3D refinement/CTF refinement issue

Tue, 08/17/2021 - 09:45
Hi,
I am currently processing a particle stack extracted from relion with cisTEM 1.0.
I first did an auto refine that gave me a final resolution of 2.92Å.

I then wanted to make a CTF refinement using the cisTEM "manual refine" option. I used pretty much the same parameters as the auto-refine did, only with the addition of the CTF refinement but I can't get a resolution higher than 3.94Å with this method. I tried several parameters and it was always the same.

I may be wrong somewhere in the process, but I can't figure it out. Do you have any idea how I could resolve this?

Thanks!
Charles
Hi Charles,

Hi Charles,

Hmm - What is the high resolution limit you are using? What is the molecular weight of your particle?

Thanks,

Tim
charlesb
Hi Tim,

Hi Tim,

I've tried several different high resolution limit for my refinement, i would say from 5A to 30A (the basic value) and it was always pretty much the same. I'm working on human ribosome particle so the molecular weight is 4.3MDa.

Thanks,

Charles
timgrant
Hi Charles,

The CTF Refinement needs high res info to work. If you got 2.92 from your autorefine you should be safe to try using 3.5A for the CTF refinement. Try 3.5A and see how that goes.

Also, It's probably a good idea to only refine the CTF when you do that, so just do a local refinement, then unclick the psi,theta,phi,x-shift, y-shift and just do the CTF refinement with a high resolution limit of 3.5A.

Let me know if that works better!

Cheers,

Tim
Hi Tim,

Hi Tim,

These parameters were way better, it reached a final resolution of 2.8Å. It was definitely a good idea to remove all the psi, theta,... parameters and only do the CTF refinement.

Thank you for your help!

Cheers,

Charles