



Contribution ID: 218

Type: Oral Presentations

Sharing structures around the world

Wednesday, 30 January 2019 14:00 (30 minutes)

Crystallography is extremely powerful in research and education for two key reasons. Firstly, it is often described as the 'gold standard' characterization technique because it can provide definitive proof of the structure of chemical compounds. Secondly, the crystallographic community itself is remarkable in terms of exemplary data sharing practices which have allowed scientists worldwide to gain new insights and knowledge from the collaborative collection of data.

This presentation will look at how crystallographic data is curated and shared through a variety of databases including the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD), a collection of nearly one million organic and metal-organic crystal structures. We will detail the methods that we use to facilitate data deposition, storage and accessibility, and describe the workflows that we have in place to manage data at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC). We will then go on to highlight how you can use the CSD and CCDC services to improve and validate your own structural data and explore how structural data can be used in education.

Finally, we will celebrate crystallography from the Pan African Community by highlighting their contributions to the CSD before reflecting on how we could further support this community.

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Session Classification: PCCR2

Track Classification: PCCR2