

**18.X-05** PORTABILITY AND MACHINE SPECIFICITY: A DICHOTOMY FOR SOFTWARE PACKAGES. S.R. Hall, Crystallography Centre, University of Western Australia, Nedlands 6009, Australia.

Software packages are widely used in crystallography for reasons of convenience, economics and know-how. Rapid changes in computer technology, and the relative costs of computer time and manpower, have offset the advantages of developing efficient machine-specific software. Distributed packages place particular emphasis on the need for software portability. Unfortunately with existing packages portability has often been achieved at the cost of computational efficiency.

This is because portability and machine specificity have been treated as mutually exclusive properties. The FORTRAN language provides limited options for resolving this problem. In contrast the 'preprocessor' languages provide for both portability and machine specificity through the use of 'macros'. The application of the RATMAC preprocessor to the XTAL package (Hall, Munn & Stewart, *Acta Cryst.* A36, 979) will be outlined.

In conjunction with portability there is an increasing need for an integrated approach to the full spectrum of crystallographic problems. Crystal structure calculations on macromolecules and metals are similar in many respects except for the nature of the data. The XTAL approach to portable data management, through the use of contiguous data storage, dynamic memory allocation and directory addressable archival files, will be discussed.

**18.X-06** FORTRAN COMPATIBILITY WITHOUT PREPROCESSORS. By George M. Sheldrick, Anorg. Chemisches Institut der Universität, Tammannstraße 4, D3400 Göttingen, Fed. Rep. of Germany.

It is possible to write FORTRAN programs which are both transportable and efficient, provided that certain rules are obeyed. The author will describe his experience with a simple program for crystallographic data reduction, structure solution and refinement (SHELX), which has been installed on about 250 computers representing all major makes, in many cases without changing a single FORTRAN statement.

SHELX is entirely written in a very simple subset of FORTRAN, similar to PIGIN FORTRAN described by Stewart and Hall. Many problems affecting portability are avoided by NEVER using EQUIVALENCE, BACKSPACE, ENTRY, logical, double precision or complex variables, multiple dimension arrays, and subscripts other than 'I' or 'I+constant'. Subroutines are used sparingly and I/O is kept simple and buffered. A FORTRAN decoding routine enables free-format but machine-independent user input. Data are stored dynamically in a large one-dimensional array, which can easily be redimensioned to create small and large versions of the program. Sort-merge, direct methods and Fourier routines automatically make more use of scratch disc if less memory is available. Overlay may be used but is not essential; segmentation is also possible.

**18.X-07** COMPUTER NETWORKS AND CRYSTALLOGRAPHY. By G. C. Bassi Département de Recherche Fondamentale, Centre 'd'Etudes Nucléaires de Grenoble, 85x, 38041 Grenoble, France.

The needs for connections between computers of different origins and sizes have to be covered at various scales (local, national, international) in order to provide easy accesses to remote computing facilities and/or highly specialized Data Banks. The systems of Data Communications Networks, available now or in the near future, are supposed to provide such a service to users that must remain unaware of the complexity in transmission procedures. We shall look at various public and private networks: the access to these networks is described in terms of physical connections and protocols; the message transmission depending on the nature of the network, we give some ideas on international standard protocols (such as X25) for large scale networks, and specifications for local ones (such as ETHERNET). Some ideas on possible use of networks in the crystallographic field will be given: Data Banks, highly specialized programs and systems, commercial services ...

**18.1-01** INDEXING ASYMMETRICAL LAUE PHOTOGRAPHS BY MINICOMPUTER. By H. V. Hart and E. A. Rietman, Department of Chemistry, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, N. C. 28406, U. S. A.

Recent computer solutions to the problem of indexing asymmetrical Laue photographs have been limited to maximum Miller indices of about 3 and a maximum number of reflections of about 10 and have required large amounts of time on a large computer (Ploc, J. Appl. Cryst. (1978), **11**, 713). A more efficient algorithm has been programmed in BASIC for use with the Hewlett-Packard 2000/Access System, a 32 user time-shared minicomputer with 64K words of core memory. The programs will index symmetrical or asymmetrical (no photograph symmetry is used), transmission or back-reflection Laue patterns of any crystal. Computational steps are:

- (1) Spot coordinates are reduced to film coordinates of the reflecting plane normals with the equations of Bernalte (Acta Cryst. (1965), **19**, 916), from which direction cosines of major zone axes are computed by a linear least-squares method. [The reflecting plane normals in a zone are coplanar and therefore intersect the film on a straight line. The zone axis is the normal to the crystal plane which intersects the film plane in this straight line.] Experimental interaxial angles are computed from the dot product of the zone axis direction cosines.
- (2) Zone indices are determined (before Miller indices) by a trial-and-error search of interaxial angles computed from a master file of zone indices and orthogonal direction cosines prepared for each substance from its unit cell parameters.
- (3) The zone law is used to determine the Miller indices of spots at the intersections of the major