

IR Spectromicroscopy in Biology and Biochemistry: Methodology and Data Processing

*Luca Quaroni
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Outline

- **Infrared Spectromicroscopy in Biochemistry and Biology**
- **Sampling and Optical Configurations**
- **Data Processing for Imaging and Microspectroscopy**



Scientific Issues in Biochemistry and Biology

Structure-Function Relationships:

Distribution of Atomic and Molecular Components (scale of nm, μm , mm, ...)

Molecular Structure

How does all this relate to the macroscopic functional properties of a system?



Role of FTIR Spectro(micro)scopy

Broad Specificity:

Everything gives a Signal

Little or No Need for
Pretreatment of Sample

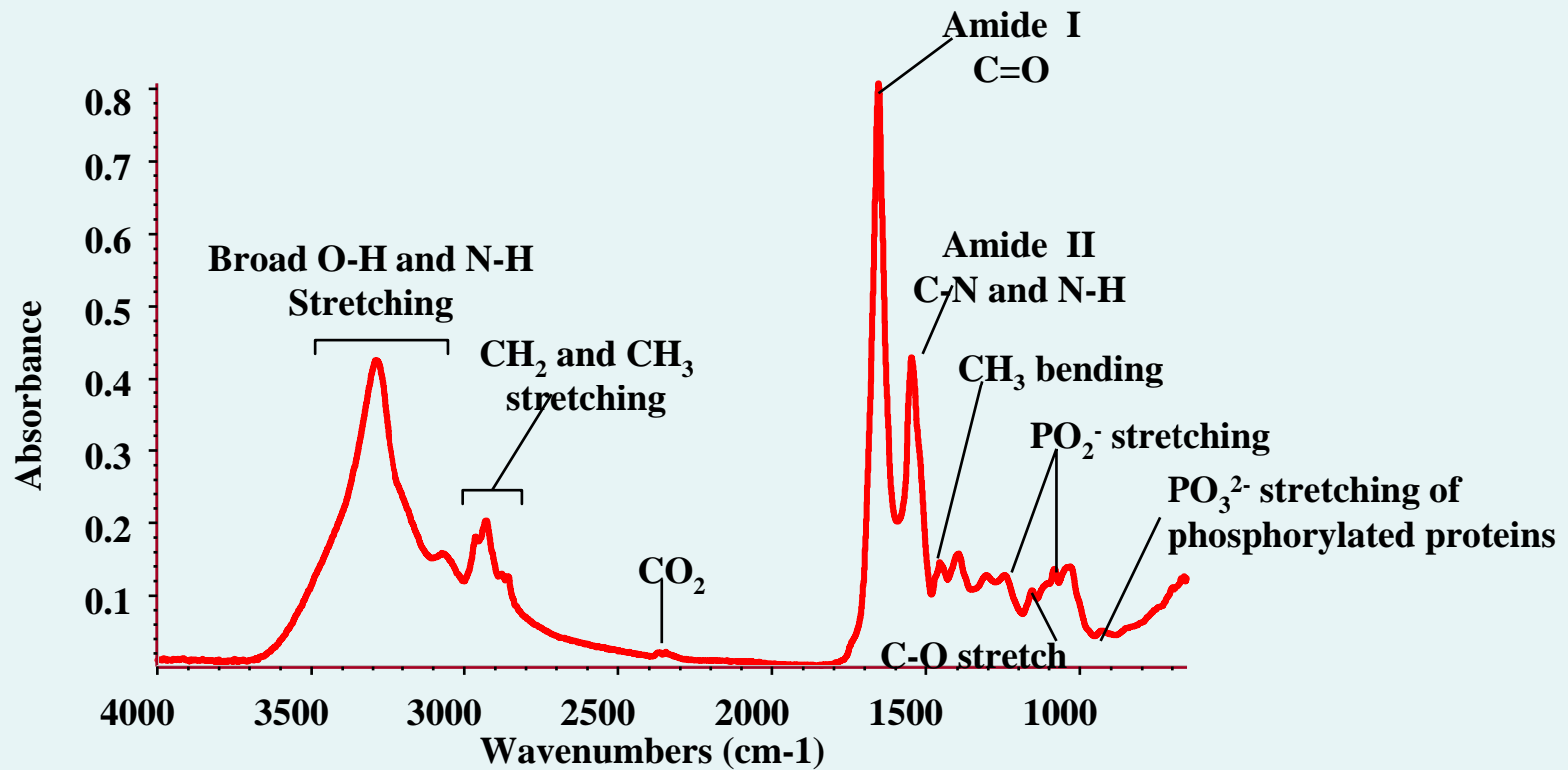
Some Structural Information:

Can Quantify the Presence
of Specific Structural
Units

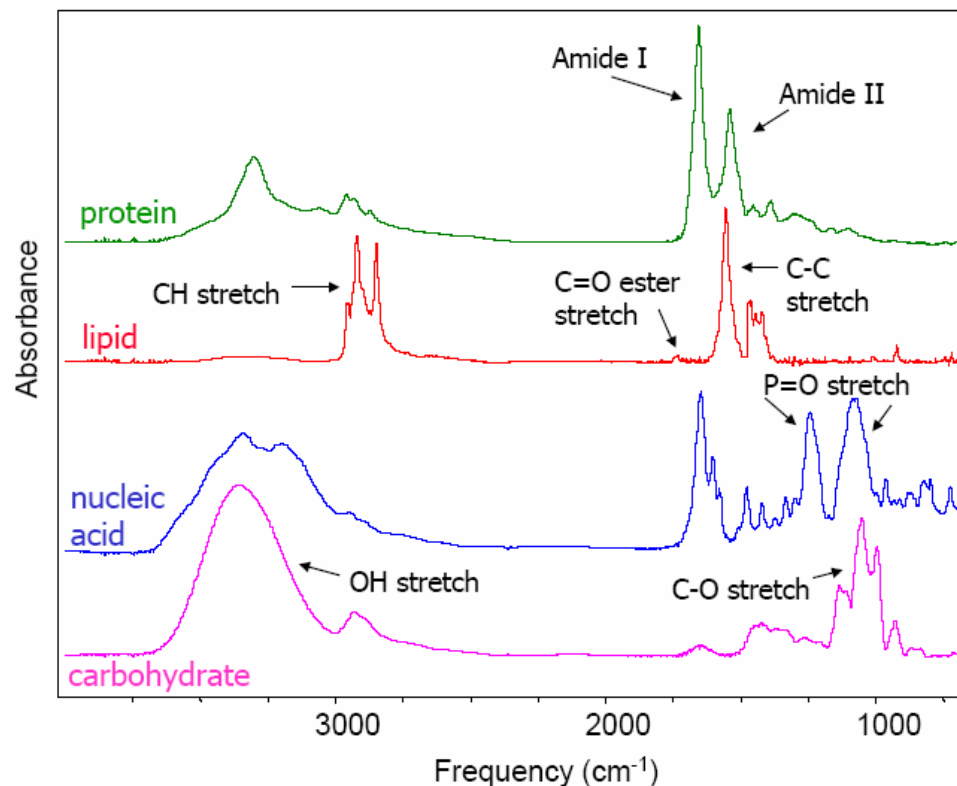
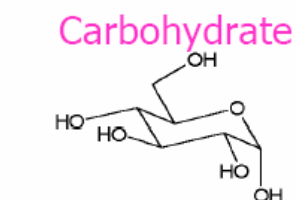
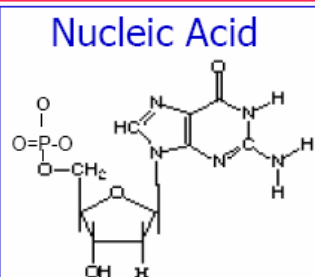
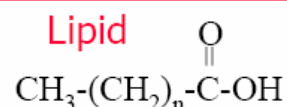
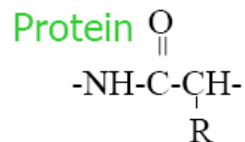
(Functional Groups, Conformers,
Orientation of Chromophore in
Anisotropic Samples, ...)



IR Spectrum of Biological Materials: Complex!



Biologically Significant Chromophores



But Also:

Amino Acid Side Chains

Small Organic Molecules

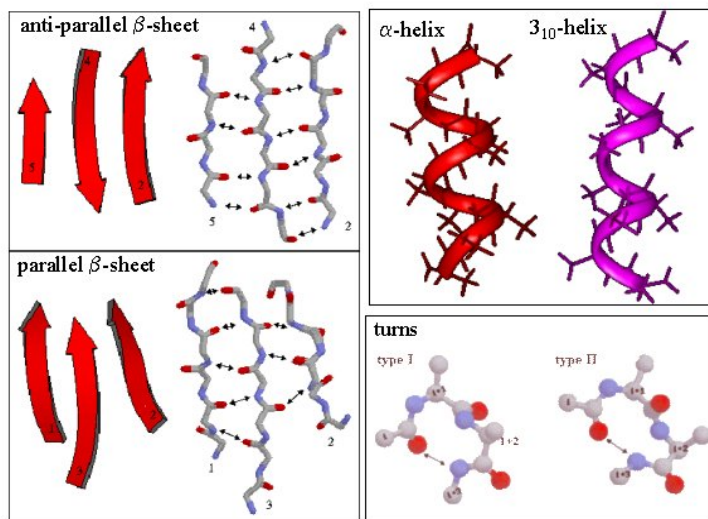
Organic and Inorganic Ions

Example: Protein Secondary Structure

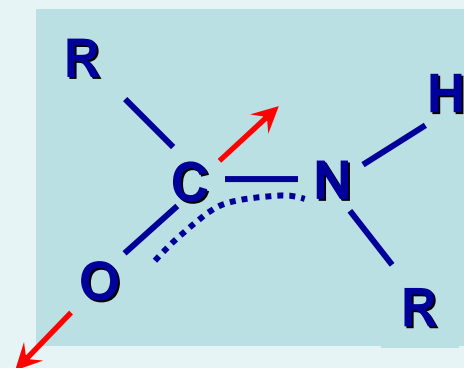
Protein Structure Determination with FTIR

Amide I Secondary Structure Assignments:

1620 - 1640	β -sheet
1644	random coil (D_2O)
1648 - 1657	α -helix
1665	3_{10} helix
1670 - 1695	anti-parallel β -sheet, β -turn



Lineshape of Amide I allows determining the relative secondary structure composition

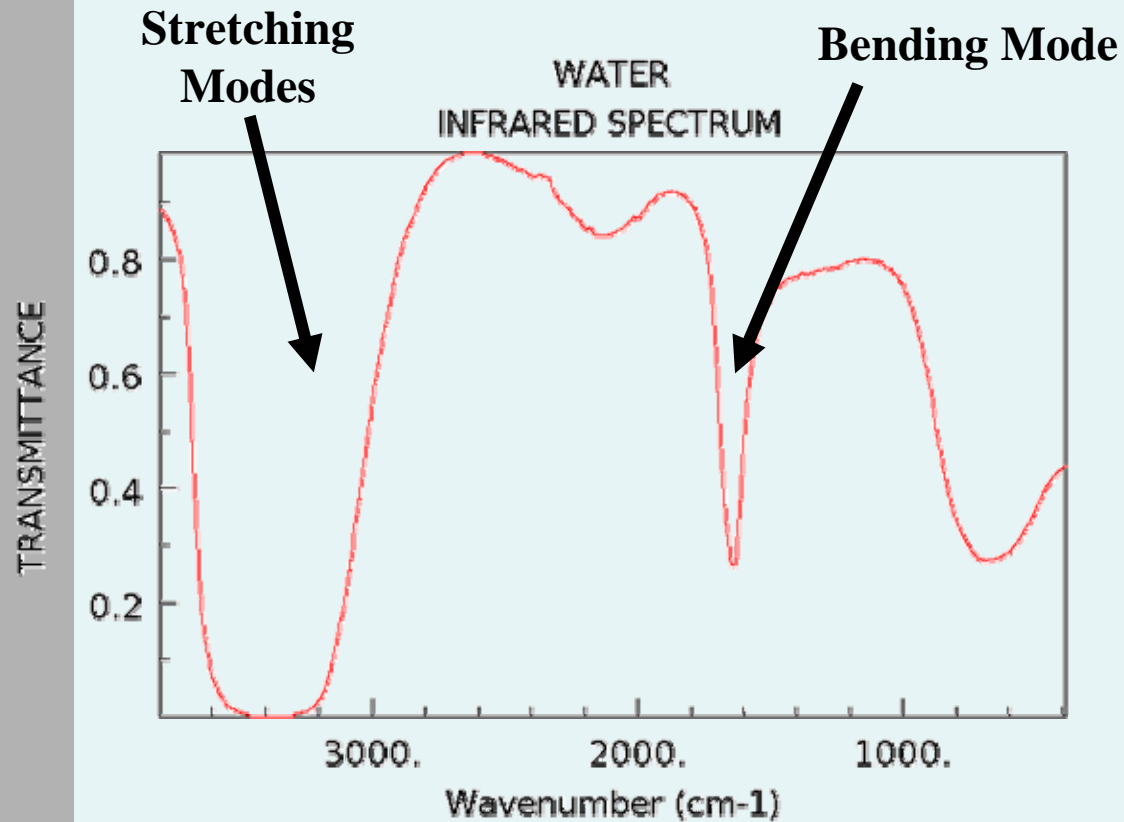


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- Data Processing for Imaging and Microspectroscopy



Working with Water

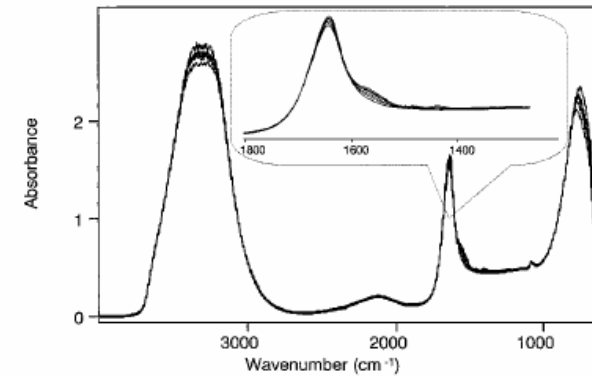


NIST Chemistry WebBook (<http://webbook.nist.gov/chemistry>)

**15 μm give ~10 %
Transmittance**

At 1650 cm^{-1}

**Most Problematic
Issue in IR
Spectromicroscopy
of Biological Samples**



PROTEIN IN WATER



Solving the Water Problem

THREE OPTIONS

**Option I:
Remove Water**

- Use D₂O
- Dry Sample

Problem:

**Sample Survival
or Significance**

**Option III:
Measure Spectrum
of Interface**

Problem:

**Complex
Configuration**

**Option II: Reduce
Sample Thickness**

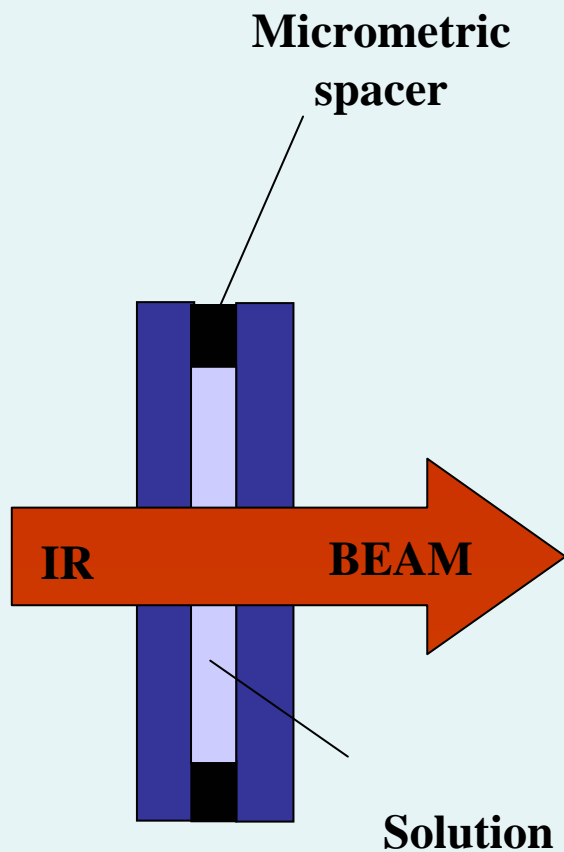
Problems:

**Difficult
Sample
Handling**

**Need
Concentrated
Sample**



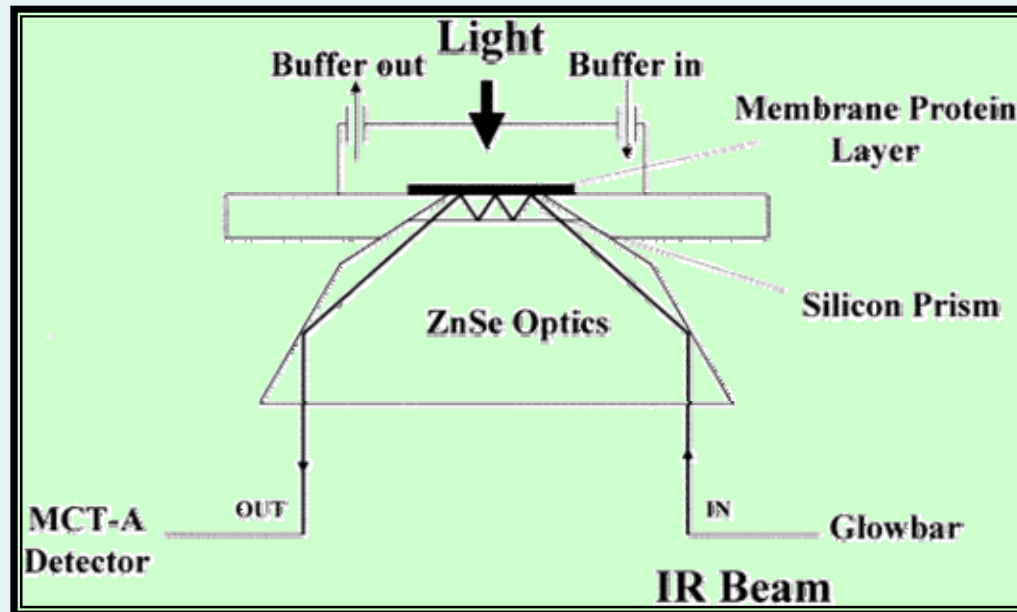
Transmission Measurements



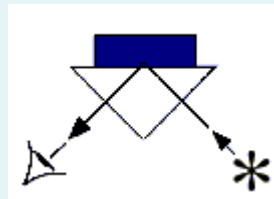
**Use THIN Layers of Solution:
Need $< 15 \mu\text{m}$**



ATR: Attenuated Total Reflectance



**Evanescent
Field Sensitive
to Interface:
Phospholipid
Bilayers;
Cellular
Membranes**



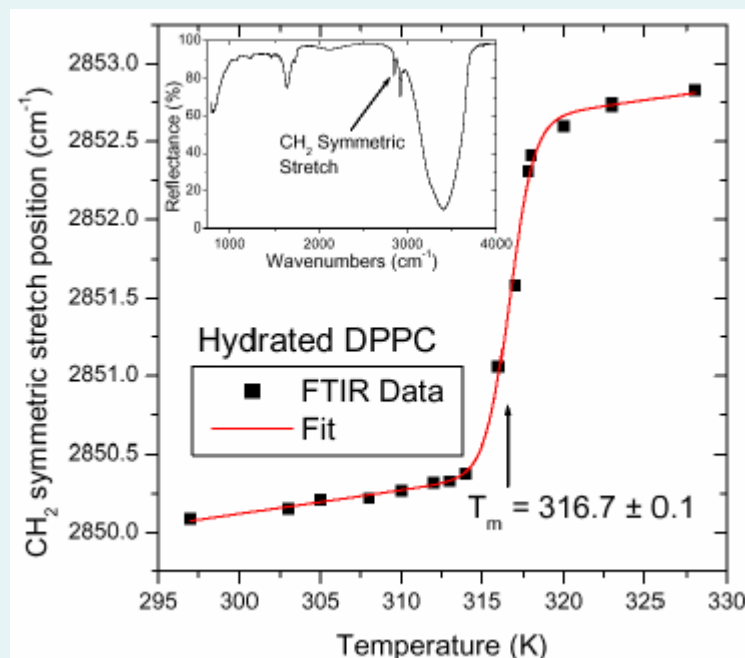
**Also as Microscope
Objectives!!!**



20 μm resolution



Sample Stability and Heating

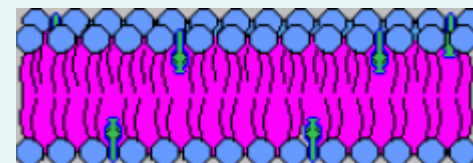


Synchrotron source: Measured **1 mW**
which is focused onto **~10 μm²**

DPPC =
dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine, a
phospholipid bilayer
undergoes a gel to liquid-crystalline
phase transition at T= 316 K

M. Martin et al. ALS

Also: No Evidence for Cytotoxic Effects on
Living Cells



Optical Materials

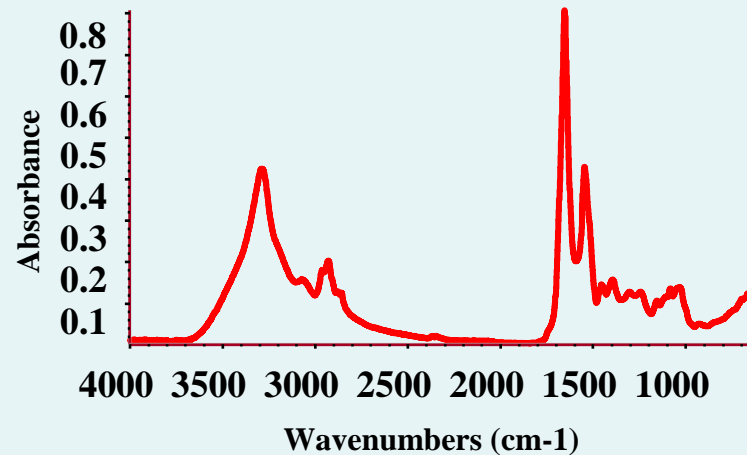
MATERIAL		REFRACTIVE INDEX	FREQUENCY RANGE	SOLUBILITY (g/100g water)
<i>Calcium Fluoride</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>1.39</i>	<i>66,666-1110 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>0.00151 (20°C)</i>
<i>Zinc Sulfide</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>10,000-715 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>
<i>Zinc Selenide</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>10,000-500 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>
<i>Cadmium Telluride</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>2.67</i>	<i>5,000-320 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>
<i>Silver Chloride</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>1.98</i>	<i>25,000-435 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>0.00015 (20°C)</i>
<i>Silver Bromide</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>20,000-285 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>0.000012 (20°C)</i>
<i>IR Quartz</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>1.42</i>	<i>50,000-2500 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>
<i>Amtir</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>11,000-725 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>
<i>Sapphire</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>1.75</i>	<i>50,000-1780 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>
<i>Silicon</i>		<i>3.4</i>	<i>10,000-1540 cm⁻¹, 500-30 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>
<i>Germanium</i>		<i>4.0</i>	<i>5,000-600 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>
<i>Diamond</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>45,450-2325 cm⁻¹, 1665-285 cm⁻¹</i>	<i>Insoluble</i>

Au or Al Mirrors

MirrIR Slides



Complexity of Spectra: Experiment Design



Everything gives this spectrum!!

Difficult to Quantify and Difficult to Interpret

*Possible Solution: Work with
Difference Spectra*

Complexity of Spectra: Band Assignment

Traditional Approach in Vibrational Spectroscopy
of Small Molecules:

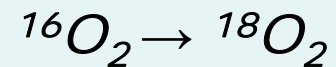
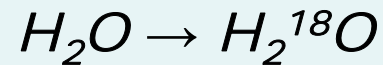
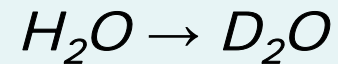
- 1) Calculate Band Positions Based on a Structural Model
- 2) Calculate Isotope Shifts for Some Bands
- 3) Perform Isotopic Substitution and Measure Spectrum

$$\tilde{\omega} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(k \frac{m_1 + m_2}{m_1 m_2} \right)^{1/2}$$

Pair of Vibrating Atoms

Isotopic Substitution in a Biological System?

Substitute a Bulk Component:



Grow an Organism in Enriched Medium:



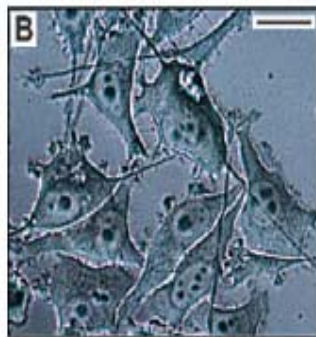
Engineer an Organism:

*Delete a gene for biosynthesis and
supply the synthetic component*

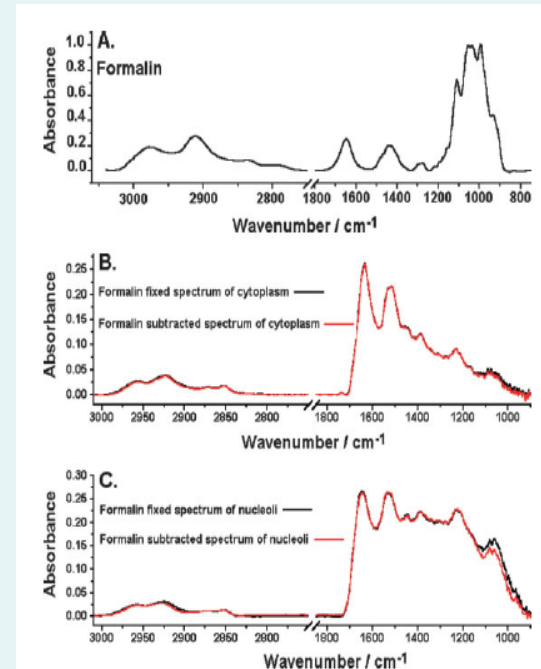


Fixation Protocols for Cells and Tissues

*Need to Preserve
Distribution of
Components and
Spectral Purity*



Formalin Fixed Cells



*E. Gazi, J. Dwyer, N. P. Lockyer, J. Miyan,
P. Gardner, C. Hart, M. Brown, N. W.
Clarke; Biopolymers, Vol. 77, 18-30 (2005)*

Cell Adhesion on Support

Grow Cells on Support

(CaF₂, ZnSe, MirrIR)

And Wash

Coat Support with Adhesive Layer:

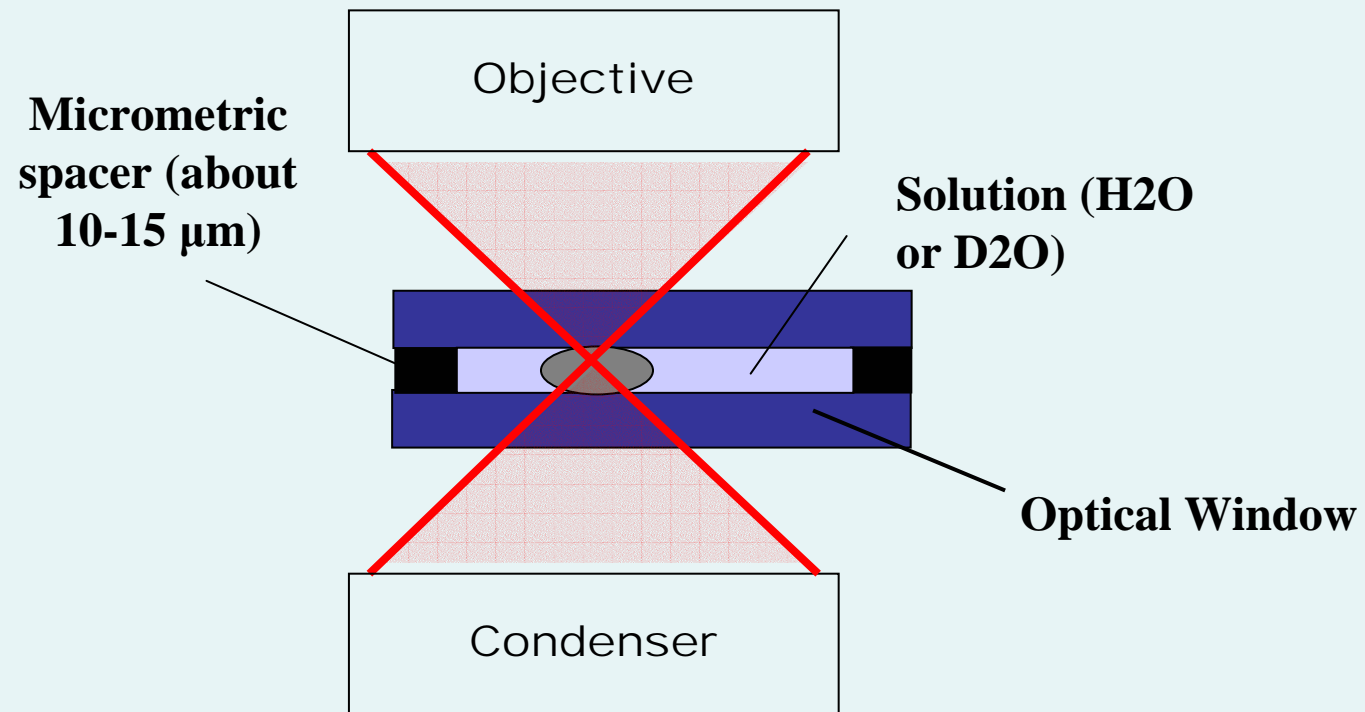
Charged polymers

Linkers (chemical conjugation)

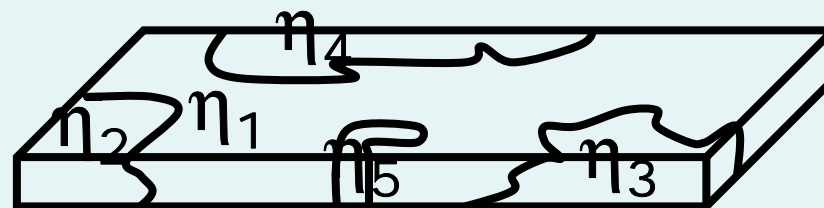
*Beware of IR absorption of
adhesive!*



Cells in Water (Deuterated Water)

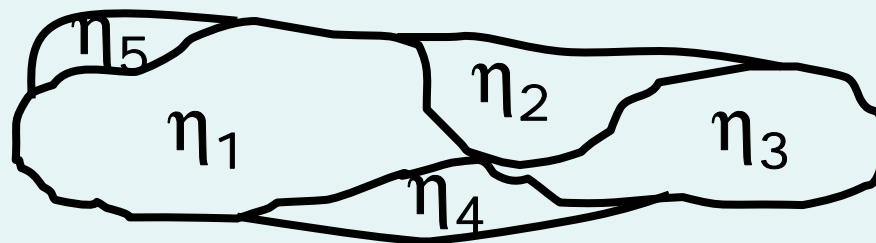


Ideal Sample



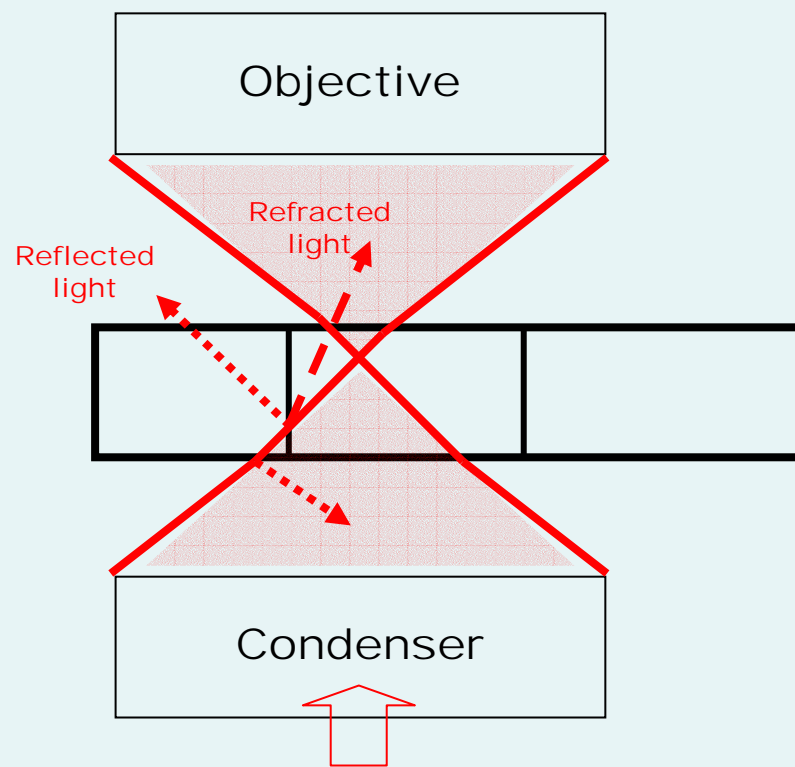
*Refractive Indexes η_i are Similar
in the Real Part*

Real Sample

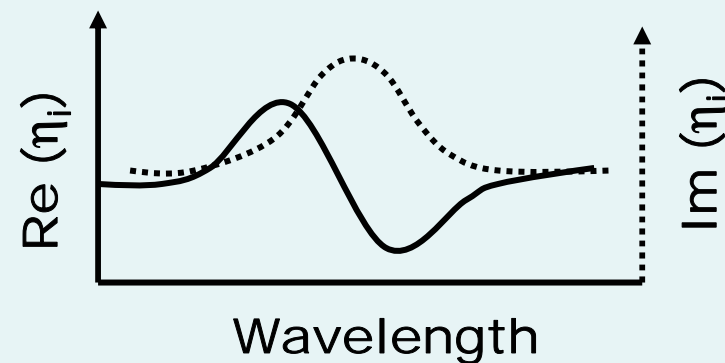
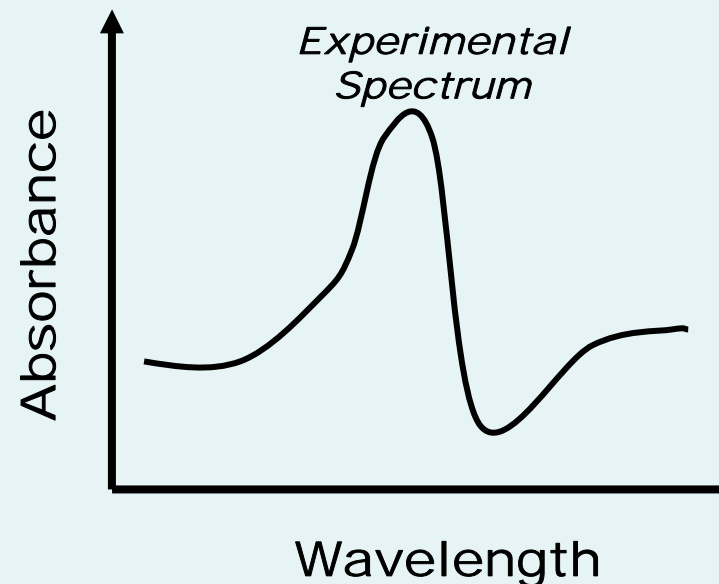


*Refractive Indexes η_i are Different
(from 1 to 1.7 mostly)*

Refraction and Reflection Effects

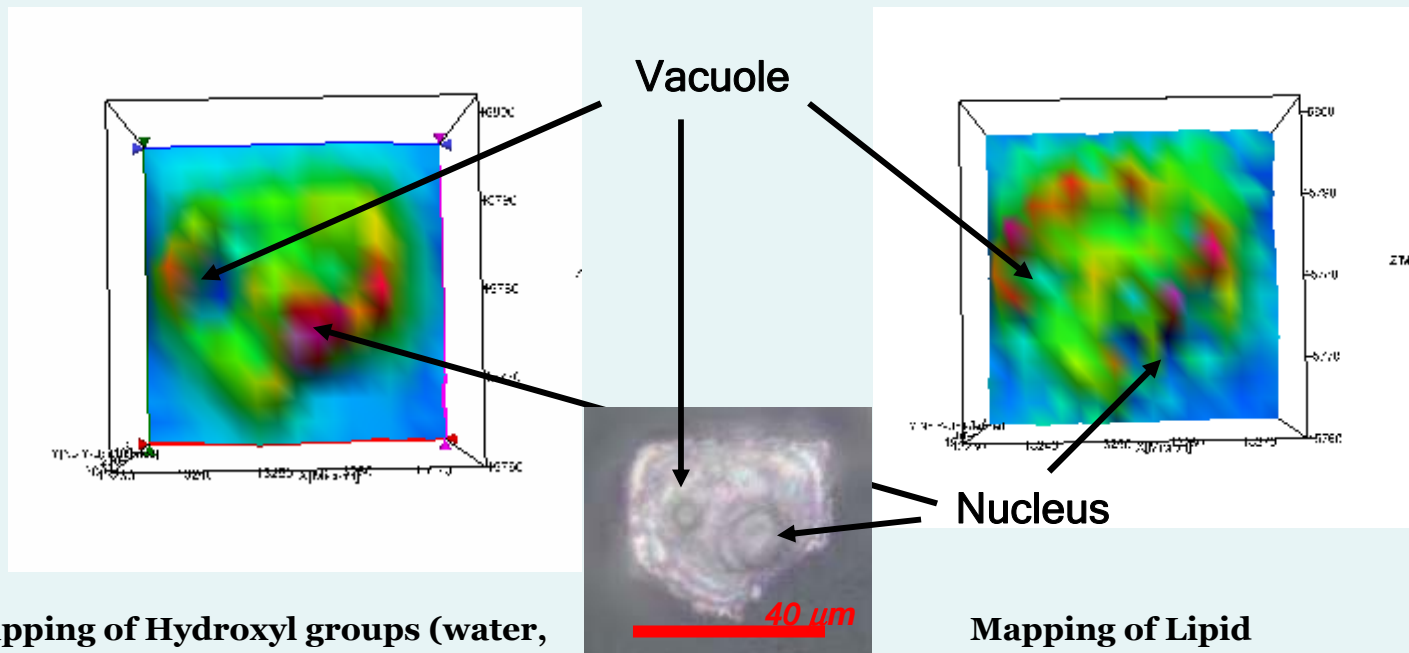


Worse for synchrotron light



Sub-cellular Mapping

Aperture: 3 μm x 3 μm



Mapping of Hydroxyl groups (water, sugars and nucleic acids)

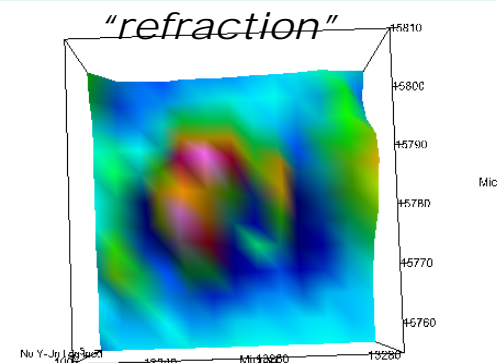
Mapping of Lipid Distribution

Formalin Fixed Cell

L. Quaroni, M. Campagna, O. Burrone

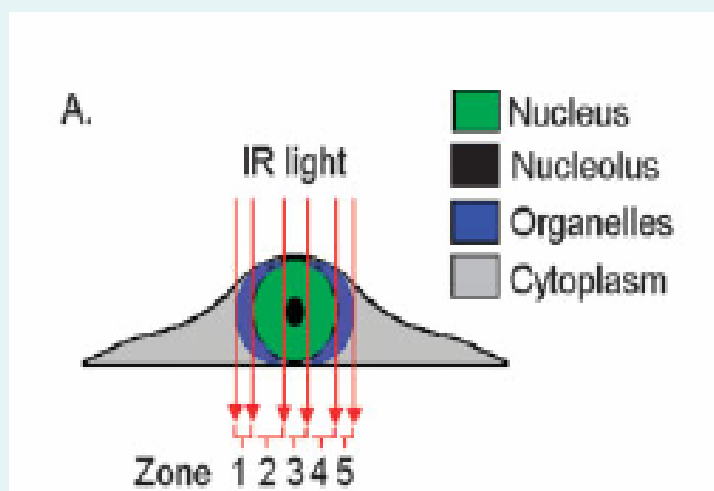


L. Quaroni - ICTP School on Synchrotron Radiation and Applications;



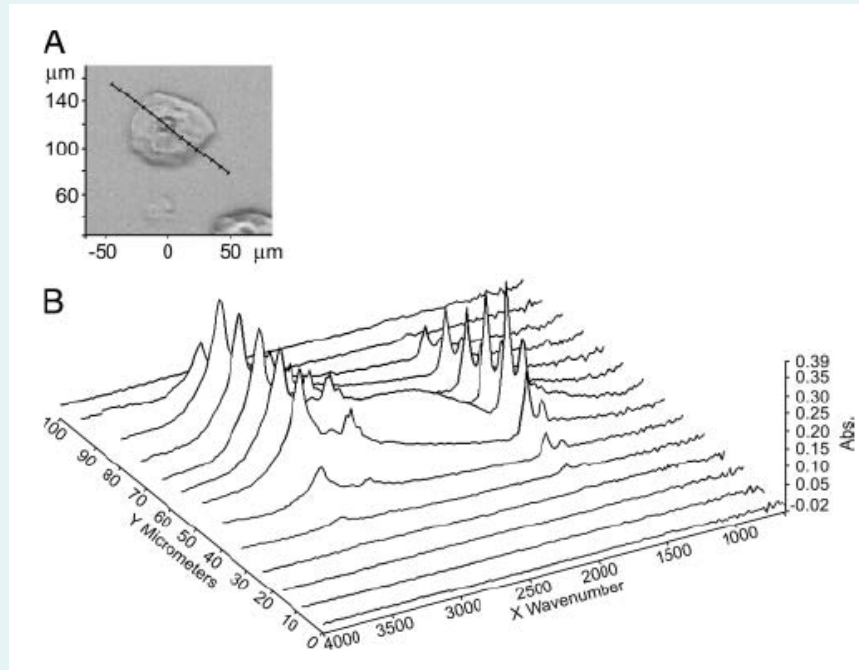
Thickness Effects

Absorption increases with sample thickness



Introduce Effect of Topography in IR Maps

Scattering Effects



Brian Mohlenhoff,* Melissa Romeo,* Max Diem,*
and Bayden R. Woody; Biophysical Journal Volume
88 May 2005 3635-3640

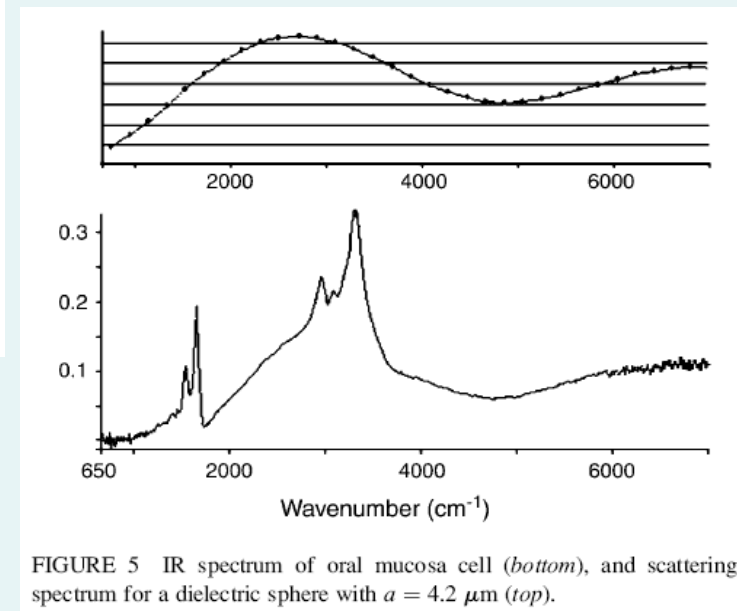
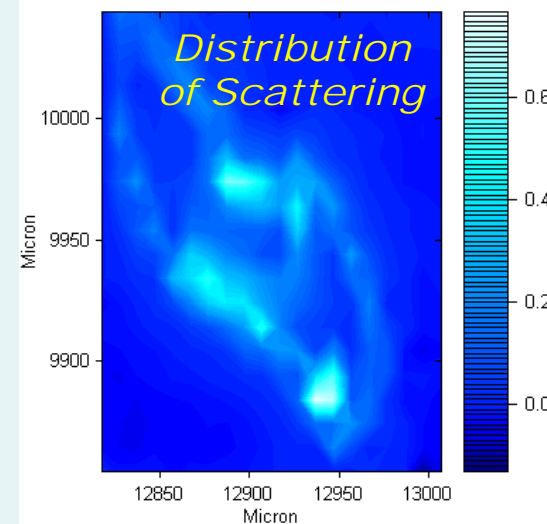
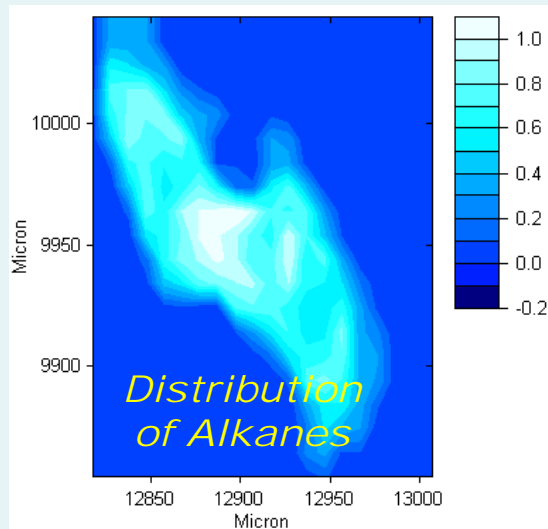
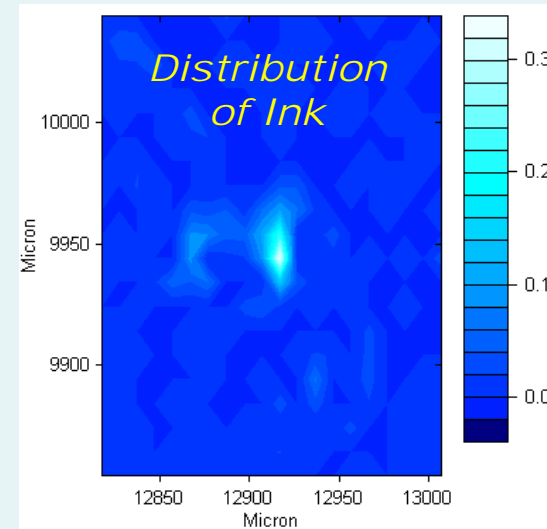
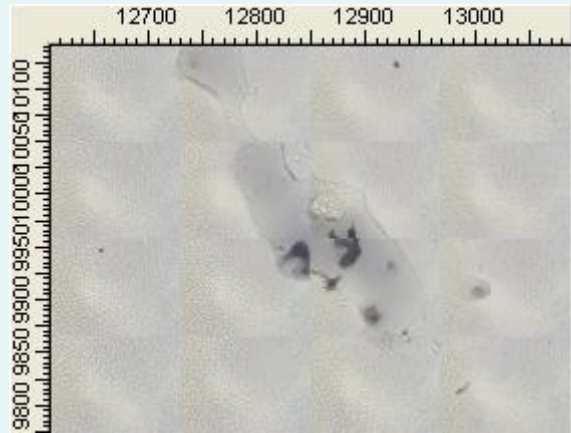


FIGURE 5 IR spectrum of oral mucosa cell (*bottom*), and scattering spectrum for a dielectric sphere with $a = 4.2 \mu\text{m}$ (*top*).

Example: grease deposit on reflective surface



Z. Arsov, L. Quaroni,



Need to Simplify Sample Topography

Microtome Samples
Measure Small Portions
Care with choice of
background position



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Techniques for Automated Spectral Classification

Non Supervised

- **Agglomerative Hierarchical Cluster Analysis**
- **Fuzzy C-Means Clustering Analysis**
- **K-Means Clustering Analysis**

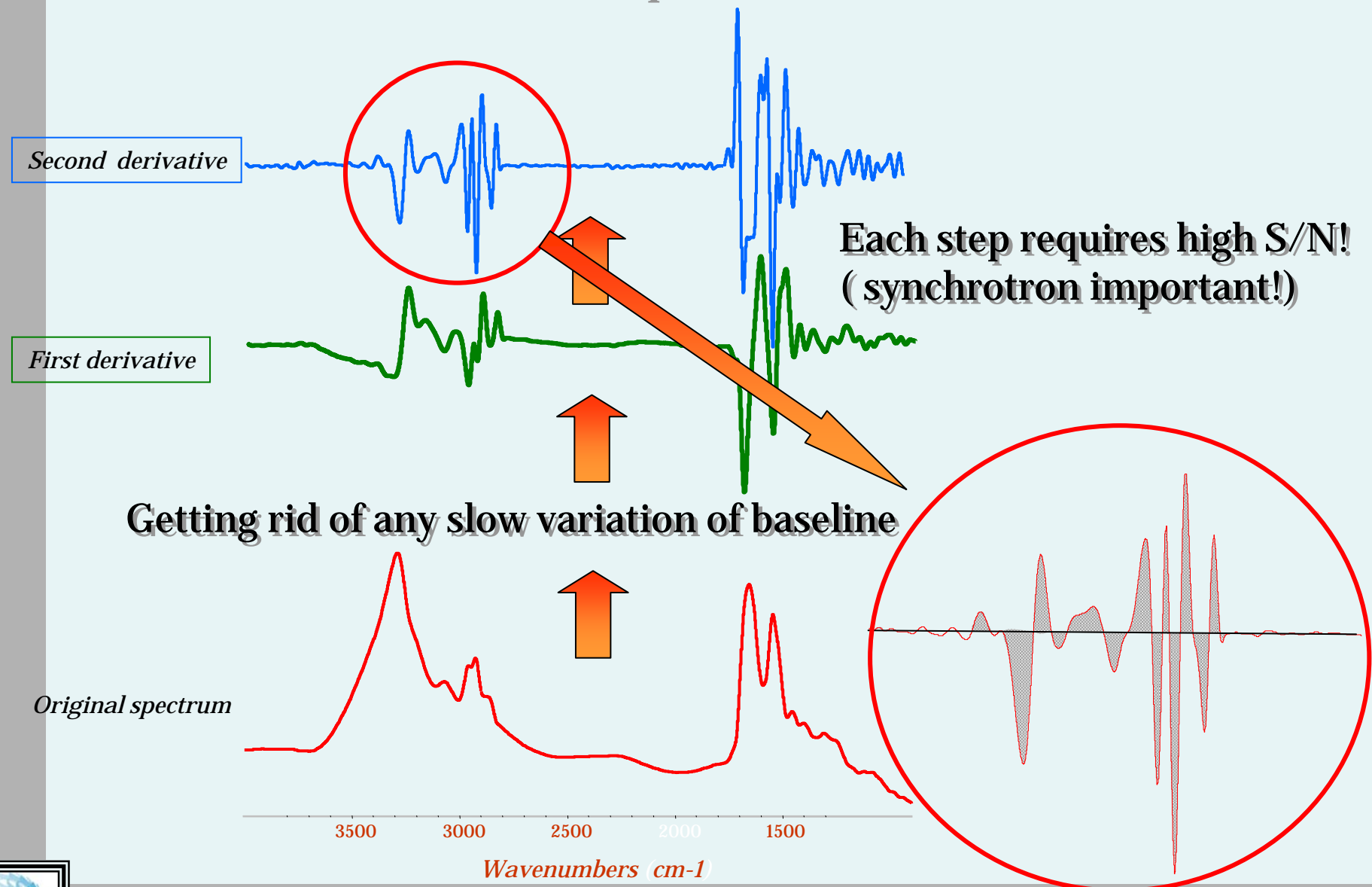
Supervised

- **Artificial Neural Networks**

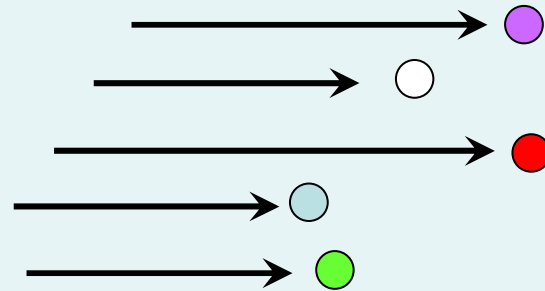
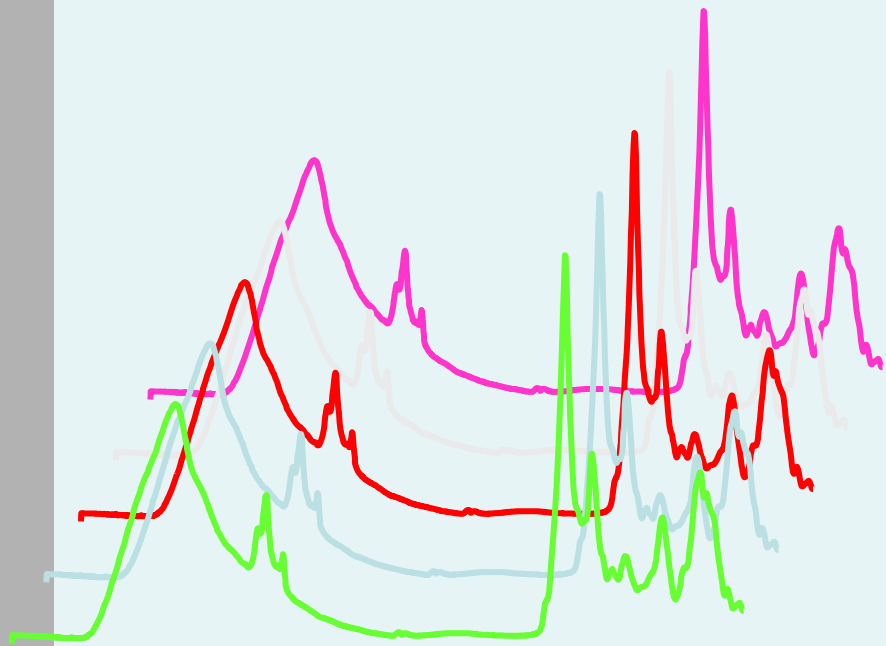
.....



Statistical treatment proceeds as follows...



Data reduction: each spectrum is given a value



$$r_{jk} = \frac{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_{ji} \cdot x_{ki} \right) - n \cdot \bar{x}_j \cdot \bar{x}_k}{\sqrt{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_{ji}^2 - n \cdot \bar{x}_j^2 \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_{ki}^2 - n \cdot \bar{x}_k^2 \right)}}$$



$$d_{jk} = (1 - r_{jk}) \cdot 1000$$

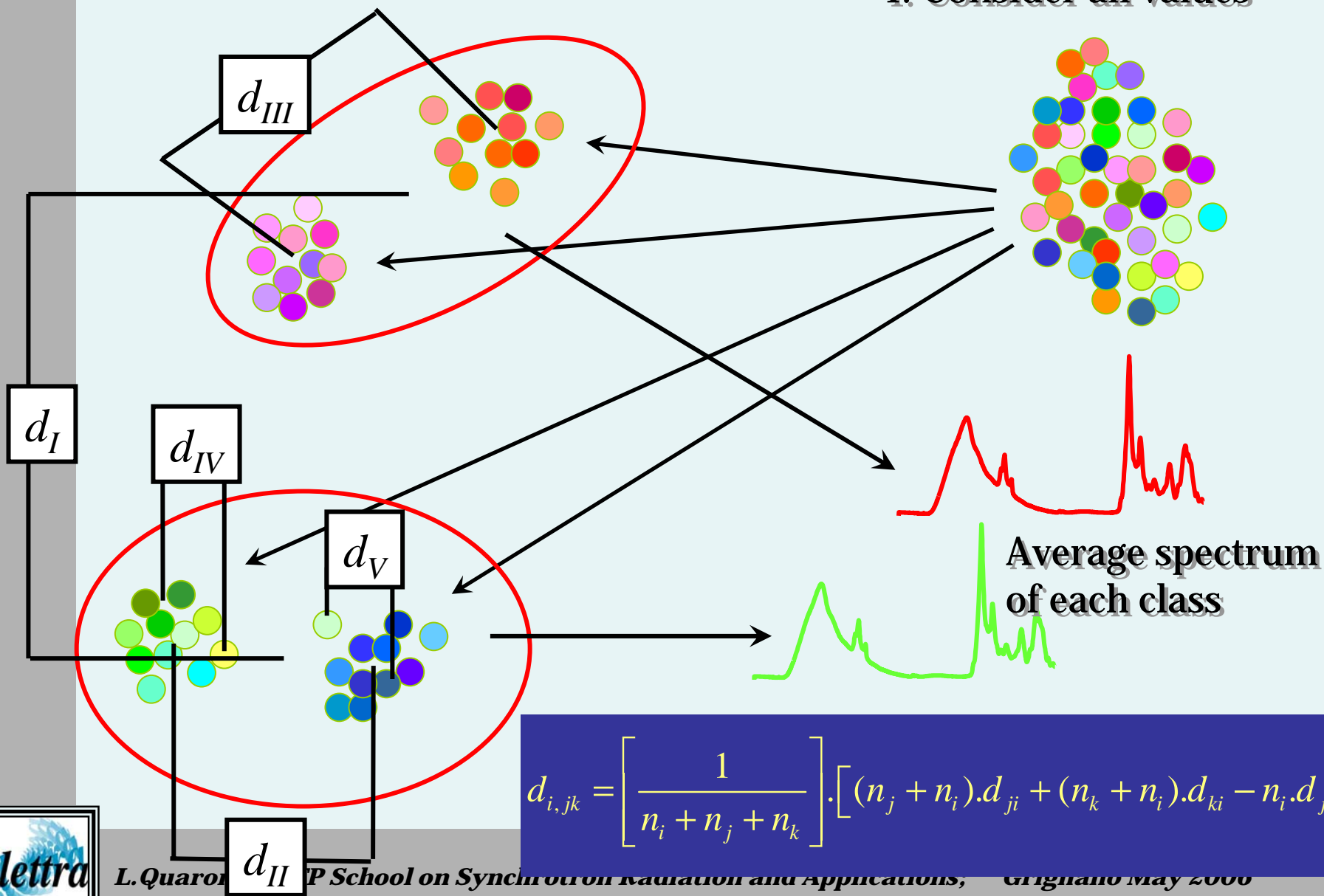
D-values

Pearson's correlation coefficient

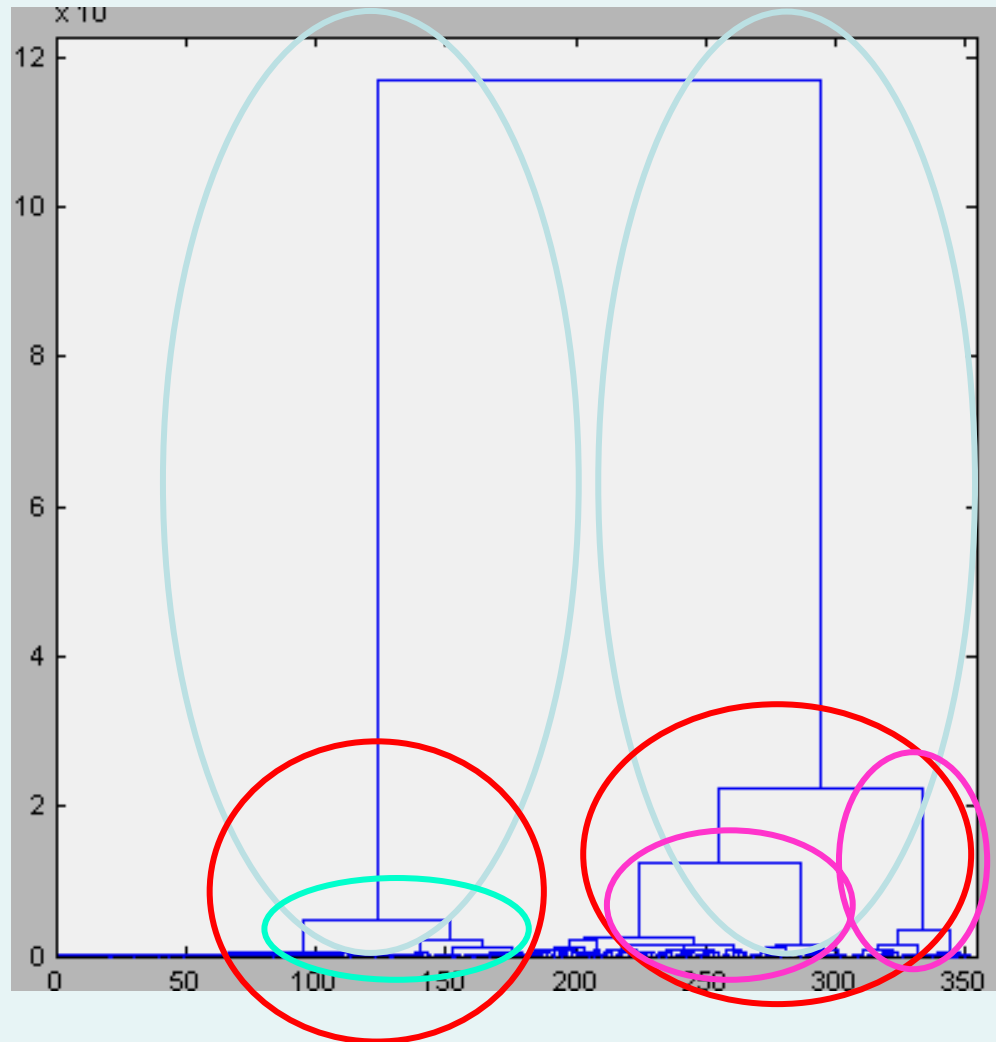


2. Clustering

1. Consider all values



The interface between IR spectra, statistical treatment and imaging



Dendrogram

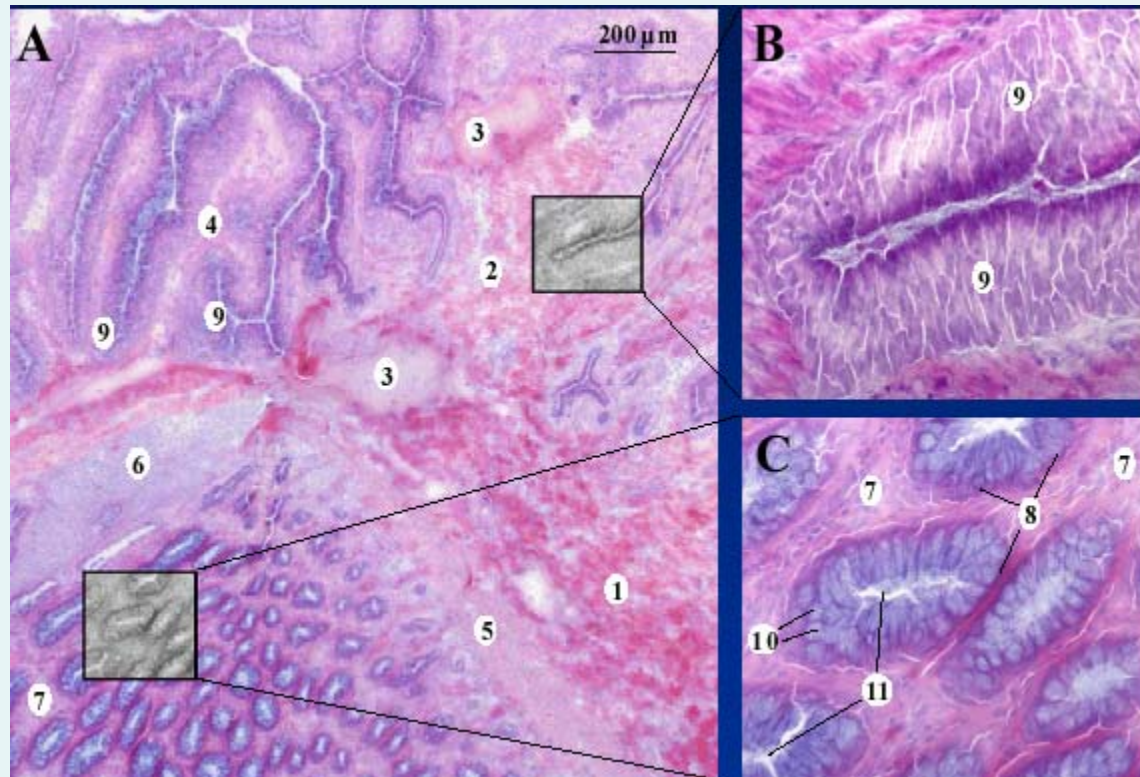
2 classes

+2= 4 classes

+2= 6 classes

+1= 7 classes

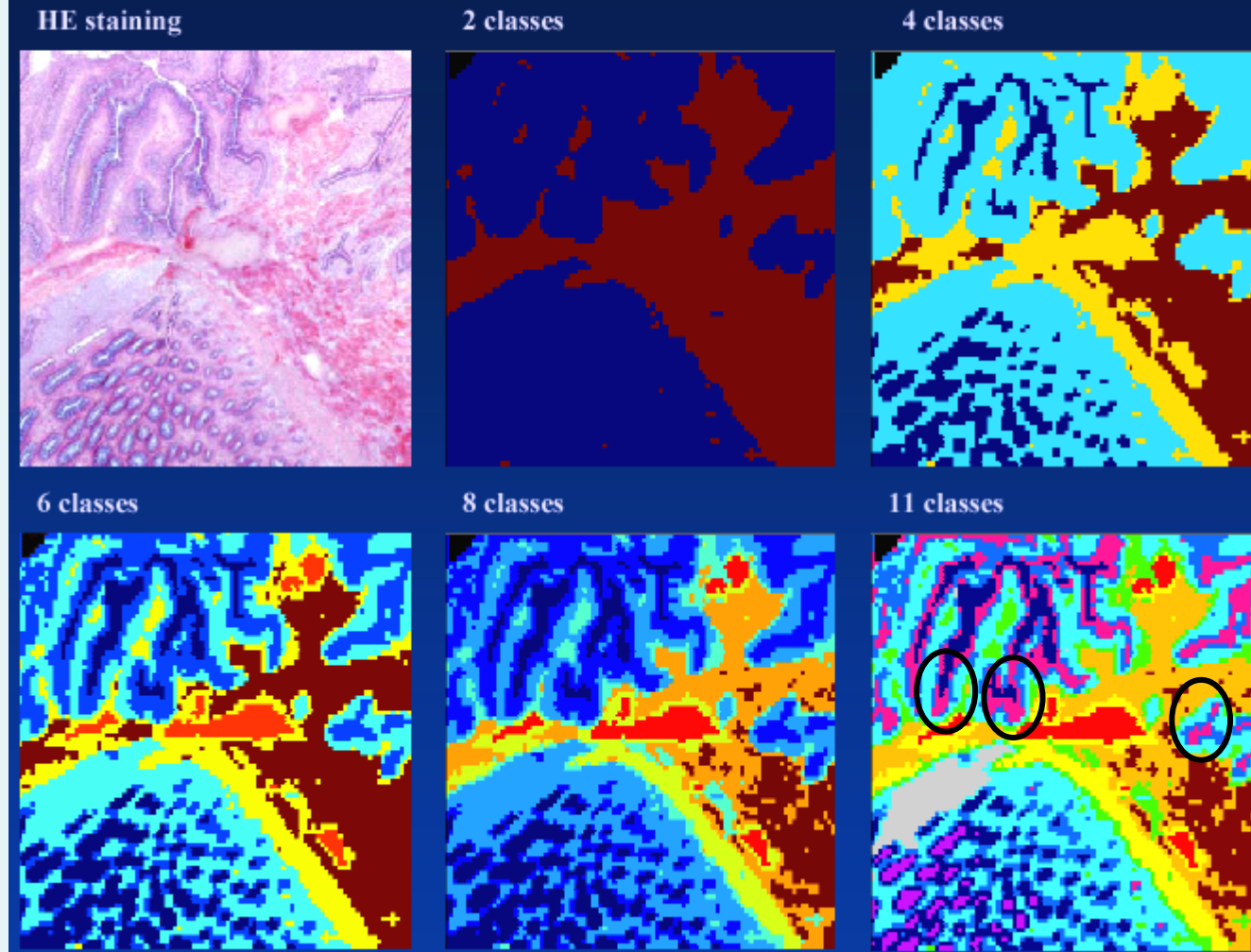
Illustration: colorectal adenocarcinoma



- 1- submucosa
- 2- submucosa and remnants of tunica muscularis (infiltrated by the carcinoma)
- 3- lymph vessel
- 4- fibrovascular stock and other connective tissues
- 5- lamina muscularis mucosae
- 6- inflammatory cells
- 7- lamina propria mucosae
- 8- colonocytes
- 9- adenocarcinoma (cancerous epithelium)
- 10- goblet cells
- 11- central lumen of the crypts

From. Peter Lasch and D. Naumann (Berlin)

IR Imaging: Hierarchical Clustering



Each « class », displays a characteristic average spectrum
... including adenocarcinoma region

Techniques for Spectral Analysis

Curve Fitting Analysis of Bands (Deconvolution)

2D Correlation Analysis

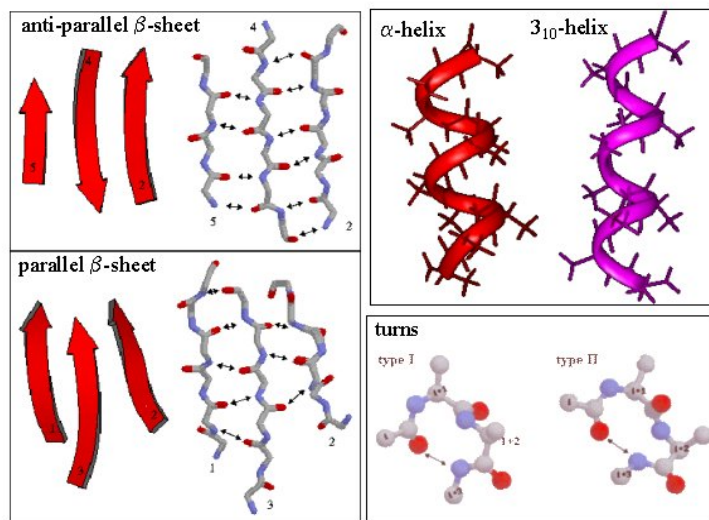


Structural Information from an IR Spectrum

Protein Structure Determination with FTIR

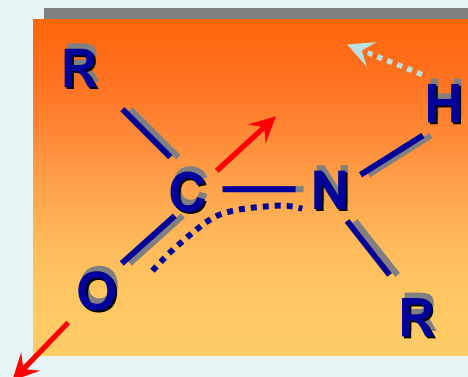
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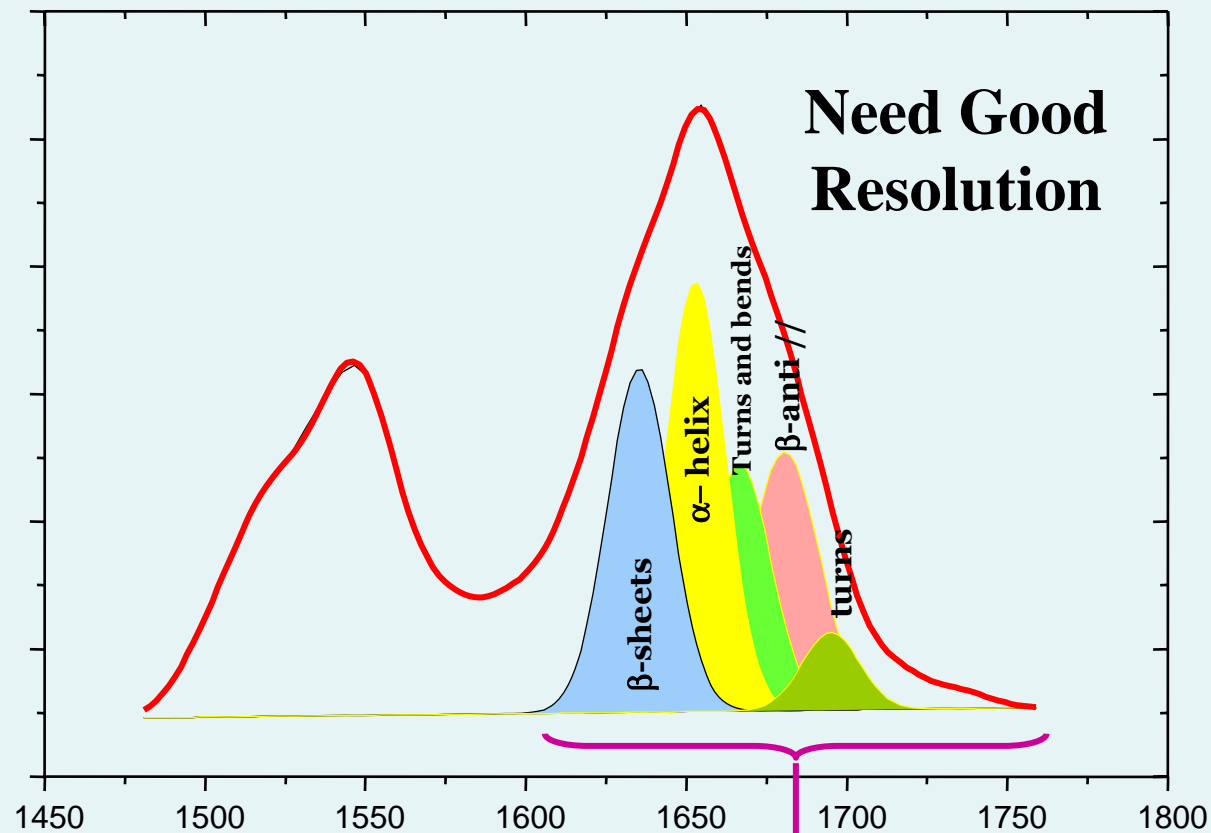


Example: Secondary Structure in Proteins

Lineshape of Amide I allows to determine the relative secondary structure composition

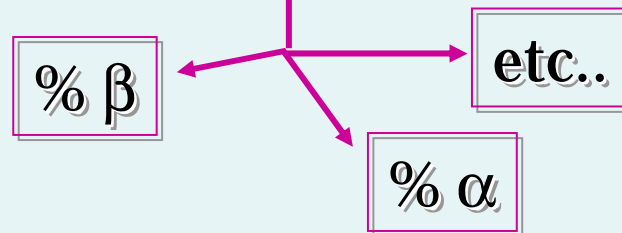


Band Deconvolution



Courtesy of Dr Paul Dumas, SOLEIL

Multiple Peak Fitting Gives Composition

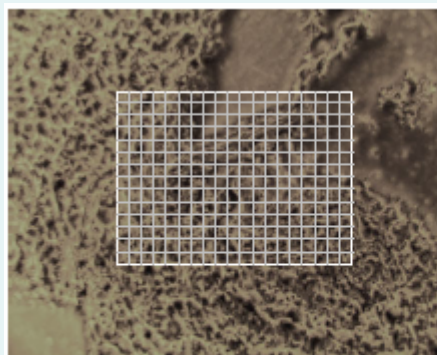
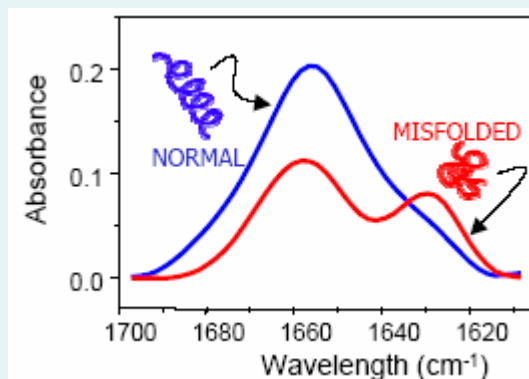


Imaging AND Spectroscopy

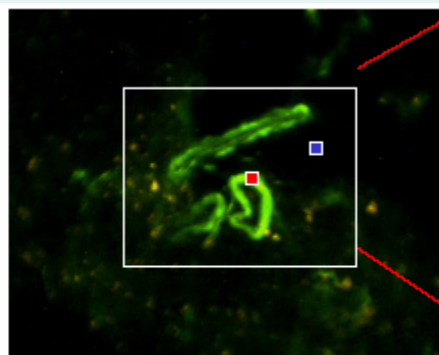
IR Microspectroscopy of Alzheimer's Plaques

Alzheimer's plaques are misfolded Abeta protein

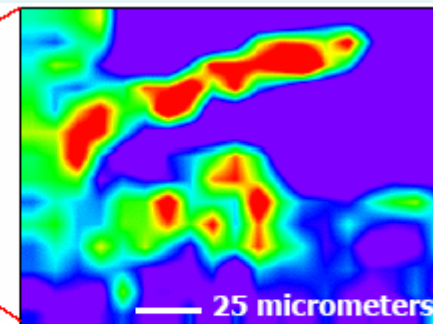
- ❖ α -helical protein cleaved and folds to β -sheet format
- ❖ metal accumulation occurs
- ❖ plaques are thought to damage surrounding neurons



visible light image



fluorescent light image



infrared light image

L.M. Miller, P. Dumas, N. Jamin, J.-L. Teillaud, J. Miklossy, L. Forro (2002). *Rev. Sci. Instr.*, **73**: 1357-60.

Limitations of Deconvolution

**Limited Capability to Resolve
Complex Multiplets**

**Limited Accuracy for Complex
Systems and/or Unknown systems**

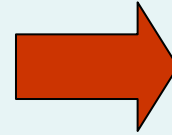
**Strongly Affected by
Noise**

**Difficult to assign different
bands to same compound**

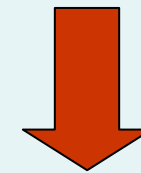
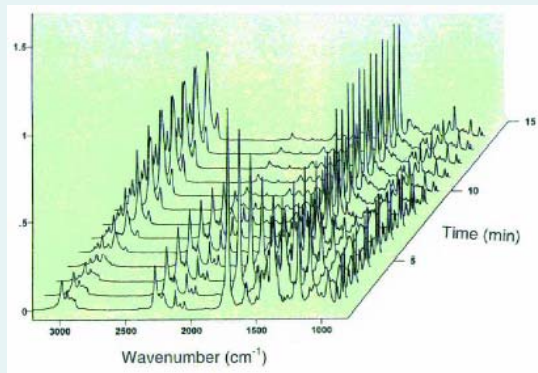


2D-Correlation Analysis

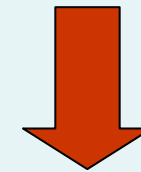
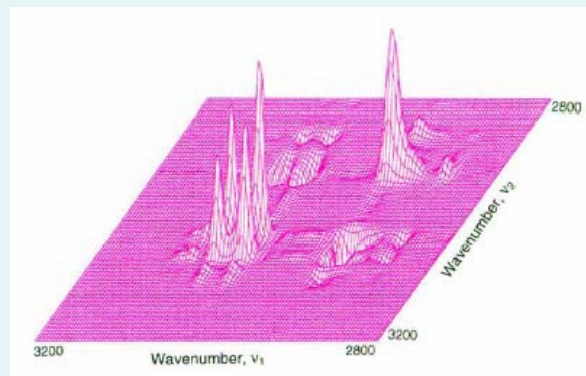
Vary One Parameter
(Temperature, Pressure, Time,
whatever you want ...)



See Effect on
Spectral
Components



Process Mathematically:
Correlation Analysis



$$X(\nu_1, \nu_2) = \Phi(\nu_1, \nu_2) + i\Psi(\nu_1, \nu_2)$$

2D Spectrum

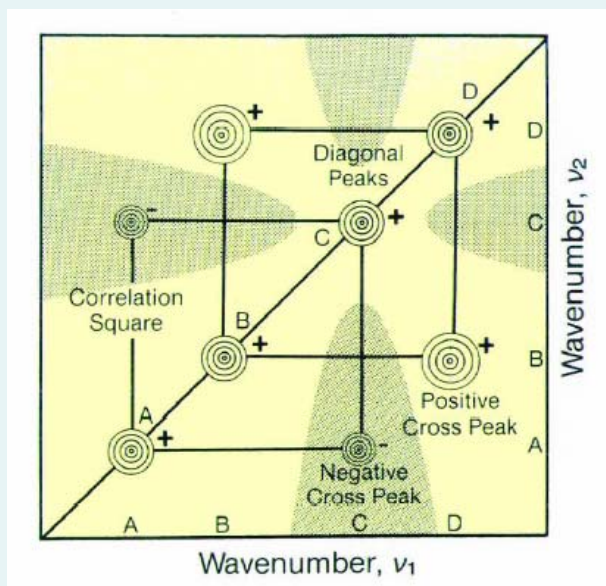


Synchronous
Spectrum

Asynchronous
Spectrum

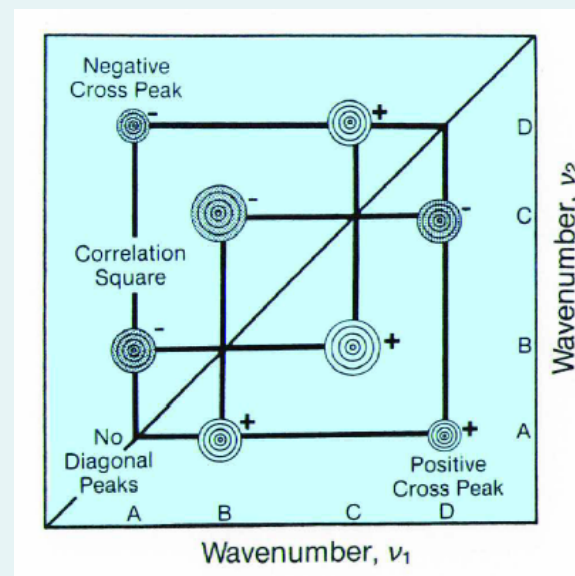
2D-Correlation Analysis

$$\mathbf{X}(\nu_1, \nu_2) = \Phi(\nu_1, \nu_2) + i\Psi(\nu_1, \nu_2)$$



Synchronous Spectrum

Correspondence of changes



Asynchronous Spectrum

Sequence of changes

**Less Affected
by Noise**

**Allows
Identification
of Spectral
Components
Associated to
Same
Molecule**

**Separation of
Poorly
Resolved
Components**

Final Considerations

Techniques and Methods discussed are also used in IR spectromicroscopy with conventional sources

Advantages when using synchrotron

- **Better Spatial Resolution for Imaging**
- **Better S/N**
- **Pulsed Emission (for T-R)**
- **Far IR Emission**



Bibliography

Just write me!

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