

# Chirality



# Importance of chirality

## ***Chiral Technology***

1999 (in Billion US \$):

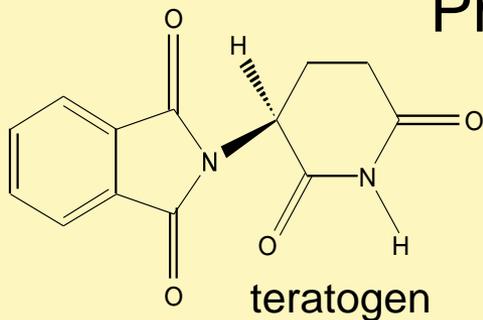
Pharmaca:	150
Agrochemicals	8
Intermediates	1.8
Enantiomer Analysis	0.15

Expected annual growth: 15 %

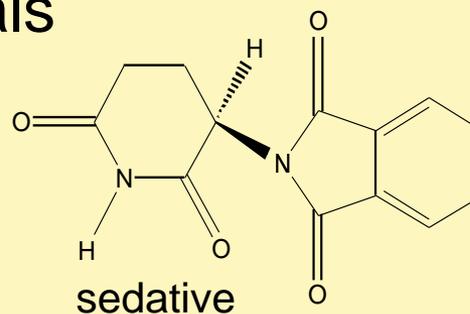
Source: Jefferey Winkler, Opportunities in Chiral Technology,  
Business Communications Co., Inc., Norwalk, CT USA

# Importance of chirality

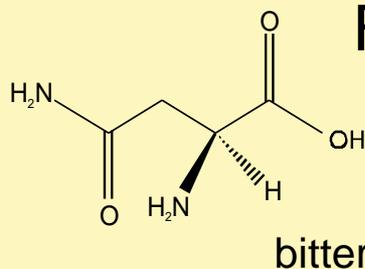
## Pharmaceuticals



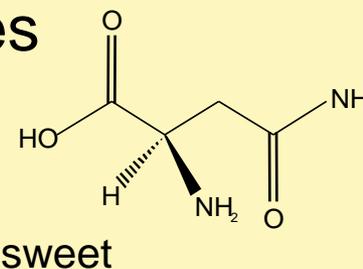
Thalidomide



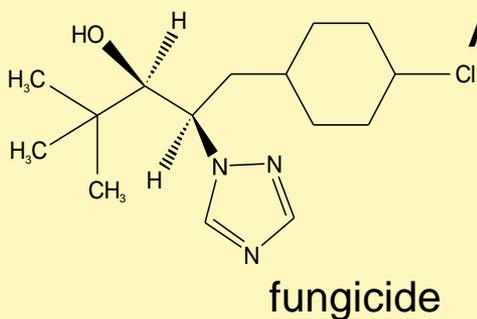
## Flavors & Fragrances



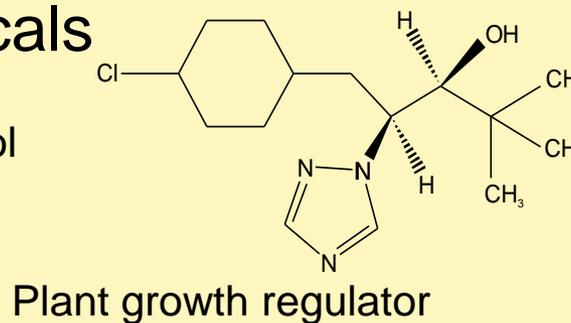
Asparagine



## Agrochemicals



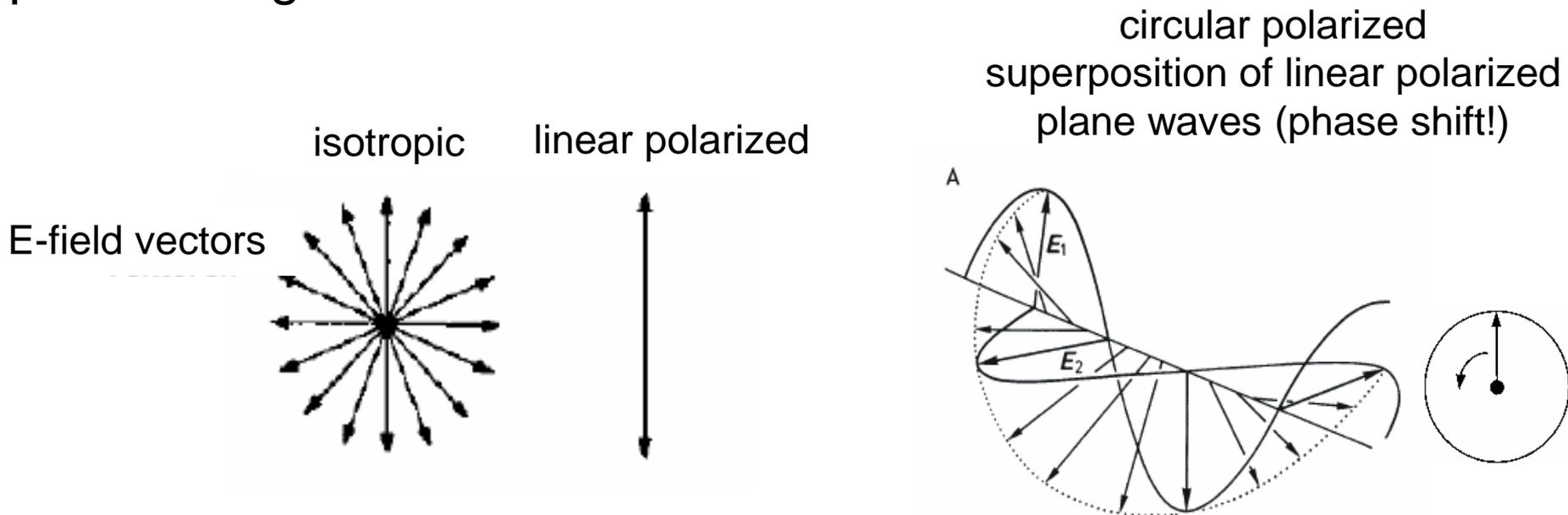
Paclobutrazol



Determination of absolute configuration (legislation)

# Chiroptical Methods

- Chiral molecules interact differently with left- and right-circular polarized light!



circular polarized  
superposition of linear polarized  
plane waves (phase shift!)

L: left, R: right

Refractive index  $\eta = c_0 / c$   $c =$  Speed of light in medium

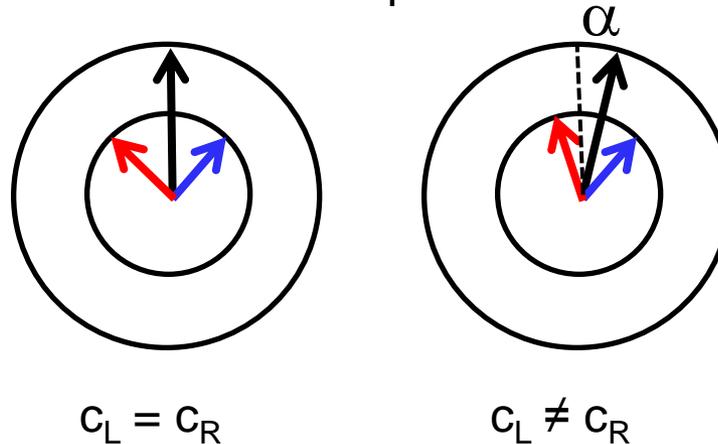
Absorption  $A = \varepsilon \cdot c \cdot d$   $\varepsilon =$  Extinction coefficient

$c_L \neq c_R$
$\eta_L \neq \eta_R$
$\varepsilon_L \neq \varepsilon_R$

# Linear polarized light - Circular polarized light

Linear polarized light can be viewed as a superposition of left- and right-circular polarized light

Polarization state after  
transmission of linear polarized  
light through a non-absorbing  
sample

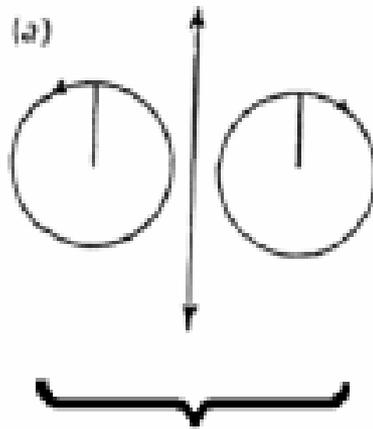


Plane of linearly polarized light  
is turned by angle  $\alpha$

# Circular dichroism (CD)

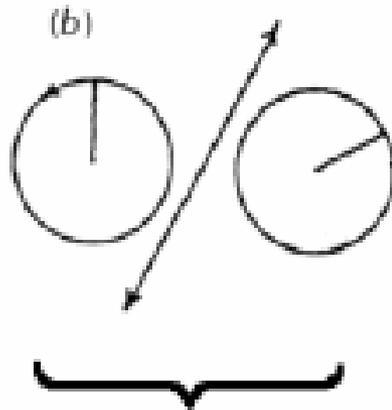
Differential absorption of left- and right-circularly polarized light leads to elliptically polarized light.

Polarization state of an incident linear polarized plane wave after the sample



- equal velocity of light
- equal absorption

optically inactive



- unequal velocity of light
- equal absorption

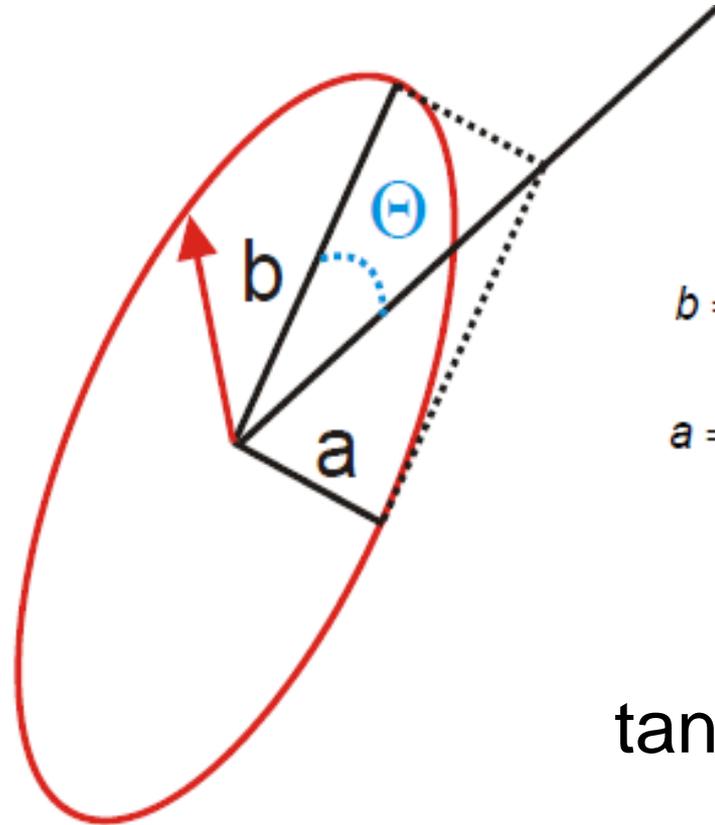
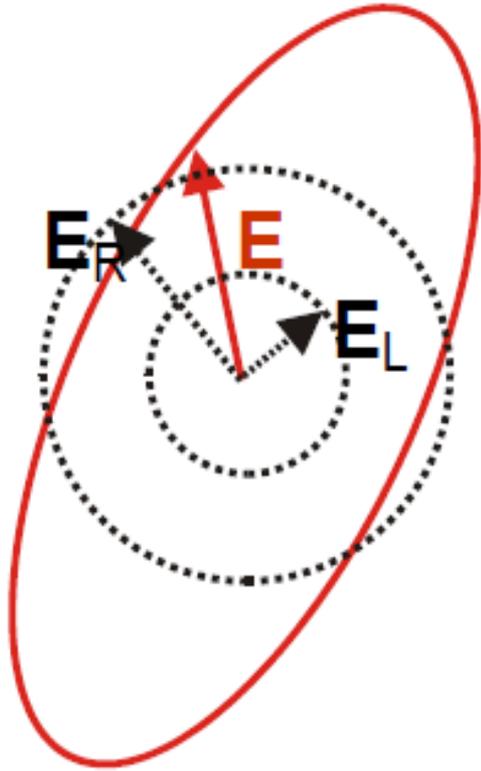
Optical rotation, ORD



- unequal velocity of light
- unequal absorption

CD

# Ellipticity



$$b = |\mathbf{E}_R| + |\mathbf{E}_L|$$

$$a = |\mathbf{E}_R| - |\mathbf{E}_L|$$

$$\tan(\theta) = a/b$$

$\Theta$ : Ellipticity

# CD / VCD: Physical basis

Remember: **Absorption**

Electric transition dipole moment

$$\mu_{21}^{\text{el}} = \langle \Psi_2 | \mu_{\text{el}} | \Psi_1 \rangle$$

Oscillator strength

$$D_{21} = \mu_{12}^{\text{el}} \cdot \mu_{21}^{\text{el}} \sim \int_{\text{band}} \frac{\varepsilon(\nu)}{\nu} d\nu$$

← Molar absorption coefficient

# CD / VCD: Physical basis

## CD / VCD

Magnetic transition dipole moment

$$\mu_{21}^m = \langle \Psi_2 | \mu_m | \Psi_1 \rangle$$

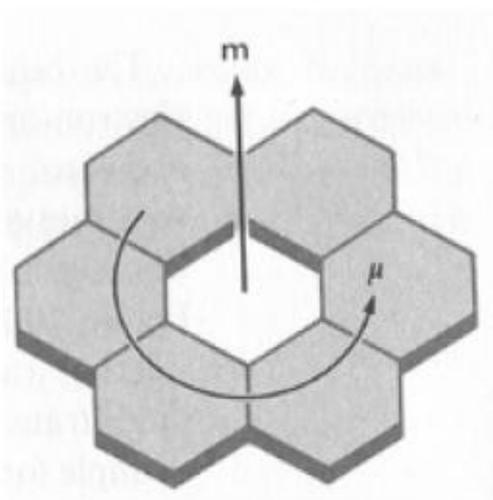
Rotational strength

$$R_{21} = \text{Im}(\mu_{21}^{\text{el}} \cdot \mu_{21}^m) \sim \int_{\text{band}} \frac{\Theta(\nu)}{\nu} d\nu \quad \leftarrow \text{Ellipticity}$$

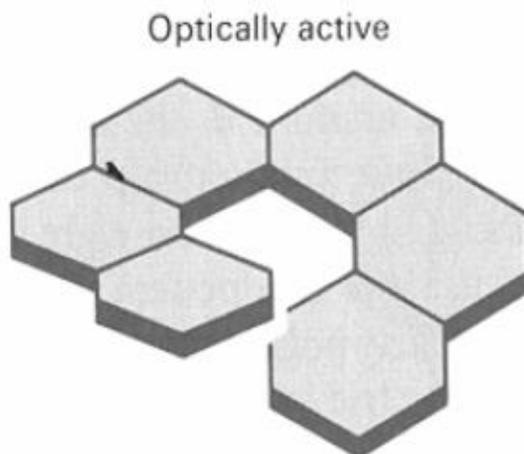
There must be a parallel component between  $\mu^{\text{el}}$  and  $\mu^m$ !

# CD / VCD: Physical basis

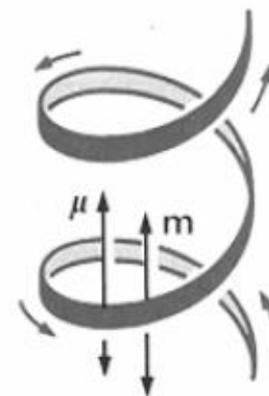
Examples CD (electronic transitions)



Coronene  
Optically inactive

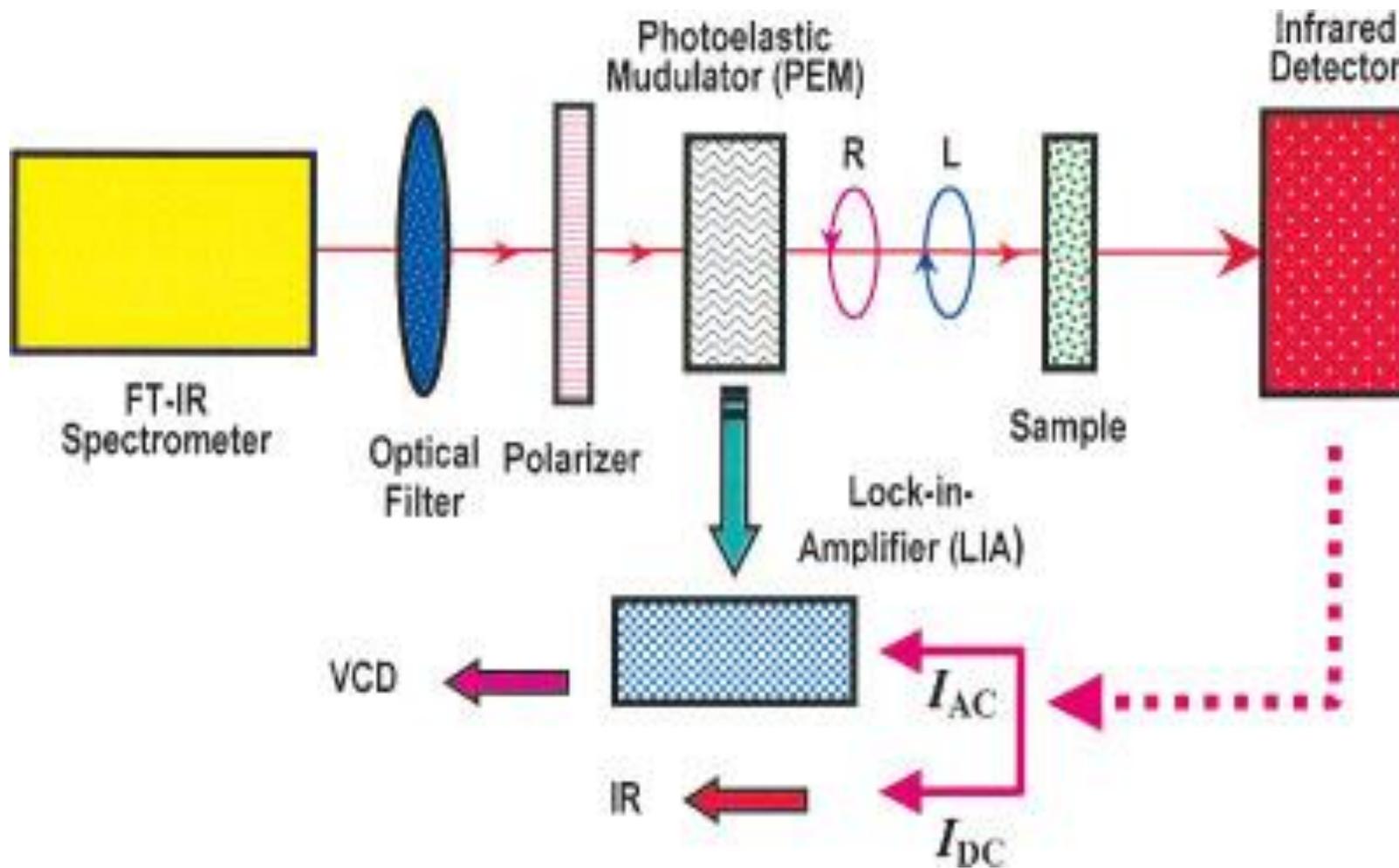


Helicenes  
Optically active



There must be a parallel component between  $\mu^{el}$  and  $\mu^m$ !

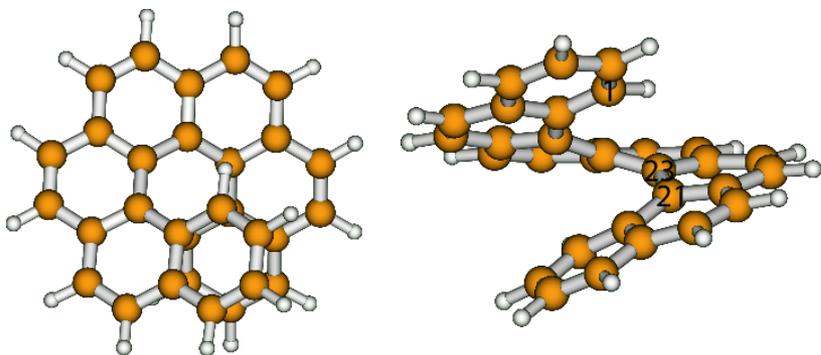
# Experimental set-up for VCD measurements



# Vibrational circular dichroism (VCD)

- Analogous to CD but in the infrared
- CD: electronic transitions
- VCD: vibrational transitions

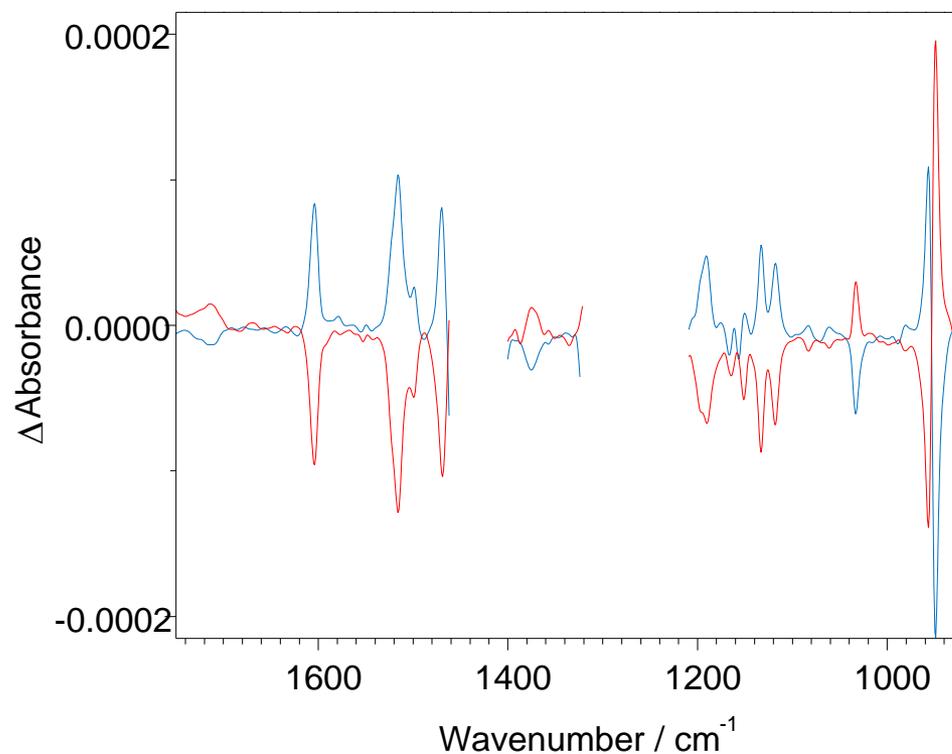
Heptahelicene  
rigid



Top view

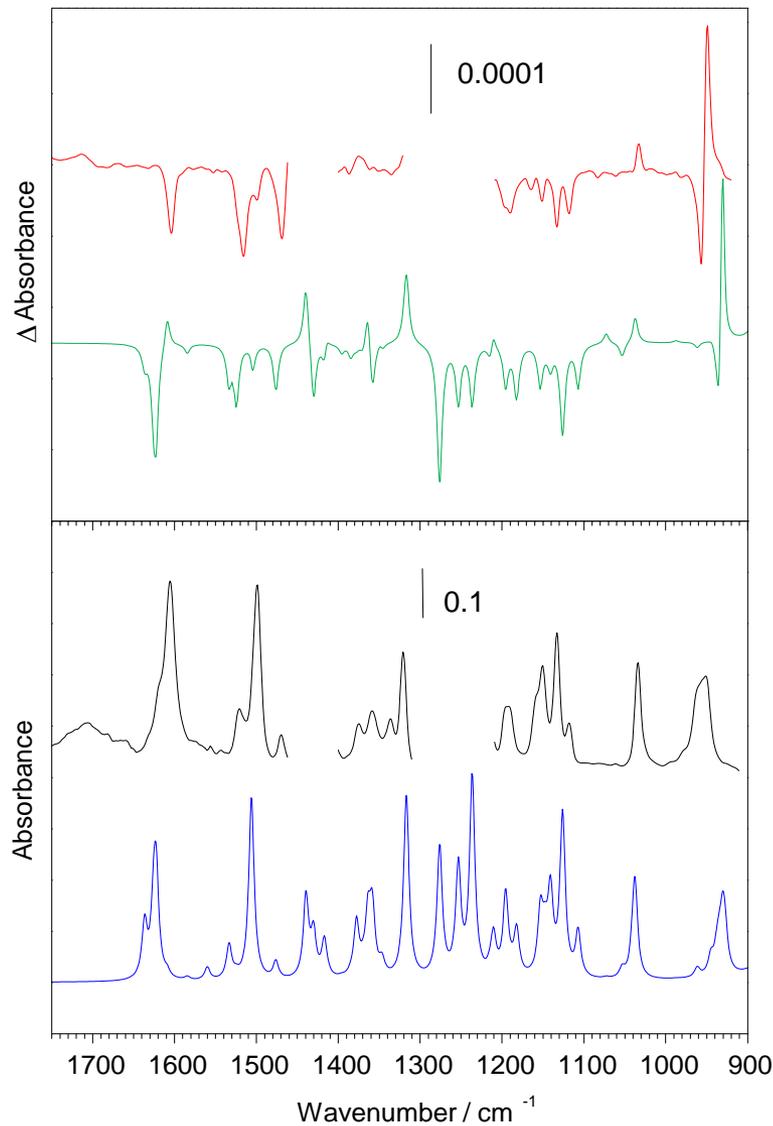
Side view

VCD spectra of both enantiomers



# Heptahelicene

VCD spectra



Experiment

Theory

IR Spectra

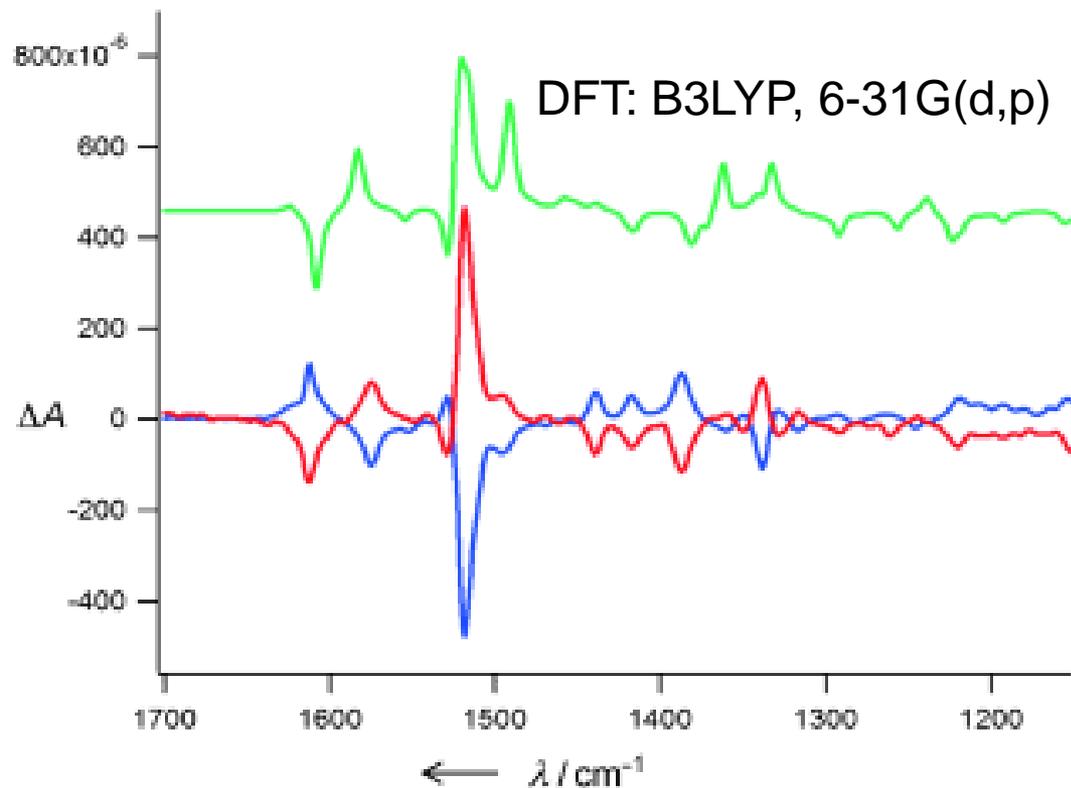
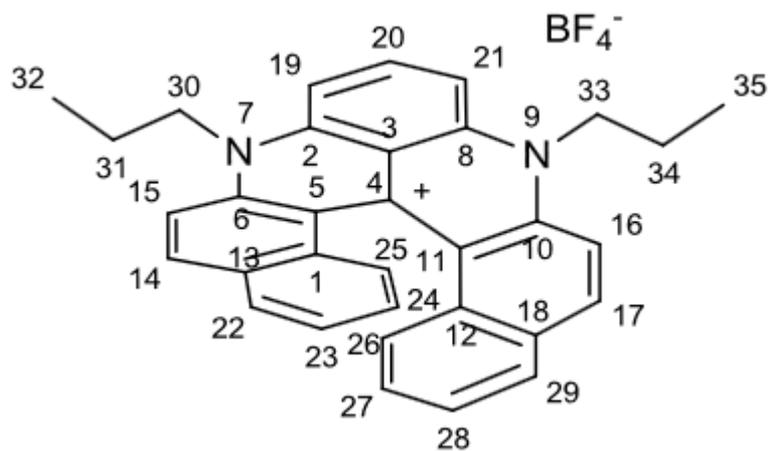
Experiment

Theory

DFT: B3LYP, 6-31G(d,p)

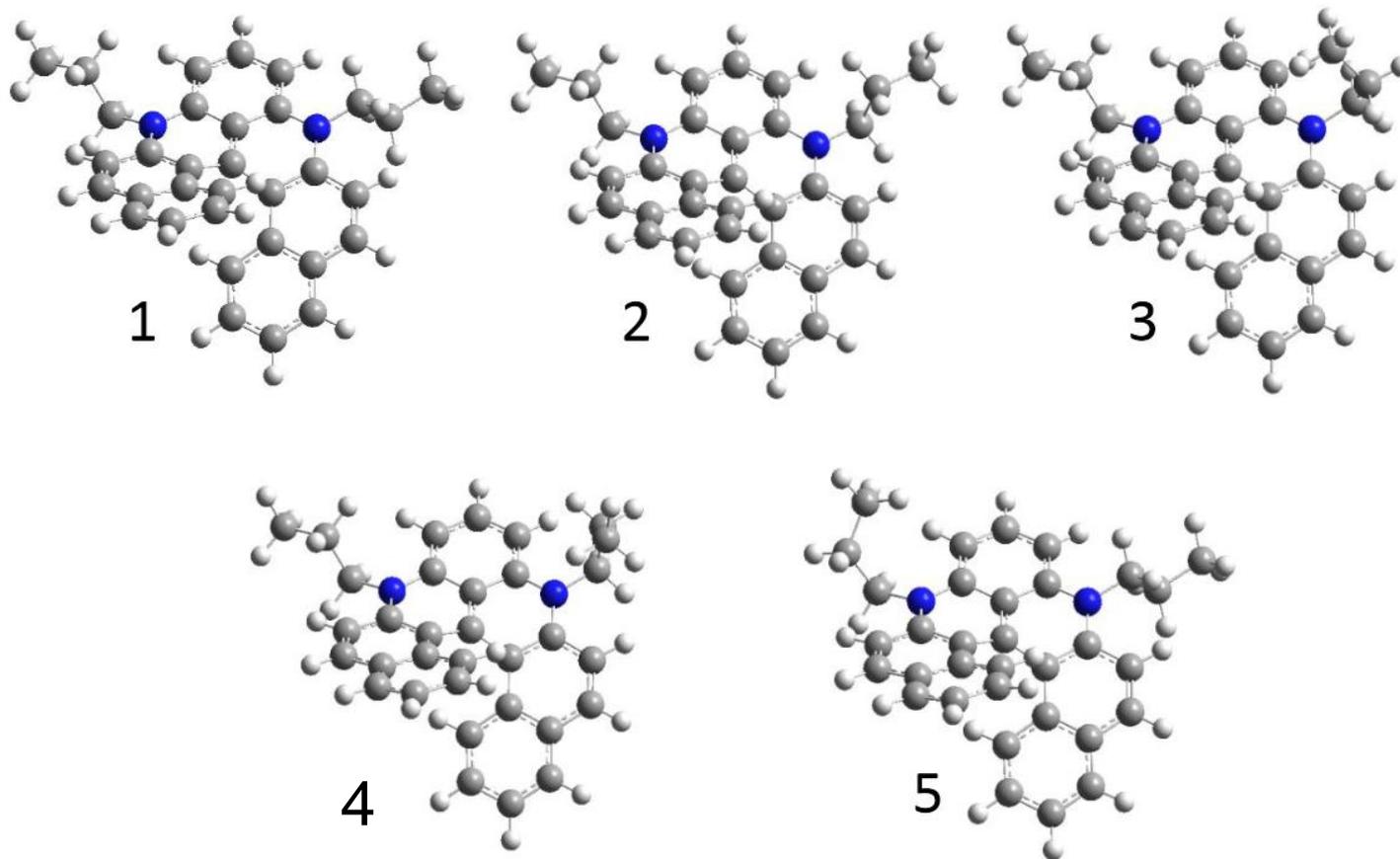
# Cationic [6] helicene

## Determination of absolute configuration



# Cationic [6] helicene

Several conformers

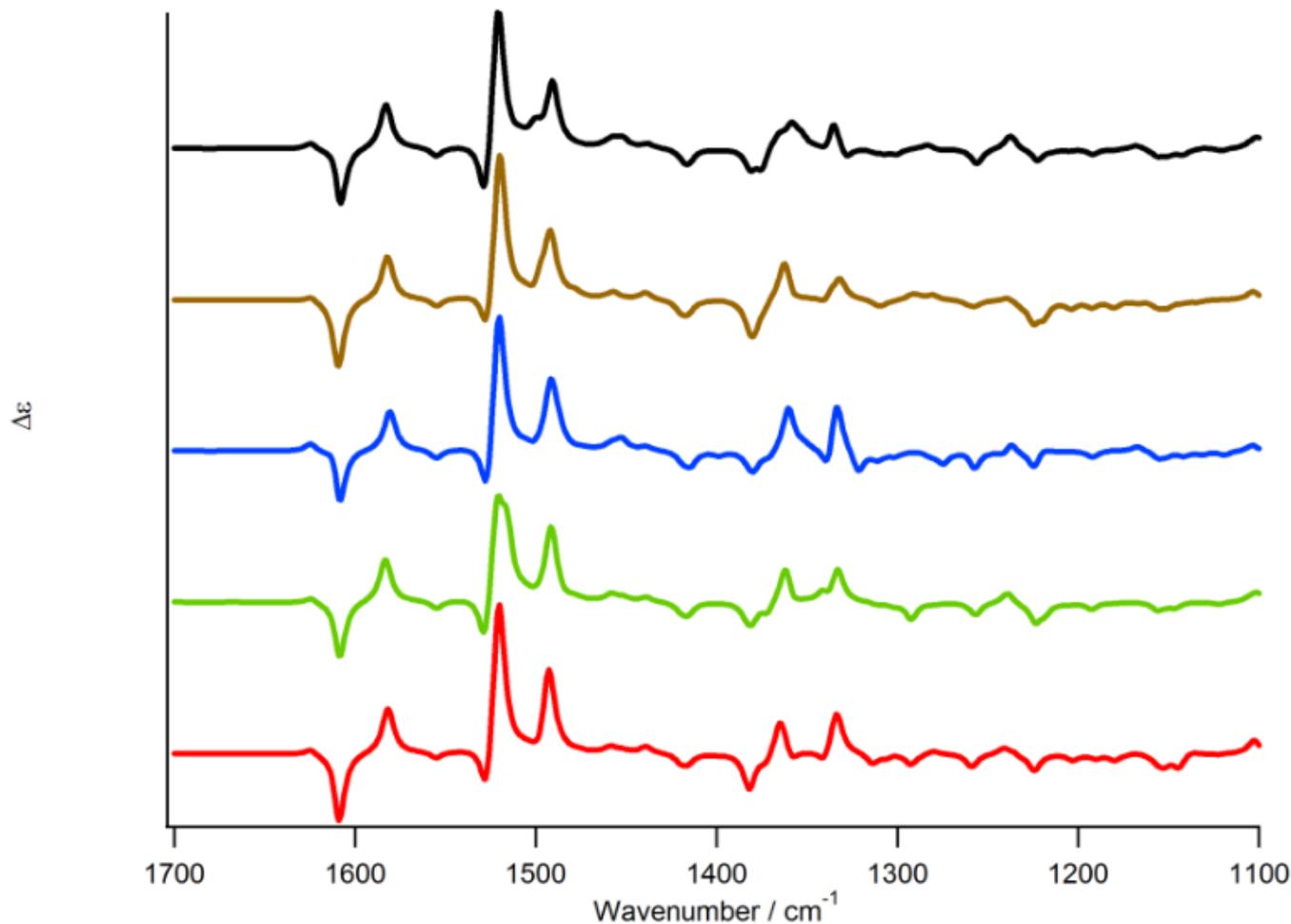


DFT: B3LYP, 6-31G(d,p)

J. Lacour et al. *Angewandte Chemie International Edition* 52, 1796 (2013)

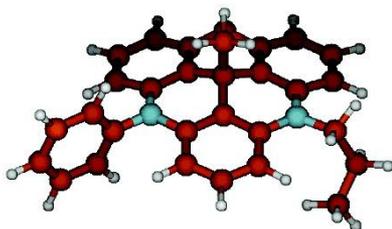
# Cationic [6] helicene

Calculated VCD spectra for several conformers

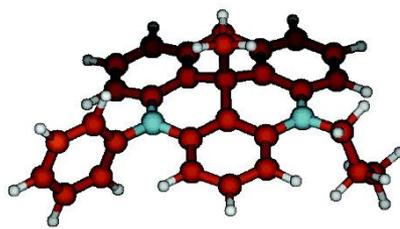


# Diazaoxatricornan Derivative

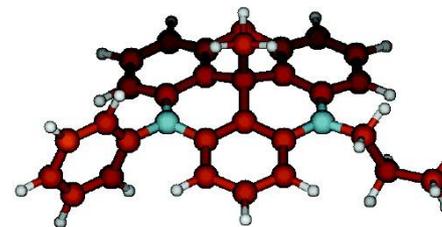
## Calculated conformers



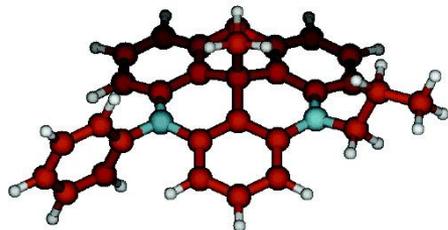
1, 2.91 kcal/mol



2, 2.86 kcal/mol

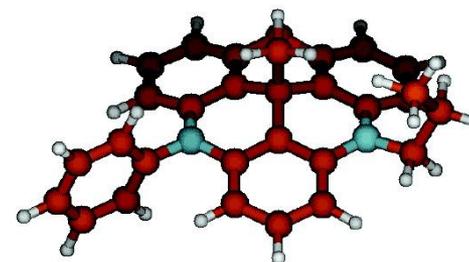


3, 0.0 kcal/mol



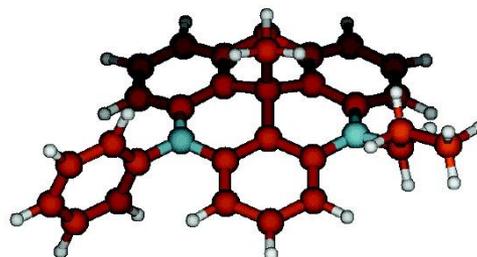
4, 1.70 kcal/mol

5, not stable

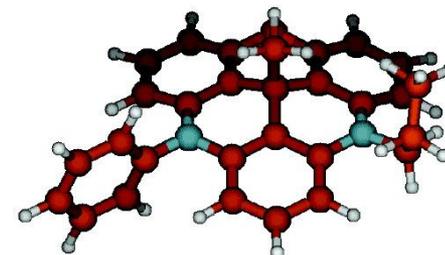


6, 2.30 kcal/mol

7, not stable



8, 1.66 kcal/mol

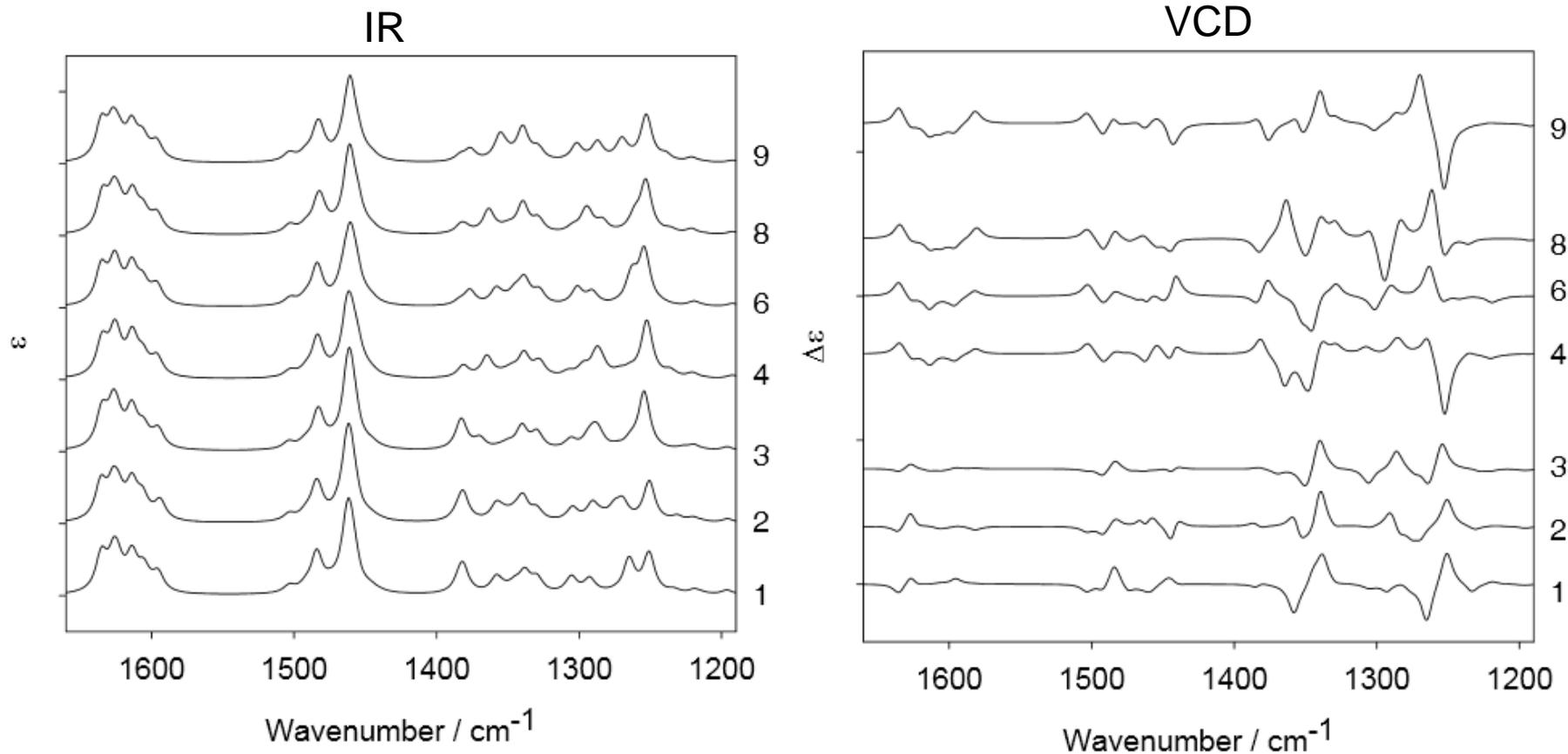


9, 2.20 kcal/mol

DFT: P3PW91, 6-31G(d,p)

# Diazaoxatricornan Derivative

Calculated IR and VCD spectra for several conformers

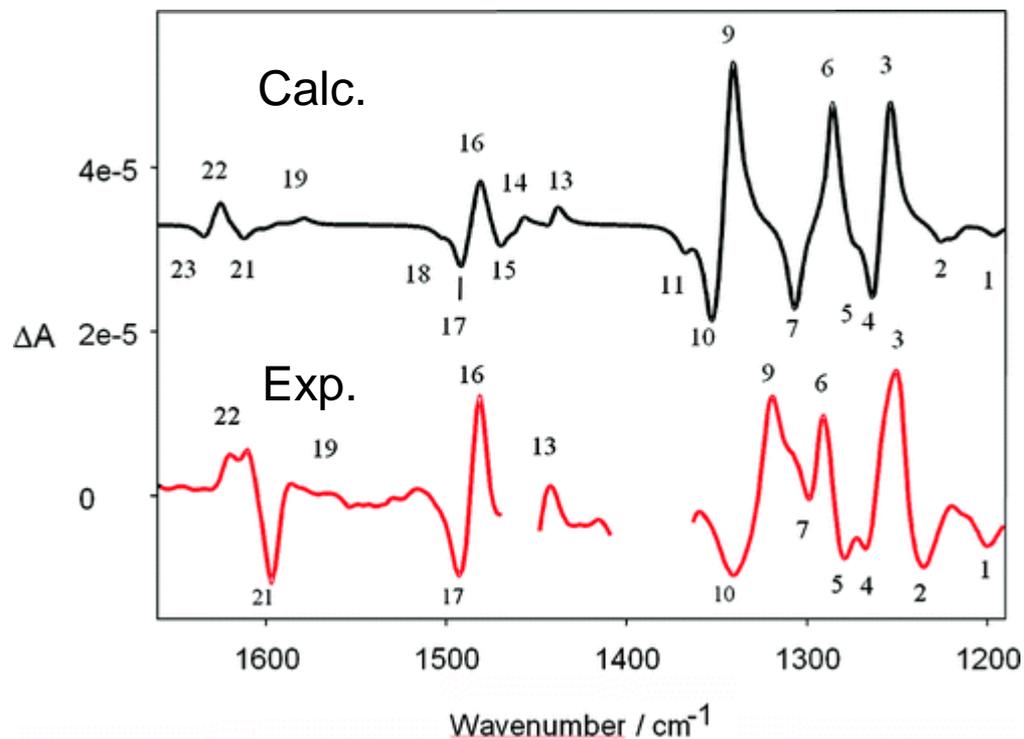
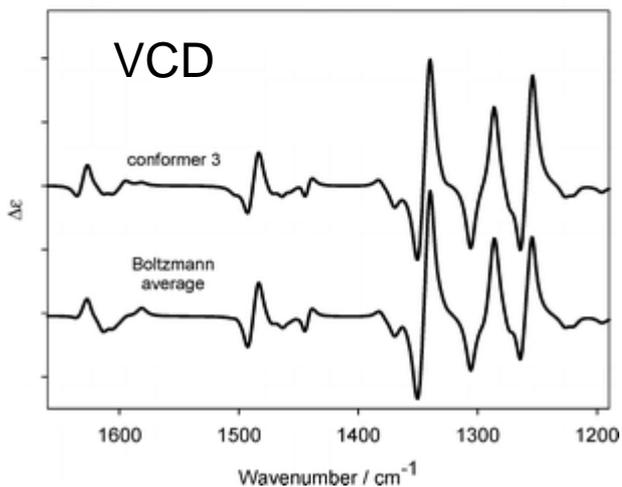
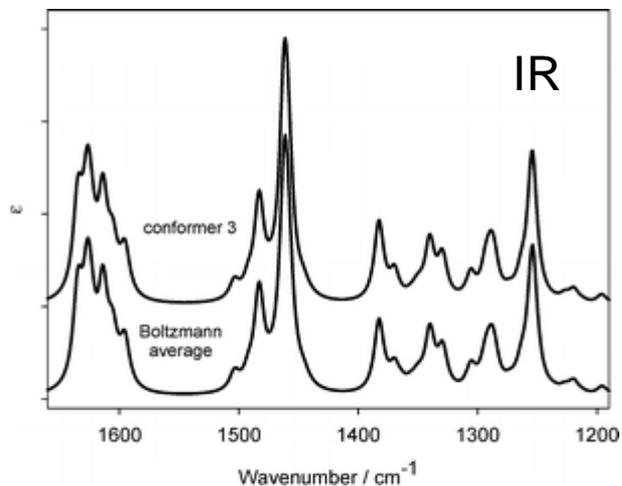


DFT: P3PW91, 6-31G(d,p)

J. Lacour et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2008, 130 (20), pp 6507–6514

# Diazaoxatricornan Derivative

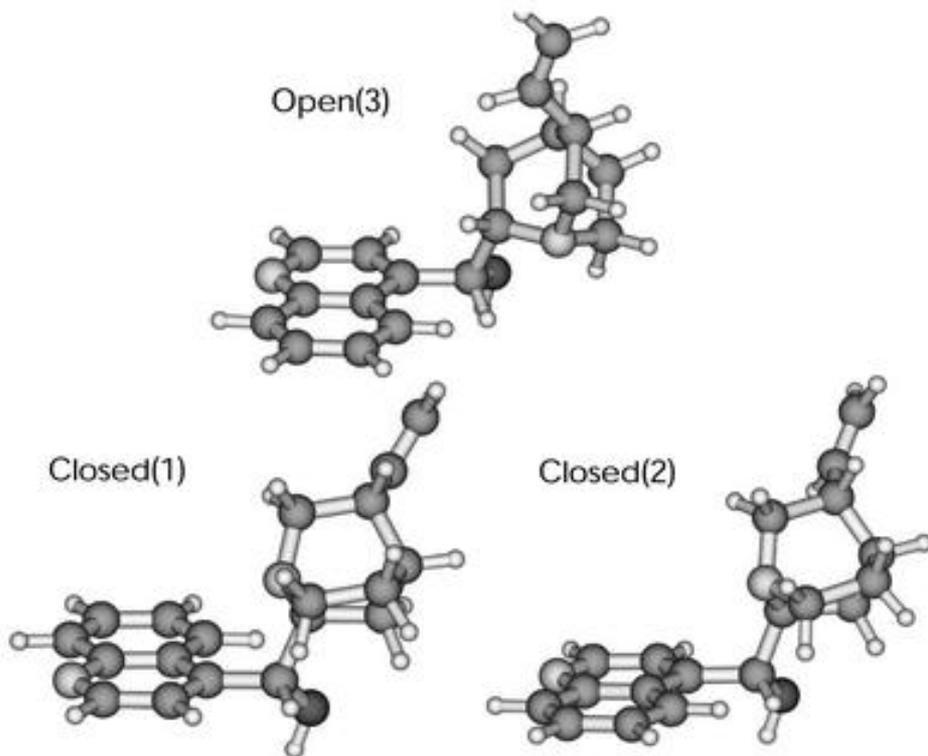
## Comparison experiment - theory



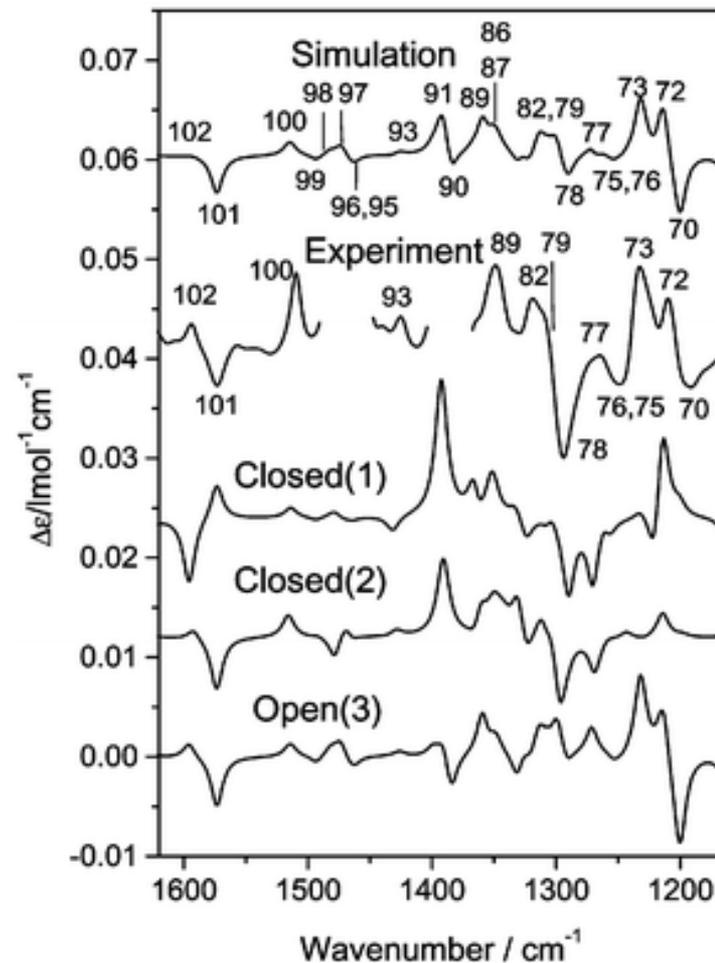
DFT: P3PW91, 6-31G(d,p)

# Cinchonidine

## Comparison experiment - theory



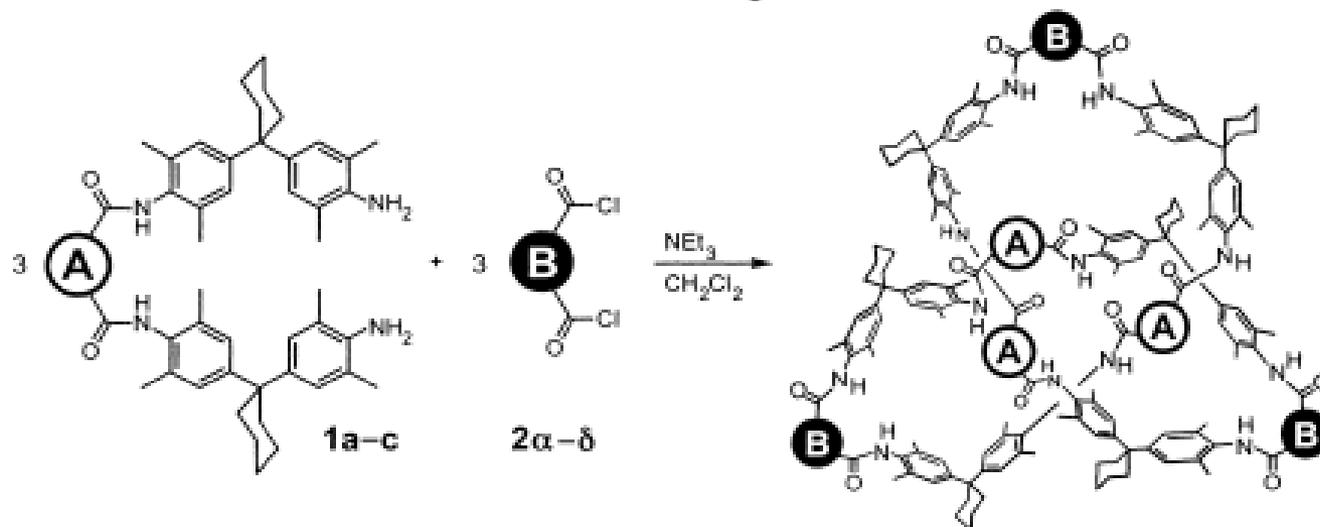
DFT: B3LYP, 6-31G(d)



Simulation (VCD) : 70% Open(3) + 15% Closed(1) + 15% Closed(2)

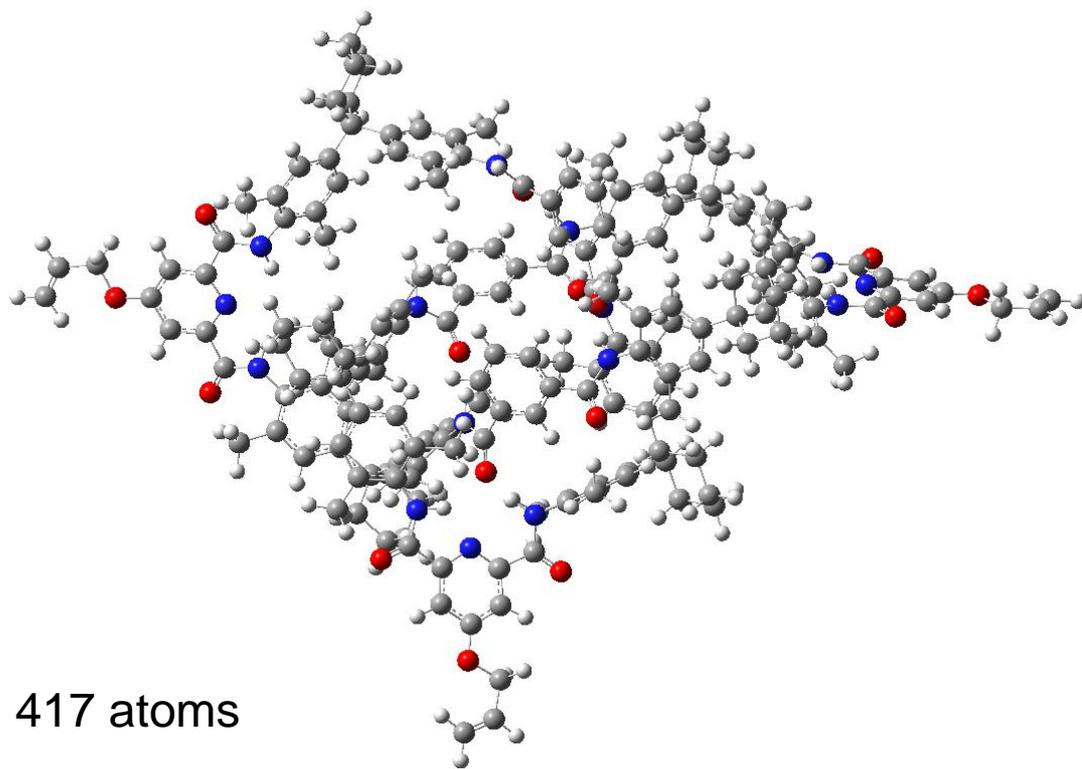
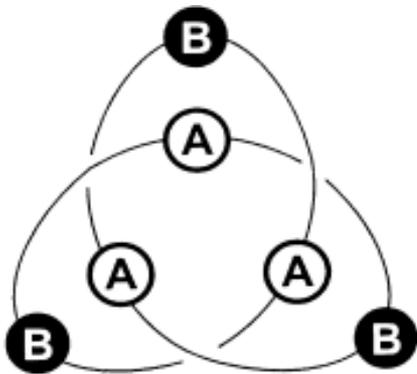
# Molecular knots

## A challenge...



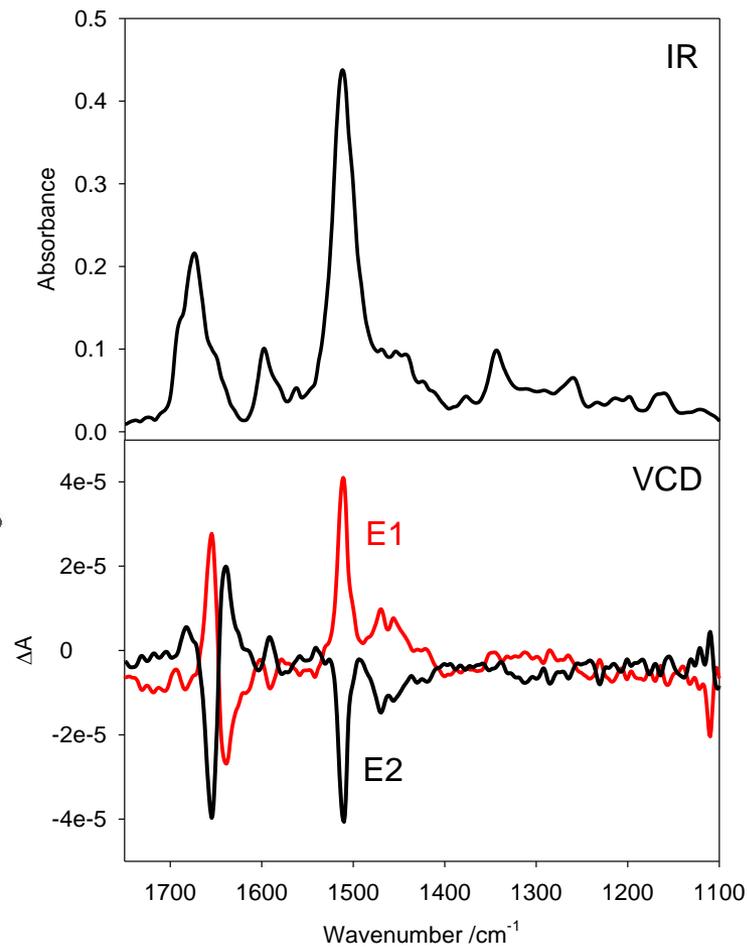
3	aα	aβ	aγ	aδ	bα	cα
<b>A</b>						
	a	a	a	a	b	c
<b>B</b>						
	α	β	γ	δ	α	α
Ausb. [%]	20	4	9	10	1	2

# Molecular knots



417 atoms

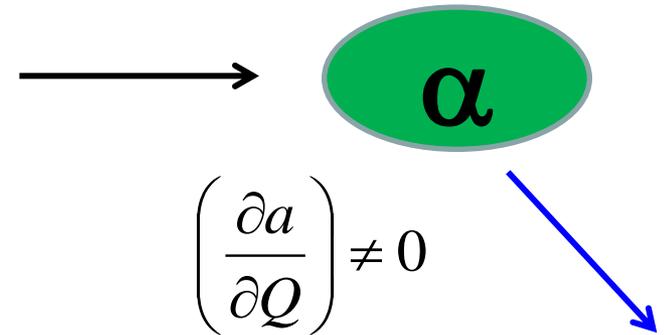
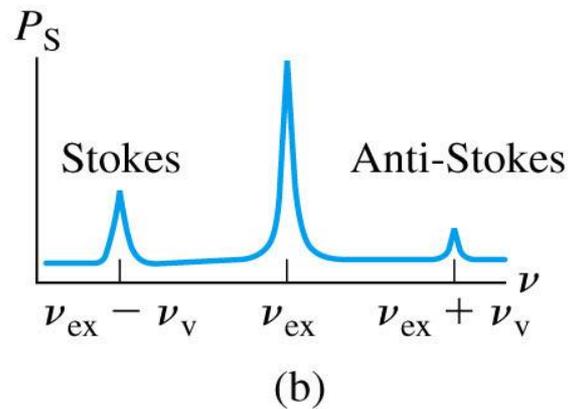
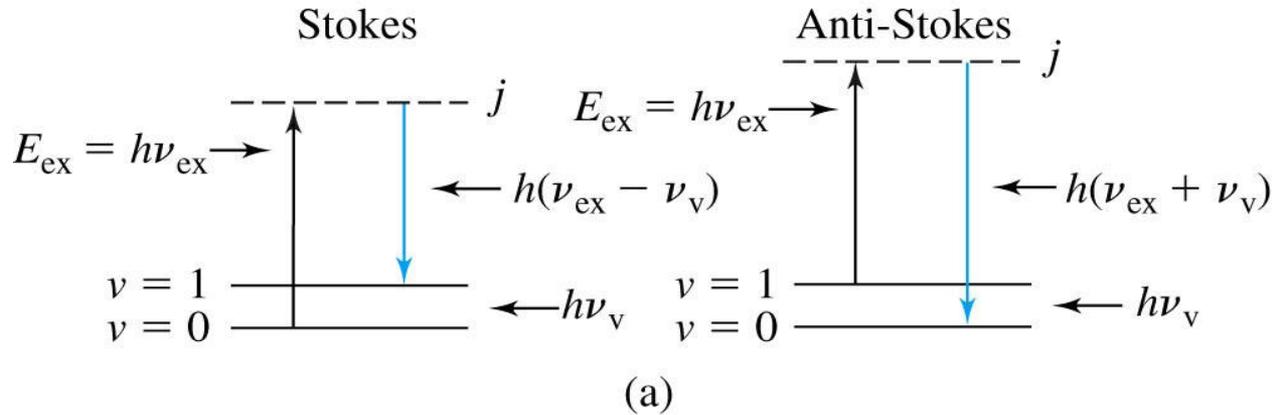
F. Vögtle



# Summary VCD

- Powerful tool to determine the absolute configuration of molecules
- Sensitive to structure (conformation)
- Information only through comparison with theory
- Challenges:
  - size of system
  - flexible molecules (conformers)
  - solvent effects

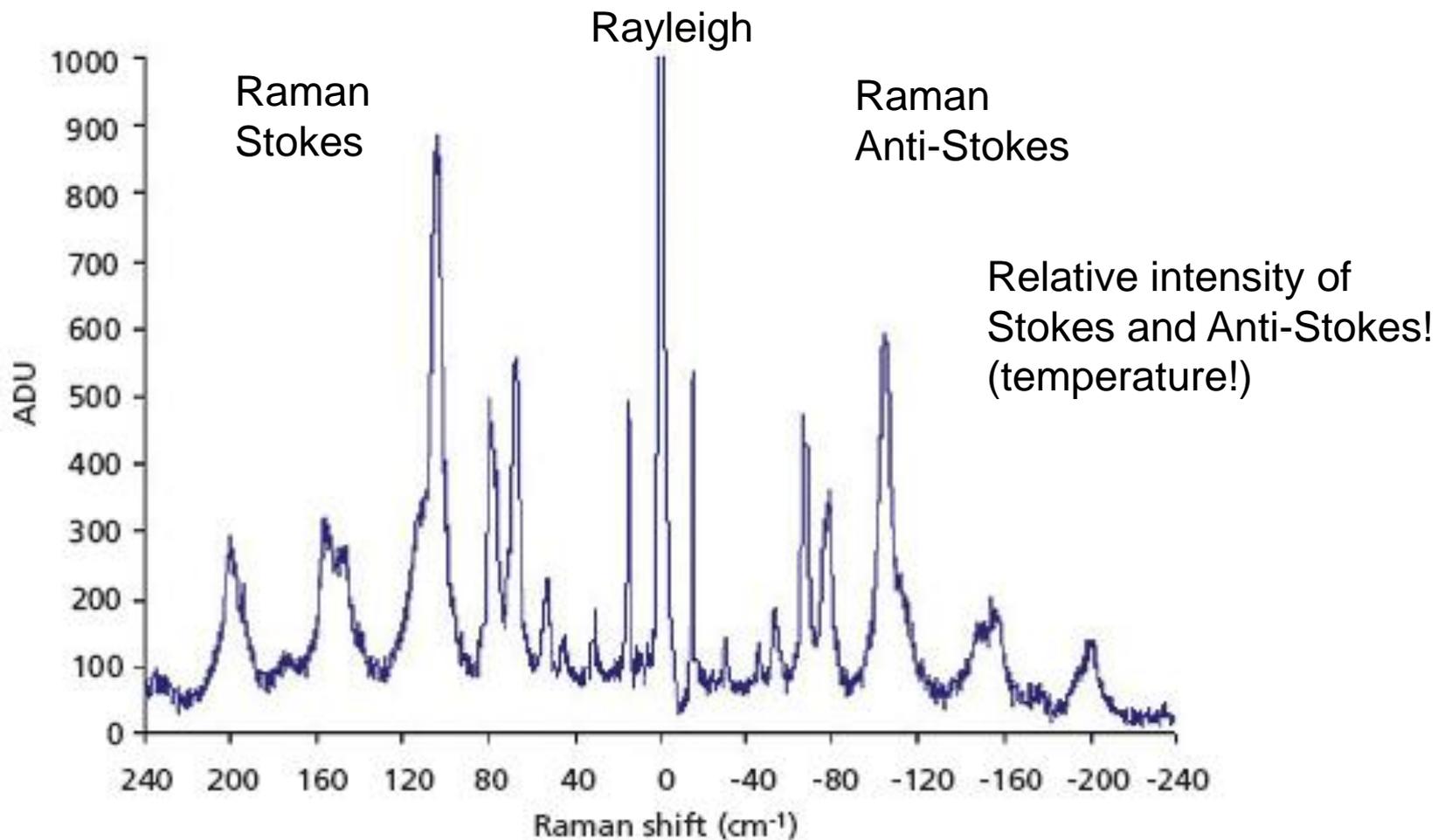
# Raman spectroscopy



Efficiency: Typically only one Raman photon per  $10^6$  -  $10^7$  primary photons!

Intensity:  $I_s \propto \nu_p^4$

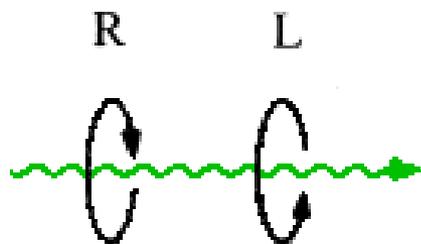
# Raman spectrum of L-cystine



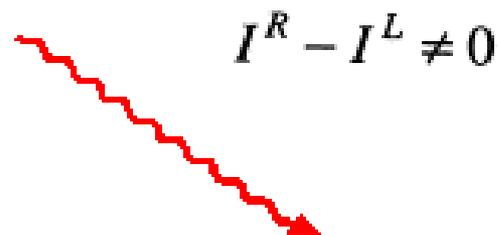
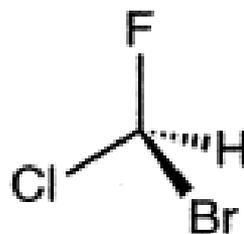
Raman spectrum of L-cystine

# Raman Optical Activity (ROA)

ROA is a tiny difference in the intensity of Raman scattering from chiral molecules in right (R)- and left (L)-circularly polarized incident light (ICP):

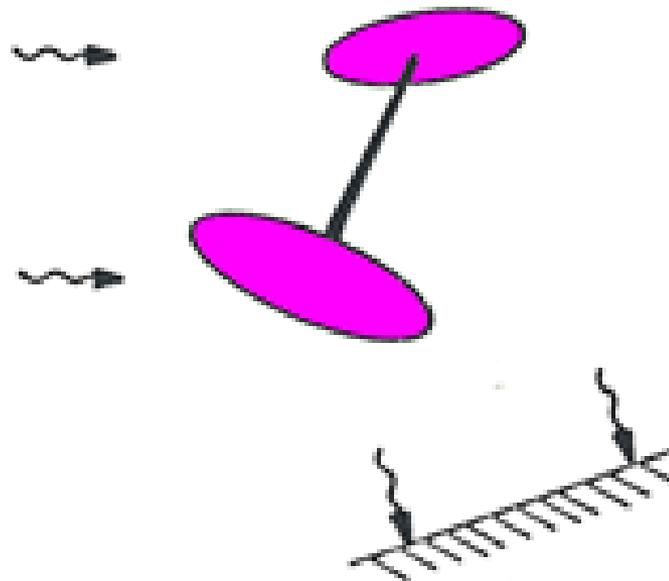


incident beam with  
angular frequency  $\omega$



Raman component of scattered beam  
with angular frequency  $\omega - \omega_v$

# Two-Group Model of ROA



ROA is generated by interference between light waves scattered independently from two achiral anisotropic groups held in a twisted chiral arrangement. L. D. Barron and A. D. Buckingham, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **96**, 4769 (1974).

# Basic theory for ROA

ROA originates in interference between light waves scattered via the polarizability and optical activity tensors of the molecule. These are introduced through the oscillating electric dipole moment  $\mu$ , magnetic dipole moment  $\mathbf{m}$  and electric quadrupole moment  $\Theta$  induced by the incident light wave:

$$\mu_\alpha = \alpha_{\alpha\beta} E_\beta + \frac{1}{\omega} G'_{\alpha\beta} \dot{B}_\beta + \frac{1}{3} A_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \nabla_\beta E_\gamma + \dots, \quad m_\alpha = \dots, \quad \Theta_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \dots$$

$$\alpha_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{2}{\hbar} \sum_{j \neq n} \frac{\omega_{jn}}{(\omega_{jn}^2 - \omega^2)} \operatorname{Re}(\langle n | \mu_\alpha | j \rangle \langle j | \mu_\beta | n \rangle) \quad (\mu, \mu) \text{ polarizability}$$

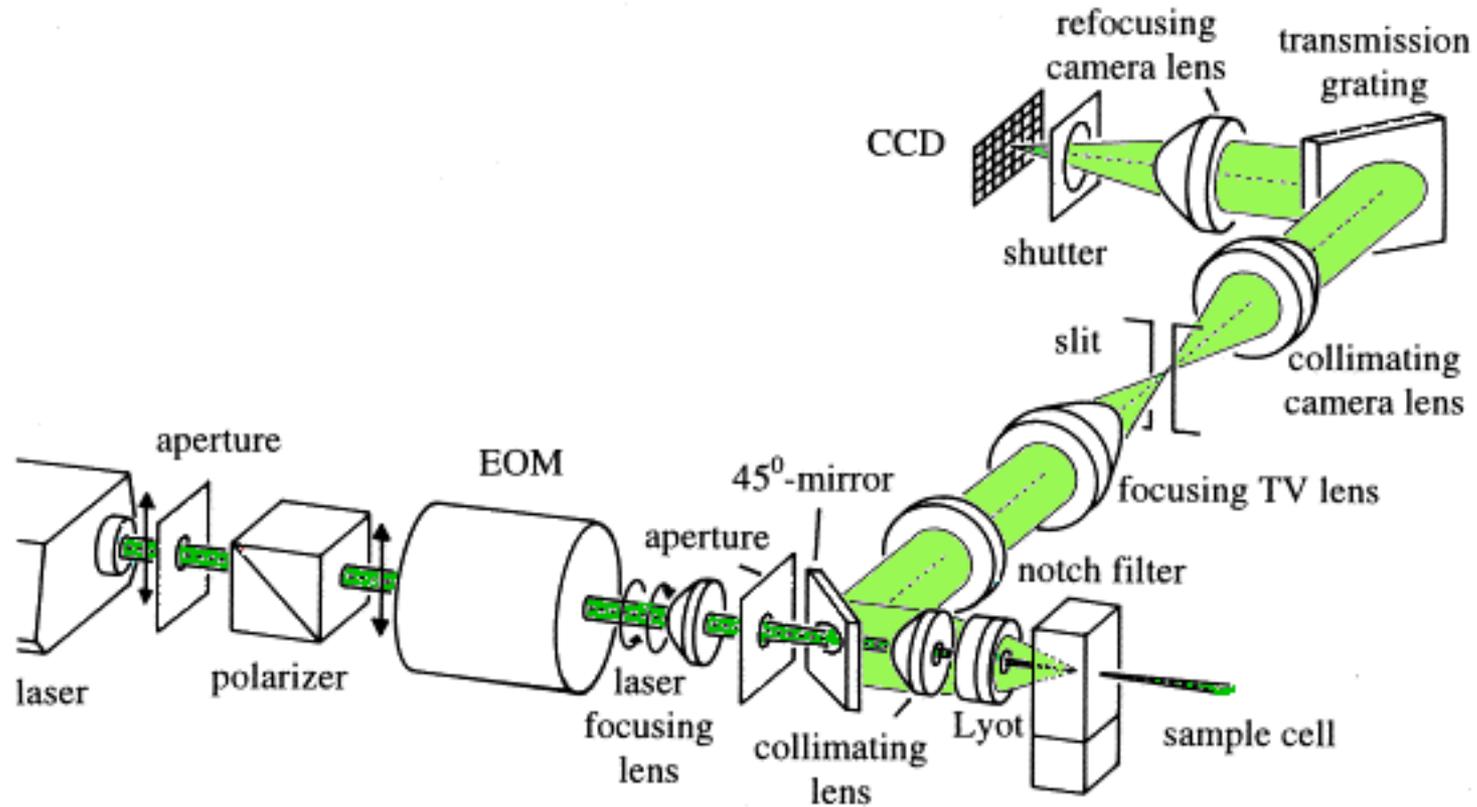
$$G'_{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{2}{\hbar} \sum_{j \neq n} \frac{\omega}{(\omega_{jn}^2 - \omega^2)} \operatorname{Im}(\langle n | \mu_\alpha | j \rangle \langle j | m_\beta | n \rangle) \quad (\mu, \mathbf{m}) \text{ optical activity}$$

$$A_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \frac{2}{\hbar} \sum_{j \neq n} \frac{\omega_{jn}}{(\omega_{jn}^2 - \omega^2)} \operatorname{Re}(\langle n | \mu_\alpha | j \rangle \langle j | \Theta_{\beta\gamma} | n \rangle) \quad (\mu, \Theta) \text{ optical activity}$$

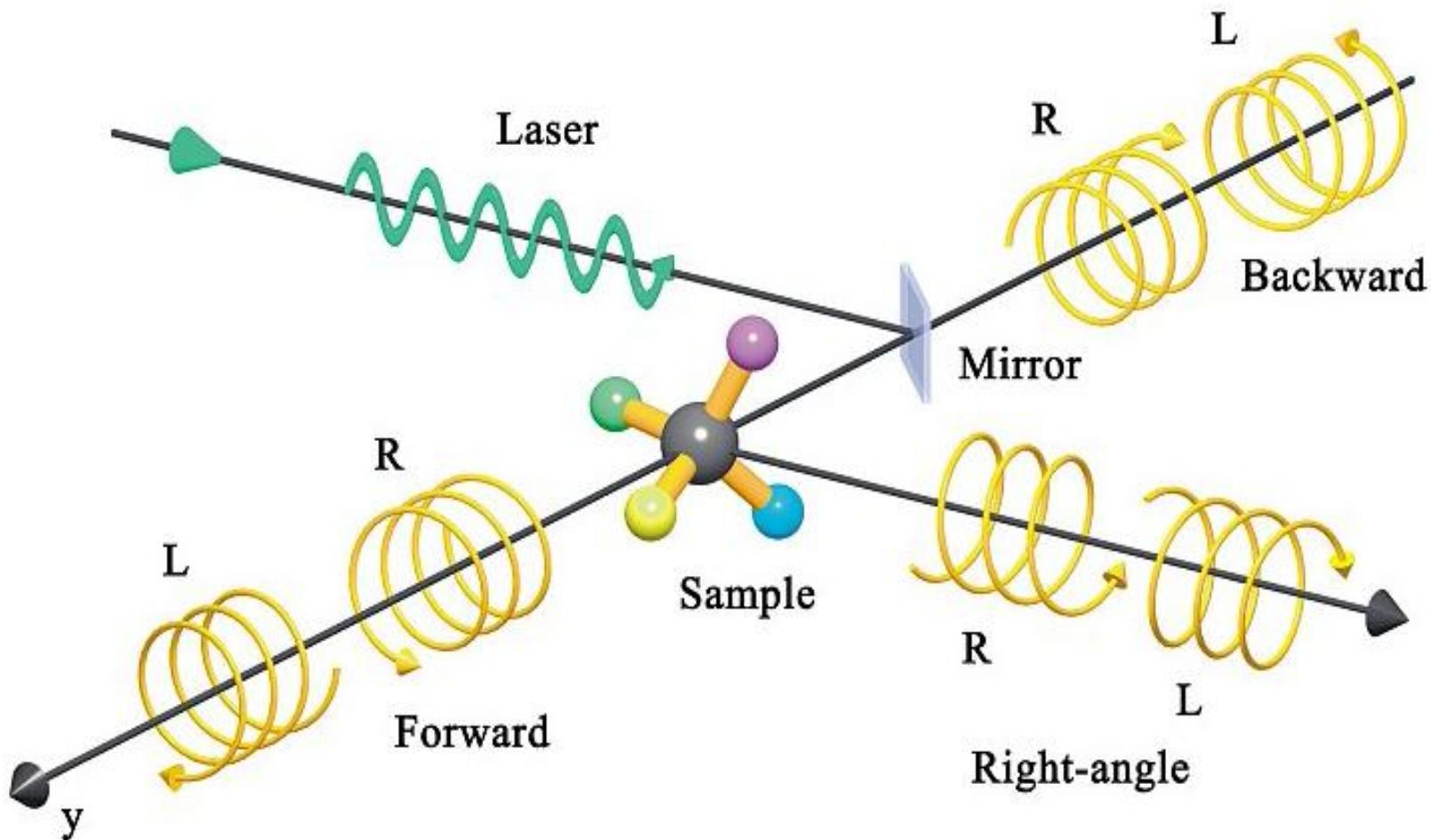
$$\Delta = \frac{I^R - I^L}{I^R + I^L} \approx \frac{\alpha G' + \alpha A}{\alpha^2} \cong 10^{-3} \quad \Delta(180^\circ) = \frac{8(3\alpha_{\alpha\beta} G'_{\alpha\beta}^* - \alpha_{\alpha\alpha} G'_{\beta\beta}^* + \frac{1}{3} \omega \alpha_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{\alpha\gamma\delta} A_{\gamma\delta\beta}^*)}{c(7\alpha_{\lambda\mu} \alpha_{\lambda\mu}^* + \alpha_{\lambda\lambda} \alpha_{\mu\mu}^*)}$$

# ROA spectrometer (Glasgow, Barron)

## ICP ROA

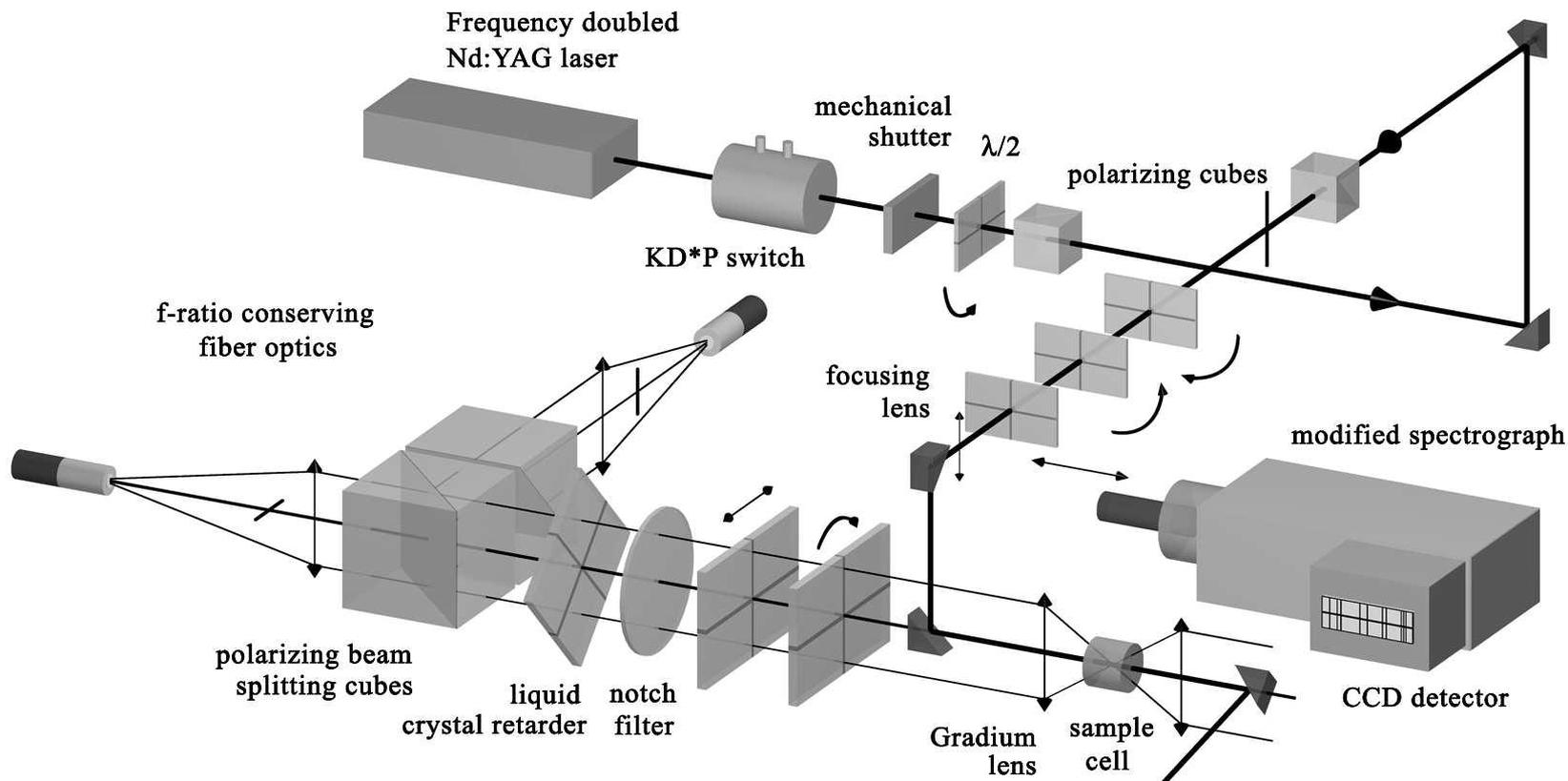


# Different geometries for scattered circular polarization (SCP) ROA



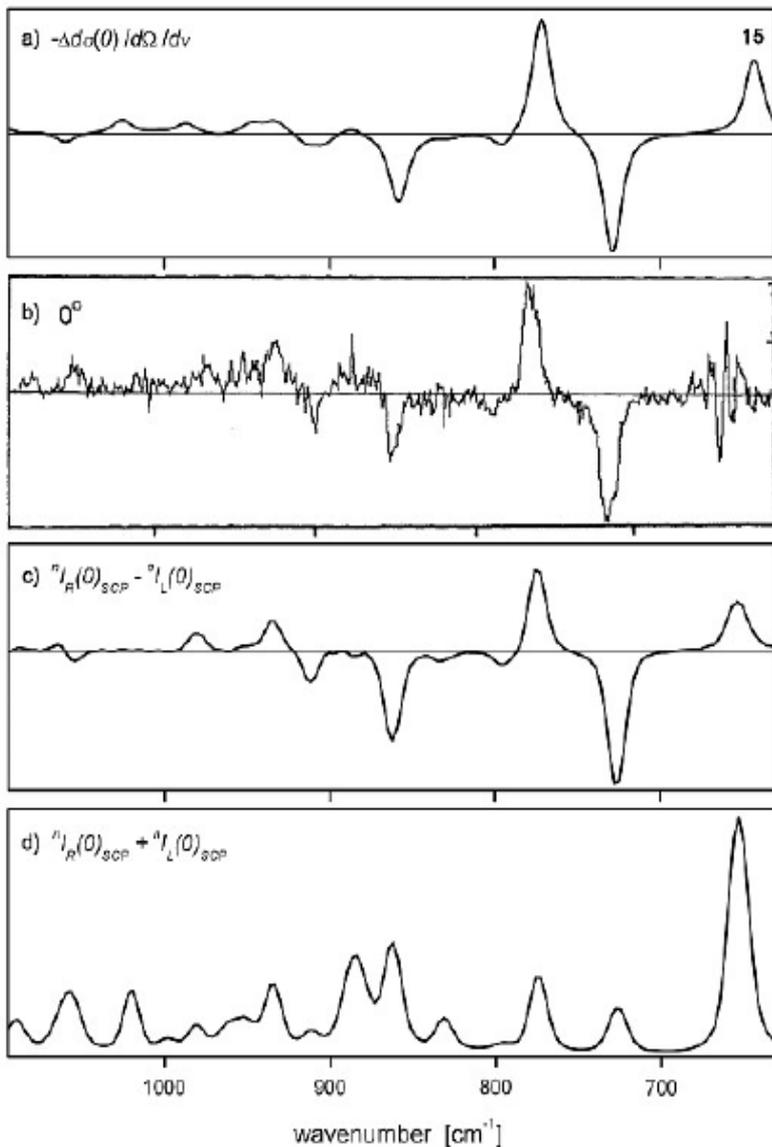
# ROA spectrometer (Prof. W. Hug)

## SCP ROA



Now in Geneva

# Raman and ROA spectra of (-)- $\beta$ -pinene



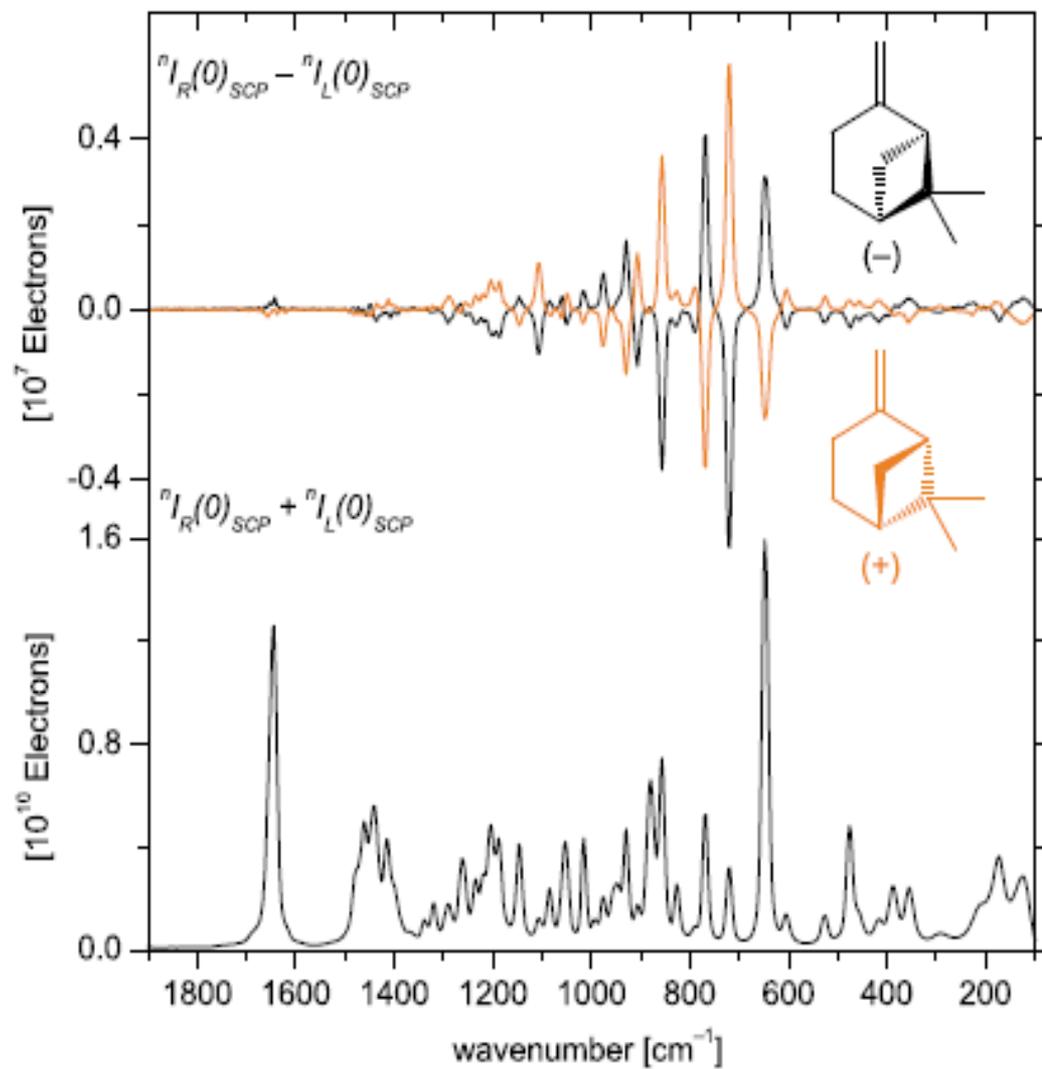
Calculated

Measured ROA 1990  
(Barron, Glasgow)

Measured ROA 2007  
(Hug, Fribourg,  
20 min, 8,5  $\mu\text{l}$  sample)

Measured Raman

# ROA of $\beta$ -pinene



# ROA of chirally deuterated neopentane

