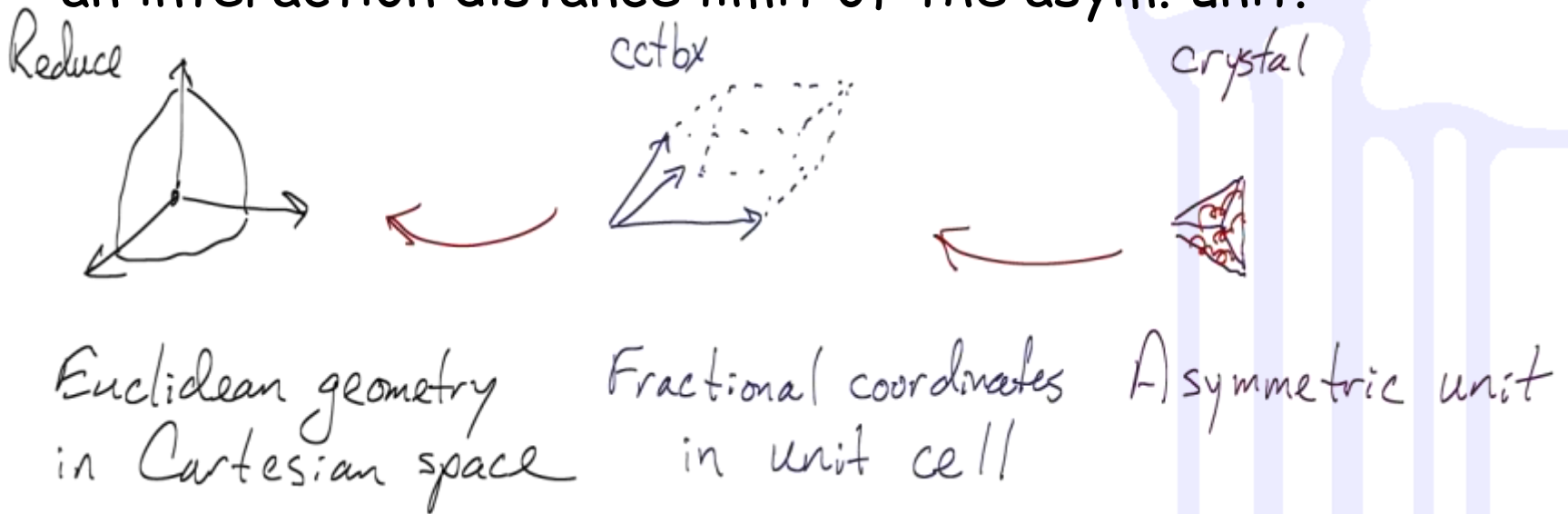
crystal



Asymmetric unit

SymReduce: find neighbors

Copy atoms from the asymmetric unit that lie within an interaction distance limit of the asym. unit.



Bucketing must be done in the Euclidean space.

SMP: "simple" matter of programming

- To accommodate candidate H atom positions, we had to add query (x, y, z) functionality to cctbx; otherwise we'd need to add/delete-last.

Remaining to do:

- Testing in PHENIX
- Naming convention for output of symmetric copies of atoms.

Possible extensions

- Speed up, e.g., queries by batching nearby dots.
- Detect if the "right" symmetry has been specified.

Thanks

- Richardson lab (Molprobit)
- Ralf Grosse-Kunstleve (cctbx)
- PHENIX
- Rosetta Commons
- NIH, NSF

