

# Molecular Replacement

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# Modern Molecular Replacement

## Model generation

- online resources
- internal databases

## Molecular Replacement Search

- Refinement
- Search in the density

## Scoring

- Refinement
- Model building

# Molecular Replacement in CCP4

## *Programs*

- Molrep
- AMoRe
- Phaser

## *Pipelines*

- Balbes
- MrBUMP
- AMPLE

# Molrep

Alexey Vagin

*YSBL University of York*

## Features

- Model trimming to the target sequence
- Model surface modification
- Handling pseudo-NMR (ensemble) models
- Anisotropic correction and scaling of the data
- Analysing and handling pseudo-translation
- Low- and high-pass filters accounting for model similarity and completeness
- Conventional and Phased Rotation and Translation functions
- Packing function
- Conventional MR with atomic or map models
- Fitting an atomic model into the electron density map
- Fitting two models

# Molrep

<http://www.ysbl.york.ac.uk/~alexei/molrep.html>

molrep -h

```

+-----+
|                                     |
|               --- MOLREP ---       |
|      /Vers 11.0.00; 17.06.2010/    |
|                                     |
+-----+

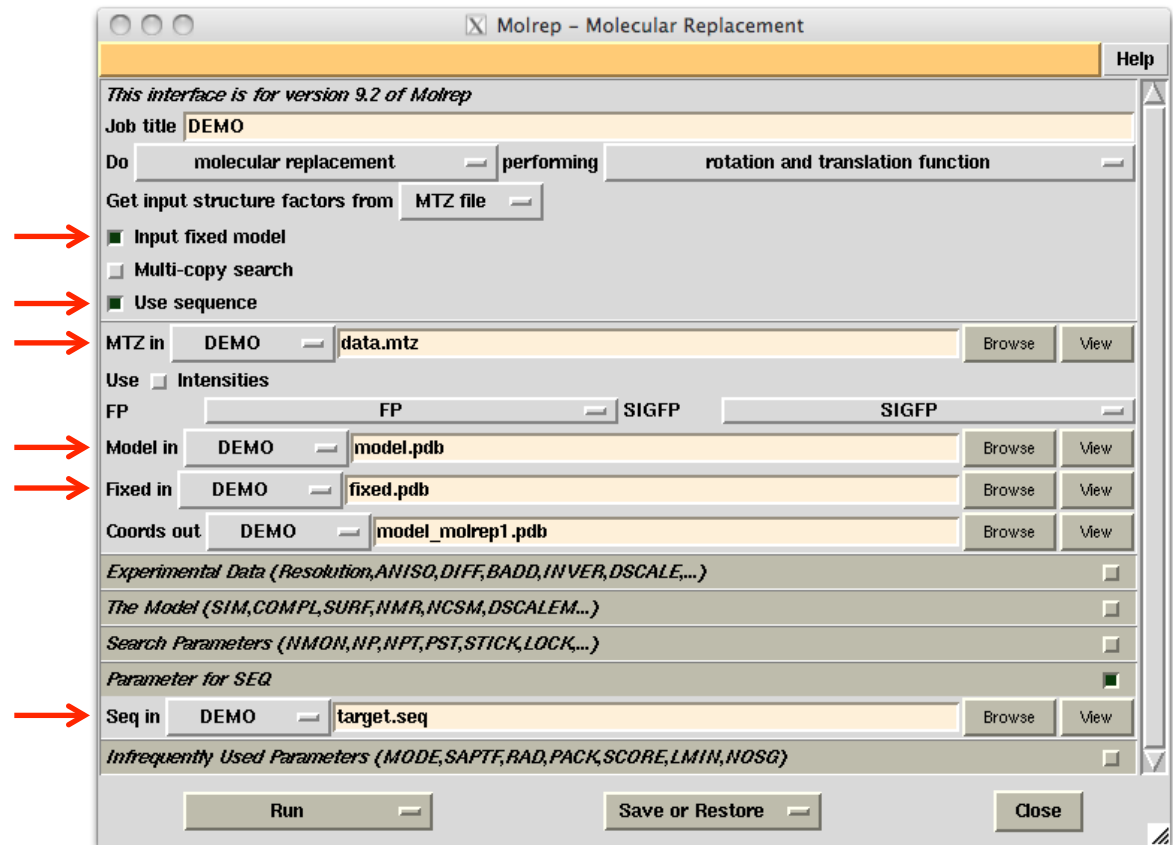
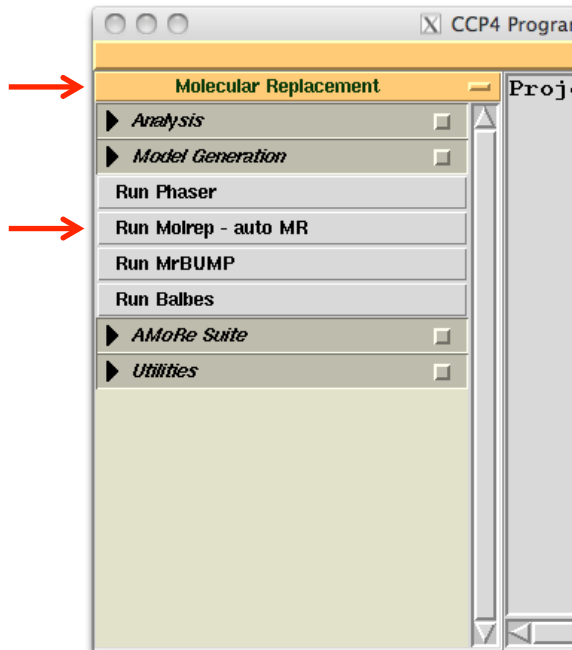
##
## You can use program by command string with options:
##
# molrep -f <file_sf_or_map> -m <model_crd_or_map>
#         -mx <fixed model>    -m2 <model_2>
#         -po <path_out>       -ps <path_scrath>
#         -s <file_sequence>   -s2 <file_seq_for_m2>
#         -k <file_keywords>   -doc <y/a/n>
#         -h   -i   -r

.....

```

# Molrep

```
molrep -f data.mtz -m model.pdb -mx fixed.pdb -s target.seq
```



# Default protocol

```
molrep -f data.mtz -m model.pdb -mx fixed.pdb -s target.seq
```

- model correction if sequence provided
- defines the number of molecules per AU
- modification of the model surface
- anisotropic correction of the data
- weighting the data according to model completeness and similarity
- check for pseudotranslation and account for if present
- 30+ peaks in Cross RF for use in TF (accounts for close peaks)
- applied packing function

# Scripting

```
molrep -f data.mtz -m model.pdb -s target.seq -i <<+  
nmon 1  
sim 0.33  
compl 0.1  
np 100  
pst N  
+
```

You may want to define manually

- the number of copies in the AU, if model is smaller than the target molecule
- similarity (used for weighting), if e.g. the target sequence is not provided
- completeness (used for weighting), to control weighting at low resolution
- the number of top peaks from CRF to be tested by TF
- to switch two-copy search off (switched on by default if pseudotranslation is found).

# Log-file

CCP4I fileviewer 1\_molrep.log

14 4 8.444 2.920 1.00 1.00 -21.06 0.599 0.110 7.33 ( 0.242)  
INFO: contrast is good enough. Stop this run

--- Summary ---

|    | RF | TF | theta  | phi     | chi    | tx    | ty    | tz    | TFcnt | wRfac | Score |
|----|----|----|--------|---------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1  | 1  | 1  | 72.59  | 38.64   | 179.42 | 0.825 | 0.649 | 0.480 | 10.06 | 0.560 | 0.242 |
| 2  | 2  | 1  | 72.41  | 38.93   | 177.39 | 0.820 | 0.650 | 0.480 | 10.91 | 0.565 | 0.217 |
| 3  | 4  | 1  | 72.18  | 38.99   | 176.40 | 0.819 | 0.652 | 0.480 | 9.61  | 0.573 | 0.195 |
| 4  | 7  | 2  | 77.85  | 58.68   | 142.53 | 0.445 | 0.292 | 0.483 | 5.03  | 0.602 | 0.121 |
| 5  | 3  | 2  | 107.48 | -166.00 | 160.39 | 0.637 | 0.790 | 0.175 | 4.51  | 0.599 | 0.120 |
| 6  | 6  | 10 | 52.26  | 91.15   | 50.93  | 0.416 | 0.376 | 0.163 | 1.95  | 0.603 | 0.111 |
| 7  | 13 | 12 | 82.51  | 133.98  | 129.34 | 0.542 | 0.566 | 0.253 | 2.80  | 0.601 | 0.110 |
| 8  | 14 | 4  | 81.86  | 91.66   | 108.52 | 0.780 | 0.260 | 0.469 | 2.92  | 0.599 | 0.110 |
| 9  | 9  | 4  | 113.57 | 167.71  | 124.63 | 0.757 | 0.436 | 0.021 | 3.39  | 0.603 | 0.110 |
| 10 | 8  | 13 | 87.47  | 114.84  | 104.62 | 0.644 | 0.955 | 0.369 | 1.21  | 0.605 | 0.109 |
| 11 | 5  | 3  | 108.24 | -136.26 | 176.12 | 0.816 | 0.651 | 0.479 | 2.79  | 0.602 | 0.109 |
| 12 | 12 | 1  | 97.58  | 104.76  | 90.32  | 0.585 | 0.049 | 0.166 | 2.33  | 0.607 | 0.107 |
| 13 | 10 | 2  | 98.10  | 104.76  | 89.79  | 0.586 | 0.049 | 0.166 | 1.93  | 0.607 | 0.107 |
| 14 | 11 | 9  | 36.40  | 73.27   | 110.10 | 0.394 | 0.165 | 0.289 | 1.16  | 0.610 | 0.097 |

Contrast = 7.33

After stick correction:  
Move closer to origin  
I\_sym\_operator : 11  
new position(frac): -0.176 -0.351 0.020

| Nmon | RF | TF | theta | phi     | chi    | tx     | ty     | tz    | TFcnt | wRfac | Score |
|------|----|----|-------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1    | 1  | 1  | 21.87 | -179.03 | 106.86 | -0.176 | -0.351 | 0.020 | 10.06 | 0.560 | 0.242 |

--- convert "molrep.crd" to "molrep.pdb" ---  
Time: 1h 27m 58s Elapsed: 0h 0m 57s  
MOLREP(ccp4): Normal termination  
Times: User: 53.8s System: 2.4s Elapsed: 0.57

Find Show Log Graphs Show Summary Quit

# Self Rotation Function (SRF)

```
molrep -f data.mtz
```

```
molrep -f data.mtz -i <<+  
rad 20  
resmax 2.5  
resmin 8.0  
lmin 6  
+
```

## Output

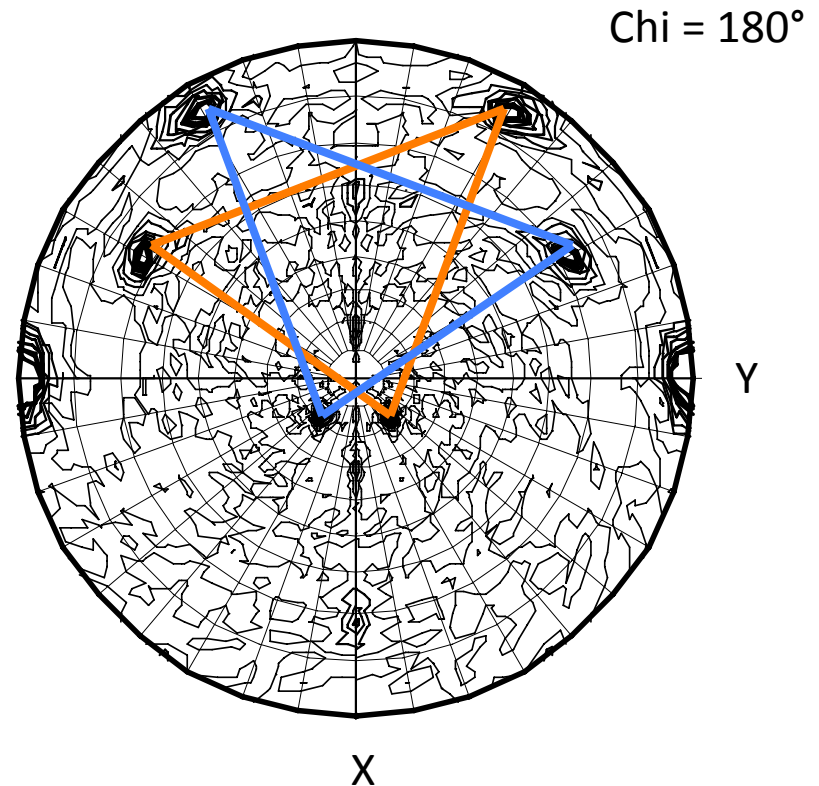
- molrep\_rf.ps
- molrep\_srf.tab

LMIN < 0 (default)

- harmonics with L=2 are removed
- harmonics with L=4 are downweighted

## Example

- Space group P21
- One 222-tetramer in the AU

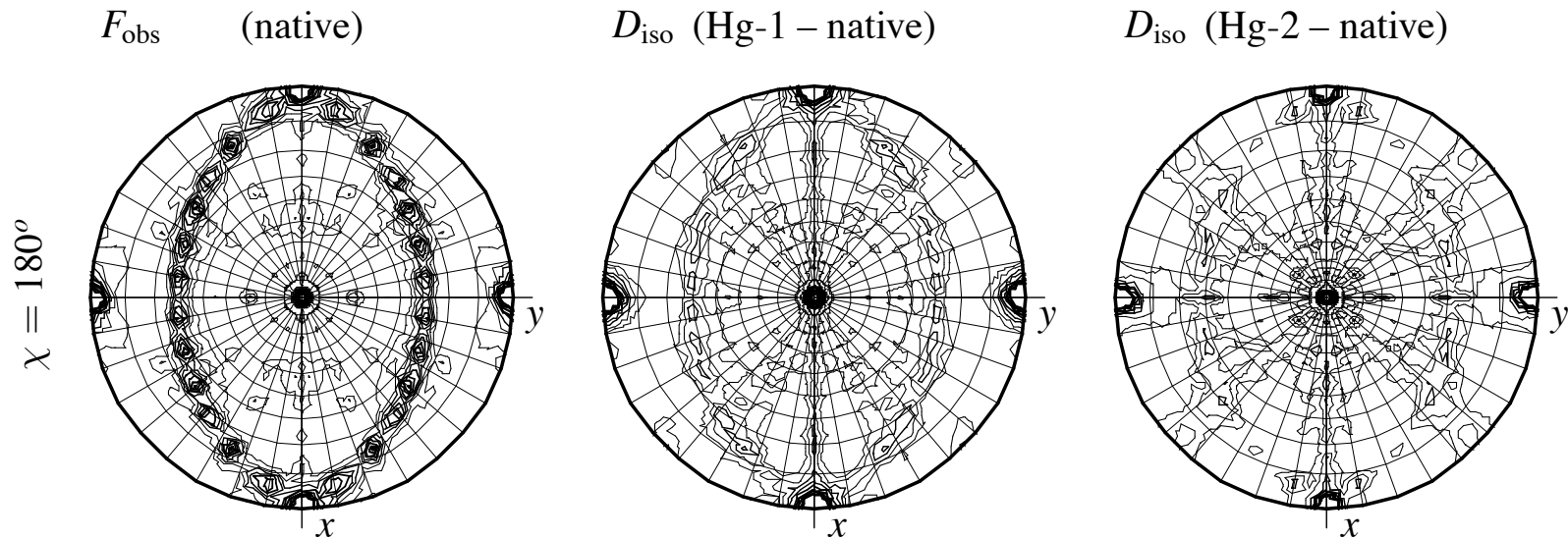


# SRF: preliminary analysis of X-ray data

Oligomeric state of the protein in crystal

- Content of the asymmetric unit
  - Does crystal contain the right protein?
    - » Be careful: artifacts in SRF, twinning, pseudo-translation
- Selection of oligomeric search model for MR
  - » Be careful, oligomers with the same symmetry can be different

Rare use: check for isomorphous or anomalous signal

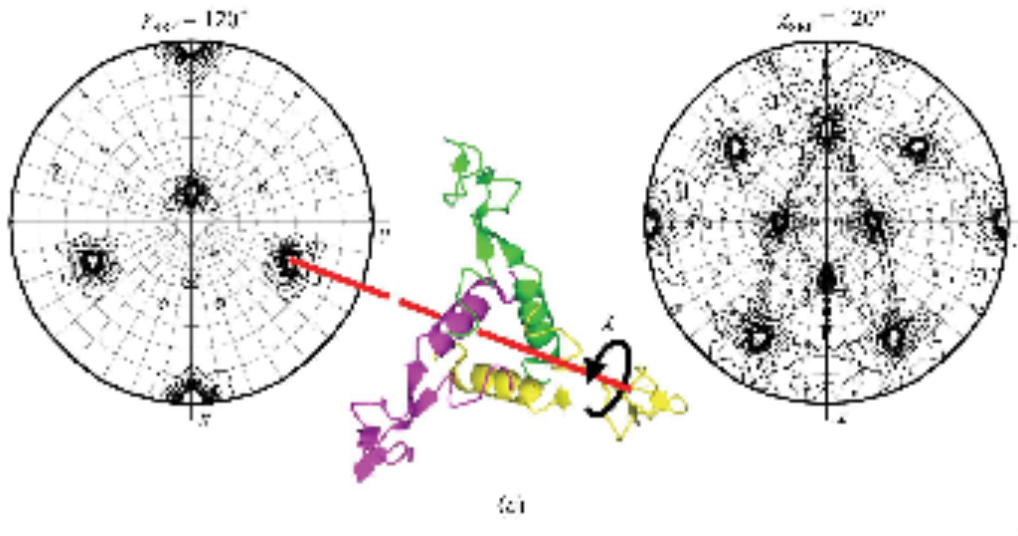


# SRF: use for structure solution

## Locked Rotation Function

```
molrep -f s100.mtz -m monomer.pdb -s s100.seq -i <<+  
lock y  
file_tsrf molrep_srf.tab  
nsrf 1  
+
```

Helps restrict dimensionality in an exhaustive search



# Search in the density

- Completion of model  
addition of smaller domain(s) < [molrep tutorial](#)  
NCS: "the last subunit" problem
  - high temperature factors in one of the subunits
  - subunit in a special crystallographic environment
- Experimental phasing  
Both experimental phases and model are poor  
Low resolution X-ray data
- Interpretation of EM reconstruction

# Exhaustive search in the electron density



## FFFear: Fast Fourier Feature Recognition

Clever 6-dimensional search by [Kevin Cowtan](#)

1. Sample the 3-dimensional space of rotations
  - For example, for orthorhombic space group, search step  $6.0^\circ$  requires 14098 orientations (a couple of hours)
2. Find the best position(s) for each orientation

The fast [Phased](#) Translation Function
3. Sort solution and find the overall best model

# Modified Rotation Function

Why not using Rotation Function?

1. Find orientation:

Cross-rotation function (**no phases used**)

2. Find position:

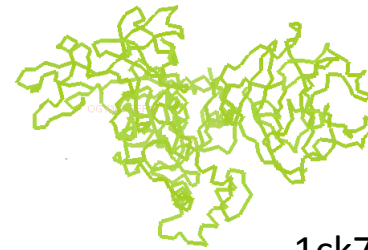
**Phased** translation function

Model completion:

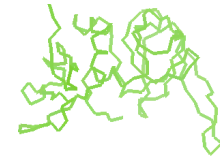
- Small domains or subunits to be added
- Therefore the Rotation Function may fail
  - » **No peaks** for the domains or subunits of interest

# Example

Templates:



1ck7



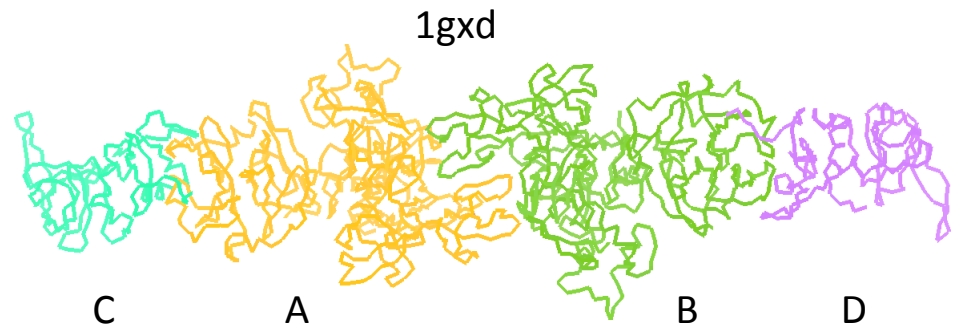
1br9

Target structure:

- Matrix metalloproteinase-2 with its inhibitor  
» Morgunova et al. (2002) PNAS 99, 7414
- resolution 3.1 Å

Solution:

- A, B: by conventional MR
- C, D: using FFFear  
also can be solved by iterating refinement and search in the density



# Modified Rotation Function

- Refine partial model
- Calculate map coefficients (2-1 or 1-1)

```
refmac5 ... hklout AB.mtz xyzout AB.pdb ...
```

- Flatten the map corresponding to the known substructure
- Calculate structure amplitudes from this map
- Use them in Cross-Rotation Function
- And finally – Phased TF

```
molrep -f AB.mtz -mx AB.pdb -m model.pdb -i <<+  
labin F=FWT PH=PHWT  
sim -1  
nmon 1  
np 100  
diff m  
+
```

# Example

Search for C in the density from refined A+B:

| --- Summary --- |    |    |        |         |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |  |
|-----------------|----|----|--------|---------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
|                 | RF | TF | theta  | phi     | chi    | tx    | ty    | tz    | TFcnt | wRfac | Score |  |
| 1               | 38 | 2  | 88.09  | -107.50 | 4.93   | 0.763 | 0.000 | 0.200 | 9.00  | 0.661 | 0.090 |  |
| 2               | 33 | 2  | 83.41  | -96.71  | 5.51   | 0.763 | 0.000 | 0.200 | 9.38  | 0.661 | 0.090 |  |
| 3               | 31 | 2  | 177.53 | -175.94 | 179.16 | 0.236 | 0.000 | 0.699 | 9.49  | 0.661 | 0.089 |  |
| 4               | 27 | 2  | 167.32 | -104.44 | 51.93  | 0.850 | 0.000 | 0.388 | 2.57  | 0.662 | 0.082 |  |

Search for D in the density from refined A+B+C:

| --- Summary --- |    |    |        |         |        |       |       |       |       |       |       |  |
|-----------------|----|----|--------|---------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
|                 | RF | TF | theta  | phi     | chi    | tx    | ty    | tz    | TFcnt | wRfac | Score |  |
| 1               | 88 | 1  | 172.00 | -133.61 | 173.03 | 0.609 | 0.511 | 0.139 | 20.89 | 0.650 | 0.096 |  |
| 2               | 86 | 1  | 171.51 | -130.07 | 173.56 | 0.108 | 0.011 | 0.140 | 16.55 | 0.650 | 0.095 |  |
| 3               | 87 | 1  | 172.85 | -130.98 | 175.04 | 0.109 | 0.011 | 0.140 | 14.27 | 0.650 | 0.095 |  |
| 4               | 59 | 1  | 165.81 | -139.35 | 167.51 | 0.125 | 0.010 | 0.143 | 9.97  | 0.650 | 0.093 |  |

# Modified Rotation Function

## Useful rules

- Add one domain at time, "NMON 1"
- Use "SIM -1" (Refinement has already weighted the map coefficients)
- Use many picks of RF, e.g. "NP 100"
- The second copy of a domain is sometimes easier to find using its refined copy found previously (a correct solution of the first copy)

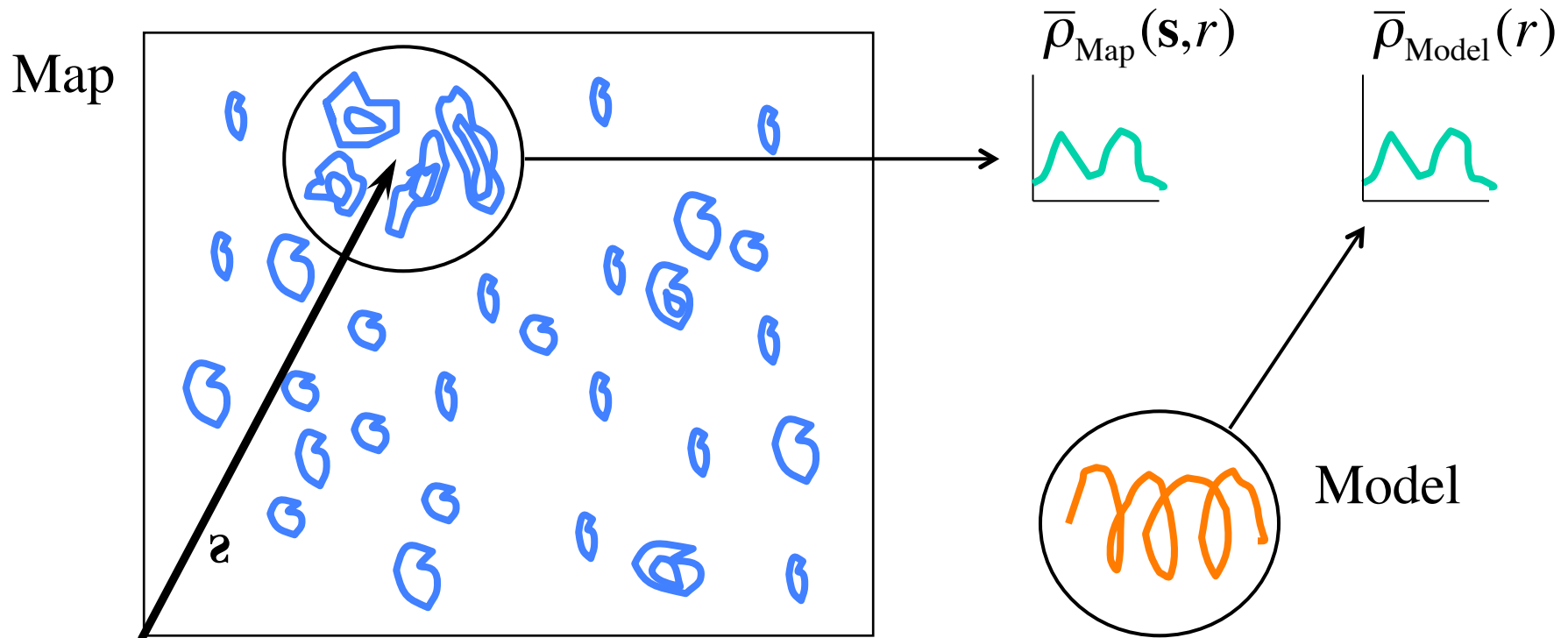
## Compared to the likelihood based RF

- The likelihood estimates for map coefficients are obtained from refinement
- In addition, the known substructure is improved before next search
- In addition, the noise in the map from known substructure is removed

This method is implemented in the MR pipeline [Balbes](#)

Spherically Averaged Phased Translation Function  
(FFT based algorithm)

$$\text{SAPTF}(\mathbf{s}) = \int \bar{\rho}_{\text{Map}}(\mathbf{s}, r) \bar{\rho}_{\text{Model}}(r) r^2 dr$$



1. Find approximate position:  
Spherically Averaged **Phased** Translation Function
2. Find orientation:  
**Phased** Rotation Function
  - Local search of the orientation in the density
3. Verify and adjust position:  
**Phased** Translation Function

# SAPTF Example

## X-ray data:

- Crystal of cyanobacterial sucrose-phosphatase

PDB code 1tj3

Resolution, 2.8 Å

## Model:

- Identity to the target 100%
- Different conformation

PDB code 1s2o

## Derived models:

- domain 1  
172 residues (1-77, 159-244)
- domain 2  
72 residues (88-159)

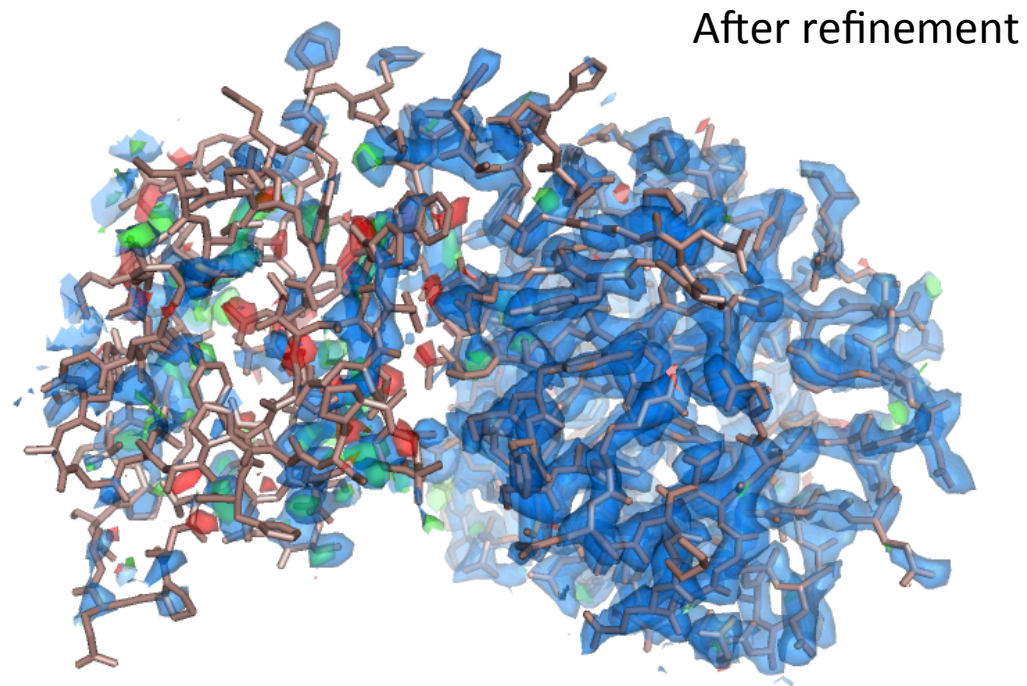
# SAPTF Example

Attempt to find the complete search model (Conventional RF + TF protocol)

```
molrep -f 1tj3.mtz -m 1s2oA.pdb
```

Input:

- X-ray data
- search model



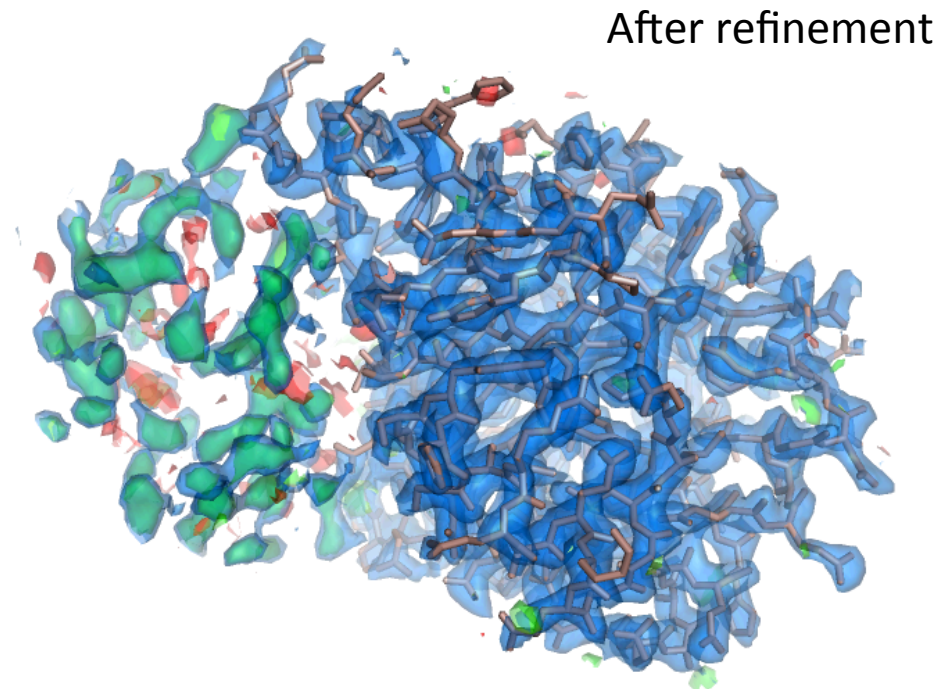
# SAPTF Example

Search for the large domain (Conventional RF + TF protocol)

```
molrep -f 1tj3.mtz -m 1s2oA_dom1.pdb
```

Input:

- X-ray data
- search model



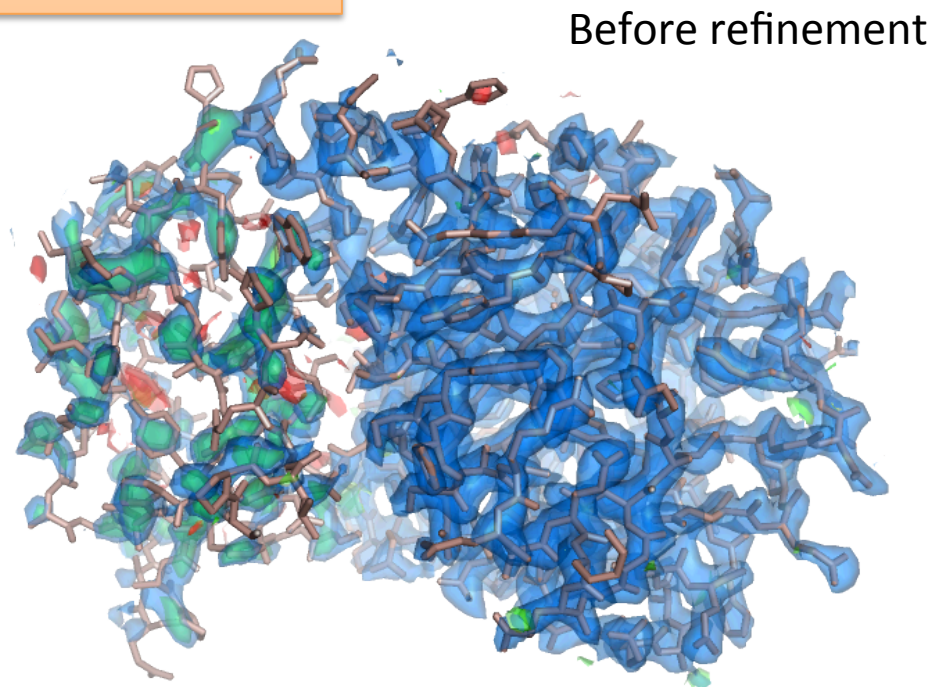
# SAPTF Example

Search for the small domain (SAPTF + Phased RF + Phased TF)

```
molrep -f data.mtz -m 1s2oA_dom2.pdb -i <<+  
diff M  
labin FP=FWT PHIC=PHIWT  
prf Y  
sim -1  
+
```

Input:

- Map coefficients
- Search model
- Partial structure
  - used as a mask
  - used for Packing Function
  - passed to output PDB-file



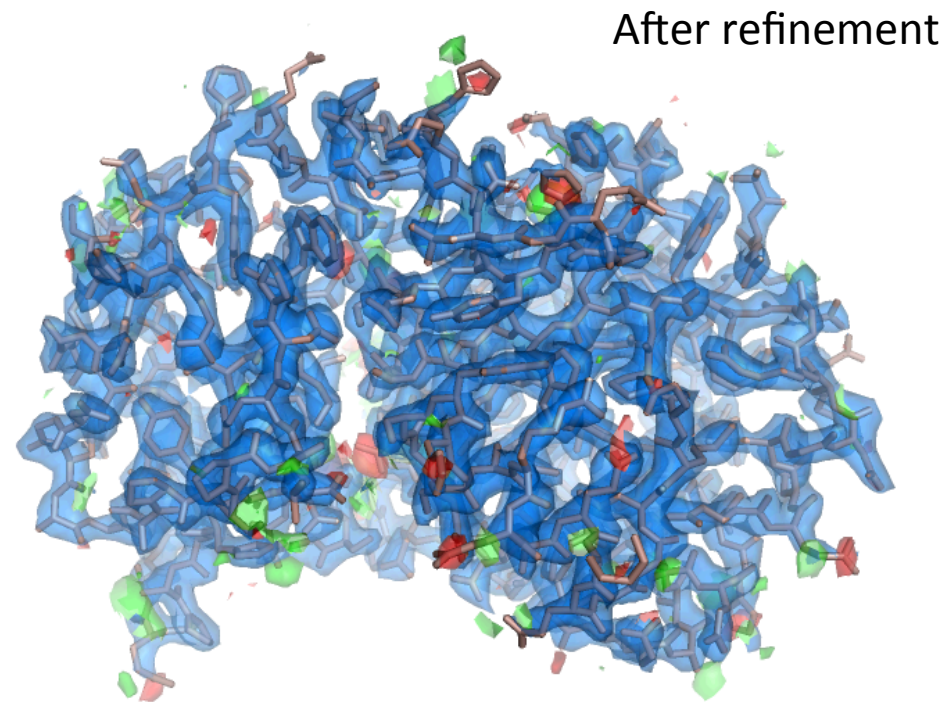
# SAPTF Example

Search for the small domain (SAPTF + Phased RF + Phased TF)

- Tutorial data (typo in tutorial materials)  
[http://www.ysbl.york.ac.uk/~alexey/downloads/tutorial\\_MR.tar.gz](http://www.ysbl.york.ac.uk/~alexey/downloads/tutorial_MR.tar.gz)

- CCP4I
  - this workshop materials

- Command line:
  - tutorial data
    - » tutorial.pdf, section 2



# Alternative SAPTF protocol

- SAPTF estimate of the position is not very precise
- Passed RF is sensitive to eccentricity of the model in its map

## Possible treatment (see also molrep tutorial)

### 1. Find approximate position:

Spherically Averaged **Phased** Translation Function

### 2. Find orientation:

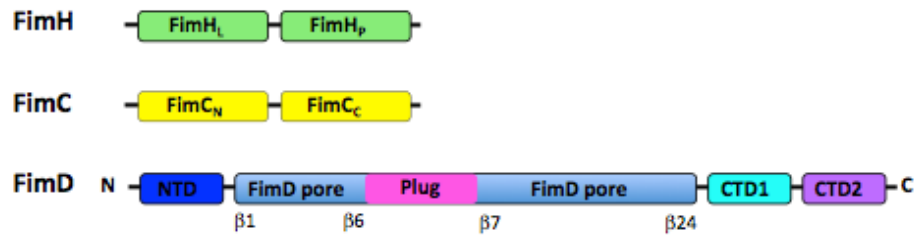
**Local** ~~**Phased**~~ Rotation Function

- The sphere used in SAPTF is used again, this time as a mask
- Structure amplitudes from the density in the same sphere

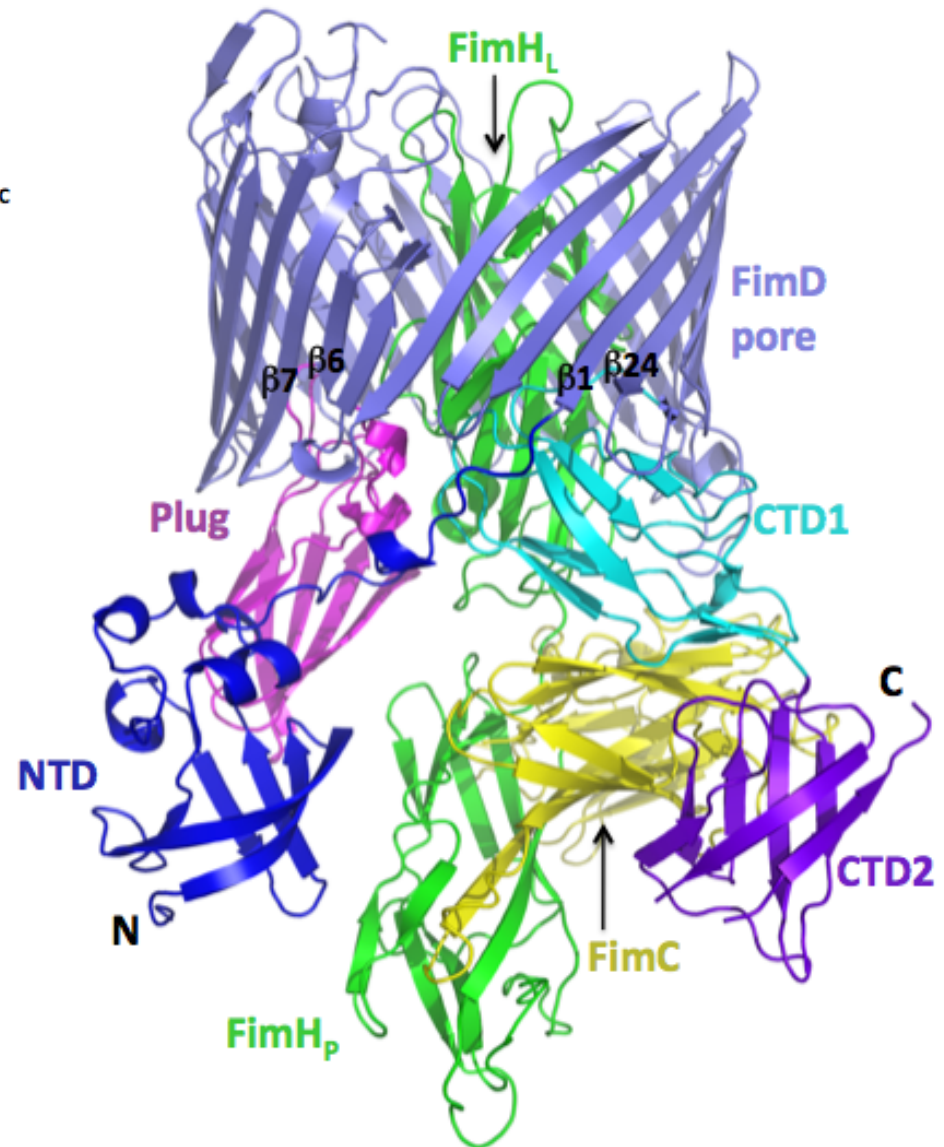
### 3. Verify and adjust position:

**Phased** Translation Function

# More complicated example



- Asymmetric unit two copies
- Resolution 2.8 Å

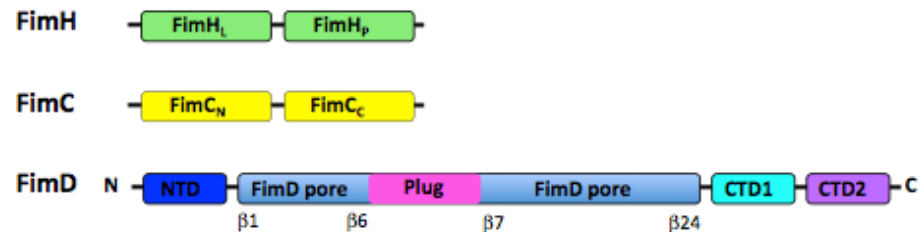


Phane et. al (2011) Nature, 474, 50-53

# Usher complex structure solution

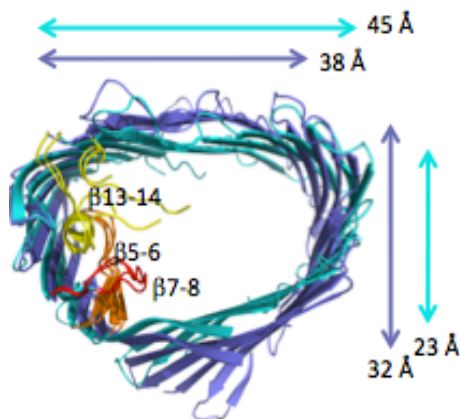
## 1. Conventional MR

- FimC-N + FimC-C
- FimH-L + FimH-P
- FimD-Pore



## 2. Jelly body refinement (Refmac)

- FimD-Pore



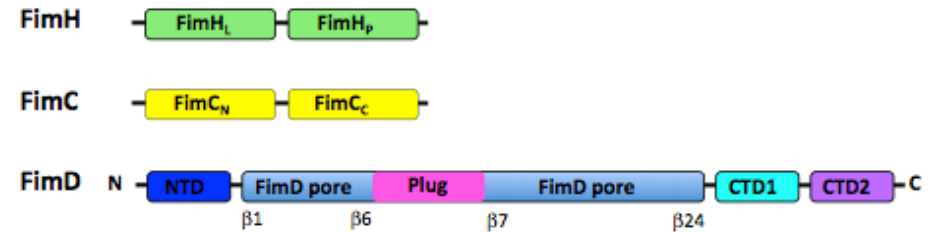
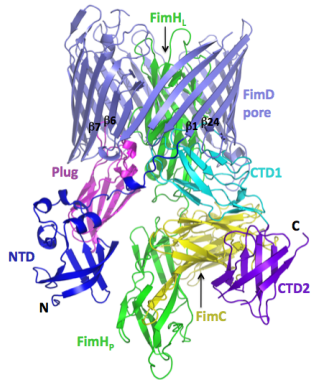
## 3. Fitting into the electron density

- FimD-Plug
- FimD-NTD
- FimD-CTD-2

## 4. Manual building

- FimD-CTD-1

# Performance of fitting methods



|            | search<br>model | sequence<br>identity | "Masked" RF<br>PTF<br><i>prf n</i> | SAPTF<br>PRF<br>PTF<br><i>prf y</i> | SAPTF<br>Local RF<br>PTF<br><i>prf s</i> |
|------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| FimD-Plug  | 3fip_A          | 38.5%                | 2 (2)                              | – (–)                               | 1 (2)                                    |
| FimD-NTD   | 1ze3_D          | 100%                 | 2 (2)                              | 1 (2)                               | 2 (2)                                    |
| FimD-CTD-2 | 3l48_A          | 33.3%                | – (–)                              | 2 (2)                               | – (–)                                    |

Trying several methods is a good practice (also because of cross-validation)

# NCS copy in a special position

False origin solution:

- Is an artifact of Molecular replacement in the presence of pseudotranslation

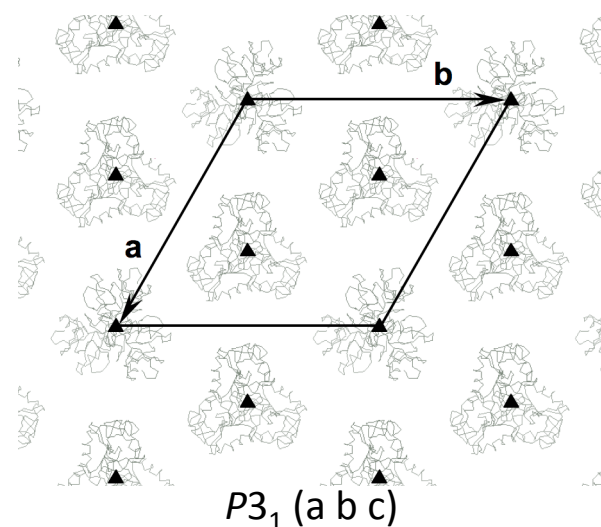
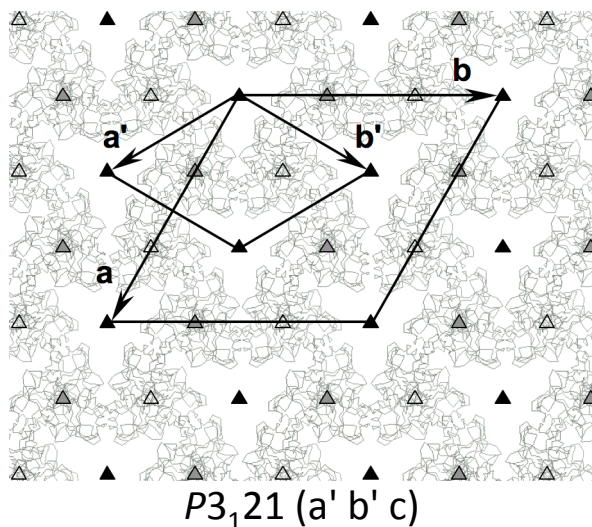
The most recent example:

- Twinning + three alternative origins in a substructure:

▲ True origins

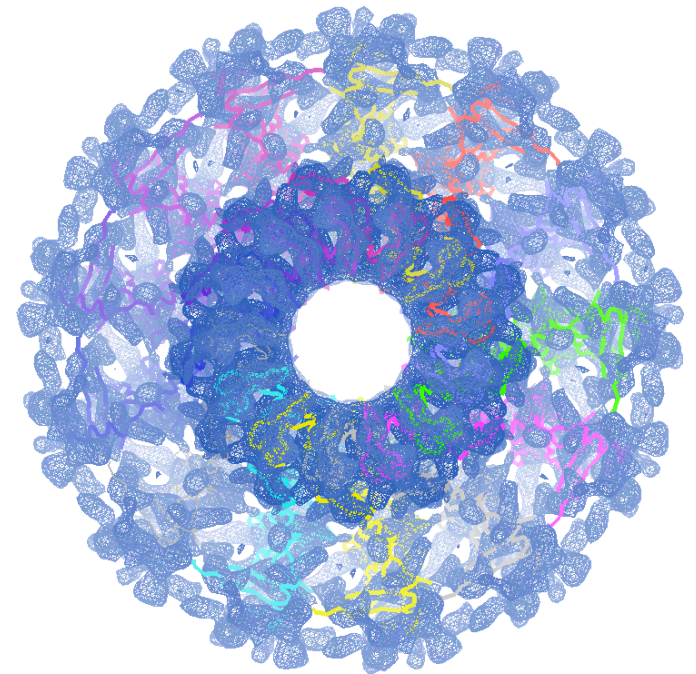
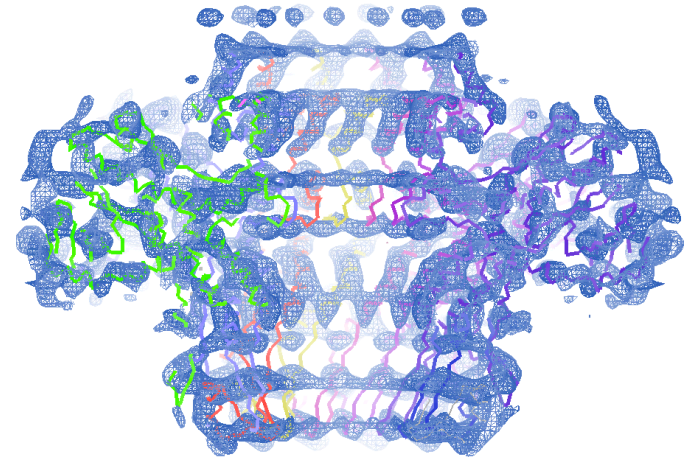
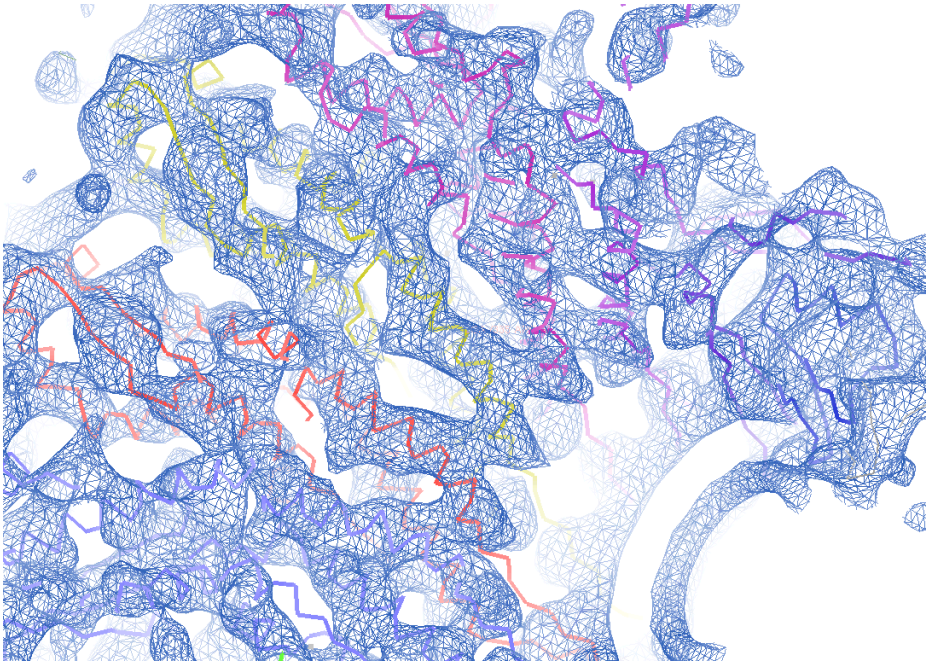
△ △ False origins

All origins are  
equivalent in  
the small cell



Watson *et al.* (2011). *JBC*, online pre-publication.

# Fitting into EM maps



# Balbes

Fei Long

Garib Murshudov

*MRC LMB Cambridge*

Alexey Vagin

*YSBL University of York*

# Balbes features

Input: mtz-file and sequence

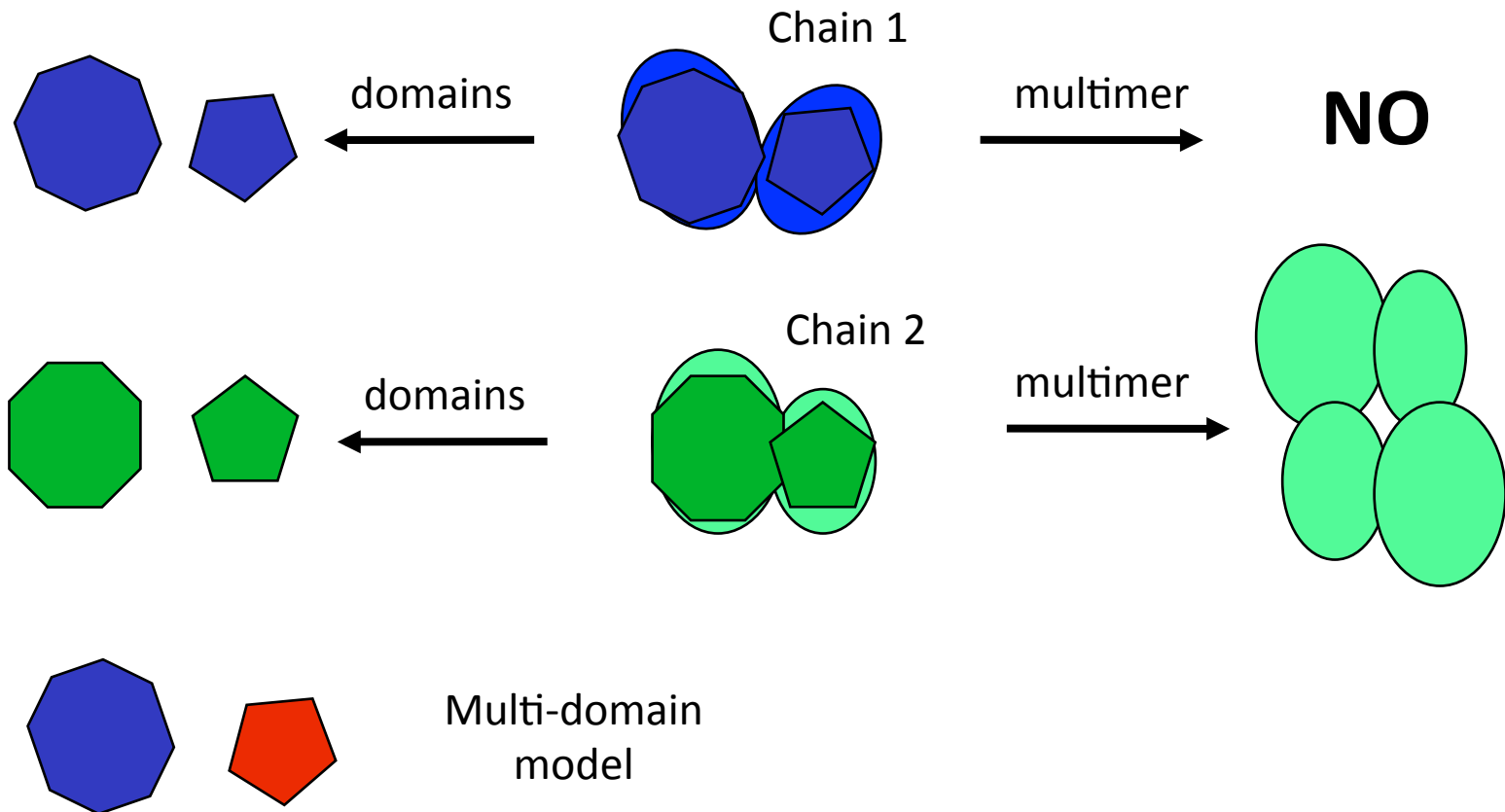
Output: the best solution search models for manual investigation

- Balbes has a **database** containing preprocessed data from the PDB
  - updated monthly
  - used for generation of models for given sequence
    - » different types of models
    - » any model is an **ensemble** if possible
- Can handle **complexes**
  - several sequences in the input sequence file
- Structure solution using **Molrep** and **Refmac**
  - Uses the **search in the density** for second, third etc component

- Non-redundant chains from the PDB
  - The PDB entries of better resolution are preferred
- More than 30000 domain definitions
  - flexible parts removed
  - hierarchically organized according to 3D similarity
- Multimers
  - generated using PISA definition

# Model preparation

All models are corrected by sequence alignment  
and by accessible surface area

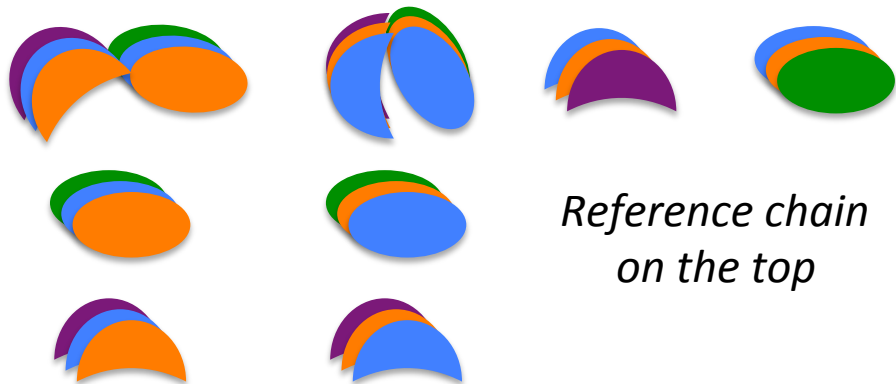


# Ensemble models from Balbes

Homologues from the Balbes database:



Ensemble search models:



Example:



# Ensemble models from Balbes

- If ensemble model is possible, it is generated
- Reference chain: occupancy = 1
- Other chains: occupancy < 1
  - » depends on the similarity of this chain with the reference chain

```
MODEL      1      1.000  2b1qA
ATOM       1  N  MET A   1      54.911  30.868  97.738  1.00 28.22 ...
...
MODEL      8      0.000  2b1qA
ATOM       1  N  TYR A   2      62.248  23.657 102.889  0.49 60.31 ...
...
```

- Reference chain is corrected according to the target sequence
- Reference chain is passed to refinement
  - » and the one from the best solution to output

Firstly, try Balbes. If it fails, take generated models and try manual MR

# Ensemble models from Balbes

THE UNIVERSITY of York  
**York Structural Biology Laboratory**

University | Chemistry | YSBL

Home (Logout) > Login > Programs > Balbes > View Results Username: alezle

**View Results**

PROCESS **7587375708** IS RUNNING [stop process]

**PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REFRESH THIS PAGE** (or use the REFRESH PAGE link at the bottom)

**FILES**

output/

process\_details/

template\_solutions/

results/

template\_models/

CURRENT FILE: **summary.log** [download this file]

BALBES Version is 1.1.1\_DB\_Oct\_1\_2010

process\_details/

- ✓ process\_details/
- sfcheck\_gfobs.log
- sfcheck.log
- sfcheck.btc
- sfcheck.log

mod\_2b1qA\_mono2.pdb

**mod\_2b1qA\_mono2\_ens.pdb**

mod\_2b1qA\_1dom.pdb

mod\_2b1qA\_tmp.pdb

mod\_2b1qA\_1dom\_ens.pdb

mod\_2b1qA\_2dom.pdb

mod\_2b1qA\_2dom\_ens.pdb

mod\_2b1rA\_mono.pdb

mod\_2b1rA\_mono1.pdb

For the structure 1 in sequence 1

| PDB_CODE     |          | 2b1qA       |          |           |         |                    |
|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------|---------|--------------------|
| NO. of MODEL |          | 3           |          |           |         |                    |
| Model        | Chain ID | Similarity  | Residues | Multimer? | Domain? | Monomers(expected) |
| 1            | A        | 0.857 (ENS) | 244      | Monomer   | No      | 1                  |
| 2            | A        | 0.846 (ENS) | 162      | Monomer   | Yes     | 1                  |
| 3            | A        | 0.861 (ENS) | 72       | Monomer   | Yes     | 1                  |

| Similarity  |
|-------------|
| 0.857 (ENS) |
| 0.846 (ENS) |
| 0.861 (ENS) |

# Ensemble models from Balbes

THE UNIVERSITY of York  
**York Structural Biology Laboratory**

University | Chemistry | YSBL

Home (Logout) > Login > Programs > Balbes > View Results Username: **aleale**

### View Results

PROCESS **7587375708** IS RUNNING [[stop process](#)]

**PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REFRESH THIS PAGE** (or use the REFRESH PAGE link at the bottom)

**FILES**

output/

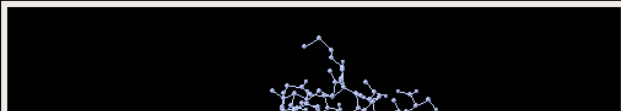
process\_details/

template\_solutions/

results/

template\_models/

CURRENT FILE: **mod\_2b1rA\_mono2\_ens.pdb** [[download this file](#)]



|           |                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| jMol help | <a href="#">click here for jmol help</a>                                                                           |
| Spacefill | <input type="radio"/> 0% <input checked="" type="radio"/> 15% <input type="radio"/> 50% <input type="radio"/> 100% |

CURRENT FILE: **mod\_2b1rA\_mono2\_ens.pdb** [[download this file](#)]

All files:

– results > AllFilesIn\_7587375708.tar.gz

# Acknowledgements

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Alexey Vagin    | University of York |
| Fei Long        | MRC LMB            |
| Garib Murshudov | MRC LMB            |