



phaser and phasing

Airlie McCoy



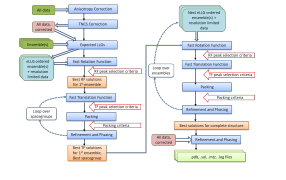
1

software for phasing

Score: find the pose that best fits the data

$$LLGI = \sum_{hkl_{info}} \log \left[ \frac{2E_e}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \exp \left( - \frac{E_e^2 + D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2 E_C^2}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \right) I_0 \left( \frac{2E_e D_{obs} \sigma_A E_C}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \right) \right]$$

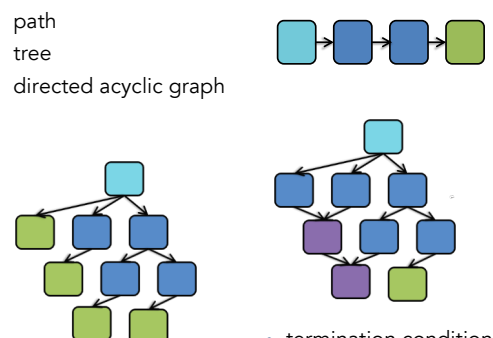
Search: strategies for exploring poses



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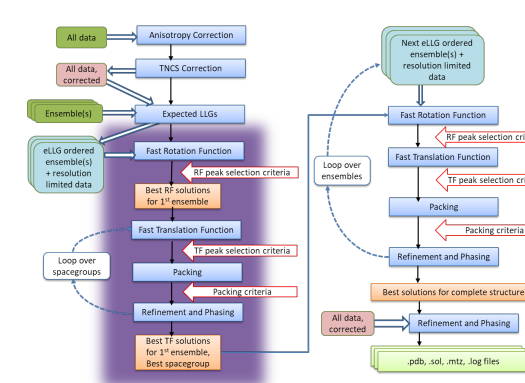
process flow

- path
- tree
- directed acyclic graph



• termination condition

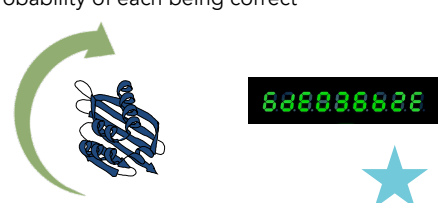
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brute rotation function search

- Place model at orientations and calculate probability of each being correct

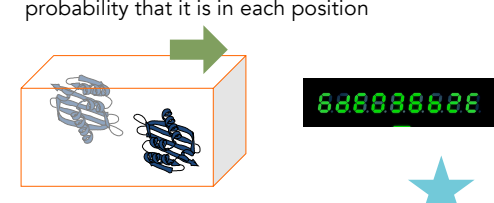


$$LLGI = \sum_h \log \left( \frac{2E_e}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \exp \left( - \frac{E_e^2 + D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2 E_C^2}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \right) I_0 \left( \frac{2E_e D_{obs} \sigma_A E_C}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \right) \right)$$

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brute translation function search

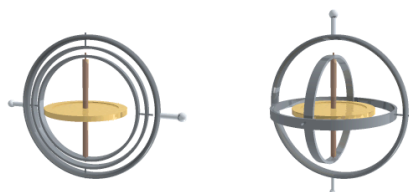
- Place model at points in unit cell and calculate probability that it is in each position



$$LLGI = \sum_h \log \left( \frac{2E_e}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \exp \left( - \frac{E_e^2 + D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2 E_C^2}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \right) I_0 \left( \frac{2E_e D_{obs} \sigma_A E_C}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \right) \right)$$

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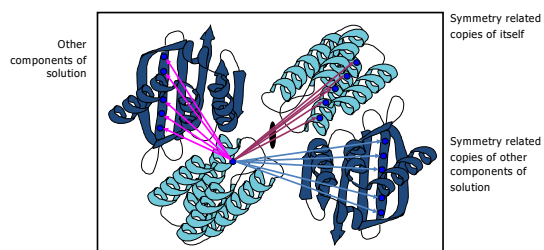
## euler angles



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## packing

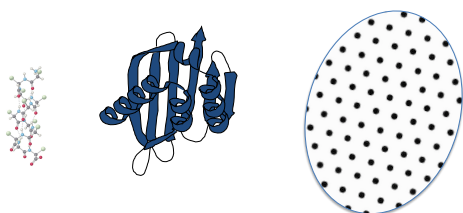
- clash test



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## packing

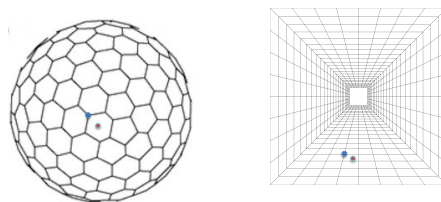
- Small – Medium – Large
- all atoms – C $\alpha$  atoms – Hexagonal Grid



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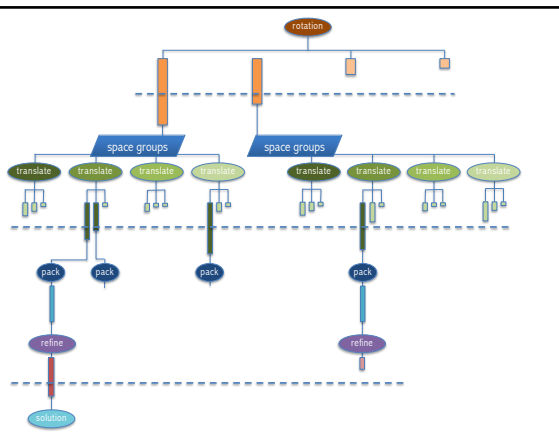
## refinement

- Rotation and Translation searches are scored on a grid



$$LLGI = \sum_h \log \left( \frac{2E_e}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \exp \left( -\frac{E_e^2 + D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2 E_C^2}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \right) I_0 \left( \frac{2E_e D_{obs} \sigma_A E_C}{1 - D_{obs}^2 \sigma_A^2} \right) \right)$$

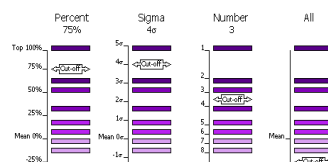
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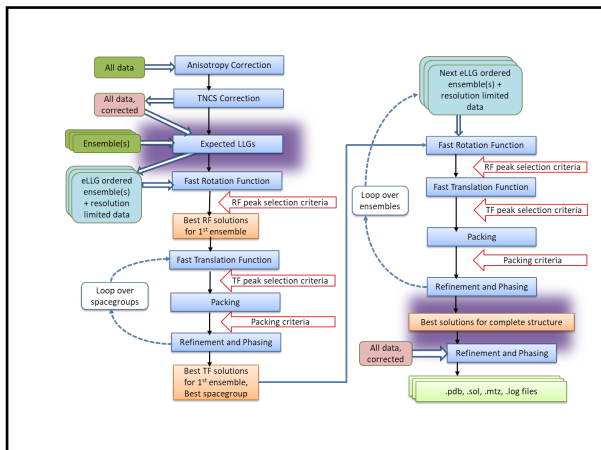
## peak selection

- Must chose a selection criteria to carry possible solutions through to the next step

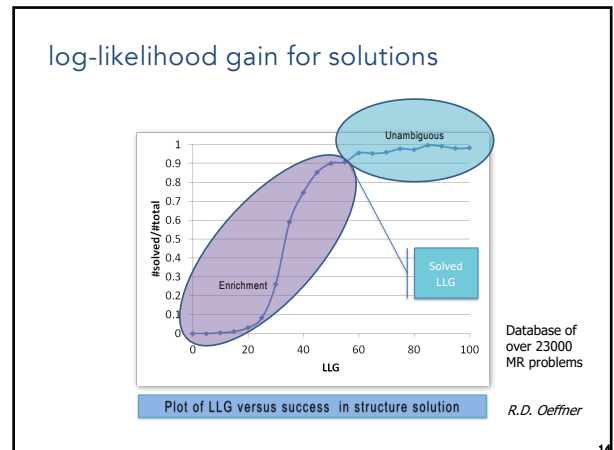


- By default, solutions over 75% of the difference between the top peak and the mean are selected

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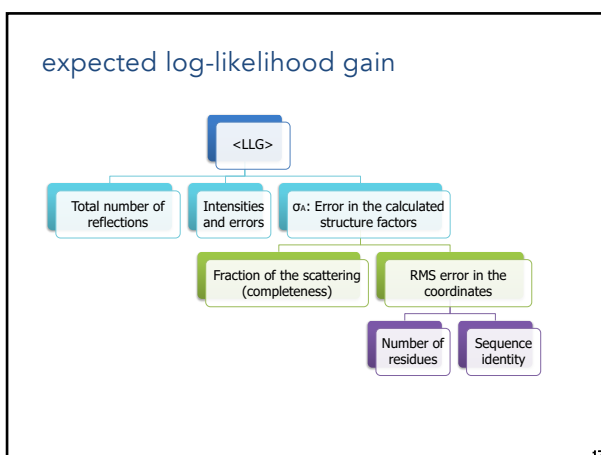
### log-likelihood gain for solutions

| TF Z-score | LLG score | Solved?    |
|------------|-----------|------------|
| < 5        | < 25      | no         |
| 5 - 6      | 25 - 36   | unlikely   |
| 6 - 7      | 36 - 49   | possibly   |
| 7 - 8      | 49 - 64   | probably   |
| > 8        | > 64      | definitely |

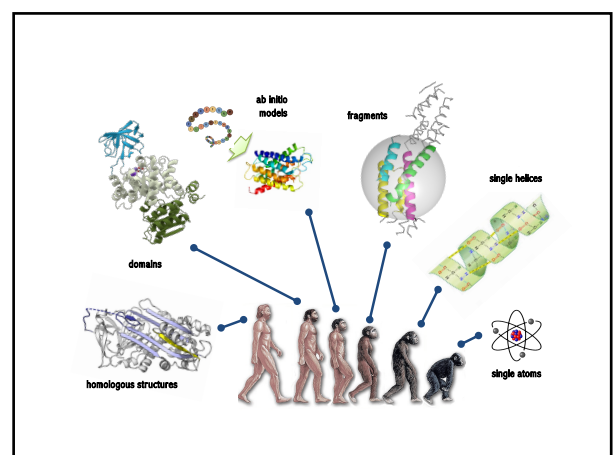
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- ### predicting log-likelihood gain
- If you can predict the log-likelihood gain you know how easy/difficult will be molecular replacement
  - The expected log-likelihood gain for a model is calculated by "integrating out" the calculated structure factors from the equation
    - The error in the calculated structure factors ( $\sigma_A$ ) is included
  - We have a similar analysis for SAD phasing\*
  - Used to guide decision making at every step of the search strategy
    - Prioritize resources
- \*unpublished

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## fragments

- Fragments are just models with low completeness
  - Low  $\sigma_A$
- Success of fragment based MR relies on other contributions to the <LLG> being favourable
  - Lots of reflections
  - Low RMS

Success does NOT depend on

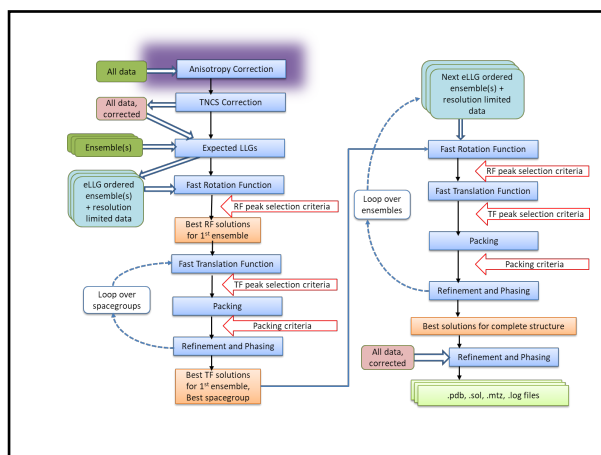
- The resolution (strictly)
- The type of fragment

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## What chance of success?

- *Better than 40% identity: usually easy, unless large conformational changes are involved.*
- *30-40%: MR possible, but sometimes more difficult.*
- *20-30%: MR difficult, careful model preparation required.*
- *Less than 20%: MR unlikely to work in most cases.*
- *In terms of RMSD, above 2.5Å is very unlikely to work, while 1.5Å or less is preferable.*

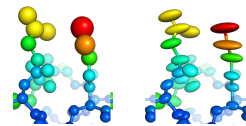
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## Anisotropy

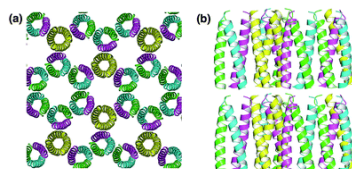
- Systematically weak and strong diffraction directions
- Caused by underlying anisotropic movement of atoms



Visualization of individually refined isotropic (left) versus anisotropic (right) B-factors for a high-resolution structure

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## Anisotropy in coiled coils



(a) Honeycomb-like P6 crystal lattice of a computationally-designed coiled-coil protein building block. (b) The layer structures were stacked by hydrogen bond interactions between layers. 4DAC

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## Anisotropy

### Before

- Easy phasing cases and/or mild anisotropy, can ignore
- In difficult cases, must corrected before structure solution
- Global Anisotropic B-factors calculated with reference to the Wilson distribution

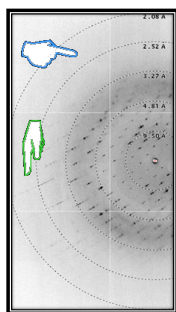
### After

- Corrections will be better after structure solution when you have a model
- Global Anisotropic B-factor calculated with reference to calculated structure factors
  - TLS
  - Atomic anisotropic B-factors

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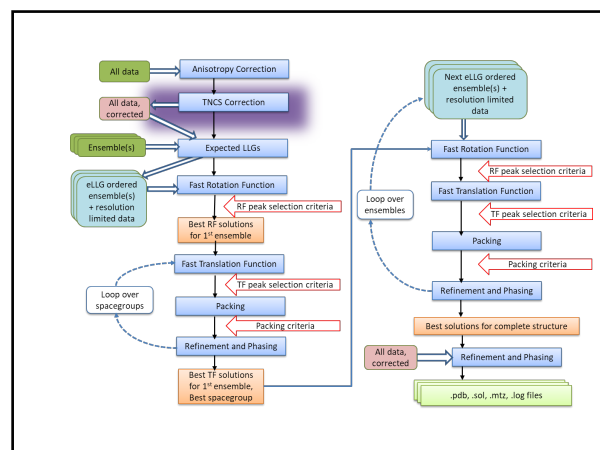
## Wilson Plot

- Correct data with reference to the Wilson plot
- Make intensity distribution the same in all directions by refining parameters of the anisotropy tensor



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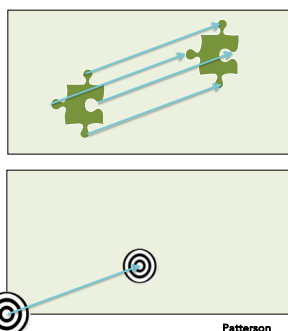
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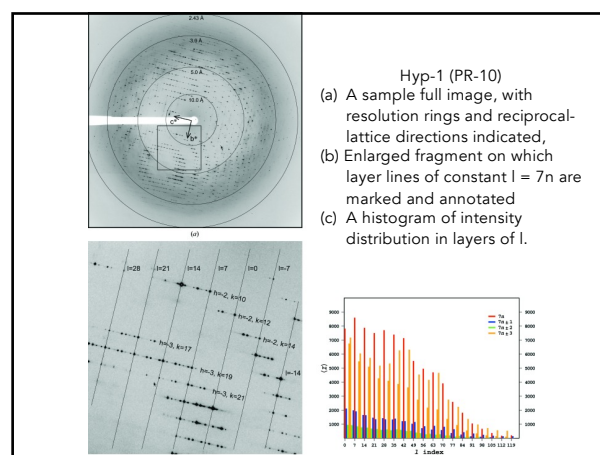
## Translational NCS

- Molecules related by a vector translation
- Patterson shows a single vector
  - and symmetry copies



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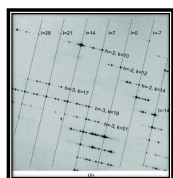
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## Wilson Plot

- Correct data with reference to the Wilson plot
- Make intensity distribution in tncs modulation directions the same by refining parameters of the tncs



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## TNCS

Before

- In difficult cases, must corrected before structure solution
- TNCs parameters calculated with reference to the Wilson distribution
- TNCs parameters generate epsilon factors for each reflection, to make them closer to the Wilson distribution

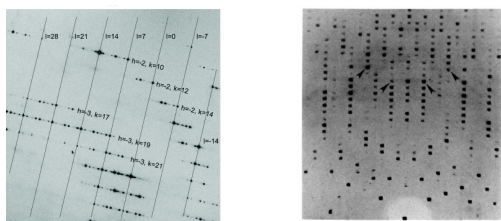
After

- Corrections will be better after structure solution when you have a model
- TNCS parameters calculated with reference to the oriented and placed models in the asymmetric unit

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## TNCS and Twinning

- TNCS – broadens intensity distribution
- Twinning – narrows intensity distribution

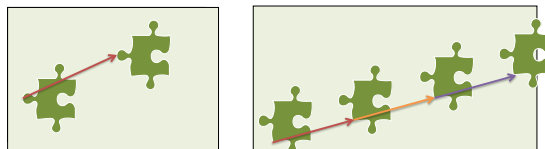


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## PHASER: Two classes of tNCS

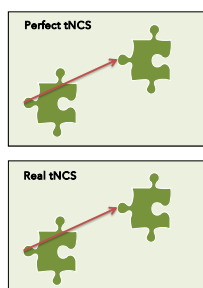
*Pairs of molecules  
related by one vector*

*Molecules related by multiples of one vector*



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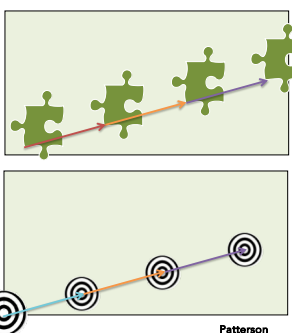
## Translational NCS: Pairs



- Three TNCS parameters refined from data alone
  1. Rotation
  2. Translation
  3. RMSD between copies

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## Translational NCS: Multiples

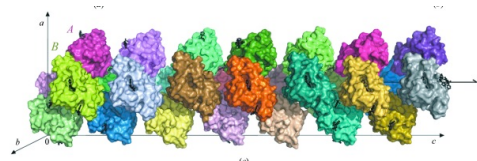


- Two TNCS parameters refined from data alone
  1. Translation
  2. RMSD between copies

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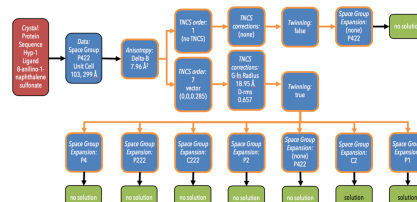
Hyp-1 (PR-10)

- Repeats  $7/2$  along  $c^*$  (sevenfold translational NCS)

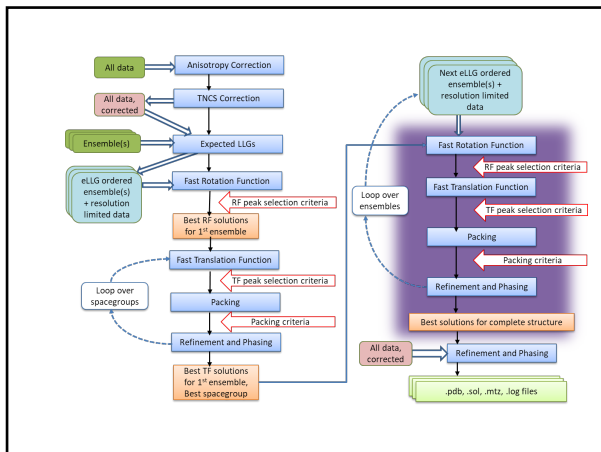


**STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY** *Likelihood-based molecular-replacement solution for a highly pathological crystal with tetartohedral twinning and sevenfold tNCS* Sliwiak J, Jaskolski M, Dauter Z, McCoy AJ, Read RJ. *Acta Cryst D*70, 471 (2014)

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### Matthew's coefficient

- First calculated by Brian Matthews in 1968 (over 3500 citations)
- Most crystals are 50% protein by volume
- Can be used to estimate the contents of the asymmetric unit
- Self Rotation Function
- TNCS Order

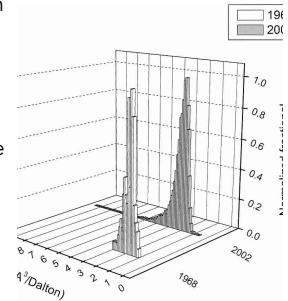
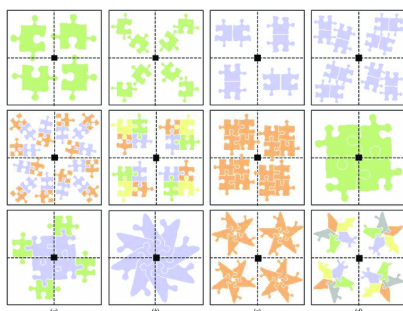


Figure 1: Kantardjieff and Rupp (2003)

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### contents of the asymmetric unit



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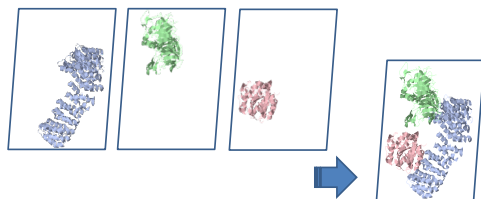
### using partial structure

- The maximum likelihood rotation and translation functions can use models that have already been placed in the asymmetric unit
- Patterson Rotation Function cannot account for placed models
  - The Patterson Correlation Coefficient Translation Function can account for known positions (but not their errors)
  - Most of the difficulty in molecular replacement is the rotation function, because the signal to noise ratio is much lower

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### searches for multiple components

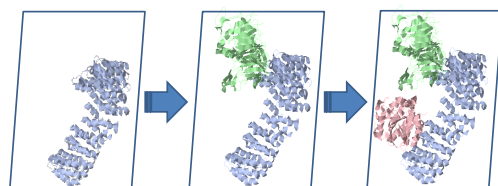
- It may not be possible to find each component in a separate search



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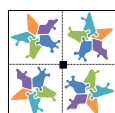
### searches for multiple components

- maximum likelihood functions include partial structure information from previous placements
- structure builds up by addition



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$\sigma_A$  and fragments



Structure builds  
by addition



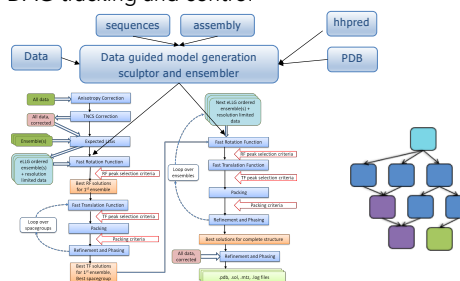
Whenever a component is placed, the variances are reduced, thus increasing the signal-to-noise of the search for the next component

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## phaser.voyager

- Data guided, statistical model generation
- DAG tracking and control



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## Acknowledgements



Randy Read  
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Billy Poon  
Pavel Afonine



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