# Obtaining data for the calculation of dihedral $\phi$ angles formed between pairs of crystalline planes in single-phase materials 

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#### Abstract

The present article describes a methodology with which it is possible to discriminate the crystalline structure of the chemical element ${ }_{13} \mathrm{Al}$ as a way of demonstrating how it is possible to collect, catalog, visually represent, compile and integrate, through cataloged .CIF files, the main geometric characteristics of a crystalline cell as well as, after a detailed three-dimensional visualization, calculate the dihedral $\phi$ angle formed by the intersection between indexed crystalline planes. Aluminum was chosen because it is a very popular material in the metalmechanical industry, resistant to oxidation, light, ductile and widely used in everyday life. The standard aluminum diffractogram was used as a starting point to identify the X-ray diffraction peaks that characterize the single phase that occurs at various $2 \Theta$ angles and under various percentage intensities. Finally, the 11 dihedral angles calculated using the equation adopted for this purpose were tabulated. The results are presented and discussed.


KEYWORDS: interplanar angle; dihedral angle; interaxial angle; phi angle; dihedral.

## I. Introduction

Crystallography has driven interest not only in mathematics [1], solid state physics, materials science and engineering or chemical engineering, but also in various fields of graphic expression and drawing, specially geometric design, descriptive geometry and technical drawing. Nowadays, it is common for design professionals to be interested in the same subject, especially regarding the study of spatial organization of atoms and three-dimensional structures associated Bravais systems [2]. At the same time, the systematic use of computer programs dedicated to the crystallographic sciences has provided countless ways to interpret data and present it with more precision, dynamism and finishing. The Cambridge Structural Database (CSDS), for example, is a powerful suit of software that maintains information on nearly 700,000 crystal structures and various access modules for students and researchers [3]. In Brazil, the access to the DOT.LIB Crystalline Structures Database allows the handling of some online tools such as WebCSD, ConQuest, Mercury, Mogul, IsoStar and Hermes. Each one of these applications has a purpose that, in addition to the other typical features, complement each other. The latest version of Mercury (4.3.0) allows, from any CIF (Crystallographic Information File) [4], to calculate Bragg positions (degree) [5], intensities (cps), atomic positions (x y z), Miller indices (h k l) [6]and the interplanar distance ( $d, \AA$ ), in addition to other features. There are also free software that further enhance the acquisition of crystallographic data such as: VESTA format .vesta (Visualization for Eletronic and STructural Analysis) [7], American Mineralogist Crystal Structure Database (*.amc) [8], CrystalMaker text file (*.cmt) [9], MINCRYST (Crystallographic Database for Minerals) [10], Draw XTL [11], CrysX-3D Viewer [12], Diamond [13][14]and Chem3D (*.cc1) [15], among others. However, there are certain structural characteristics that are still calculated manually, as they have not been included in such software until now. One of these characteristics is the interplanar angle $\left[\phi,{ }^{0}\right]$, which is the smallest aperture between a crystallographic plane and the subsequent one. It will always be an acute angle $\left(\phi<90^{\circ}\right)$. However, it can be classified into two types according to the aperture: sharp $\left(90^{\circ}\right\rangle$
$\phi>45^{\circ}$ ) and very sharp $\left(90^{\circ}>\phi<45^{\circ}\right)$. ThisPhiangle can also be synthesized as the point projection of the straightintersection AB , which belongs to the pair of planes considered, as shown in Figure 1(a). Figure 1(b) shows the congruence of the $\phi$ angles opposed by the vertex, equal to $54.73^{\circ}$, as well as Figure 1(c) shows the corresponding values. In this case, the value of the angle considered is classified as acute, that is, $90^{\circ}>\phi>45^{\circ}$.


Figure 1 - Point projection of the straight intersection $\overline{\boldsymbol{A B}}(\mathrm{A} \equiv \mathrm{B})$ and linear projection of planes (111) and (200)

## II. Materials and methods

Consulting the crystallographic chart606003-ICSD [16], where Alis described at room temperature $\left(19.85{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$, the data set presented in Table 1 were considered.

Table 1 - Main characteristics of the cubic crystalline structure of Al.

| Cell Lengths $\left(1 \times 10^{-10} \mathrm{~m}\right)$ | $\mathbf{a ~ 4 . 0 5 0 ( 1 ) \mathbf { b } 4 . 0 5 0 ( 1 ) \mathbf { c } 4 . 0 5 0 ( 1 )}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| Cell Angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | $\boldsymbol{\alpha} 90 ; \boldsymbol{\beta} 90 ; \boldsymbol{\gamma} 90$ |
| Cell Volume $\left(\AA^{3}\right)$ | 66.43 |
| Space Group | Fm3m $(\# 225)[17]$ |
| Temperature $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ | 19.85 |
| $\mathrm{Z}, \mathrm{Z}$ ' | $\mathbf{Z}: 4 \mathbf{Z}: 0$ |
| Density $(\mathrm{CCDC})$ | 2.7 |

Each Alatom has a coordination number of $12(\mathrm{CN}=12)$, as shown in Figure 2(a) andFigure 2(b). In addition, the crystal contains 14 atoms distributed in a face-centered cubic structure (FCC), as shown in Figure 2(c). According to Figure 2(d), each one of this 14 atoms coordinates with other 12 neighboring atoms. This 3D visualization was made using the software Mercury 4.3.0 USA, under license.
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Figure 2 - Primary structuring of long-range crystalline packaging.

Each numbered atom (1-14) has a position in relation to the origin $0,0,0$ on the respective $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}, \mathrm{Z}$ axes. In addition, it is noted, as shown in Table 2, that each of them has a unique symmetry operator. There are therefore, 4 whole atoms per cubic crystalline cell. Hence, the atomic packing factor (APF) is equal to 0,74 , i.e.the relationship between the volume of atoms within the unit cell and the volume of the unit cell, also known as volumetric density, represents $74 \%$ of this cube[18].

Table 2-Individual position of atoms in the crystal and their respective symmetry operators.

| Number | Label | Charge | SybylType | Xfrac + ESD | Yfrac + ESD | Zfrac + ESD | Symm. op. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Al1 | 0 | Al | 0 | 0 | 0 | z,y,-x |
| 2 |  |  |  | 0 | 0 | 1 | z,y,1-x |
| 3 |  |  |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | z,1+y,-x |
| 4 |  |  |  | 0 | 1 | 1 | z,1+y,1-x |
| 5 |  |  |  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1+z,y,-x |
| 6 |  |  |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1+z,y,1-x |
| 7 |  |  |  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1+z, $1+y,-x$ |
| 8 |  |  |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1+z,1+y,1-x |
| 9 |  |  |  | 0 | 0.5 | 0.5 | z,1/2+y,1/2-x |
| 10 |  |  |  | 1 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1+z,1/2+y,1/2-x |
| 11 |  |  |  | 0.5 | 0 | 0.5 | 1/2+z,y, 1/2-x |
| 12 |  |  |  | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 | 1/2+z,1+y,1/2-x |
| 13 |  |  |  | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0 | 1/2+z, 1/2+y,-x |
| 14 |  |  |  | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1 | 1/2+z, 1/2+y,1-x |

The theoretical $2 \theta$ scan adopted to analyze the diffractometric data was $180^{\circ}$. Twelve indexed reflection peaks were calculated, of which the first was the most intense, i.e.where there was the maximum of constructive interaction, as governed by Bragg's Law[19]. However, only 10 peaks were counted as "unique" because the $10^{\text {th }}$ and $11^{\text {th }}$ peaks [ $2 \Theta$ $\left.=162.44^{\circ}\right]$ are the same (they can have planes (333) or (511)) and the $12^{\text {th }}$ peak has an undefined $2 \Theta$ angle, as was shown in the last three lines of Table 3 (column 8). The XRD pattern of Al is shown in Figure 3. The families of planes $\{h k l\}$ are here represented by a truncated octahedron, which is an irregular polyhedron formed by regular polygons, in which 6 square faces and 8 hexagonal faces are observed. The crystallographic planes parallel to each of these faces of the truncated octahedron are part of the families of planes in Figure 3. However, they are best seen in the appendices of this work (Figure 6).
The values obtained from $\phi$ angles were subjected to the Shapiro-Wilk (S-W) normality test[20], according to Equation 01 described below. This statistical data test was used to determine whether the sample data were extracted from normally distributed population with a tolerance of $5 \%$.

$$
\begin{equation*}
w=\frac{\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{1} x_{i}\right)^{2}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(x_{i}-\bar{x}\right)^{2}} \text { where } \bar{X}=\frac{1}{n} \sum_{1}^{n} x_{i} \tag{01}
\end{equation*}
$$

There are other normality tests such as: Kolmogorov-Smirnov normality test [21], Lilliefors normality test [22], Anderson-Darling Test [23], D'Agostino-K Squared [24] and Chen-Shapiro Test [25]. However, the S-W was chosen to be applied in this work because it works well with data whose sample size is relatively small.


Figure 3 - Standard X-ray diffractogram for aluminum.

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For the calculation of the $\phi$ dihedral angle, Equation 02 [26] was adopted. As the network parameters are the same $(\mathrm{a}=$ $\mathrm{b}=\mathrm{c}=4.050 \AA$ ), this dimension was not considered. However, for the non-cubic structures, the same methodological sequence as described here is followed.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\cos \phi=\frac{h_{1} \cdot h_{2}+k_{1} \cdot k_{2}+l_{1} \cdot l_{2}}{\sqrt{\left(h_{1}^{2}+k_{1}^{2}+l_{1}^{2}\right) \cdot\left(h_{2}^{2}+k_{2}^{2}+l_{2}^{2}\right)}} \tag{02}
\end{equation*}
$$

In this work, Equation 03, was stablished with a diminutive effect, for the calculation of the angular difference $\varphi\left[{ }^{\circ}\right.$ ] that exists between the largest angle $\left(2 \theta \max _{(\mathrm{hkl})}\right)$ reflected (between Bragg positions) and each one individually: $2 \theta i_{(\mathrm{hkl})}$. The last difference will always be equal to zero.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi=2 \theta \max _{(h k l)}-2 \theta i_{(h k l)} \tag{03}
\end{equation*}
$$

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The indexation of the diffracted peaks was the preliminary step for preparing the necessary data to calculate $\phi$ angles in neighboring pairs of planes ( h kl ). In addition, inTable 3, other variables that are important in the process of detailing the diffractometric profile are related to such crystalline planes.

Table 3 - Values calculated from the crystallographic chart: Miller indices (hkl), interplanar distance d, structure factors F, Bragg positions $2 \theta_{\mathrm{hkl}}\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$, percent intensity Intand Multiplicity.

| h | k | l | $\mathrm{d}(\AA \mathrm{A})$ | F (real) | F (imag.) | $\|\mathrm{F}\|$ | $2 \theta\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | Intensity $\%$ | Multiplicity |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 2.338269 | 34.995732 | 0.938377 | 35.0083 | 38.4684 | 100 | 8 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | 2.025000 | 32.778655 | 0.924183 | 32.7917 | 44.71609 | 47.00982 | 6 |
| 2 | 2 | 0 | 1.431891 | 26.668206 | 0.869522 | 26.6824 | 65.08939 | 26.7154 | 12 |
| 3 | 1 | 1 | 1.221121 | 23.240310 | 0.830659 | 23.2552 | 78.21995 | 28.37073 | 24 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 1.169134 | 22.227407 | 0.818094 | 22.2425 | 82.42605 | 7.98894 | 8 |
| 4 | 0 | 0 | 1.012500 | 18.693810 | 0.769708 | 18.7096 | 99.06718 | 3.71259 | 6 |
| 3 | 3 | 1 | 0.929134 | 16.500617 | 0.735306 | 16.5170 | 112.00213 | 12.58682 | 24 |
| 4 | 2 | 0 | 0.905608 | 15.843153 | 0.724184 | 15.8597 | 116.55076 | 12.33487 | 24 |
| 4 | 2 | 2 | 0.826703 | 13.527063 | 0.681352 | 13.5442 | 137.42469 | 13.95746 | 24 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 0.779423 | 12.071827 | 0.650899 | 12.0894 | 162.44679 | 9.70399 | 8 |
| 5 | 1 | 1 | 0.779423 | 12.071827 | 0.650899 | 12.0894 | 162.44679 | 29.11196 | 24 |
| 4 | 4 | 0 | 0.715946 | 10.072278 | 0.603138 | 10.0903 | $-1, \# \mathrm{IND} 0$ | $-1, \# \mathrm{IND} 0$ | 12 |

The angular values of Phi $(\phi)$ were calculated and the respective results, presented in Table 4 , showed that the data set are derived from a population considered statistically normal, since the resulting p-value is equal to 0.4987 [27], i.e.greater than the 0.05 significance level. Therefore, it is not possible to reject normality. This indicates that the sample analyzed has a high degree of relative crystallinity. The 2D graph of Shapiro-Wilk normalities are presented in the appendices (Figure 7).
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Table 4 - Final results found for the $\phi$ angle in each of the 11 pairs of crystalline planes.

| Planes (indexes) |  | Intersections | $\operatorname{Cos} \phi$ | $\operatorname{arc} \cos \phi$ | Angle $\phi\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | angular difference $\varphi$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1^{\circ}$ | $2^{\circ}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 111 | 200 | 1 | 0.5774 | 0.9553 | 54.7356 | 123.97839 |
| 200 | 220 | 2 | 0.7071 | 0.7854 | 45.0000 | 117.7307 |
| 220 | 311 | 3 | 0.8528 | 0.5495 | 31.4822 | 97.3574 |
| 311 | 222 | 4 | 0.8704 | 0.5148 | 29.4962 | 84.22684 |
| 222 | 400 | 5 | 0.5774 | 0.9553 | 54.7356 | 80.02074 |
| 400 | 331 | 6 | 0.6882 | 0.8117 | 46.5085 | 63.37961 |
| 331 | 420 | 7 | 0.9234 | 0.3940 | 22.5746 | 50.44466 |
| 420 | 422 | 8 | 0.9129 | 0.4205 | 24.0948 | 45.89603 |
| 422 | 333 | 9 | 0.9428 | 0.3398 | 19.4712 | 25.0221 |
| 333 | 511 | 10 | 0.7778 | 0.6797 | 38.9424 | 0 |
| 511 | 440 | 11 | 0.8165 | 0.6155 | 35.2644 | 0 |

Figure 4(a) andFigure 4(b) demonstrate the individual behavior of the first two crystalline planes reported $\left[2 \theta=38.46^{\circ}\right.$ (111) and $\left.2 \theta=44.71^{\circ}(200)\right]$, in addition to the intersection between themrepresented in perspective in Figure 4(c). The point projection of the straight intersection determines four angles. Each pair of planes opposed by the vertex have congruent (equal) angles. The smallest sum of these angular openings represents the dihedral angles Phi.


Figure 4 - Individual presentation and intersection of the first 2 crystalline planes studied: (111) e (200)

As shown in Figure 5, the values found for $\varphi$ confirmed the decreasing correlation of this variable with the value of the dihedral angle $\phi$. The determination coefficient found $\left(\mathrm{R}^{2}=0.9846\right)$ measures the quality of the fit of the linear regression and expresses, above all, the extent to which both variables are related to each other.


Figure 5 - Linear relationship between dihedral angles $\phi$ and the typical angular difference $\varphi$.

## IV. Conclusions

The results obtained in this study point to the following statements:

- The $\phi$ angles calculated are limited to the following statistical measures: Mean: 36.57323 o; Standard Deviation: 12.47776 o; SE of mean: $3.76219^{\circ}$; Lower $95 \%$ CI of Mean: $28.19055^{\circ}$; Upper $95 \%$ CI of Mean: $44.9559^{\circ}$; Variance: 155.69446 ; Sum: $402.3055^{\circ}$; Skewness: 0.21378; Kurtosis: -1.26381; Uncorrected Sum of Squares: $16270.55513^{\circ}$; Corrected Sum of Squares: $1556.94464^{\circ}$; Coefficient of Variation: 0.34117; Mode: 54.7356 ${ }^{\circ}$.
- Quantiles can be grouped with the following values: Minimum: $19.4712^{\circ}$; 1st Quartile (Q1): $24.0948^{\circ}$; Median: $35.2644^{\circ}$; 3rd Quartile (Q3): $46.5085^{\circ}$; Maximum: $54.7356^{\circ}$; Interquartile Range (Q3-Q1): $22.4137^{\circ}$; Range (Maximum - Minimum): $35.2644{ }^{\circ}$; Median Absolute Deviation: $11.1696^{\circ}$; Robust Coefficient of Variation: 0.4696 .
- Of the $11 \phi$ angles considered, only 2 of them are greater than $45^{\circ}$. Thus, $81,81 \%$ of them are less than $45^{\circ}$. This indicates a clear trend in the predominance of every sharp dihedral angles ( $90>\phi<45$ ).
- It is also possible to use this same methodology for polyphasic materials, simply separating the positions of Bragg $[2 \Theta]$ that refers to a certain phase, separating it from the other phases. In this case, if there are 3 hypothetical phases, there will be three separate plotted graphs, similar to what happens with a single phase inFigure 5.


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## APPENDICES



Figure 6 - Orthographic views and perspective of the truncated octahedral which contains the family of crystallographic planes.


Figure 7 - Probability Plot of Column Angle $\phi$. Normal $\rightarrow \mathrm{mu}=36.57323$; sigma $=12.47776 ; \alpha=0.05[\mathrm{~S}-\mathrm{W}]$. DF $=11$; Statistic $=0.93813106912165 ;$ p-value $=0.49878227792259$; Decision at level ( $5 \%$ ); Can't reject normality; At the 0.05 level, the data was significantly drawn from a normally distributed population.

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