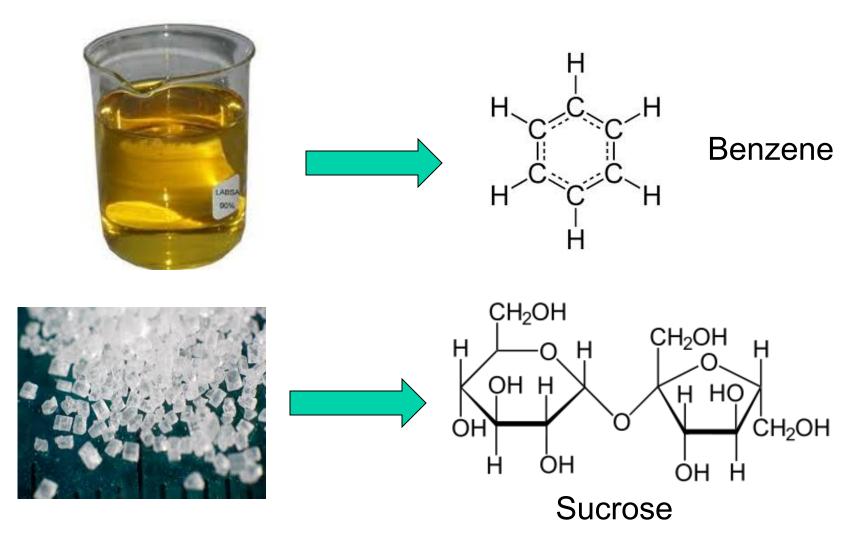
Computing and Chemistry

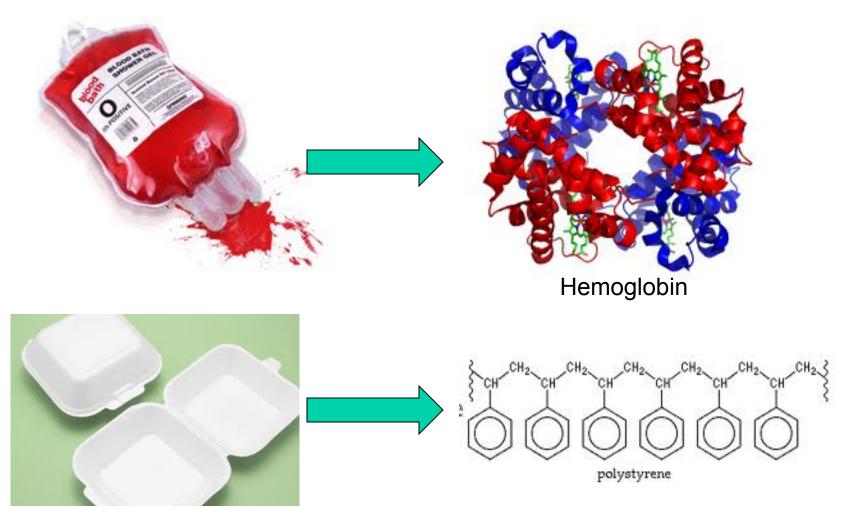
david.wishart@ualberta.ca 3-41 Athabasca Hall Sept. 16, 2013



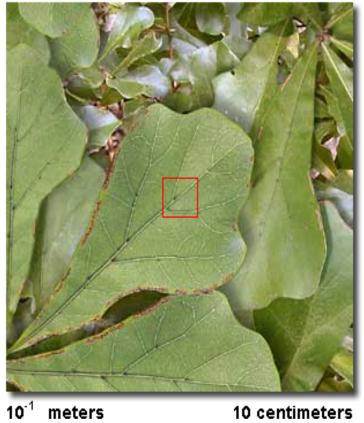
How Do We Know?



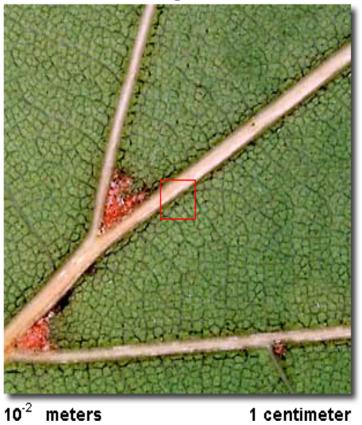
How Do We Know?



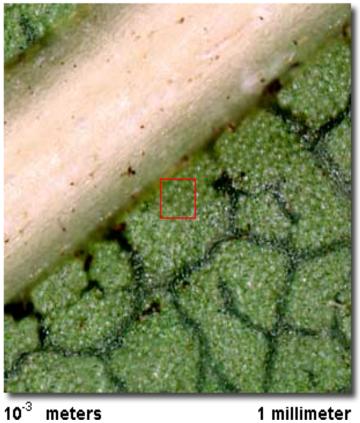
Oak tree leaves at actual size.



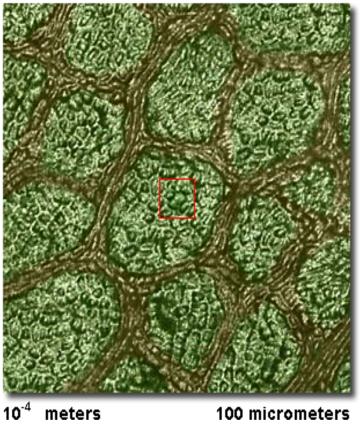
Surface of an Oak leaf magnified 10 times.



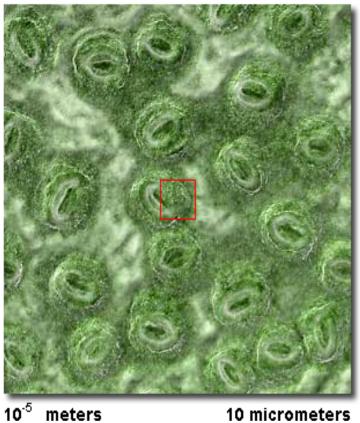
Surface of an Oak leaf magnified 100 times.



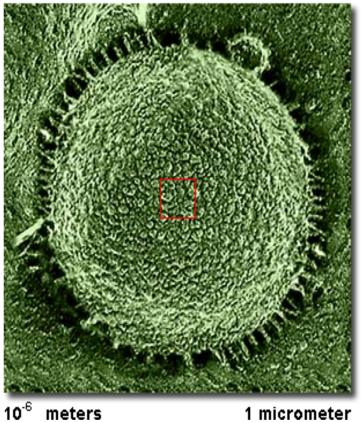
Cells on the leaf surface.



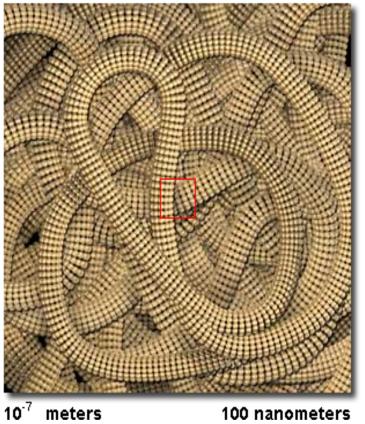
Individual leaf cells.



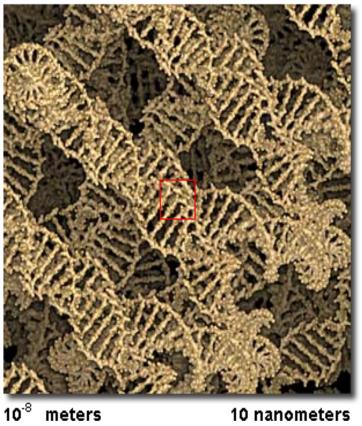
The nucleus of a leaf cell.



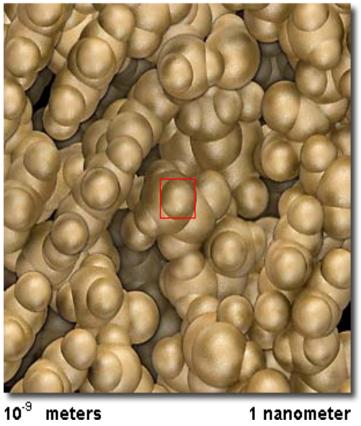
Chromatin in the leaf cell nucleus.



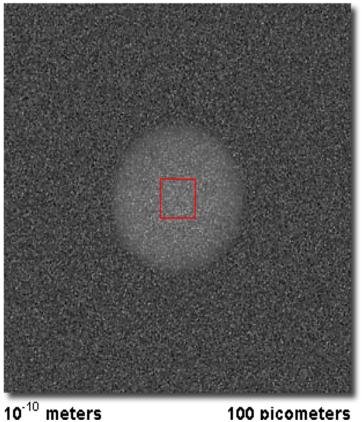
Individual DNA strands.



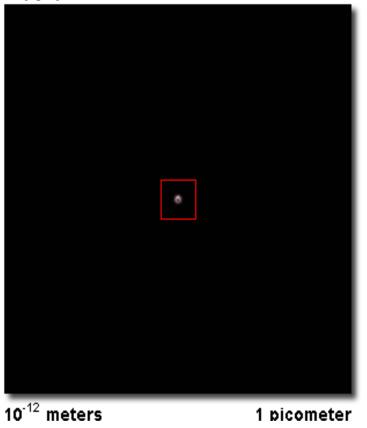
DNA nucleotide building blocks.



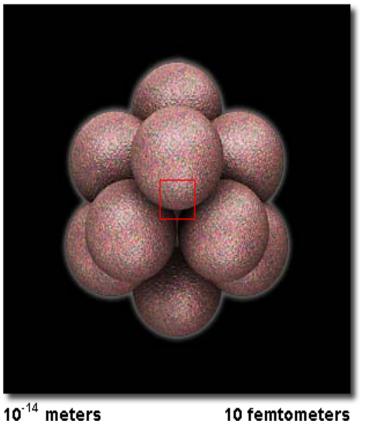
Outer electron cloud of a carbon atom.



Empty space between inner shell and nucleus.



Nucleus of the carbon atom.



Our Seeing Limits (and Limitations)

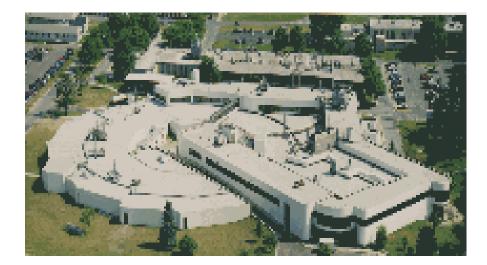


Our Seeing Limits (and Limitations)

\$5,000,000

\$500,000,000





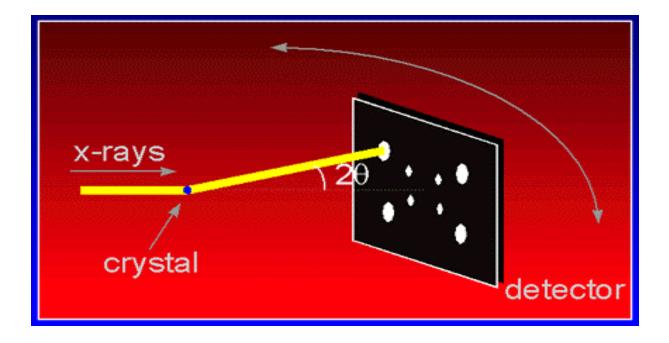
1x10⁻¹⁰ m Extracted, crystallized

1x10⁻¹² m Atomized, vaporized

Seeing Molecules

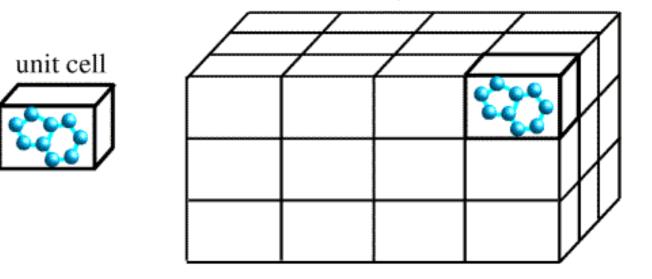
- Can't use visible light
- Can't use electrons (EM)
- Have to use X-ray scattering
- Have to use Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy
- Have to use mass spectrometry
- All require computers & computing

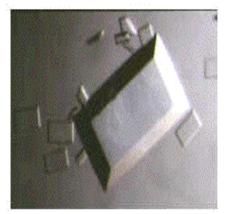
X-ray Crystallography



Crystallization

crystal



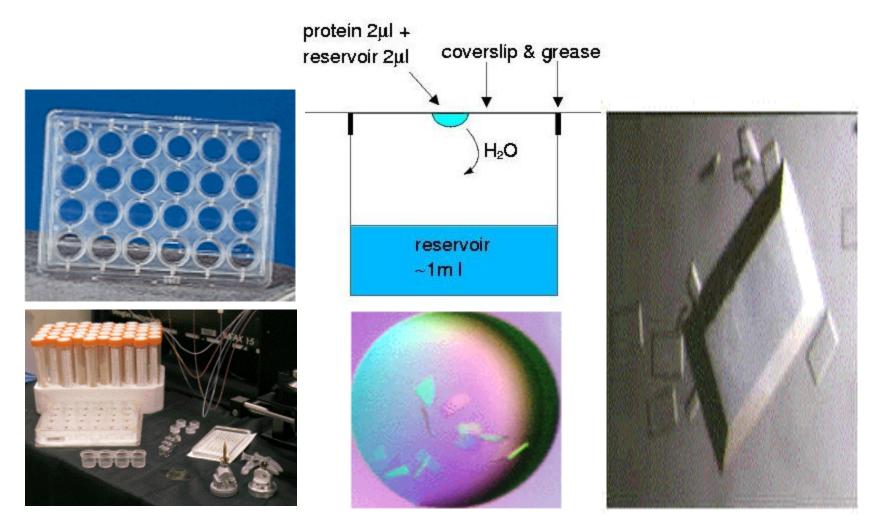


A Crystal

molecule

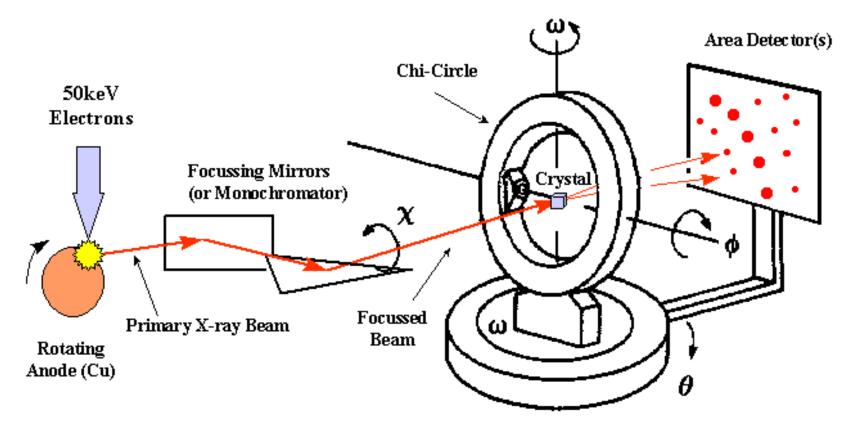


Crystallization



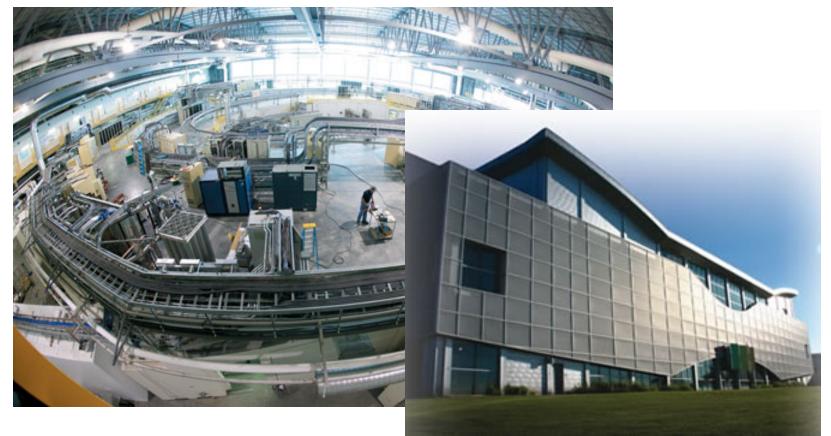
Hanging Drop Experiment for Cyrstallization

Diffraction Apparatus



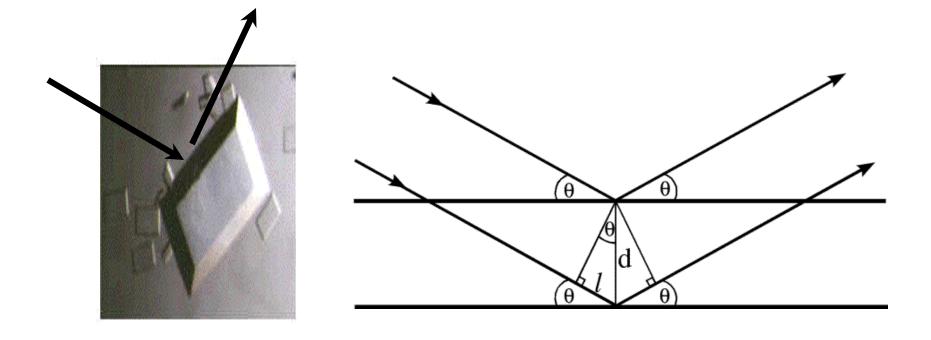
4-Circle Gonoimeter (Eulerian or Kappa Geometry)

A Bigger Diffraction Apparatus



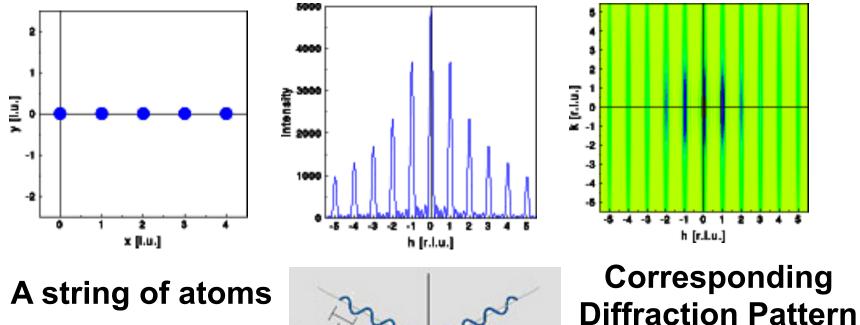
Synchrotron Light Source

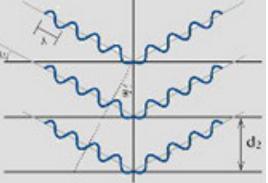
Diffraction Principles***



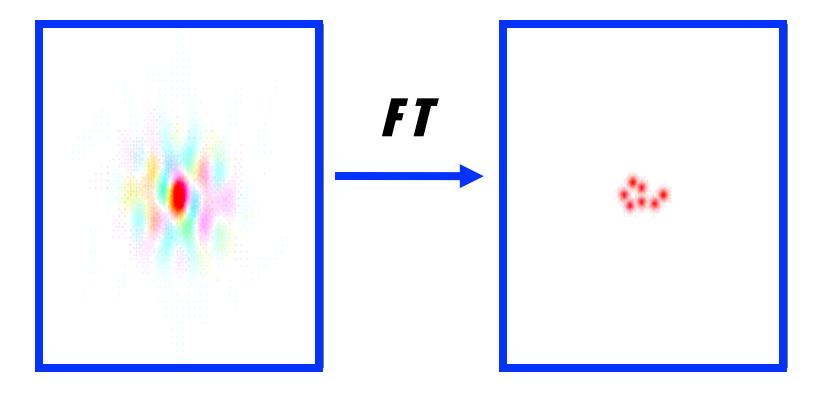
$n\lambda = 2dsin\theta$

Diffraction Principles

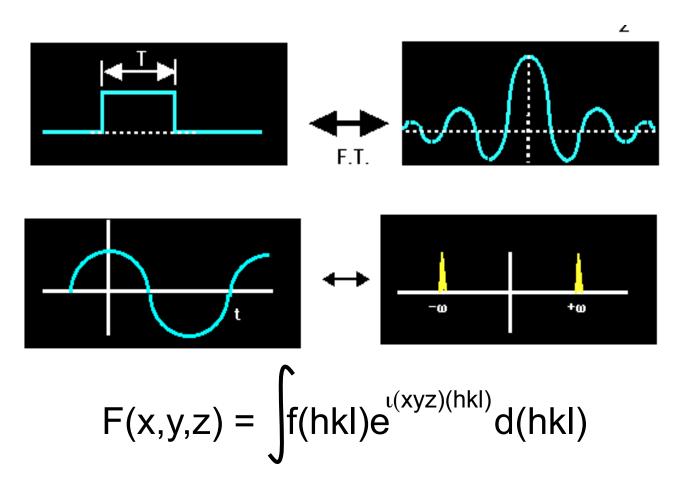




Converting Diffraction Data to Electron Density

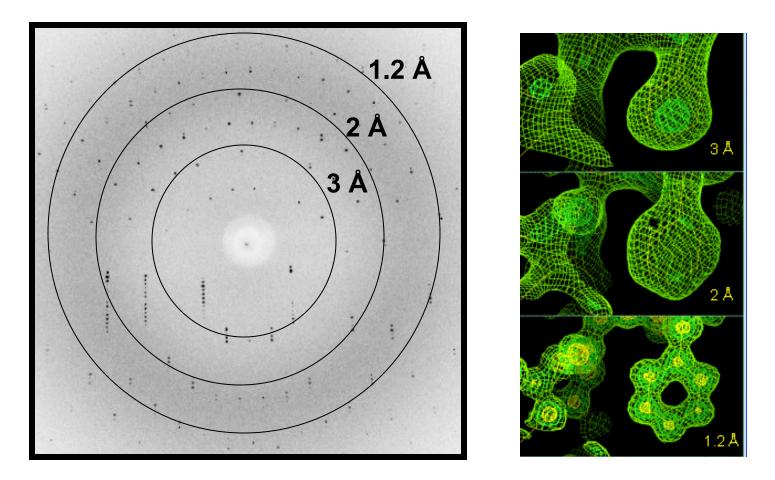


Fourier Transformation



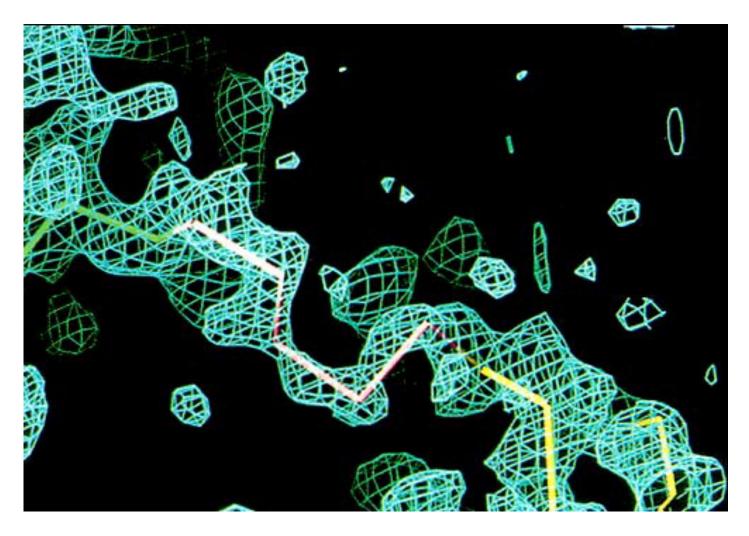
Converts from units of inverse space to cartesian coordinates

Resolution



Resolution describes the ability of an imaging system to resolve detail in the object that is being imaged.

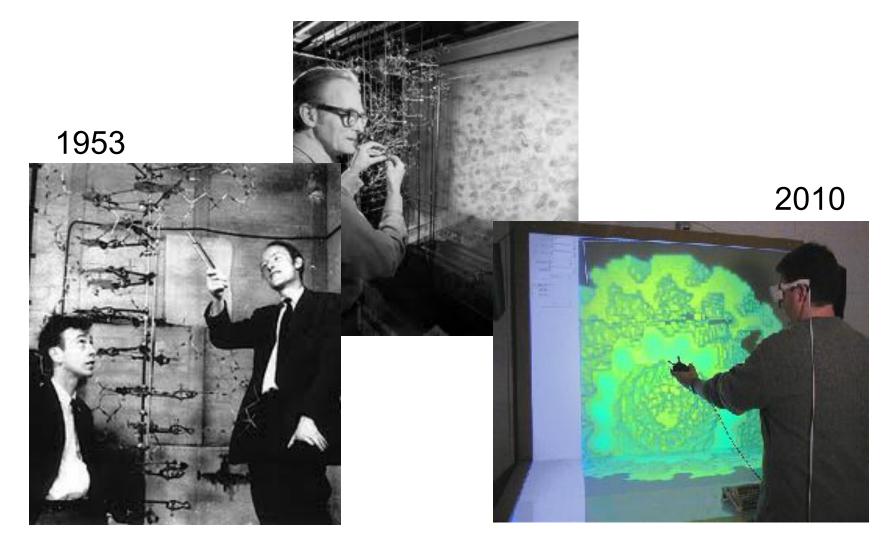
Electron Density Tracing



Crystallography (Then & Now)



Crystallography (Then & Now)



X-ray Crystallography

- Key is to measure both phase and amplitude of X-rays (unfortunately we can't measure phase)
- Trick is to guess phase, use a crutch (anomalous dispersion) or calculate the phase using pattern recognition (direct method)
- Direct method (purely computational) works for small molecules (<1000 atoms) but not for large
- Anyone who solves the "direct phasing problem" for all molecule sizes wins the Nobel Prize

Computational Challenges in X-ray Crystallography

- Solving the direct phase problem
 Algorithmics, Parallelism
- Developing robotic crystallography stations (doing what humans do)

– Robotics

- Predicting and planning optimal crystallization conditions
 - Machine learning, Neural Nets
- Automated electron density tracing
 - AI, Machine learning

2 Main Methods to Solve Structures in Chemistry

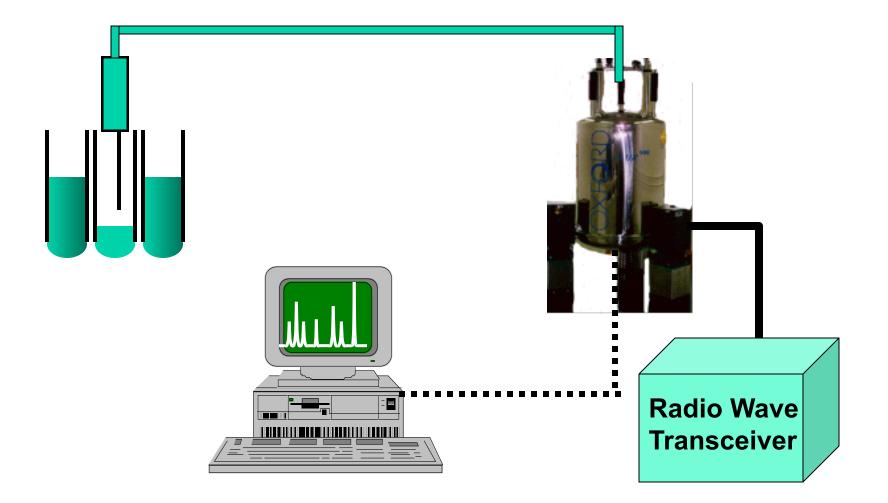




X-ray

NMR

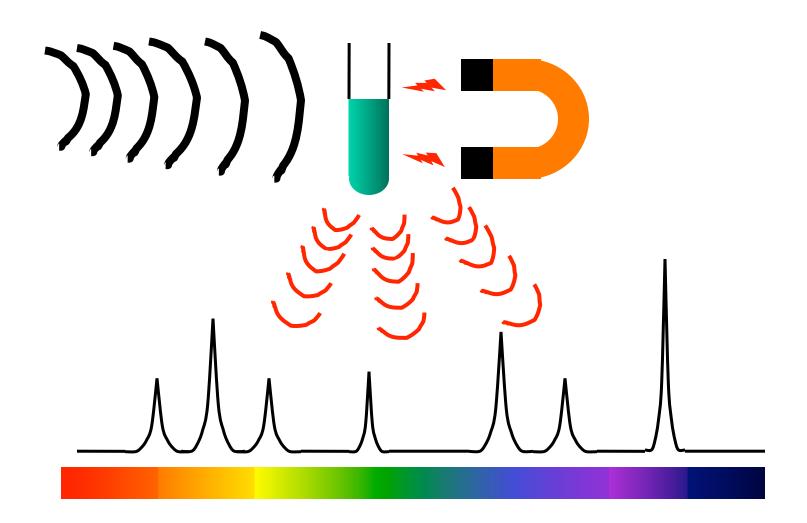
NMR Spectroscopy



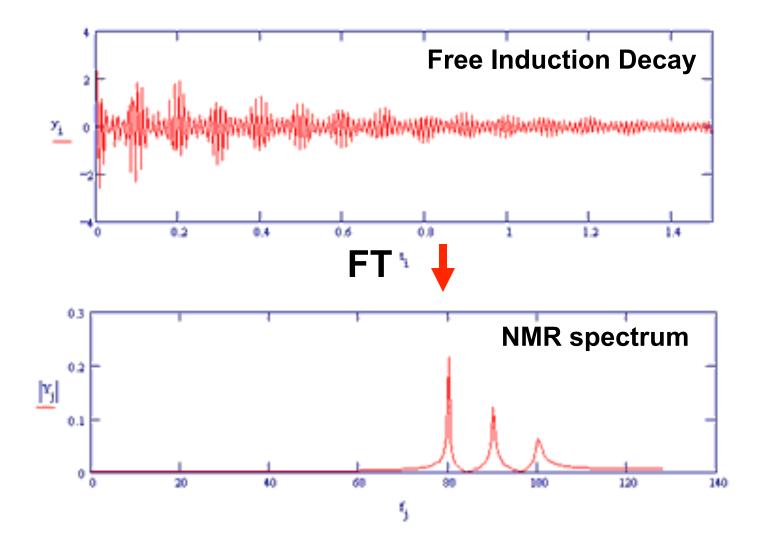
Principles of NMR

- Measures nuclear magnetism or changes in nuclear magnetism in a molecule
- NMR spectroscopy measures the absorption of light (radio waves) due to changes in nuclear spin orientation
- NMR only occurs when a sample is in a strong magnetic field
- Different nuclei absorb at different energies (frequencies)

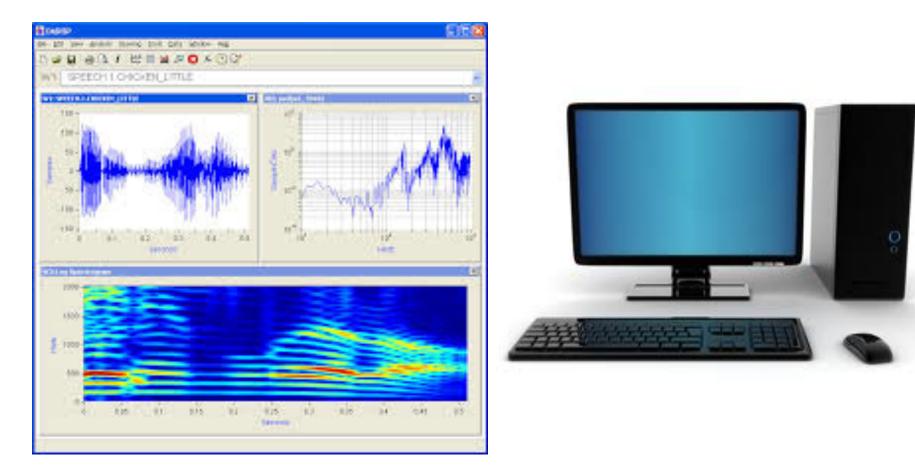
Principles of NMR



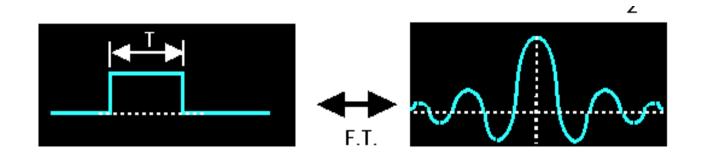
FT NMR

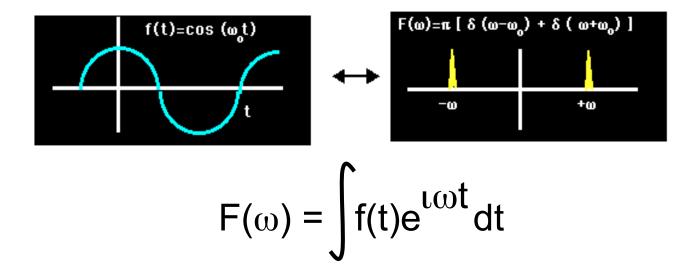


Signal Processing



Fourier Transformation

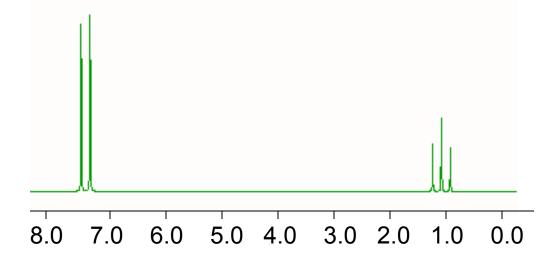




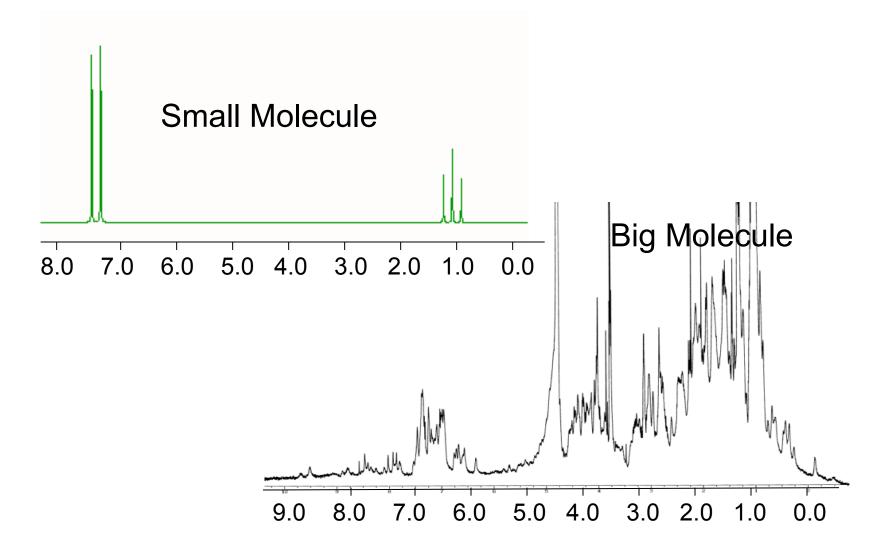
Converts from units of time to units of frequency

¹H NMR Spectra Exhibit...

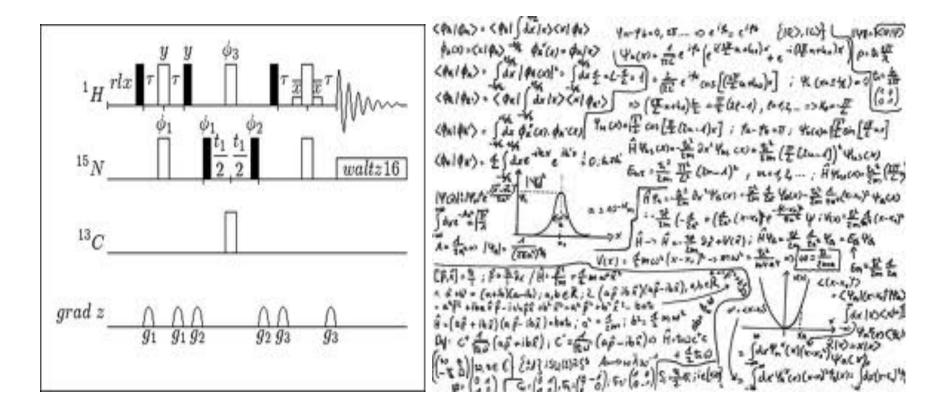
- Chemical Shifts (peaks at different frequencies or ppm values)
- Splitting Patterns (from spin coupling)
- Different Peak Intensities (# ¹H)



NMR Spectra



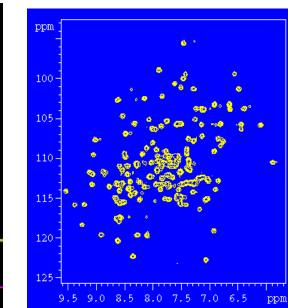
Simplifying Complex Spectra



Multidimensional NMR

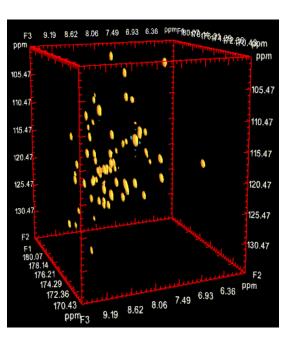
2D

1D

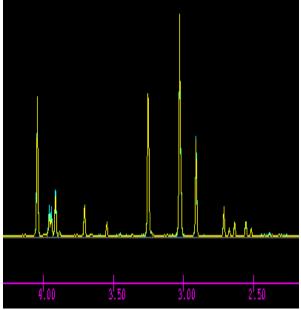


MW ~ 10,000

MW ~ 30,000



3D



MW ~ 500

The NMR Challenge

- Peak positions tell you atom types
- Peak clusters tells about atom type proximity or neighborhood
- Peak intensities tell you how many atoms
- How to interpret peak intensities, peak clusters and peak positions to generate a self-consistent structure?

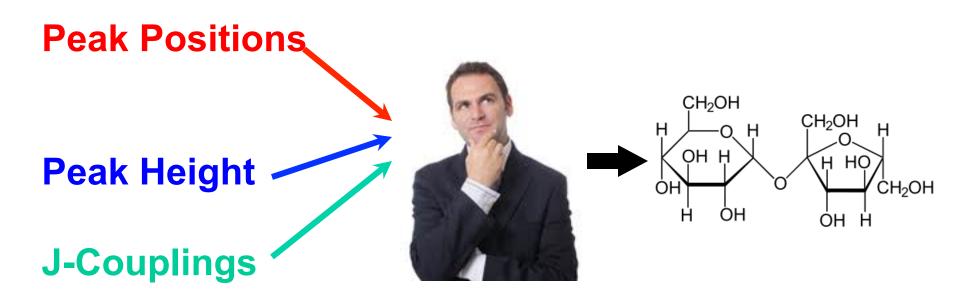
Solving a Crossword Puzzle



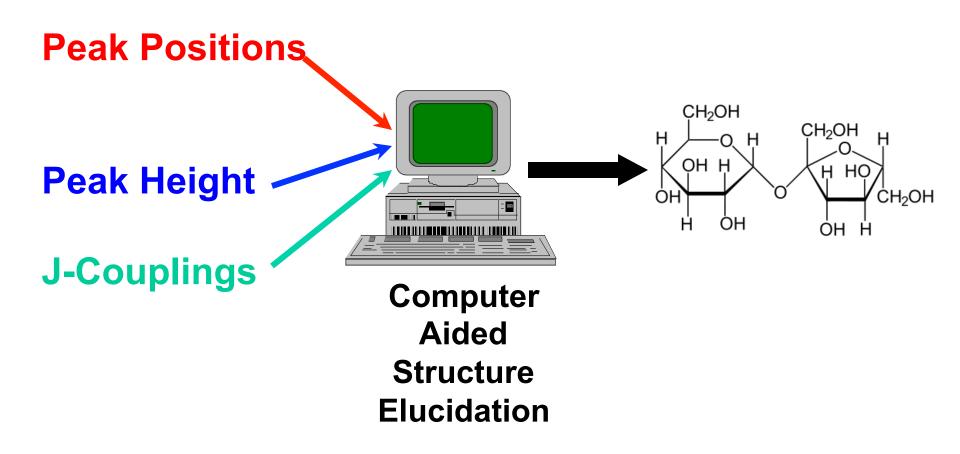


- Dictionary of words and definitions (or your brain)
- Match word length
- Match overlapping or crossing words
- All words have to be consistent with geometry of puzzle

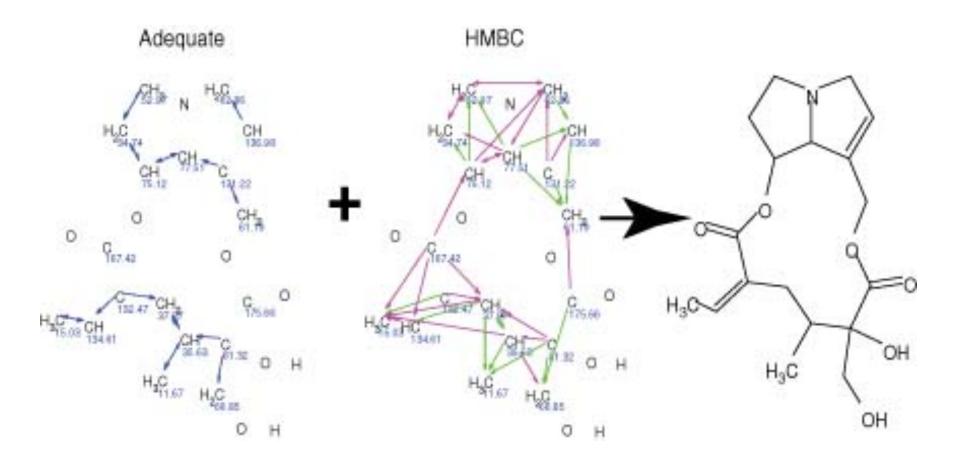
NMR Spectroscopy (The Old Way)



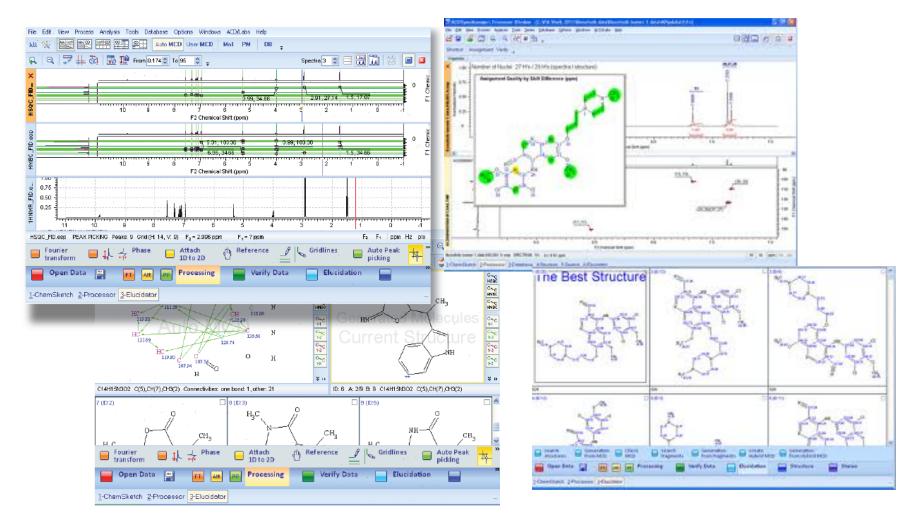
NMR Spectroscopy (The New Way)



Computer-Aided Structure Elucidation

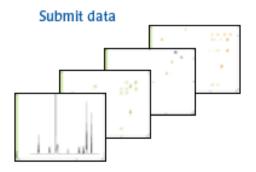


Structure Elucidator



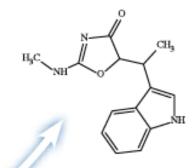
Structure Elucidator

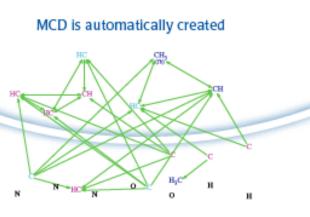




ACD/Structure Elucidator uses molecular formula, 1D, and 2D NMR data to generate a Molecular Connectivity Diagram (MCD). The information in this diagram is used to generate potential structures.







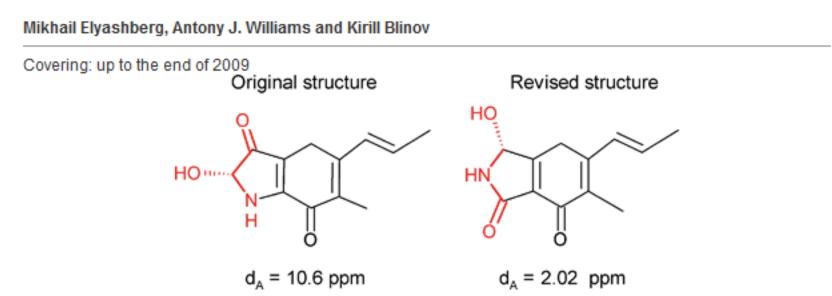
The MCD is also an interactive tool that a user can easily modify to add or remove information for consideration.

Beating Human Experts

Review

Article citation: Mikhail Elyashberg, Nat. Prod. Rep., 2010, DOI: 10.1039/c002332a

Structural revisions of natural products by Computer-Assisted Structure Elucidation (CASE) systems



Key Computational Challenges in NMR

- Solving structures for large molecules (i.e. proteins or RNA) using automated CASE methods
 - Monte Carlo Sampling, Neural Nets
- Extracting information about molecular motions from raw NMR data
 - Pattern recognition, Machine Learning

Jobs in Computational Chemistry

- Pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies
- Chemical products companies
- Universities and national labs
- Chemistry software development companies
- Cheminformatics a rapidly growing field (not as large as bioinformatics)

Questions?

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