

algorithm was successfully tested with most published cases where structures were shown to be described in a space group with too low symmetry. In addition, several new cases were identified with the present program or one of its derivatives (in Turbo Pascal and VAX Fortran) over the three years that the program has been in use. The program contains 41 test data sets and their appropriate metrical symmetry. Special options of the program allow the user to investigate the symmetry of sub- and superlattices as well. All relevant output to the screen is also written to a disk file.

Documentation: The program contains an on-line Help feature to explain the available program options with appropriate references to the literature.

Availability: The program, in the executable form only, is available on 360 Kb 5.25" floppy disks.

Keywords: Lattice symmetry, metrical symmetry, microcomputer program.

References

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Crystallographers

J. Appl. Cryst. (1988). **21**, 579

This section is intended to be a series of short paragraphs dealing with the activities of crystallographers, such as their changes of position, promotions, assumption of significant new duties, honours, etc. Items for inclusion, subject to the approval of the Editorial Board, should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the International Union of Crystallography (J. N. King, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England).

Professor **J. C. Clardy**, Professor of Chemistry, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA, is the recipient of the 1987 Akron Section Award of the American Chemical Society, for his extensive and innovative work on the use of X-rays for determining the structures of organic molecules.

The Royal Society has awarded the 1988 Hughes Medal to Professor **A. Howie**, FRS, and Dr **M. J. Whelan**, FRS, in recognition of their contributions to the theory of electron diffraction and microscopy, and its application to the study of lattice defects in crystals. Professor Howie and Dr Whelan developed, in the early 1960s, the theory of electron diffraction to enable the images of crystals obtained from transmission

electron microscopy to be used to compute lattice defects such as dislocations.

Dr **Isabella L. Karle**, Senior Scientist for structural chemistry at the Naval Research Laboratory and head of the X-ray diffraction section of NRL Laboratory for the Structure of Matter in Washington, DC, USA, has been awarded the Department of the Navy Award for Distinguished Achievement in Science, for her contributions to the development and application of the symbolic addition procedure in the determination of crystal structures by X-ray crystallography.

International Union of Crystallography

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Acta A – a new look for 1989

From January 1989, *Acta Crystallographica* Section A will be published monthly. Additionally it will incorporate a new *Fast Communications* section. This section will include papers covering all aspects of crystallography on topics of current interest for which rapid publication is essential; these papers will be speedily refereed and prepared on a desktop publishing system in Chester for onward transmission to the printer as camera-ready copy. The average publication time from the receipt of a paper by a Co-editor until it appears in print will be about 3 months. In addition, Letters to the Editor will be considered for this new section, along with reports of IUCr Commissions.

Call for papers for the new Fast Communications Section

Authors are therefore requested to submit suitable papers to any of the Co-editors of *Acta Crystallographica* or *Journal of Applied Crystallography*. Authors should follow the usual *Notes for Authors* for these journals, but additionally:

The topic should be of sufficient interest to merit special treatment and the letter accompanying the submission should identify the aspect which makes speedy publication essential;

The paper should not exceed two printed pages (about 2000 words or eight pages of double-spaced typescript including tables and figures);
 Figures should be clearly lettered;

If the paper is available on 3.5 or 5.25" IBM PC-compatible or Macintosh diskettes it would be helpful if these could be sent with the manuscript together with details of the word-processing package used.

Papers submitted for the *Fast Communications* section but judged by the Co-editor *not* to merit rapid publication will be considered for publication in the appropriate section of *Acta Crystallographica* or in *Journal of Applied Crystallography*.

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Announcements of new commercial products are published by the Journal of Applied Crystallography free of charge. The descriptions, up to 300 words or the equivalent if a figure is included, should give the price and the manufacturer's full address. Full or partial inclusion is subject to the Editor's approval and to the space available. All correspondence should be sent to the Editor, Professor M. Schlenker, Editor Journal of Applied Crystallography, Laboratoire Louis Néel du CNRS, BP166, F-38042 Grenoble CEDEX, France.

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X-Ray Diffraction Radiation Enclosure that Features Lead-Plastic Access Panels

A new enclosure developed for Philips/Norelco X-ray Diffraction Generators that provides high visibility and effective radiation shielding is being introduced by Charles Supper Company, Inc. of Natick, Massachusetts.

The **Supper Radiation Enclosure** features two clear lead-plastic sliding windows in the front and removable sliding side/rear panels, all of which open a full 18 in $W \times 23$ in H , providing access to the large 45 in² interior working area. To further prevent radiation exposure to personnel, every access panel is safety interlocked.



The Supper Radiation Enclosure

Equipped with 1 in round red warning lights centered above each set of window and door panels on all four sides, the Supper Radiation Enclosure has a heavy-gauge aluminium frame, 7 mm thick leaded plastic windows, and 9.5 mm thick aluminium door panels. Shipped partially assembled, the unit measures 46 in $L \times 46$ in $W \times 30$ in H .