

Introduction to FT-NIR Spectroscopy



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Spectroscopy Introduction



- **Spectroscopy** is a term related to the **measurement** and the **study** of an electromagnetic spectrum.
- The term **spectrum** is referred to a graphical bidimensional representation of a peaks sequence with proper **intensity** (variable along y-axis) in a certain **position** (x-axis).
- Peaks are also termed **bands**.



Spectroscopy

The spectrum



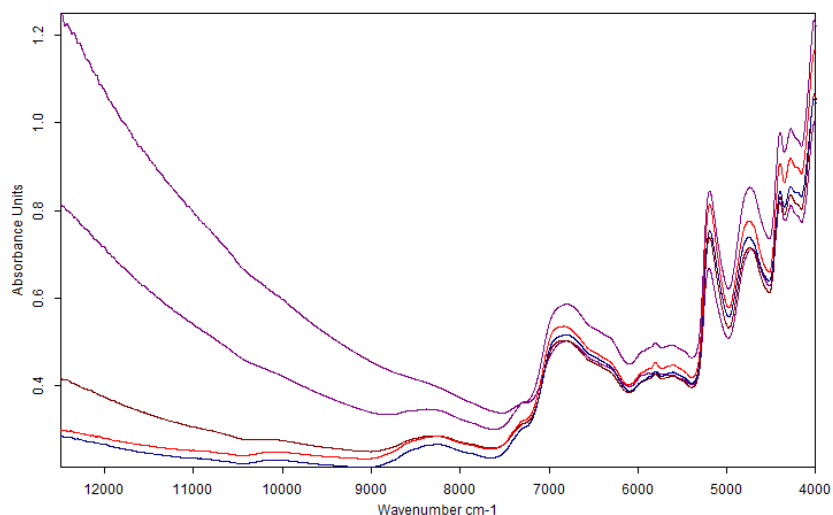
- Typically, the peak **position** (*x-axis*) is the graphical representation of a peculiar space (wavenumber, energy, wavelength).
- The peak sequence (with a precise position) represents, often, the molecules' **fingerprints**.
- The spectrum give us the possibility to read the fingerprint pattern of a sample, in order to identify it in **non** ambiguous way.
- The peaks intensity **is not** relevant for identification, but it is crucial for quantification, depending the height of a peak from the amount of sample, i.e. from the **concentration**.



Spectroscopy and spectrometry



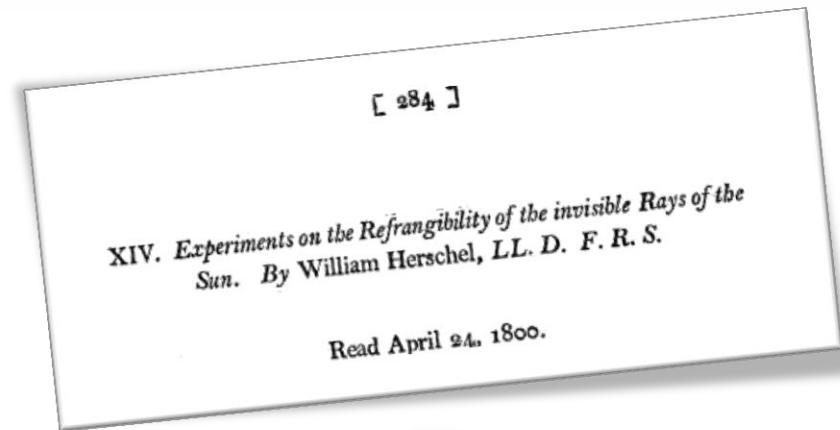
- From a practical approach, it is possible to get a spectrum using a **spectrometer**.
- Generally speaking, a spectrometer is a instrument able **to measure** a spectrum, by definition.
- A spectrometer able to measure the electromagnetic spectrum, i.e. the light properties in function of the wavelength, has termed **spectrophotometer**.



Spectrophotometry Dispersion



- The dispersion of light has been discovered in 1800 by astronomer Friedrich Wilhelm Herschel analyzing the spectrum of sunlight
- Large part of spectrophotometers on the market uses the inference principle to separate the electromagnetic radiation into all the composing wavelengths, measuring the intensities with a proper detector.

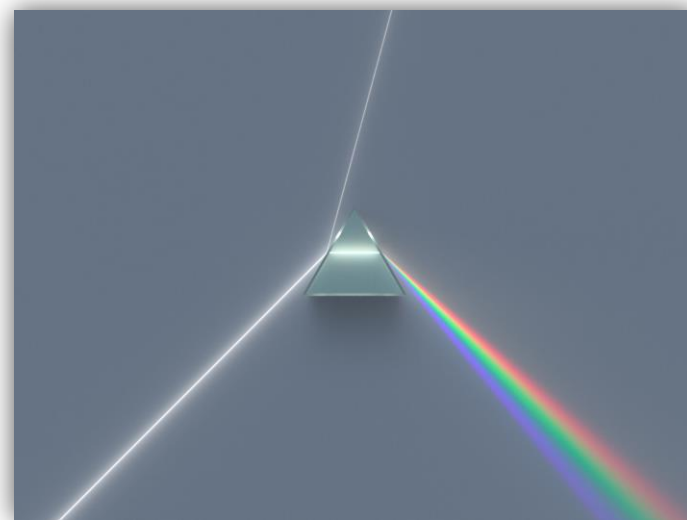


Spectrophotometry

Accuracy and Calibration



- The spectrophotometer **must ensure** that the peaks position is reproducible within a certain **accuracy** and **always** comparable with peaks tables in bibliography, in order to get an **unambiguos** results.
- A critical point is the **calibration** system used.
- Every spectrum needs to be calibrated for **every** decomposed wavelenght.

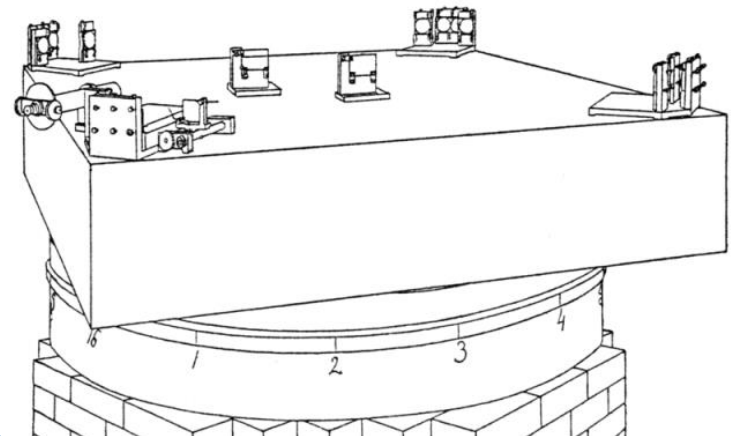
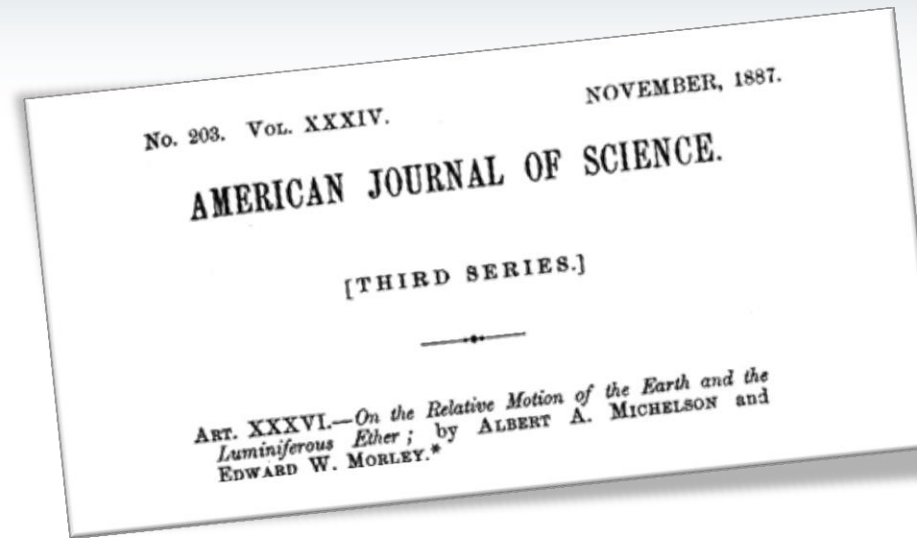


FT-IR Spectrometer

The interferometer



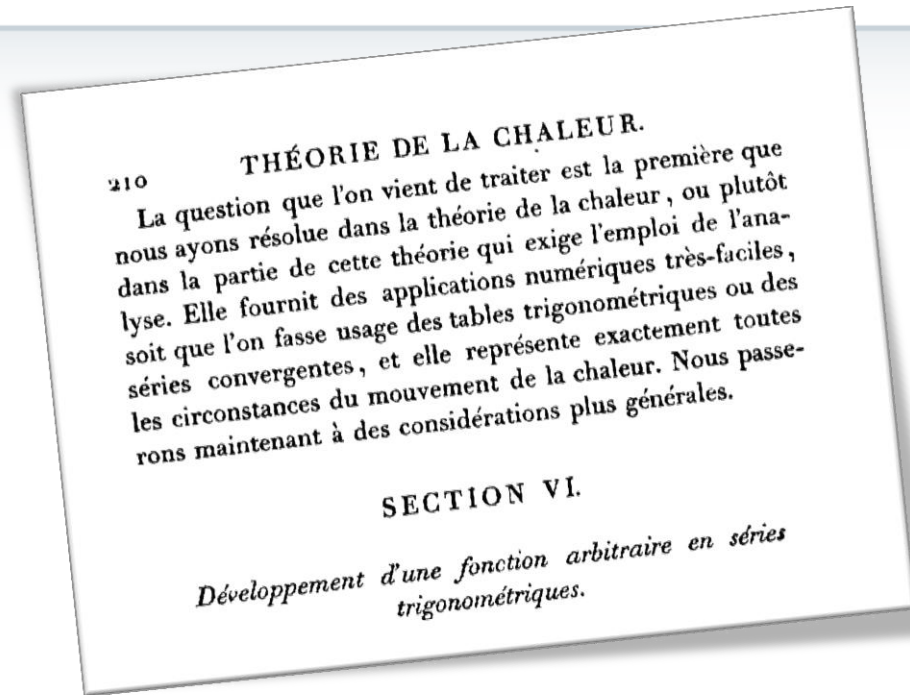
- Every FT-IR spectrometer uses an interferometer to generate the wavelength dispersion
- The interferometer is an optical device, formally invented into 1887 by Michelson and Morley



FT-IR Spectrometer Fourier Transformation



- Into FT-IR spectrometry the spectrum is the final result of the **application** of Fourier Transformation to the raw data acquired from the spectrometer
- The Fourier Transformation (FT) is a mathematical operation invented into 1822 by Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier
- If the raw data are acquired as space dependent (i.e. in function of cm), the spectrum will be a function of cm^{-1} , i.e. the **wavenumber**



$$f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} F(\omega) e^{i\omega t} dt$$

FT-IR Spectrometry Advantages

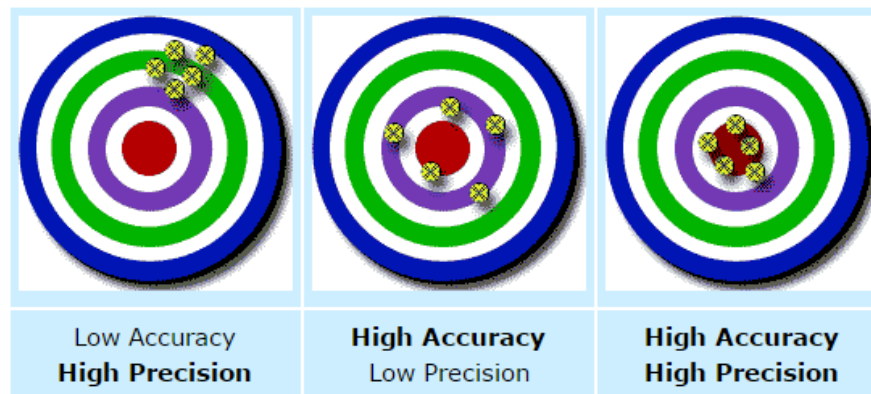


The advantages respect to other non interferometer based techniques are the following:

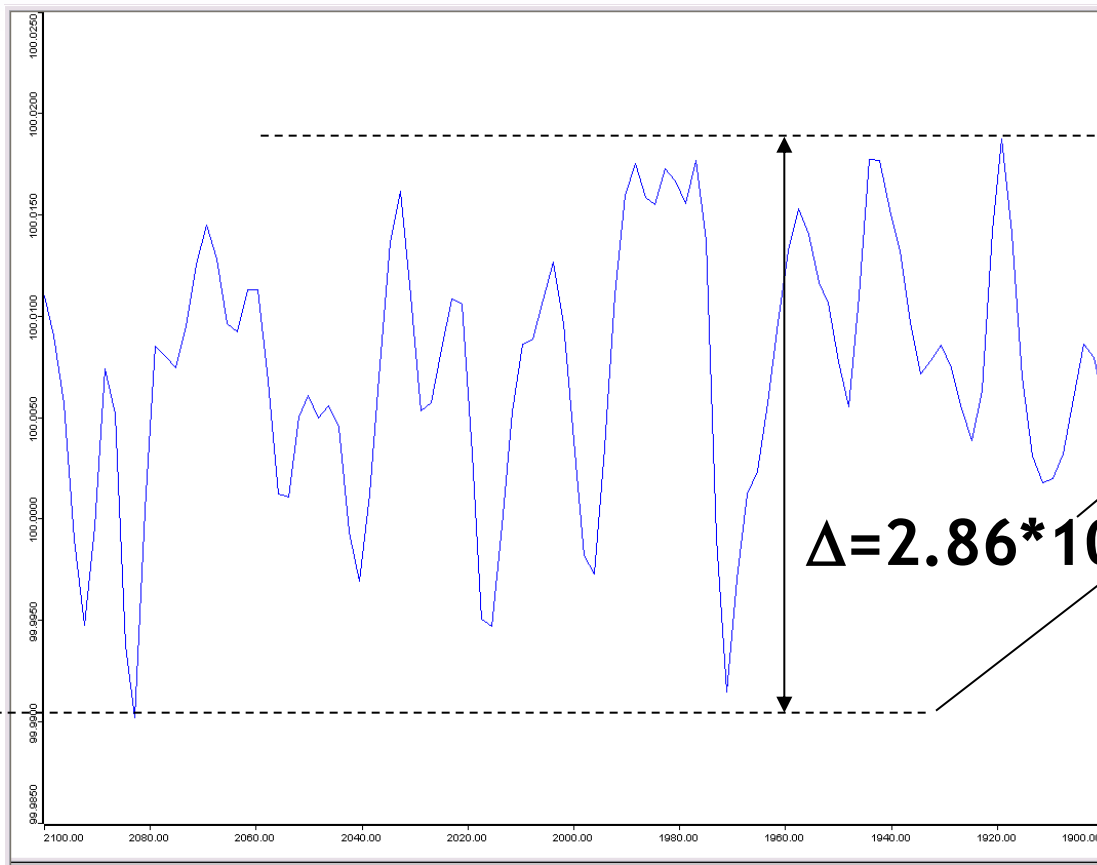
- High **accuracy** (how close a measured value is to the **true value**)
- High **precision** (how close the measured values are to each other)
- High Energy throughput, high **Signal to Noise Ratio** (SNR)

The high wavenumber accuracy allows a easy calibration transfer

It seems to be the ideal technique to be applied to multivariate analysis



S/N ratio



Signal-to-Noise Ratio

S/N Results:
File : BLACKBOD.0

S/N (RMS) = 15681.925
S/N (PP) = 3505.737
Noise (RMS) = 6.3772e-005
Noise (PP) = 0.00028527

Minimum = 0.9999
Maximum = 1.0002

Store S/N with the spectrum ?

Si No

$1/\Delta$

$\Delta = 2.86 * 10^{-4}$

S/N ratio:



Signal power on the DTC
(Planck's law)

Acquisition
time

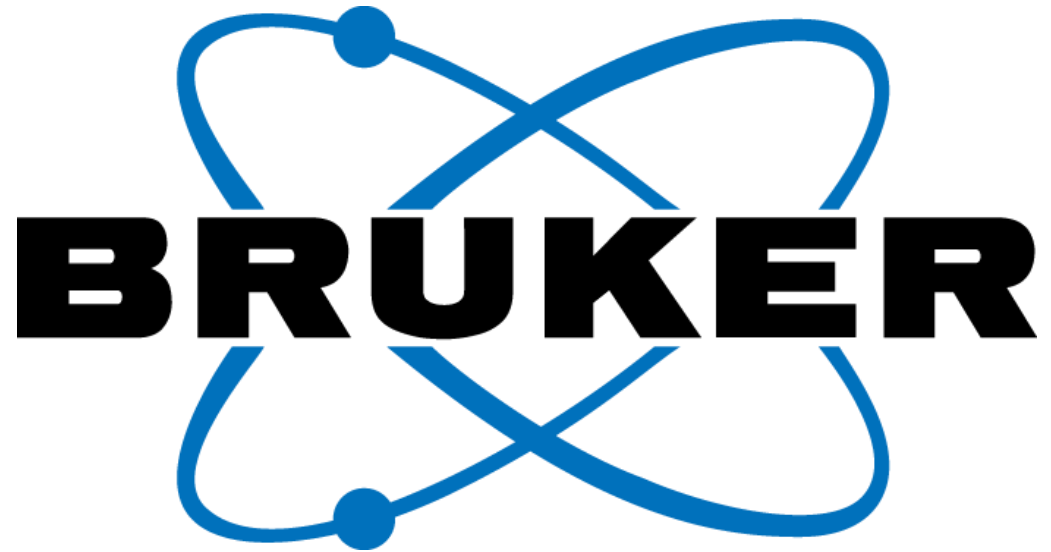
Optical
resolution

Efficiency

$$SNR = \frac{U_{\tilde{\nu}}(T) \cdot \Theta \cdot \Delta \tilde{\nu} \cdot \sqrt{t} \cdot \xi \cdot D^*}{\sqrt{A_D}}$$

Detectivity

DTC area



Innovation with Integrity