

## Calculation of Estimated Standard Deviations (ESDs)

Il-Hwan Suh, Guk-Hyung Ihm, Mi-Ran Oh and Kyung-Han Kim  
Department of Physics, Chungnam National University, Taejeon 305-764, Korea

### 標準偏差의 概算

徐日煥 · 林國亨 · 吳美蘭 · 金勁翰  
忠南大學校 物理學科

#### Abstract

A method for calculation of the estimated standard deviation (ESD) of physical quantities which are functions of experimentally observed variables has been shown.

#### 概 要

實驗的으로 測定된 變數의 函數인 物理量의 標準偏差의 概算法이 提示되었다

### 1. Introduction

Crystallographic papers require ESDs of many quantities such as bond distance, bond angle, average bond length, average bond angle, least-square plane, angle between least-squares planes, coordinates of centroids of aromatic rings, hydrogen atomic position between donor and acceptor, newly transformed cell parameters, etc.

This paper shows how to calculate ESDs of such quantities which are functions of experimentally observed variables.

### 2. Theory

When a quantity  $Q$  has a functional relation  $Q = f(a, b, c, \dots)$  with variables  $a, b, c, \dots$  which are actually measured, the standard deviation  $\sigma_Q$  of the quantity  $Q$  is expressed only in terms of the variances as the Eq. (1)<sup>1)</sup> assuming the fluctuations in the observations of  $a, b, c, \dots$  are either uncorrelated or very small:

$$\sigma_Q^2 = \sigma_a^2 \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial a} \right)^2 + \sigma_b^2 \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial b} \right)^2 + \sigma_c^2 \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial c} \right)^2 + \dots \quad (1)$$

where  $\sigma_a, \sigma_b, \sigma_c$  are the standard deviations of  $a, b, c$ .

Three examples for the calculation of ESDs are given below.

(1) ESDs of average bond length, average bond angle and coordinates of centroid of any ring

The equation for average bond length, average bond angle and coordinates of centroid of any ring are expressed as

$$B(b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n) = (b_1 + b_2 + b_3 + \dots + b_n)/n,$$

where the fluctuations in the observations of  $b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n$  are uncorrelated.

Substituting this equation into Eq. (1), the ESD of  $B$  is given as:

$$\sigma_B^2 = \frac{1}{n^2} (\sigma_{b_1}^2 + \sigma_{b_2}^2 + \sigma_{b_3}^2 + \dots + \sigma_{b_n}^2)$$

ex. 1) The ESD of the average bond length of S-C = 1.633(4) and S'-C' = 1.704(3) Å?

The average bond length of S-C = (1/2)(1.633 + 1.704) = 1.669 Å

$$\text{Its ESD: } \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{4} [(0.004)^2 + (0.003)^2] =$$

$$0.00000625$$

$$\sigma = 0.0025 \approx 0.003$$

∴ The mean value of S-C: 1.669(3)Å

ex. 2) Find the ESD for x-coordinate of the centroid of a benzene ring C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub> whose coordinates are

	x	y	z
C1	-0.04933(31)	0.58841(28)	-0.15595(25)
C2	-0.12290(31)	0.61114(28)	-0.12224(26)
C3	-0.23982(31)	0.58223(30)	-0.17269(28)
C4	-0.28157(36)	0.52896(30)	-0.25383(30)
C5	-0.20855(34)	0.50127(33)	-0.28750(28)
C6	-0.09457(34)	0.53227(31)	-0.23741(26).

The x-coordinate of the centroid is

$$x_c = \frac{1}{6} (x_{C1} + x_{C2} + x_{C3} + x_{C4} + x_{C5} + x_{C6}) = -0.16612.$$

$$\text{Its ESD is } \sigma_{x_c}^2 = \frac{1}{36} (\sigma_{x_{C1}}^2 + \sigma_{x_{C2}}^2 + \sigma_{x_{C3}}^2 + \sigma_{x_{C4}}^2 + \sigma_{x_{C5}}^2 + \sigma_{x_{C6}}^2)$$

$$\sigma_{x_c} = 0.00013$$

∴ The x-coordinate of the centroid:

$$x = -0.16612(13).$$

(2) ESD of hydrogen atomic position between donor and acceptor

The x coordinate of the hydrogen atomic position between a donor oxygen and an acceptor nitrogen is a function of x<sub>O</sub> and x<sub>N</sub> as shown below<sup>2)</sup>:

$$x_H = x_O + \frac{d_{O-H}}{d_{O-N}} (x_N - x_O)$$

where x<sub>H</sub>, x<sub>O</sub> and x<sub>N</sub> are the x-coordinates of hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen, and d<sub>O-H</sub> and d<sub>O-N</sub> are the distances between O-H and O-N, respectively.

The estimated standard deviation of x<sub>H</sub> is calculated by Eq. (1) as follows:

$$\sigma_{x_H}^2 = \sigma_{x_O}^2 \left( 1 - \frac{d_{O-H}}{d_{O-N}} \right)^2 + \sigma_{x_N}^2 \left( \frac{d_{O-H}}{d_{O-N}} \right)^2$$

ex. 3) When O: x = -0.4015(3), y = 0.5071(3), z = -0.2996(2), N: x = -0.5232(3), y = 0.5767(3), z = -0.2074(2), d<sub>O-N</sub> = 2.892Å, d<sub>O-H</sub> = 0.9Å, find x<sub>H</sub> and σ<sub>x<sub>H</sub></sub>.

$$x_H = -0.4015 + \frac{0.9}{2.892} (-0.5232 + 0.4015) = -0.4394$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{x_H}^2 &= (0.0003)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{0.9}{2.892} \right)^2 + (0.003)^2 \left( \frac{0.9}{2.892} \right)^2 \\ &= 4.27 \times 10^{-8} + 8.72 \times 10^{-9} = 5.1 \times 10^{-8} \\ \sigma_{x_H} &= 0.0002 \end{aligned}$$

∴ The x-coordinate of hydrogen atom:

$$x = -0.4394(2)$$

### 3. Concluding remarks

ESDs of all quantities which have dependence on common variables can be obtained by using the Eq. (1). However in the Eq. (1), the covariance terms are omitted so that there must be a certain amount of errors in case the fluctuations in the observation of the variables are correlated to each other.

### References

- 1) Bevington, P. R., Data Reduction and Error Analysis for the Physical Sciences, 56-60, McGRAW-HILL Book Company, (1969).
- 2) Suh, I. H., Kim, K. H., Oh, M. R., Park, K. H. and Kim, M. J., Calculation of the Ideal Positions of Hydrogen Atoms in Compounds. Korean J. Crystallography, Vol. 8, No. 1, 59-63, 1997.