

# Electrostatic Tools Manual

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## 1 About

Electrostatic Tools is a program package that aims to assist in developing of next-generation molecular electrostatic models with an enhanced molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) anisotropy. It provides the researcher with tools to fit and for work with customizable atomic multipole moments (up to a quadrupole) and extra-point charges. The models obtained are intended to use for description of an electrostatic part of such highly anisotropic moieties as oxygens, nitrogens with lone pairs and heavy halogens (Cl, Br, I) for halogen bonding.

## 2 Installation

The basic installation requires a functioning C++ compiler and development versions of all prerequisites installed. Electrostatic Tools currently depends on:

- **CMake** is used to control the build and installation process
- **OpenBabel** library is used to read and write molecules in common chemical formats and perform SMARTS pattern matching
- **Eigen3** library provides linear algebra solvers
- **boost** is also required (with `program_options` binaries compiled)
- *optional* **SWIG** to build script bindings. Currently only **Perl** and **Python** are supported

Common procedure for all cmake-based packages can be applied:

```
tar -xf electrostatic-tools-0.2.0.tar.bz2
cd electrostatic-tools-0.2.0
mkdir build
cd build
cmake ..
make
make install
```

One can be interested in the following options that can be passed to cmake:

- `-DCMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=__prefix__` This tells cmake to install the package in the `__prefix__` directory. Most would like to use something like `~/el_tools`. The default is `/usr/local`.
- `-DCMAKE_BUILD_TYPE=Release` This will change build configuration to a `Release` version meaning fast optimized executables. The other useful option is `RelWithDebInfo` meaning the release-optimized executables with a debugging info.
- `-DET_NO_mult_fitter=ON/OFF`, `-DET_NO_ep_fitter=ON/OFF` and `-DET_NO_mmol2mol=ON/OFF` These switches turn off compilation and installation of the corresponding programs. The defaults are `OFF`
- `-DET_PERL_BINDINGS=ON/OFF` and `-DET_PYTHON_BINDINGS=ON/OFF` These switches turn off compilation and installation of the corresponding language bindings.
- `-DET_PERL_LIBDIR` and `-DET_PYTHON_LIBDIR` Manually specify the destination of language bindings.
- `-DET_PERL_INCLUDE_PATH`, `-DET_PERL_LIBRARY`, `-DET_PYTHON_INCLUDE_PATH` and `-DET_PYTHON_LIBRARY` can be used to override `cmake`'s guesses.

For example if you want to install the release-optimized package in your home directory, you don't need Perl bindings and you want to install Python bindings in subfolder in your home directory, you should call:

```
cmake -DCMAKE_BUILD_TYPE=Release \
      -DCMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=~/.elec_tools \
      -DET_PERL_BINDINGS=OFF \
      -DET_PYTHON_LIBDIR=~/.elec_tools/lib \
      ..
```

To temporarily add Electrostatic Tools to a `$PATH` variable invoke:

```
export PATH=$PATH:~/.elec_tools/bin
```

for bash shell, where `~/.elec_tools` is your installation prefix, or for csh shell:

```
setenv PATH $PATH:~/.elec_tools/bin
```

To permanently add Electrostatic Tools to `$PATH` invoke:

```
echo "export PATH=$PATH:~/.elec_tools/bin" >> ~/.bashrc
```

for bash shell, where `~/.elec_tools` is your installation prefix, or for csh shell:

```
echo "setenv PATH $PATH:~/.elec_tools/bin" >> ~/.cshrc
```

## 3 Tutorial

In this section we will discuss the usage of our programs. Files used in this tutorial are shipped with the source package in an **examples** directory. We assume that the package is compiled, installed and added to `$PATH`. Every program in Electrostatic Tools has a build-in help available with a `--help` switch.

### 3.1 Multipole Fit

To perform a multipole fit you will need a molecule structure in any common file formats supported by OpenBabel and a reference electrostatic potential in **.esp** format (used for a RESP-charges fitting within AmberTools package). The sample files with a phenylbromide molecule (**phbr.mol2**) and the reference RHF/6-31G\* potential (**phbr.esp**) are located in the **examples** directory of the source tree. We'll make a temporary working directory and copy the files there assuming that the source code was untarred in home directory.

```
mkdir ~/tutorial
cd ~/tutorial
cp ~/electrostatic-tools-0.2.0/examples/phbr.mol2 .
cp ~/electrostatic-tools-0.2.0/examples/phbr.esp .
```

To perform a simple fit with default parameters invoke:

```
mult_fitter phbr.mol2 phbr.esp
```

In case everything went well no console output appears. This command performed the fit of atomic charges and multipoles of the phenylbromide molecule to the reference MEP with default settings. Two files should appear in the working directory: **phbr.mmol** and **phbr.log**. The first one contains the results - a phenylbromide molecule with multipoles, the second one is a log with an additional information describing the fit process. Your **phbr.mmol** file should look like the following:

---

```
Molecule:
/* Atom 1 Br */
Atom: 35 ( 0.9991, 0.0803, 0.1295 )
Multipoles: ( 0.9991, 0.0803, 0.1295 )
  Monopole: -0.18347
  Quadrupole: ( -0.81548, 0, 0, 0, -0.81548, 0, 0, 0, 1.631 )

/* Atom 2 C */
Atom: 6 ( 2.882, 0.1014, -0.0402 )
Multipoles: ( 2.882, 0.1014, -0.0402 )
  Monopole: 0.27616

/* Atom 3 C */
Atom: 6 ( 3.5573, 1.3195, -0.1026 )
Multipoles: ( 3.5573, 1.3195, -0.1026 )
  Monopole: -0.26482
```

```

/* Atom 4 C */
Atom: 6 ( 4.9466, 1.3334, -0.2343 )
Multipoles: ( 4.9466, 1.3334, -0.2343 )
Monopole: -0.11137

/* Atom 5 C */
Atom: 6 ( 5.6536, 0.132, -0.3014 )
Multipoles: ( 5.6536, 0.132, -0.3014 )
Monopole: -0.15636

/* Atom 6 C */
Atom: 6 ( 4.9736, -1.0845, -0.235 )
Multipoles: ( 4.9736, -1.0845, -0.235 )
Monopole: -0.11137

/* Atom 7 C */
Atom: 6 ( 3.5842, -1.1018, -0.1044 )
Multipoles: ( 3.5842, -1.1018, -0.1044 )
Monopole: -0.26482

/* Atom 8 H */
Atom: 1 ( 3.0135, 2.2588, -0.0508 )
Multipoles: ( 3.0135, 2.2588, -0.0508 )
Monopole: 0.18885

/* Atom 9 H */
Atom: 1 ( 5.478, 2.2803, -0.2855 )
Multipoles: ( 5.478, 2.2803, -0.2855 )
Monopole: 0.14652

/* Atom 10 H */
Atom: 1 ( 6.7358, 0.1442, -0.4058 )
Multipoles: ( 6.7358, 0.1442, -0.4058 )
Monopole: 0.14529

/* Atom 11 H */
Atom: 1 ( 5.5259, -2.0194, -0.2859 )
Multipoles: ( 5.5259, -2.0194, -0.2859 )
Monopole: 0.14652

/* Atom 12 H */
Atom: 1 ( 3.0612, -2.0529, -0.0547 )
Multipoles: ( 3.0612, -2.0529, -0.0547 )
Monopole: 0.18885

Bond: 1 - 2 : 1
Bond: 2 - 3 : a
Bond: 3 - 4 : a
Bond: 4 - 5 : a

```

```

Bond: 5 - 6 : a
Bond: 6 - 7 : a
Bond: 2 - 7 : a
Bond: 3 - 8 : 1
Bond: 4 - 9 : 1
Bond: 5 - 10 : 1
Bond: 6 - 11 : 1
Bond: 7 - 12 : 1

Orient-rules:
rule:  z      "*"
rule:  a      "[!#99]~[!#99]"
rule:  a      "[!#99]#[!#99]"
rule:  b      "[!#99]~[!#99]=,@[!#99]"
rule:  b      "[!#99]=[!#99]~[!#99]"
rule:  c      "[!#99](~[!#99])~[!#99]"
rule:  c      "[!#99](=,@[!#99])~[!#99]"
rule:  d      "[!#99]([!#99])([!#99])[!#99]"
rule:  b      "[!#99](=[!#99])([!#99])[!#99]"
rule:  z      "[!#99]([!#99])([!#99])([!#99])[!#99]"
rule:  a      "[!#99](=[!#99])=[!#99]"
rule:  a      "[!#99](=[!#99!#6])=[!#99]"
rule:  b      "[!#99](~[!#99])(=[!#99])=[!#99]"
rule:  a      "[#99]1[!#99]#[!#99]1"
rule:  e      "[#99]1[!#99A]([!#99])=,@[!#99A]1"
rule:  e      "[#99]1[!#99]-,@[!#99]1"

/*
Fitted 14 parameters with 6 constraints by 4617 points
RMSD: 0.6277 kcal/mol
*/

```

It consists of three sections: the molecule description, the rules for orientation of the multipoles and a comment.

We support C-style comments (*/\* comment \*/*) in our custom file formats, so it is possible to store any relevant information directly in the file with a molecule. `mult_fitter` saves a fitted MEP description error and a number of parameters with a number of applied constraints.

The molecule section consists of a description of atoms and bonds. The bond format is intuitive. The atoms are stored as pairs of nucleus charges with coordinates in Angstroms. Every atom may have a single multipole expansion associated with it. The multipoles values are printed in atomic units. The quadrupole matrix is printed in a row-by-row manner on a single line. Note that the multipoles are shown in principal axes, so they can be easily analysed.

The contents of the `phbr.log` file should be as the following:

---

```
Multipole fitter v 0.2.0
```



```

MEP Fitter initialized.
Forcing topological equivalency: 1
Topological information will be recalculated: 0
Molecule with 12 atoms loaded.
20 atom and 0 group multipole positioning rules loaded.
4617 points of field loaded.
0 dummy atoms added.
Created distance matrix 4617x14
Using SVD fitter.
Created constraints matrix 6x14
Fitting
Fit completed.
Fitted 14 parameters with 6 constraints by 4617 points
RMSD: 0.6277 kcal/mol
----- SVD analysis -----
Condition number cutoff: 1e+07
Condition number of the system: 99.1938
Singular values:
    5.88127
    2.25863
    1.44742
    1.21237
    0.482768
    0.195794
    0.105907
    0.0592907
    1.26362e-15
    2.02354e-16
    6.8374e-17
    1.13256e-17
    5.90198e-18
    4.81634e-20
Parameters: Z1   Qxx1   Qyy1   Z2   Z3   Z4
Z5   Z6   Z7   Z8   Z9   Z10   Z11
Z12
Right singular vectors (V**T):
    0.516791   0.00489199   0.00489199   0.260871
...

```

Along with the details of the fit this file contains a valuable information provided by a SVD fitter: the condition number of a model matrix and a list of singular values with right singular vectors. In this particular case the first shows that the charges and the quadrupole were well-defined. The last two ones help analyse the system if any problem with the fit stability occurs. The "Parameters:" header and the "V\*\*T" matrix are tab separated so they can be easily pasted in any spreadsheet processor for further analysis.

If you try to rerun the calculation (note a different way to pass command line arguments) it will terminate with the following error:

```
$mult_fitter -I phbr.mol2 -G phbr.esp -O phbr.mmol \
```

```
-L phbr.log
Error: output molecule file exists. Aborting.
```

No Electrostatic Tools program will overwrite existing files to preserve any previous results in case of a typo. To ignore this and overwrite the existing files pass a `-f` key.

## 3.2 Multipole Placement

In the previous example we used the default multipole placement policy. This policy can be overridden by specifying a multipole placement rulefile. Let's assume we want to place a symmetric quadrupole on the bromine and a dipole on the *p*-hydrogen atoms. Create a custom file with the rules and perform the fit with these rules by invoking (note another way of passing the filenames):

```
cat > custom.rules << "EOF"
Placement-rules:
/* charge on any atom */
atom: "*" m
/* charge + symmetric quadrupole on bromine */
atom: "[Br]" mq*
/* charge + dipole on p-hydrogen */
atom: "[#1]cccc[Br]" md
EOF
mult_fitter -Iphbr.mol2 -Gphbr.esp -p custom.rules \
-Ophbr.custom.mmol
```

`phbr.custom.mmol` contains the resulting molecule. Currently we support fitting of dipoles with the fixed direction along a local Z-axis, so the dipole has two zero components. The rulefile has a quite simple syntax. We specify a SMARTS pattern of the desired atom (Note that hydrogens are matched by "[#1]" and NOT "[H]") and a list of the required multipoles: `m`, `d` and `q` for a monopole, a dipole and a quadrupole respectively with an asterisk (\*) meaning a symmetry restriction on the quadrupole. The patterns are matched in the same order as they go in the file. Each subsequent rule overrides the previous ones, so the most general rules should go before anything special. When no rulefile is specified the default, located in `__prefix__/share/electrostatic_tools/<version>/placement.rules`, is used.

## 3.3 Topology Equivalence

For this tutorial we will need the `meoh.*` files from the `examples` directory.

By default `mult_fitter` preserves topology equivalence so the equivalent atoms get the equivalent charges and multipoles fitted. This behaviour can be overridden by a `-b` flag. For example we want to fit atomic charges for methanol molecule without respect to its topology (namely the equivalence of hydrogen atoms within the  $-CH_3$  group).

```
mult_fitter -I meoh.mol2 -G meoh.esp -O meoh.b.mmol \
            -p m.rules -b
```

Note that we are using our custom multipole placement rules without any multipoles beyond monopole. The program uses atomic charges as the source of topological information. If two atoms of the same chemical element have equal charges, they are considered equivalent. By inspecting the `meoh.mol2` and `meoh.b.mmol` files one can check that however the input file had a topologically symmetrical charges, the output does not. On the contrary, if an input molecule has bad charges assigned, the topologically symmetric Gasteiger charges may be recalculated with the `-r` key to enforce the charge (and multipole) symmetry of the fit:

```
mult_fitter -I meoh.mulliken.mol2 -G meoh.esp \
            -O meoh.r.mmol -p m.rules -r
```

### 3.4 Extra-Point Position Fit

The `ep-fitter` program is used to perform the optimization of the extra-point (EP) positions. It places extra-points at atoms specified with SMARTS mask. We will call these atoms EP-hosts. Lets perform the EP position optimization for a *m*-fluorobromobenzene which is saved in `mol36.mol2` and `mol36.esp` files in the `examples` directory. We'll place the extra-points on the bromine atom and use a charge-only rulefile which can be found in the `examples` directory.

```
ep_fitter -I mol36.mol2 -G mol36.esp -p m.rules \
          -M "[Br]"
```

The output was saved to the `mol36.ep.mmol` and `mol36.ep.log` files. The program places the EP on the local Z-axis of the atom, defined by the orient rules, and then searches for the position with the lowest MEP RMSD value. The optimization takes more time than a simple charge fit since it uses the Nelder-Mead simplex algorithm for the position optimization with the charge refit at every step. The program saves the EP as the atom with a zero nuclear charge meaning a dummy, nonexistent, atom.

The use of the Nelder-Mead algorithm looks strange when dealing with a single parameter optimization, however we can optimize several EP centers simultaneously. Lets try to add extra-points to the both bromine and fluorine, This time we will need to increase a maximum iteration limit for the optimization to converge. We have also switched to a faster charge fitting algorithm to save some time. Additionally we specified a different file for the output.

```
ep_fitter -I mol36.mol2 -G mol36.esp -p m.rules \
          -M "[Br]" -M "[F]" -a FullPivLU -m 150 \
          -O mol36.2ep.mmol
```

If you investigate the result you will notice, that the EP-Br distance converged to 1.3 Å, while the EP-F distance became -5 Å. The negative value of the distance means that EP has penetrated its host atom and traversed inside the

molecule. In this case, -5 Å actually means that it traversed the whole molecule and stopped at the reference grid border. This behaviour is normal for fluorines since they do not need any special anisotropy treatment.

One more thing should be mentioned about the EP position optimization possibilities. Since we're using the same code for the charge fitting, it is possible to fit simultaneously both multipoles and EP positions (with the relevant placement rules set). It is even possible to place multipoles on the extra-point centers and optimize their positions, however note, that internally EPs are stored as Einsteinium ("[#99]", because matching "[#0]" does not work). When the multipole placement rules tell the fitter to add the multipoles on the EP-host atom it ignores this rule, leaving the host with charge only, however this behavior can be overridden by the -k switch.

### 3.5 Converting MMol to Common Format

After we fitted the charges or multipoles, we can convert the resulting .mmol file into any common chemical file format supported by OpenBabel with the mmol2mol program. Try this:

```
mmol2mol phbr.mmol
```

By default it strips all multipoles and saves the molecule as a TRIPOS MOL2 file, but this behaviour can be overridden with the -O and -t flags to change the output file and its format if automatic extension based guessing fails. You can also try MCC conversion options to preserve multipole data, however this part is still under research and is subject to change.

### 3.6 Multipole Charge Cluster (MCC) placement

Actually the mmol2mol is not a simple file format converter. It can not only strip the multipoles present in the molecule, but also convert them to multipole charge cluster - a set of point charges, located very close to the host atom to simulate the original multipoles. mmol2mol adds from 2 to 6 extra-points per one host (depends on the multipole expansion symmetry), connected with single bonds to the central host atom. The MCC conversion algorithms are turned on with a -M key which specifies the SMARTS masks of atoms which multipoles should be converted to MCCs, for example, if you already have a phbr.mmol file from the mult\_fitter tutorial:

```
mmol2mol -I phbr.mmol -M "[Br]"
```

This command will create a phbr.mcc.mol2 file with the following contents (note the increased atomic charge of bromine atom and two additional dummy atoms):

---

```
@<TRIPOS>MOLECULE
*****
  14 14 0 0 0
SMALL
```

# GASTEIGER

## @<TRIPOS>ATOM

1	BR	0.9991	0.0803	0.1295	Br
1	LIG1	-45.8550			
	2 C	2.8820	0.1014	-0.0402	C.ar
1	LIG1	0.2762			
	3 C	3.5573	1.3195	-0.1026	C.ar
1	LIG1	-0.2648			
	4 C	4.9466	1.3334	-0.2343	C.ar
1	LIG1	-0.1114			
	5 C	5.6536	0.1320	-0.3014	C.ar
1	LIG1	-0.1564			
	6 C	4.9736	-1.0845	-0.2350	C.ar
1	LIG1	-0.1114			
	7 C	3.5842	-1.1018	-0.1044	C.ar
1	LIG1	-0.2648			
	8 H	3.0135	2.2588	-0.0508	H
1	LIG1	0.1888			
	9 H	5.4780	2.2803	-0.2855	H
1	LIG1	0.1465			
	10 H	6.7358	0.1442	-0.4058	H
1	LIG1	0.1453			
	11 H	5.5259	-2.0194	-0.2859	H
1	LIG1	0.1465			
	12 H	3.0612	-2.0529	-0.0547	H
1	LIG1	0.1888			
	13 XX	0.8995	0.0792	0.1385	Du
1	LIG1	22.8358			
	14 XX	1.0987	0.0814	0.1205	Du
1	LIG1	22.8358			

## @<TRIPOS>BOND

1	1	2	1
2	2	3	ar
3	3	4	ar
4	4	5	ar
5	5	6	ar
6	6	7	ar
7	2	7	ar
8	3	8	1
9	4	9	1
10	5	10	1
11	6	11	1
12	7	12	1
13	1	13	1
14	1	14	1

Multiple -M keys are possible. By default the MCC has the radius of 0.1 Å, however it can be overridden with an -r key. You can also tell the mmol2mol to

ignore some parts of multipole expansion with `-d` and `-q` keys for dipole and quadrupole (`-dq` will strip all multipoles).

### 3.7 Manually adding multipoles to the molecule

The `mmol2mol` can also place multipoles on atoms. This behaviour is turned on with `-C`, `-D` and `-Q` keywords for monopole, dipole and quadrupole. The argument to this keywords are little complicated. You have provide a string surrounded by single (') or double (") quotes. This string should contain a SMARTS pattern of the host atom, followed by one or several values, specifying the multipole moment value (in a. u.). For atomic charge you'll obviously need a single value. The dipole can be specified with 3 values, or with a single value, which is treated as  $Z^{th}$  component of the dipole. The quadrupole can be specified as  $Q_{zz}$  (for symmetric one), or as  $Q_{xx}$ ,  $Q_{yy}$  and  $Q_{zz}$  triplet (however no checks are made for the zero-trace condition!), or as  $Q_{xx}$ ,  $Q_{yy}$ ,  $Q_{zz}$ ,  $Q_{xy}$ ,  $Q_{xz}$  and  $Q_{yz}$  set of values. For example, to add a quadrupole to the bromine atom in PhBr molecule issue:

```
mmol2mol phbr.mol2 -O phbr.quad.mmol \  
-Q "[Br] 1.0 2.0 -3.0"
```

This command will create a file `phbr.quad.mmol` with a quadrupole on bromine atom. You can also specify multiple number of `-C`, `-D` and `-Q` keys.

You can also add multipoles and convert them to MCC simultaneously. `mmol2mol` first performs all multipole modifications requested, then converts the needed ones to MCC. Try this command:

```
mmol2mol phbr.mol2 -O phbr.manual.mol2 \  
-Q "[Br] 1.0 2.0 -3.0" -M "[Br]"
```

### 3.8 Editing the .ESP files

The **Electrostatic Tools** also include an `esp_modifier` program. It's main purpose to modify the electrostatic potential maps by adding or removing potential generated by molecules. For example we want (1) to fit the multipoles for PhBr molecule, (2) fit the RESP charges without Br's quadrupole and then (3) add this quadrupole back to Br atom.

The first step is described above in the `mult_fitter` tutorial, however we can repeat it here (This should display the fitted quadrupole of bromine atom):

```
mult_fitter phbr.mol2 phbr.esp  
grep 'Quadrupole' phbr.mmol
```

For the second step we need to prepare the `.esp` file without quadrupole on Br. The `esp_modifier` can subtract the potential of the whole molecule, so we need to prepare a special PhBr with no charges, just quadrupole:

```
mmol2mol phbr.mmol -C "*" 0" \  
-O phbr.q_only.mmol
```

Next, subtract this molecule's potential from .esp file:

```
esp_modifier phbr.esp phbr.no_q.esp \  
             -R phbr.q_only.mmol
```

The -R flag removes molecule's potential from the .ESP file, while -A flag add the potential. Multiple -R and -A keys are possible in one command.

Now you can use your favourite RESP fitting tool to fit the charges for the molecule with the modified grid file. Assuming that you obtained a `phbr.resp.mol2` file with the RESP charges, you can the quadrupole back with:

```
mmol2mol phbr.mmol -C"* 0" \  
          -O phbr.q_only.mmol
```

### 3.9 Using Script Bindings

To analyse fit results you can also use script language bindings. Unfortunately currently we do not provide any reference documentation, so you'll have to look into source code for reference. We'll provide a simple example python script here. This script uses the `phbr.mmol` file generated earlier in this tutorial.

```
import openbabel  
import ElectrostaticTools  
  
# read molecule with multipole support from file  
mol = ElectrostaticTools.GeneralMultipoledMolecule()  
mol.readMe("phbr.mmol")  
  
# save it as MOL2  
# note: GeneralMultipoledMolecule is OBMol subclass  
#       so we can use any OpenBabel API  
conv = openbabel.OBConversion()  
conv.SetOutFormat("mol2")  
conv.WriteFile(mol, "test.mol2")  
  
# we can iterate over the atoms  
for atom in openbabel.OBMolAtomIter(mol):  
    print (atom.GetAtomicNum())  
  
# print molecule in MMOL format  
print (mol.toString())  
  
# check if multipole expansion exists on the first  
# atom and print the monopole and quadrupole value  
if (mol.hasMultipoles(1)) :  
    mult = mol.GetRawMultipoles(1)  
    if (mult.hasMonopole()) :  
        print ("\nMonopole value: ",
```

```

        mult.monopole().value())
if (mult.hasQuadrupole()) :
    print ("\nMonopole value: ",
          mult.quadrupole().value().toString())
# or simply print the expansion as is
print ("\nMultipoles on the first atom:")
print (mult.toString())

# or we can get oriented multipoles
print ("\nOriented multipole on the first atom:")
print (mol.GetMultipoles(1).toString())

# or we can get raw multipoles from atom
mult = ElectrostaticTools.Multipoles(
    mol.GetAtom(2).GetData("Multipoles")
)
print ("\nMultipoles from atom:")
print (mult.toString())

```



## 4 Program Overview

### 4.1 General notes

All programs included in the package are non-interactive command line tools, written with UNIX philosophy in mind – they are silent if everything is going fine, however some noncritical messages can be logged. All tasks are formulated with command line arguments. Thanks to the `boost::program_options` library there are several ways to pass an argument to the program. The following invocations are identical:

```
progname --long-option arg
progname --long-option=arg
progname -l arg
progname -larg
```

However some constructions are NOT available, such as:

```
progname --no-long-option
progname --with-long-option
progname --disable-long-option
# etc ...
progname -l=arg
```

Some arguments are considered essential for the program execution and can be specified without a key. In this case the order of such keyless options is important. For example:

```
mult_fitter molecule.mol2 grid.esp
# is fine
mult_fitter molecule.mol2 grid.esp -f
# is fine
mult_fitter -c 1e9 molecule.mol2 grid.esp
# is fine
mult_fitter grid.esp molecule.mol2
# will terminate with an error
```

### 4.2 mult\_fitter

The `mult_fitter` program performs fitting of the atom-centered multipoles to the specified reference molecular electrostatic potential (MEP). The MEP is specified in a form of AMBER `.esp` file. The input molecule can be specified in any chemical format understood by the OpenBabel library. The result is saved into our plan-text `.mmol` file format. Multipole positioning is controlled by SMARTS patterns which are read from a separate file. The multipoles are fixed in the orientation regarding the neighboring atoms which is controlled through another file. It is possible to constrain the topological equivalence of atoms (which can be precisely controlled) and the symmetry of quadrupoles. Addition of dummy multipole centers in the geometrical center of atom groups specified by a SMARTS pattern is also possible.

Some of possible invocation patterns:

```
mult_fitter <input> <MEP .esp> [output] [options]
mult_fitter -I <input> -G <MEP .esp> -O <output> \
           [options]
```

Generic options:

- version** print the program name and version and exit.
- help** print a help message to console and exit.

Input control:

- I, --input <arg> *required*** an input molecule file. This parameter is also read as the first argument without a key, so the key can be omitted.
- t, --filetype <arg>** an input molecule file type specified as common extension for this filetype. Generally the filetype is guessed by the file extension (**GUESS** option). This key overrides this guess.
- G, --grid <arg> *required*** a reference MEP in the **.esp** format. This parameter is also read as the second argument without a key, so the key can be omitted. Atomic coordinates in the **.esp** files are ignored, but the total charge is used as a constraint in the fitting procedure.
- p, --placement-rules <arg>** multipole placement rules specified in special format. The multipoles are placed according to SMARTS patterns. Note that OpenBabel SMARTS are different from Daylight SMARTS (see <http://openbabel.org/wiki/SMARTS>). See the format description for more info on how to setup custom rules.
- o, --orient-rules <arg>** multipole orient rules. The multipoles are placed according to SMARTS patterns. Note that OpenBabel SMARTS are different from Daylight SMARTS (see <http://openbabel.org/wiki/SMARTS>). See the format description for more info on how to setup custom rules.

Output control:

- O, --output <arg>** an output molecule file. This parameter is also read as the third argument without a key, so the key can be omitted. The default name is generated by replacing the last file extension from the input file name with **mol**. In order to save previous results, the program will terminate if the output file exists. The molecule is saved in a custom plain-text format which was designed to support atomic multipoles. See the format description for more info.
- L, --log <arg>** a log file. The default name is generated by replacing the last file extension from the input file name with the **log**. In order to save previous results, the program will terminate if the log file exists. The log contains important information about program workflow and some fit data. It is saved as a plain-text.
- f, --force-output** a switch to overwrite the output and log files if they are already present.

MEP fit control:

- a**, **--algorithm** *< arg >* a MEP fit algorithm selector. Valid values are: SVD, LLT, LDLT, PartialPivLU, FullPivLU, HouseholderQR, ColPivHouseholderQR, FullPivHouseholderQR. The SVD algorithm uses the method published by Sigfridson and Ryde (J. Comput. Chem. **1998**, 19(4), 377). It works with a model matrix without raising it to the power of two, thus increasing the stability of the fit. The other methods deal with the squared model matrix and a Lagrange constraints. The details about them can be found in Eigen3 documentation.
- c**, **--cutoff** *< arg >* a condition value cutoff (the largest singular value divided by the smallest one) used in the SVD pseudoinversion procedures to eliminate statistical noise. This parameter is used only when fitting with the SVD fitter. The default value is  $10^7$ .
- r**, **--recalculate-topology** a flag to force fitter to recalculate atomic charges used to force the equivalency of the topologically equivalent atoms. The atoms are forced to have equal charges and multipoles if they belong to the same chemical element and have the equal partial charges assigned. If this flag is set, the Gasteiger charges are calculated and used for this purpose since they are topologically symmetrical. Note that sometimes there are not enough digits in a charge field of the input molecule file and non-equivalent charges have the same charge, for example *meta*- and *para*- hydrogens and sometimes carbons in monosubstituted benzenes in the MOL2 file format. Generally turning on this flag is a good idea if you are not controlling your input charges manually.
- b**, **--break-equivalency** a flag to disable the equivalency constraints. The only constraints added with this flag is total charge and quadrupole symmetry constraints.

### 4.3 ep\_fitter

The `ep_fitter` program fits the extra-point (EP) charge positions and atom-centered multipoles with the specified reference molecular electrostatic potential (MEP). The MEP is specified in a form of AMBER `.esp` file. The input molecule can be specified in any chemical format understood by the OpenBabel library. The result is saved into our plan-text `.mmol` file format. Multipole positioning is controlled by SMARTS patterns which are read from a separate file. The multipoles are fixed in the orientation regarding the neighboring atoms which is controlled through another file. It is possible to constrain the topological equivalence of atoms (which can be precisely controlled) and the symmetry of quadrupoles. Addition of dummy multipole centers in the geometrical center of atom groups specified by a SMARTS pattern is also possible. The extra-points are added to the host atoms specified by SMARTS patterns.

This program uses the same code as the `mult_fitter` for multipole and charge fitting so most of the options are exactly the same, however all options are provided here for consistency. The nonlocal EP position optimization runs on top of the linear charge and multipole fitting. The Nelder-Mead simplex search local optimization algorithm is used for this purpose.

Some of the possible invocation patterns:

```
ep_fitter <input> <MEP .esp> -M "[Cl,Br,I]" \
          [output] [options]
ep_fitter -I <input> -G <MEP .esp> -O <output> \
          -M "[Cl,Br,I]" [options]
```

Generic options:

**--version** print the program name and version and exit.

**--help** print a help message to console and exit.

Input control:

**-I, --input** <arg> *required* an input molecule file. This parameter is also read as the first argument without a key, so the key can be omitted.

**-t, --filetype** <arg> an input molecule file type specified as common extension for this filetype. Generally the filetype is guessed by the file extension (**GUESS** option). This key overrides this guess.

**-G, --grid** <arg> *required* a reference MEP in the **.esp** format. This parameter is also read as the second argument without a key, so the key can be omitted. Atomic coordinates in the **.esp** files are ignored, but the total charge is used as a constraint in the fitting procedure.

**-p, --placement-rules** <arg> multipole placement rules specified in special format. The multipoles are placed according to SMARTS patterns. Note that OpenBabel SMARTS are different from Daylight SMARTS (see <http://openbabel.org/wiki/SMARTS>). See the format description for more info on how to setup custom rules.

**-o, --orient-rules** <arg> multipole orient rules. The multipoles are placed according to SMARTS patterns. Note that OpenBabel SMARTS are different from Daylight SMARTS (see <http://openbabel.org/wiki/SMARTS>). See the format description for more info on how to setup custom rules.

Output control:

**-O, --output** <arg> an output molecule file. This parameter is also read as the third argument without a key, so the key can be omitted. The default name is generated by replacing the last file extension from the input file name with **mol**. In order to save previous results, the program will terminate if the output file exists. The molecule is saved in a custom plain-text format which was designed to support atomic multipoles. See the format description for more info.

**-L, --log** <arg> a log file. The default name is generated by replacing the last file extension from the input file name with the **log**. In order to save previous results, the program will terminate if the log file exists. The log contains important information about program workflow and some fit data. It is saved as a plain-text.

**-f, --force-output** a switch to overwrite the output and log files if they are already present.

MEP fit control:

- a**, --**algorithm** *< arg >* a MEP fit algorithm selector. Valid values are: SVD, LLT, LDLT, PartialPivLU, FullPivLU, HouseholderQR, ColPivHouseholderQR, FullPivHouseholderQR. The SVD algorithm uses the method published by Sigfridson and Ryde (J. Comput. Chem. **1998**, 19(4), 377). It works with a model matrix without raising it to the power of two, thus increasing the stability of the fit. The other methods deal with the squared model matrix and a Lagrange constraints. The details about them can be found in Eigen3 documentation.
- c**, --**cutoff** *< arg >* a condition value cutoff (the largest singular value divided by the smallest one) used in the SVD pseudoinversion procedures to eliminate statistical noise. This parameter is used only when fitting with the SVD fitter. The default value is  $10^7$ .
- r**, --**recalculate-topology** a flag to force fitter to recalculate atomic charges used to force the equivalency of the topologically equivalent atoms. The atoms are forced to have equal charges and multipoles if they belong to the same chemical element and have the equal partial charges assigned. If this flag is set, the Gasteiger charges are calculated and used for this purpose since they are topologically symmetrical. Note that sometimes there are not enough digits in a charge field of the input molecule file and non-equivalent charges have the same charge, for example *meta*- and *para*- hydrogens and sometimes carbons in monosubstituted benzenes in the MOL2 file format. Generally turning on this flag is a good idea if you are not controlling your input charges manually.
- b**, --**break-equivalency** a flag to disable the equivalency constraints. The only constraints added with this flag is total charge and quadrupole symmetry constraints.

EP position fit control:

- M**, --**host-mask** *< arg >* the SMARTS mask of the EP host atoms. The key is repeatable so multiple masks can be specified. The EP is placed on the local Z-axis specified by the orientation rules and it is ensured that the EP is located "outside" of the molecule. By default the multipoles, placed on the EP hosts are removed, since it's strange to have two anisotropic enhancements for a single atom.
- x**, --**fixed-position** *< arg >* fixed EP distance from halogen atom in Angstroms. No optimization will be applied. Overrides any optimization option.
- d**, --**init-position** *< arg >* the initial distance between EP and its host atom in Angstroms for optimization procedure. The default value is 1.5 Å.
- s**, --**init-step** *< arg >* the initial step of EP-host distance in Angstroms for the optimization procedure. Positive values mean the increase of the distance while the negative ones mean the decrease. The default value is 0.1 Å.
- e**, --**precision** *< arg >* a required position precision in Angstroms. Short

name is abbreviated from the word "epsilon". Technically, this is a maximum simplex radius. The default value is  $10^{-3}$  Å.

- m**, **--max-steps** *< arg >* the maximum number of optimization steps. The search is stopped at this point and the failure is reported in log. The default value is 100.
- k**, **--keep-multipoles** a flag to override removal of multipoles from EP hosts.

## 4.4 mmol2mol

The `mmol2mol` preforms conversion between `mmol` format and the other common chemical formats with respect to atomic multipoles. It can also modify multipole values per request on the atoms specified and convert multipoles to multipole charge clusters (MCCs).

Some of possible invocation patterns:

```
mmol2mol <options>
mmol2mol <in_mol> <out_mol> [options]
```

Generic options:

- version** print the program name and version and exit.
- help** print help message to console and exit.

Input control:

- I**, **--input** *< arg >* **required** an input molecule file in the `.mmol` format. This parameter is also read as the first argument without a key, so the key can be omitted.
- input-type** *< arg >* an input molecule file type specified as common extension for this filetype. Generally the filetype is guessed by the file extension (`GUESS` option). This key overrides this guess.
- o**, **--orient-rules** *< arg >* multipole orient rules. The multipoles are placed according to SMARTS patterns. Note that OpenBabel SMARTS are different from Daylight SMARTS (see <http://openbabel.org/wiki/SMARTS>). See the format description for more info on how to setup custom rules.

Output control:

- O**, **--output** *< arg >* an output molecule file. This parameter is also read as the second argument without a key, so the key can be omitted. The default name is generated by replacing the last file extension from the input file name with "mol2" and the molecule is saved in a TRIPOS MOL2 file format. In order to save the previous results, the program will terminate if the output file exists.
- t**, **--output-type** *< arg >* an output molecule filetype, specified as a common extension for this filetype. Generally the filetype is guessed by the output file extension ("`GUESS`" option). This key overrides this guess.

–f, **--force-output** a switch to overwrite the output files if it is already present.

Multipole modification control:

–C, **--set-charge** <arg> a pair of SMARTS mask and a charge value (a.u.) to assign on a given SMARTS pattern. Note that you must use quotes around this pair.

–D, **--set-dipole** <arg> a pair of SMARTS mask and a dipole value (a.u.) to assign on a given SMARTS pattern. Note that you must use quotes around this pair. A dipole can be specified as three values for each vector component, or as a single  $d_z$  value.

–Q, **--set-quadrupole** <arg> a pair of SMARTS mask and a quadrupole value (a.u.) to assign on a given SMARTS pattern. Note that you must use quotes around this pair. A quadrupole can be specified as a six component vector for  $Q_{xx}$ ,  $Q_{yy}$ ,  $Q_{zz}$ ,  $Q_{xy}$ ,  $Q_{xz}$  and  $Q_{yz}$ , or as a three component vector for  $Q_{xx}$ ,  $Q_{yy}$  and  $Q_{zz}$ , or as a single  $Q_{zz}$  value.

Conversion control:

–M, **--mcc-mask** <arg> the multipoles on the atoms matching this mask will be substituted by a multipole charge cluster (MCC). This cluster is composed of a set of several extra-point charges (2-6) and in combination with the charge of the host atom creates a MEP distribution, analogous to the multipolar one. The key is repeatable so multiple masks can be specified.

–r, **--radius** <arg> the MCC radius in Angstroms as the distance between the host atom and the extra-points. The default is 0.1 Å.

–d, **--ignore-dipole** do not convert atomic dipoles to the MCC.

–d, **--ignore-quadrupole** do not convert atomic quadrupoles to the MCC.

## 4.5 esp\_modifier

The `esp_modifier` program converts `.mmol` files to common chemical formats with respect to the atomic multipoles in these files.

Some of possible invocation patterns:

```
esp_modifier <options>
esp_modifier <in_esp> <out_esp> [options]
```

Generic options:

–**version** print the program name and version and exit.

–**help** print help message to console and exit.

Input control:

- I**, **--input** *< arg >* *required* an input molecular electrostatic potential file in ESP format. This parameter is also read as the first argument without a key, so the key can be omitted.
- A**, **--add** *< arg >* a molecule, which potential is to be added to the ESP file. Multiple keys are possible.
- R**, **--remove** *< arg >* a molecule, which potential is to be removed from the ESP file. Multiple keys are possible.
- c**, **--coordinates** *< arg >* a molecule, which atomic coordinates are to replace ones in the ESP file.

Output control:

- O**, **--output** *< arg >* an output ESP file. This parameter is also read as the second argument without a key, so the key can be omitted.
- f**, **--force-output** a switch to overwrite the output files if it is already present.



## 5 File Formats

### 5.1 General Notes

All the following file formats support C-style comments (*/\* comment \*/*) so any additional information can be stored next to the data in an arbitrary format. The comment parsers are not very smart so do not nest your comments. The spaces, newlines and tabulation characters are ignored, so a fancy text aligning can be achieved. We prefer to save SMARTS patterns in quotes. These quotes are required by the format, so we can check that a pattern was specified and we're not reading something different.

The files are separated in sections. Every section starts with a header ending with a colon sign and ends with the beginning of the next section.

### 5.2 Multipole Orient Rules

Multipole orient rules controls the orientation of a local coordinate frame for each atom. The rules start with a common "Orient-rules:" header and contain records of individual rules. The records are passed from top to bottom, with the latter overriding the former, so the ordering is important. The first one should be something general with very specific ones at the bottom of the list.

---

```
Orient-rules:
rule: z "*"
rule: a "[!#99]~[!#99]"
rule: b "[!#99]=[!#99]~[!#99]"
rule: c "[!#99](~[!#99])~[!#99]"
rule: d "[!#99]([!#99])([!#99])[!#99]"
rule: z "[!#99]([!#99])([!#99])([!#99])[!#99]"
rule: e "[#99]1[!#99]-,=,@[!#99]1"
```

---

Each rule starts with the "rule:" keyword, followed by a letter, followed by a SMARTS pattern. The quotes around the SMARTS pattern are mandatory. The order of atoms in SMARTS is important in most cases. The first atom is a center of the multipole expansion and the local frame origin, the meaning of the others are determined by the letter, which encodes the rule type. Note that we use "[#99]" internally as a dummy atom, because SMARTS like "[#0]" or "[#200]" do not work. That's why the orientation rule's SMARTS patterns look a little strange. Also note, that if your molecule contains Einsteinium (which is hardly the case), you should temporarily change it to something different.

- z** Only the first atom is important. This rule means that we do not care about the local frame orientation. For example it is hard to pick sensible orientation for tetracyclic carbons. Identity matrix is used as the coordinate transformation matrix.
- a** The first two atoms are important. This is the rule for linear nonconjugated fragments such as monovalent atoms or alkynes. The Z-axis is directed

from the second atom to the first. The X- and Y- axes are undefined and picked through a vector product of the local Z-axis and the global axes.

- b** The first three atoms are important. This is the rule for conjugated linear fragments, or the fragments, where we can suspect any type of interaction with the nearest neighbour, or for the atoms with double bonds. In this case the Z-axis is directed from the second atom to the first. The X-axis is perpendicular to the plane, defined by the first three atoms in SMARTS and the Y-axis is perpendicular to the local X- and Z- axes.
- c** The first three atoms are important. This rule is for bivalent linkers like ether group. The Z-axis directed along the bisector of 2-1-3 angle and poits from the sharp end of this angle "outside" of the molecule. The X-axis is perpendicular to the plane, defined by the first three atoms of the SMARTS and the Y-axis is perpendicular to the X- and Z- axes.
- d** The first four atoms are important. This rule is for trivalent atoms like amine nitrogen.
  - In the case of a pyramidal configuration of the first atom, the Z-axis points out of the top of the pyramid in the direction, formed as sum of normalized bond vectors, pointing to the top of the pyramid. The X-axis is defined as a vector product of the Z-axis and the 2→1 bond vector. The Y-axis is a vector product of the X- and Z- axes.
  - In the case of a planar configuration of the first atom, the X-axis is the 2→1 bond vector, the Z-axis is a vector product of the X-axis and the 3→1 bond vector, so it points out of the plane. The Y-axis is perpendicular to the both X- and Z- axes.
- e** The first three atoms are important. This is special rule for the dummies. The X-axis is defined as the vector from the second atom to the first one. The Z-axis is perpendicular to the plane defined by the first three atoms. The Y-axis is perpendicular to the both X- and Z- axes.

### 5.3 Multipole Placement Rules

The Multipole placement rules format is easy to read and modify. The rules start with a common "Placement-rules:" header. There are two types of records: "atom" and "group". The records are passed from the top to the bottom, with the latter overriding the former, so the ordering is important. The first one should be something general with very specific ones at the bottom of the list. See the example with an "any atom", followed by a "halogen", followed by the "halogen, connected to an aromatic moiety".

---

Placement-rules:

```
atom: "*"          m
atom: "[Cl,Br,I]"  mdq*
atom: "[Cl,Br,I]a"  mq*

group: "c1ccccc1"  mdq*
```

---

Each atom rule starts with a "atom:" keyword, followed by a SMARTS pattern in quotes, followed by multipole flags. The quotes around the SMARTS pattern are mandatory. The multipole flags can be any combination of "m", "d", "q" and "\*", meaning a monopole, a dipole, a quadrupole and a symmetry restriction of the quadrupole respectively. When a SMARTS match of an atom rule happens, Electrostatic Tools programs will add the specified multipoles to the first atom of the SMARTS pattern.

Group rules start with "group:" keyword, followed by a SMARTS pattern in quotes, followed by the multipole flags. The formatting and properties are analogous to atom rules. When a group SMARTS match happens, a program will add a dummy atom center to the geometrical center of all SMARTS atoms and place the specified multipoles on this dummy center. The dummy center becomes connected with the first two atoms in the group's SMARTS.

## 5.4 Multipole Molecule

The "mmol" format was designed to store molecules with associated multipoles. It consists of the two sections: the molecule with atoms and bonds, and the multipole orient rules part. The latter is described in the corresponding section above. The molecule section contains "Atom" and "Bond" records.

---

```

Molecule:
Atom: 6 ( 1.1057, 0.0178, -0.0171 )
Multipoles: ( 1.1057, 0.0178, -0.0171 )
    Monopole: -0.136

Atom: 8 ( 2.5213, 0.0064, -0.0264 )
Multipoles: ( 2.5213, 0.0064, -0.0264 )
    Monopole: -0.26592
    Dipole: ( 0, 0, -0.4019 )
    Quadrupole: ( -0.82922, 0, 0, 0, 1.0774, 0, 0, 0, -0.24822 )

Atom: 1 ( 0.7455, 0.9809, -0.3871 )
Multipoles: ( 0.7455, 0.9809, -0.3871 )
    Monopole: 0.062576

Atom: 1 ( 0.7455, -0.1514, 1.0007 )
Multipoles: ( 0.7455, -0.1514, 1.0007 )
    Monopole: 0.062576

Atom: 1 ( 0.7398, -0.7799, -0.6679 )
Multipoles: ( 0.7398, -0.7799, -0.6679 )
    Monopole: 0.062576

Atom: 1 ( 2.8166, 0.7242, 0.5592 )
Multipoles: ( 2.8166, 0.7242, 0.5592 )
    Monopole: 0.2142

Bond: 5 - 1 : 1

```

```

Bond: 3 - 1 : 1
Bond: 2 - 1 : 1
Bond: 2 - 6 : 1
Bond: 1 - 4 : 1

Orient-rules:
rule:  z      "*"
rule:  a      "[!#99]~[!#99]"
rule:  c      "[!#99](~[!#99])~[!#99]"

```

---

The atom record starts with the "Atom:" keyword followed by a nuclear charge (a. u.) and nuclear coordinates in brackets, separated by a comma (in Angstroms). Optionally it can contain a "Multipoles" field.

The "Multipoles" record starts with the "Multipoles:" keyword followed by the coordinates of the expansion center in brackets, separated by a comma (in Angstroms). Next, it contains three optional fields: a "Monopole:", a "Dipole:" and a "Quadrupole:" records, followed by the corresponding multipole moment value (in a. u.). Tensor values are written in brackets with components separated by a comma. A single "Multipoles" record has a single internal coordinate system. The multipoles are written in terms of the principal axes of the quadrupole. The orientation of the local coordinate frame is governed by the orient rules, recorded in its own section of file. We use the following formulae to calculate the electrostatic potential from the multipoles:

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{q}{|\vec{r}|} + \frac{\vec{r} \cdot \vec{d}}{|\vec{r}|^3} + \frac{\vec{r} \cdot \mathbf{Q} \cdot \vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|^5}$$

, where  $\vec{r}$  corresponds to radius-vector from the center of the multipole expansion to a potential estimation point,  $q$ ,  $\vec{d}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$  correspond to the charge, the dipole moment vector and the quadrupole moment matrix, transformed to the global coordinate frame.

The bond record starts with the "Bond:" keyword, followed by the first atom index, followed by a "minus" sign, followed by the second atom index, followed by a colon sign, followed by a bond order value: ("1", "2", "3" or "a" for single, double, triple aromatic bonds respectively).