# 3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles



# 3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles Outline

- Background
  - References; examples; etc.
- Symmetry
  - Icosahedral (532) point group symmetry
  - Triangulation symmetry
- "Typical" procedure (flow chart)
  - Digitization and boxing
  - Image preprocessing / CTF estimation
  - Initial particle orientation/origin search
  - Orientation/origin refinement
  - 3D reconstruction with CTF corrections
  - Validation (resolution assessment)
- Current and future strategies



## 3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles REFERENCES

Crowther, R. A., Amos, L. A., Finch, J. T., DeRosier, D. J. and Klug, A. (1970) Three dimensional reconstructions of spherical viruses by Fourier synthesis from electron micrographs. *Nature* **226:421-425** 

First 3D reconstructions of negatively-stained, spherical viruses:

Human wart virus

## Tomato bushy stunt



500 Å



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Crowther, R. A., DeRosier, D. J. and Klug, A. (1970) The reconstruction of a three-dimensional structure from projections and its application to electron microscopy. *Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond.* A **317:319-340** 

Crowther, R. A. (1971) Procedures for three-dimensional reconstruction of spherical viruses by Fourier synthesis from electron micrographs. *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. Lond. B.* 261:221-230

General principles of 3DR method

- Fourier-Bessel mathematics
- Common lines

# 3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles REFERENCES

- Reference list available as handout
- For die-hards:

Baker, T. S., N. H. Olson, and S. D. Fuller (1999) Adding the third dimension to virus life cycles: Three-Dimensional reconstruction of icosahedral viruses from cryo-electron micrographs. *Microbiol. Molec. Biol. Reviews* 63:862-922



500 Å





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3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles Symmetry

## 1. Icosahedral (532) point group symmetry

## 2. Triangulation symmetry



Regular Polyhedra (Platonic Solids)

There are just five platonic solids:

From **equilateral triangles** you can make: with 3 faces at each vertex, a **tetrahedron** 

with 4 faces at each vertex, an octahedron

with 5 faces at each vertex, an icosahedron

From **squares** you can make: with 3 faces at each vertex, a **cube** 

From **pentagons** you can make: with 3 faces at each vertex, a **dodecahedron** 







### 12 vertices (5fold)



12 vertices (5-20 ke/ces (3fold)



12 vertices (5-2012)ces (3-30febb)es (2fold)



Different shapes, but both have 532 symmetry 12 vertices, 20 faces, 30 edges 20 vertices, 12 faces, 30 edges (6 5-folds, 10 3-folds, 15 2-folds) (10 3-folds, 6 5-folds, 15 2-folds) Asymmetric unit is 1/60<sup>th</sup> of whole object

Object consists of 60 identical 'subunits' arranged with icosahedral symmetry



30 dimers

20 trimers

12 pentamers

From Eisenberg & Crothers, Table 16-3, p.767

3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles Symmetry

## 1. Icosahedral (532) point group symmetry

## → 2. Triangulation symmetry

Purely mathematical concept (concerns lattices)

Real objects (*e.g.* viruses) with 532 symmetry often consist of multiples of 60 'subunits'

'Subunits' arranged such that additional, local or pseudosymmetries exist





3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles Triangulation Number

# Key Concept:

T symmetry is **NOT** incorporated into or enforced by the 3D reconstruction algorithms

Hence, T symmetry emerges as a result of a properly performed 3D reconstruction analysis

3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles Triangulation Number

# Key Concept:

T symmetry is **NOT** incorporated into or enforced by the 3D reconstruction algorithms

In other words: What you determine is the structure of <u>one asymmetric unit</u> of the object

3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles Two Basic Assumptions:

- Specimen consists of stable particles with 'identical' structures (else averaging is invalid)
- Programs test for and <u>assume</u> presence of icosahedral (532) symmetry

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Sample : ~2-3  $\mu$ l at 1-5 mg/ml

Specimen support: holey carbon film (1-2  $\mu$ m)



Sample : ~2-3 µl at 1-5 mg/ml

Specimen support: holey carbon film (1-2 µm)



Sample : ~2-3  $\mu$ l at 1-5 mg/ml

Specimen support: holey carbon film (1-2  $\mu$ m)



Sample : ~2-3 μl at 1-5 mg/ml Specimen support: holey carbon film (1-2 μm) Microscope: 200-300 keV with FEG



Sample : ~2-3 µl at 1-5 mg/ml Specimen support: holey carbon film (1-2 µm) Microscope: 200-300 keV with FEG Defocus range: 1-3 µm underfocus Dose: 10-20 e<sup>-</sup>/Å<sup>2</sup> Film: SO-163 (12 min, full strength) Micrographs: 50-100-->1000s(?) Particles:  $10^3 - 10^4 - > 10^5 - - > 10^6$  (?) Target resolution: 10 - 6 Å --> 4 Å (?)





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### **Icosahedral Particle Image Reconstruction Scheme**



### **Icosahedral Particle Image Reconstruction Scheme**







### **Icosahedral Particle Image Reconstruction Scheme**



#### Icosahedral Virus 3D Reconstruction Scheme PROGRAM(S)



#### **Icosahedral Virus 3D Reconstruction Scheme**



#### **Icosahedral Virus 3D Reconstruction Scheme**




Digitize Micrograph





## Extracted



## Masked



## Floated



## Apodized



## Square mask; unfloated



## Circular mask; unfloated



## Circular mask; floated



## Circular mask; floated & apodized



















Gradient removed





#### Gradient not removed





















#### Extracted







Masked



Apodized







X→ FFT - CTF Estimation					• 🗆 🗙
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↓ Determine Origin and Orientation (θ,φ,ω,x,y)

Goal: determine phase origin and view orientation for each boxed particle

# MOST IMPORTANT STEP? Garbage in -----> garbage out



People who don't know which end is up



## **BPV Projections: Icosahedral ASU**


# **BPV Projections: 1/2 Icosahedral ASU**



 $\phi$ 

θ



How do we determine the ( $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\omega$ , x, y) parameters?

Two methods:

1. Common lines

New or unknown structure

2. Model-based (template) matching

General features of structure are known or a crude model can be generated

 Determine Origin and Orientation (θ,φ,ω,x,y)

How do we determine the ( $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\omega$ , x, y) parameters?

# Two methods:

1. *Ab initio* (*e.g.* Common lines)

New or unknown structure

2. By guess and by golly



How do we determine the ( $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\omega$ , x, y) parameters?

# Two methods:

1. *Ab initio* (*e.g.* Common lines)

New or unknown structure

## 2. Model-based (template) matching

General features of structure are known or a crude model can be generated (...or, sometimes, even a lousy model will work)

Determine Origin and Orientation (θ,φ,ω,x,y)

# **Common Lines**

The 'gospel' according to Tony Crowther (*Phil. Trans. R. Soc. Lond. B.*(1971) **261:221-230**)

"[Common lines] arise as follows:"

"An observed section of the transform intersects an identical symmetry-related section in a line, along which the transform must have the same value in both sections"

"The common line lies in the original section."

"However, regarded as lying in the symmetry-related section it must have been generated by the symmetry operation from some other line in the original section."

Determine Origin and Orientation (θ,φ,ω,x,y)

# **Common Lines**

The 'gospel' continued:

*"We therefore have a pair of lines in the original transform plane along which the transform must have identical values"* 

"A similar pair of lines will be generated by each possible choice of pairs of symmetry operations"

*"The angular positions of these lines are dependent on the orientation of the particle."* 



2D Fourier Transform

Simple example: object with single three-fold axis of symmetry



ABCD = 2D transform of image from particle **not** viewed along an axis of symmetry

Let Z-direction coincide with **3-fold** axis of symmetry

3-fold operation generates **two** additional FT sections (only A'B'C'D' is shown)

Both planes have **common values** along the **line** (1,2,3) of their intersection



Adapted from Moody (1990) Fig. 7.68,

Adapted from Moody (1990) Fig. 7.69, p.246



**Original Transform Plane** 







Symmetry-Related Transform Plane

Ok, that's easy (simple object with single 3-fold axis) What about an object with 532 symmetry?

For a **general view**, icosahedral symmetry generates:

5-folds: 
$$\frac{12}{2} \times 2 = 12$$
 pairs  
3-folds:  $\frac{20}{2} \times 1 = 10$  pairs  
2-folds:  $\frac{30}{2} \times 1 = \frac{15}{2}$  real lines  
37 common lines







(80, 11)

What is  $(\theta, \phi, \omega)$  for this particle?



(80, 11, 0)

 $\dot{\omega}$ 







(80, 11, 30)

ώ



## (80, 11, 90)

 $\dot{\omega}$ 





**(80,11,ω)** 

Metric: Identify  $\omega$  that gives lowest phase residual



Repeat process for all possible  $(\theta,\phi,\omega)$  combinations



> 250,000 combinations for 1° angular search intervals

Determine Origin and Orientation (θ,φ,ω,x,y)

# **Common Lines**

The  $(\theta, \phi, \omega)$  that results in the lowest phase residual is selected as the best estimate for the particle view orientation

The 'common lines' procedure is similarly used to determine the particle phase origin (*x*, *y*)

Not to worry.....I'll spare you the details!!!



Recall: two methods to determine ( $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\omega$ , x, y):

- 1. Common lines
- 2. Model-based (template) matching

Bulk of structures now solved this way

Details discussed in practical session

## **PFTSEARCH Program Flowchart**



		[	<b>Determine Origin and</b> <b>Orientation (</b> θ,φ,ω, <b>x</b> , <b>y</b> )				Initial 3D Model			
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Select Images

# Goal: weed out 'bad' particle images before computing 3D reconstruction





Select Images

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PFT Coefficient  $0.679 \pm 0.075$ 






# Goal: combine only "good" particle images to compute a 3D density map



From Lake (1972), p.174



Overall scheme:  $\rho \leftarrow g \leftarrow G \leftarrow F$ 

Compute 3DR

### Steps:

- 1. Compute 2D FFT of each particle image
- 2. Combine all 2D FFTs to build up 3D Fourier-Bessel transform





Crowther, DeRosier and Klug, 1970, p.329

Adapted from Crowther (1971) Fig. 4, p.223



Steps:

- 1. Compute 2D FFT of each particle image
- 2. Combine all 2D FFTs to build up 3D Fourier-Bessel transform
- 3. Compute  $G_n$ 's on each annulus  $G = (BB)^{-1}BF$
- 4. Compute g<sub>n</sub>'s from G<sub>n</sub>'s (Fourier-Bessel transform)
- 5. Compute polar density map ( $\rho(r, \phi, z)$ ) from g<sub>n</sub>'s
- 6. Convert from polar to Cartesian map (  $\rho(r,\phi,z) \rightarrow \rho(x,y,z)$  )



Option: correct for CTF effects in particle FFTs before FFTs are merged to form the 3D FFT



Monitor Data Quality

## Goal: assess resolution of 3D density map to determine what to do next













Monitor Data Quality

# Note: quality of 3D density map is not identical everywhere in the map











	↓ Monitor Data Quality		
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3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles Current and Future Strategies

- Parallelization and new algorithms
  - "Parallel" versions of EM3DR, PFTSEARCH, OOR
  - EM3DR ---> P3DR
  - OOR -----> PO<sup>2</sup>R
- Automation
  - Semi-auto boxing (RobEM)
  - Automated origin/orientation refinement (AUTO3DEM)
- Split data set processing
  - Divide image data at very beginning and refine 'even' and 'odd' data independently.
  - Minimizes (eliminates ?) bias in resolution assessment
  - Combine independent reconstructions to obtain 'final' 3DR with highest S/N
## **Structure Determination Flow Chart**





## 3D Reconstruction of Icosahedral Particles Current and Future Strategies

## - Data selection

Trying to improve resolution by substantially increasing the number of images averaged *ad infinitum* may prove less beneficial than simply applying more rigorous quality control measures to weed out 'bad' data.

Borgnia, M. J., D. Shi, P. Zhang and J. L. Milne (2004) Visualization of α-helical features in a density map constructed using 9 molecular images of the 1.8 MDa icosahedral core of pyruvate dehydrogenase. *J. Struct. Biol.* **147:136-145.** 

