

ation of the coordinates,  $\sigma(r)$ , and the general temperature coefficient,  $B$ , calculated from the relationship

$$R = \frac{\int_0^{S_{\max}} 4\pi s^2 R(\sigma, s) f(s) \exp(-Bs^2/4) ds}{\int_0^{S_{\max}} 4\pi s^2 f(s) \exp(-Bs^2/4) ds}$$

where the integrals are taken over the range of  $s = 2 \sin \theta/\lambda$  limited by the sphere of reflection of Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation and  $f(s)$  is the scattering factor for carbon atoms of the type proposed by Vand, Eiland & Pepinsky (1957).

Using the expression  $\delta\sigma = \frac{|dr_N|^2}{2N\sigma}$  given by Stanley (1964)

and the values of  $\sigma$  and  $dR/d\sigma$  from the tables corresponding to the observed values of  $R$  a comparison can be made between the theoretical reduction in  $R$  as the refinement progresses and that observed in practice. The example used is that of a problem with six atoms in the asymmetric unit (space group  $P2_1/c$ ) whose structure has been determined and refined by Dr G. Germain (private communication).

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**The Fourier transform of the coiled-coil model for  $\alpha$ -keratin. A correction.** By R. D. B. FRASER, T. P. MACRAE and A. MILLER. *Division of Protein Chemistry, C.S.I.R.O., Wool Research Laboratories, Parkville N. 2, Victoria, Australia*

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In a recent communication (Fraser, MacRae & Miller, 1964) atomic coordinates were given for the asymmetric unit of the coiled-coil model for  $\alpha$ -keratin. An error has since been discovered in a computer routine used to list these coordinates, and Table 2 in the original communication should be replaced by the following. The routine was not used in the Fourier-transform calculations.

Table 2

(a) Atomic coordinates of asymmetric unit in a coiled-coil with  $r_0 = 5.2 \text{ \AA}$  ( $Oz = \text{major helix axis}$ ).

	$x$	$y$	$z$		$x$	$y$	$z$
$\beta$ -C(1)	8.400	0.000	0.000	C(4)	6.487	0.182	4.180
$\alpha$ -C(1)	7.350	0.887	-0.697	O(4)	6.466	0.683	3.040
N(1)	6.242	1.151	0.233	$\beta$ -C(5)	7.541	0.990	6.338
C(1)	5.090	1.658	-0.155	$\alpha$ -C(5)	6.282	1.040	5.456
O(1)	4.804	1.974	-1.315	N(5)	5.135	0.511	6.202
$\beta$ -C(2)	4.636	2.845	2.016	C(5)	3.992	0.191	5.633
$\alpha$ -C(2)	4.082	1.843	0.998	O(5)	3.742	0.301	4.437
N(2)	3.855	0.547	1.636	$\beta$ -C(6)	2.583	0.753	7.621
C(2)	3.634	-0.563	0.966	$\alpha$ -C(6)	2.939	-0.342	6.618
O(2)	3.577	-0.647	-0.256	N(6)	3.487	-1.509	7.305
$\beta$ -C(3)	2.169	-1.591	2.712	C(6)	4.114	-2.488	6.691
$\alpha$ -C(3)	3.424	-1.795	1.864	O(6)	4.302	-2.547	5.473
N(3)	4.598	-1.960	2.721	$\beta$ -C(7)	3.383	-4.259	8.317
C(3)	5.835	-1.893	2.275	$\alpha$ -C(7)	4.595	-3.602	7.647
O(3)	6.149	-1.693	1.089	N(7)	5.469	-3.009	8.666
$\beta$ -C(4)	6.748	-3.509	3.996	C(7)	6.438	-2.164	8.376
$\alpha$ -C(4)	6.892	-2.101	3.392	O(7)	6.727	-1.778	7.225
N(4)	6.679	-1.095	4.444				

(b) Bond lengths and angles in a coiled-coil compared with values in an undistorted  $\alpha$ -helix.

Bond	Maximum	Undistorted	Minimum	Angle	Maximum	Undistorted	Minimum
$\beta$ C- $\alpha$ C	1.541	1.535	1.527	$\beta$ C- $\alpha$ C-N	110.57	109.91	109.31
$\alpha$ C-N	1.471	1.465	1.461	$\alpha$ C-N-C*	123.65	123.16	122.71
N-C*	1.318	1.317	1.315	N-C*-O*	125.27	125.00	124.66
C-O	1.248	1.237	1.226	O-C- $\alpha$ C	122.44	121.79	121.08
C- $\alpha$ C	1.555	1.546	1.537	C- $\alpha$ C- $\beta$ C	110.27	109.75	109.21
N...O†	2.864	2.841	2.812	N-C*- $\alpha$ C*	113.71	113.21	112.70
				C- $\alpha$ C-N	108.94	108.86	108.74
				C*-N...O†	116.00	115.44	114.88

† Hydrogen-bonded atoms.

\* Indicates next residue.

Table 3 gives the details of the progress in refinement in one typical cycle. The agreement, for a six-atom problem, is reasonably good.

Table 3. *Progress of refinement in a typical cycle*

Atom No.	$ dr_N $	Initial value of $R = 24.705\%$		
		$R$	$\Delta R$ obs.	$\Delta R$ calc.
1	0.10 $\text{\AA}$	24.007%	0.698%	0.686%
2	0.15	22.109	1.898	1.711
3	0.05	21.973	0.136	0.191
4	0.16	18.013	3.960	2.311
5	0.07	17.895	0.118	0.462
6	0.05	17.692	0.203	0.232

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