



Středoevropský technologický institut  
BRNO | ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA

S1007 Doing structural biology with the electron microscope  
C9940 3-Dimensional Transmission electron microscopy

## Lecture 1: Introduction & history



EVROPSKÁ UNIE  
EVROPSKÝ FOND PRO REGIONÁLNÍ ROZVOJ  
INVESTICE DO VAŠÍ BUDOUCNOSTI



OP Výzkum a vývoj  
pro inovace

# Course organization

- Time and place: Monday 14:00 – 15:50, A35/211
- Language: English
- Finishing the course: exam (written form), 4 credits
- Jiri Novacek ([jiri.novacek@ceitec.muni.cz](mailto:jiri.novacek@ceitec.muni.cz))

# Syllabus

12 <sup>th</sup> March	History
19 <sup>th</sup> March	No lecture
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Anatomy of electron microscope
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter holiday (no lecture)
9 <sup>th</sup> April	Specimen preparation
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Principles of image formation
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Tomography
30 <sup>th</sup> April	3D volume generation
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Single particle analysis
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Atomic modeling and validation
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Recent advances

# Resources

## Literature:

- J. Frank, Three-dimensional electron microscopy of macromolecular assemblies visualization of biological molecules in their native state.
- J. Frank, Electron Tomography: Methods for Three-Dimensional Visualization of Structures in the Cell
- Williams et al., Transmission electron microscopy

## Video courses (youtube):

- Grant Jensen
- NRAMM SEMC
- Cryo-EM14 (LMB)
- Cryo-EM17 (LMB)

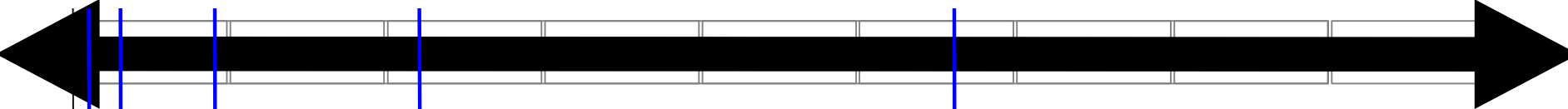
# *History of electron microscopy*

# Munich: Ernst Ruska & Otto Scherzer



# Ernst (and Helmut) Ruska: timeline

1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010



## Milestones:

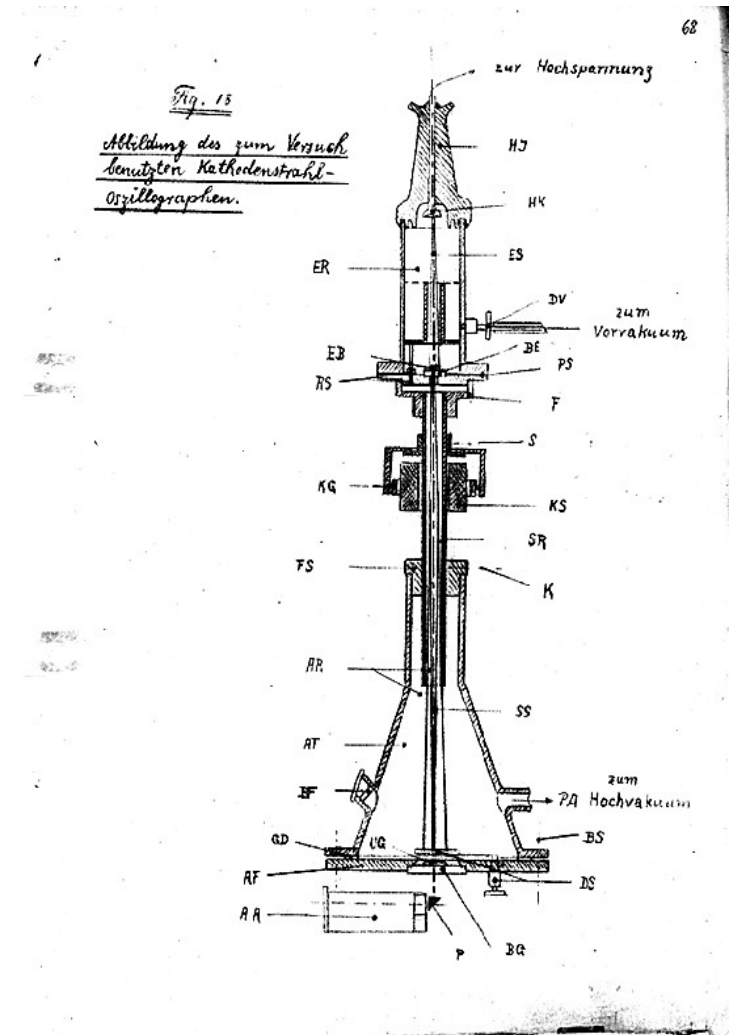
- ◆ 1931: Invention of the electrostatic lens
  - magnification: 400X
- ◆ 1933: First electron microscope
  - mag: 7000X (vs. LM: 2000X)
- ◆ 1933: Completed Ph.D. (!)
- ◆ 1939: First viable commercial EM
  - mag: 100,000X
- ◆ 1939: His brother Helmut Ruska images first virus (TMV)
- ◆ 1952: Helmut moves from Siemens to Albany
- ◆ 1986: Nobel Prize in Physics

# Ernst Ruska



<http://www.biografiasyvidas.com>

Sketch from 1929

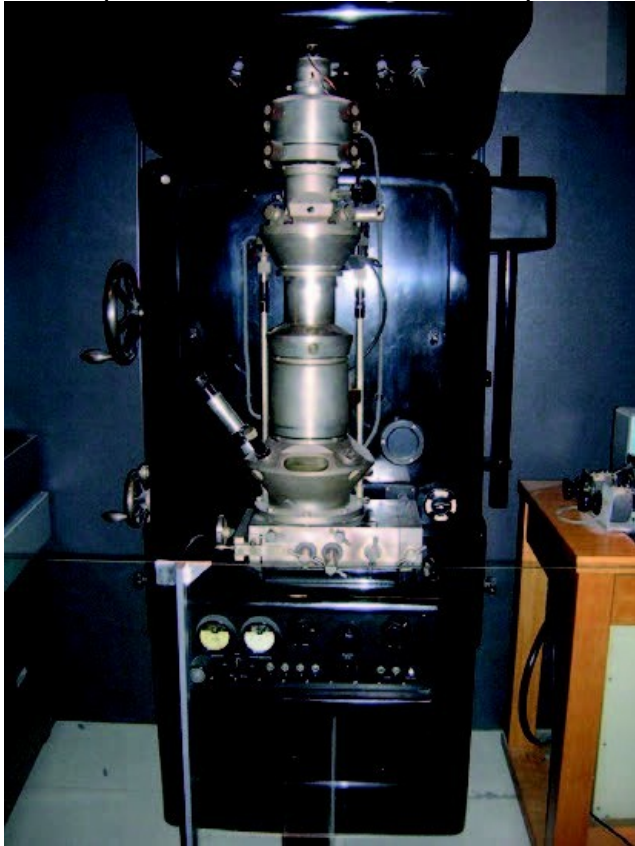


<http://ernst.ruska.de>



# Ernst Ruska

Replica of first electron microscope



<http://www.bluesci.org>

First (**viable**)  
commercial microscope (Siemens)



<http://ernst.ruska.de>

# Clarification

First Siemens microscope, 1939



<http://ernst.ruska.de>

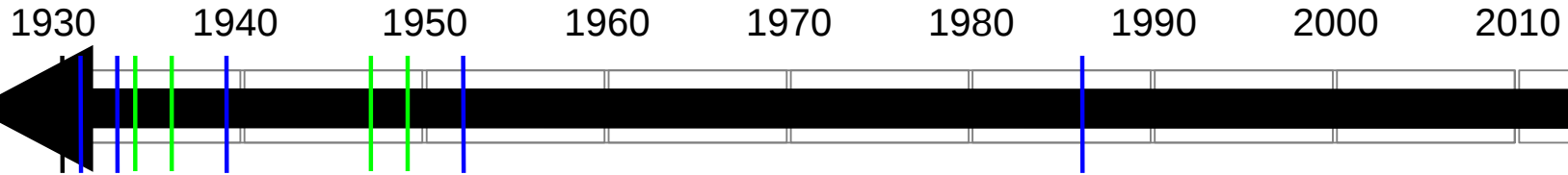
First **commercial** EM (1937)  
was Metropolitan-Vickers EM1  
(EM2 shown)



<http://emu.msim.org.uk>

The first commercial electron microscope was actually by the British company Metropolitan-Vickers in 1937. However, the magnification was worse than for the light microscope, so the Siemens is considered “first.”

# Otto Scherzer: timeline



## Milestones:

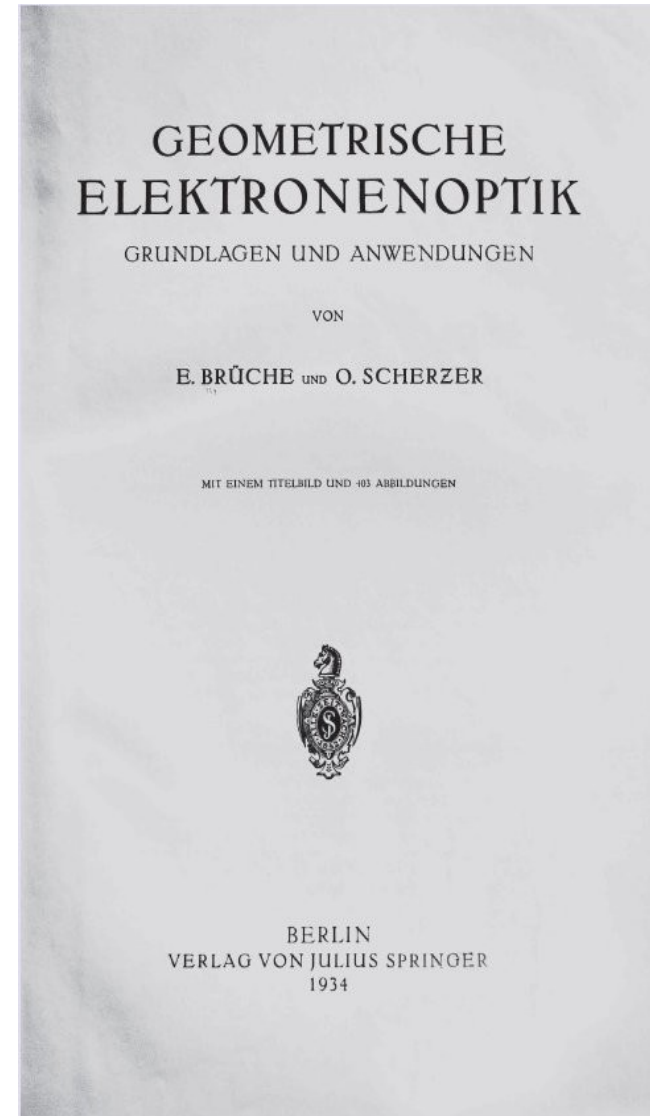
- ◆ 1934: First comprehensive book on electron optics
- ◆ 1936: Spherical aberration → resolution 50-100X the wavelength
- ◆ 1947-1951: Devised correction schemes for aberration correction
- ◆ 1949:
  - “Can atoms be visible in the electron microscope?”
  - “Scherzer focus”
- ◆ Scherzer → Harald Rose (Wadsworth, Darmstadt) → Max Haider

# Otto Scherzer



<http://www.microscopy.org>

First book on electron optics



<http://www.microscopy.org>

# Scherzer (1949) Physikalische Blätter & Scherzer (1949) Journal of Applied Physics

“Can atoms be visible in the electron microscope?”

## PHYSIKALISCHE BLÄTTER

1949 Heft 10.11 Seite 460 – 463

Prof. O. Scherzer

### Können Atome im Elektronen-Mikroskop sichtbar werden?

... des Auflösungsvermögens für möglich. Es ist also anzunehmen, daß die weitere Entwicklung des Elektronen-Mikroskops eines Tages nicht nur die schweren Jod-Atome des Moleküls, das wir unseren Betrachtungen zu Grunde gelegt haben, sichtbar machen wird, sondern auch die leichten Kohlenstoffatome und damit die Struktur von Molekülen, die weniger übersichtlich gebaut sind.

<http://www.microscopy.org>

“Scherzer focus”

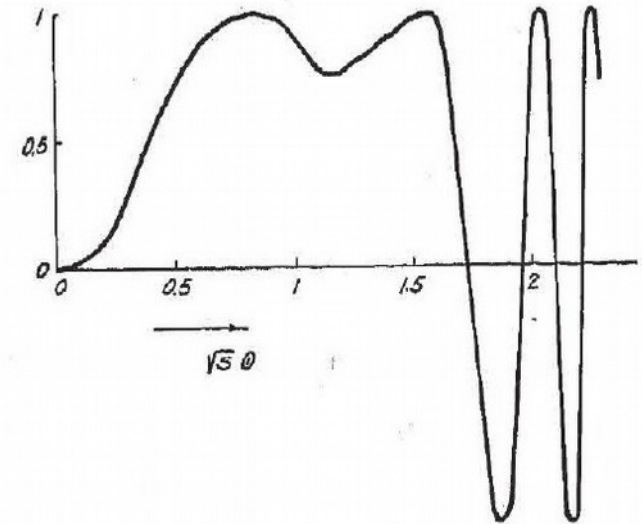
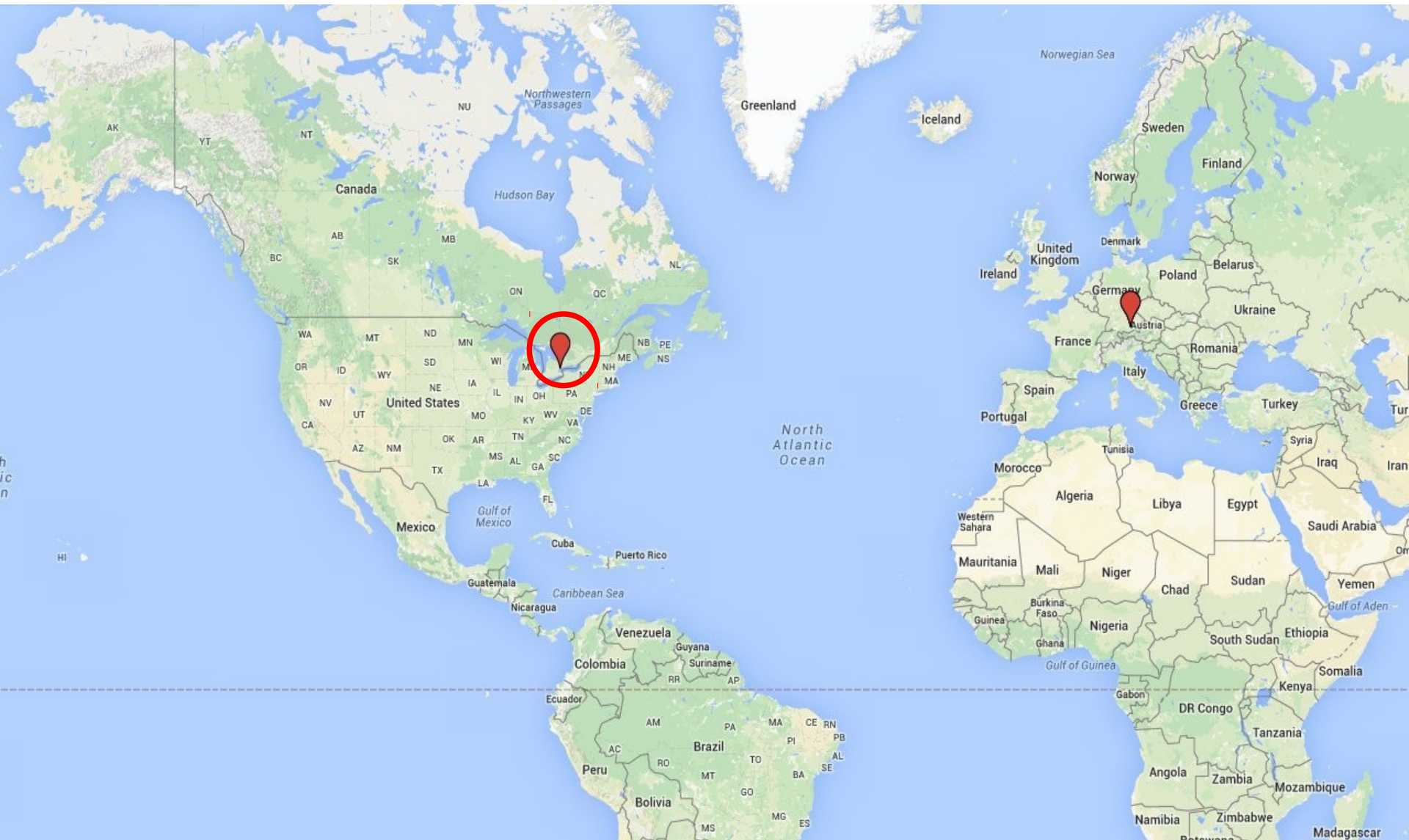


FIG. 4. The function  $\sin(3s^3 - s^2)$ , describing the phase shift in case of optimum contrast.

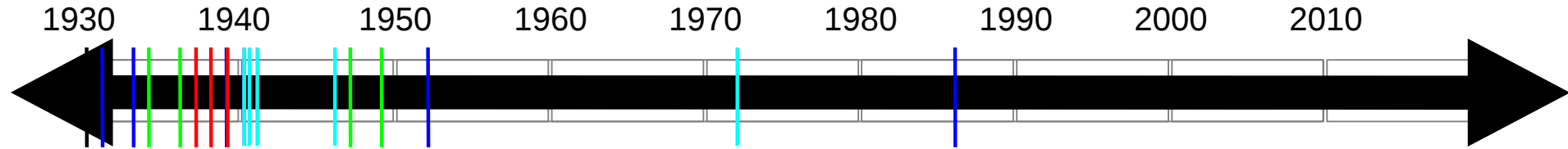
VOLUME 20, JANUARY, 1949

<http://www.microscopy.org>

# Toronto group: E.F. Burton, James Hillier, etc.



# James Hillier: timeline



## Milestones:

- ◆ 1940 February
  - Hillier started at RCA
  - enlisted by Vladimir Dworykin (cathode ray tube)
- ◆ 1940 Jul 4: Commercial EM, Model B (EMB)
- ◆ 1941: 300kV, for dealing with thick specimens
- ◆ 1947: first stigmator
  - stigmators were iron screws tapped into the pole piece
  - resolution → 1nm
- ◆ 1973 (as VP of RCA): first videodisc

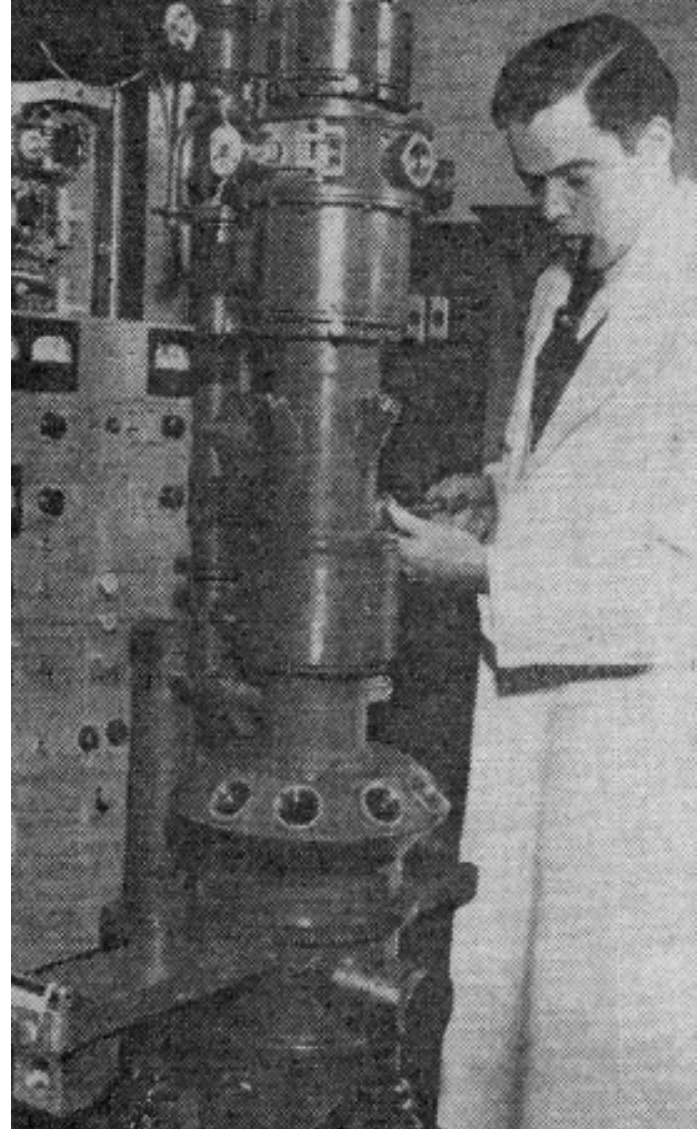
# James Hillier

Seated, with Albert Prebus standing



<http://www.museevirtuel.ca>

At RCA Model B, 1940



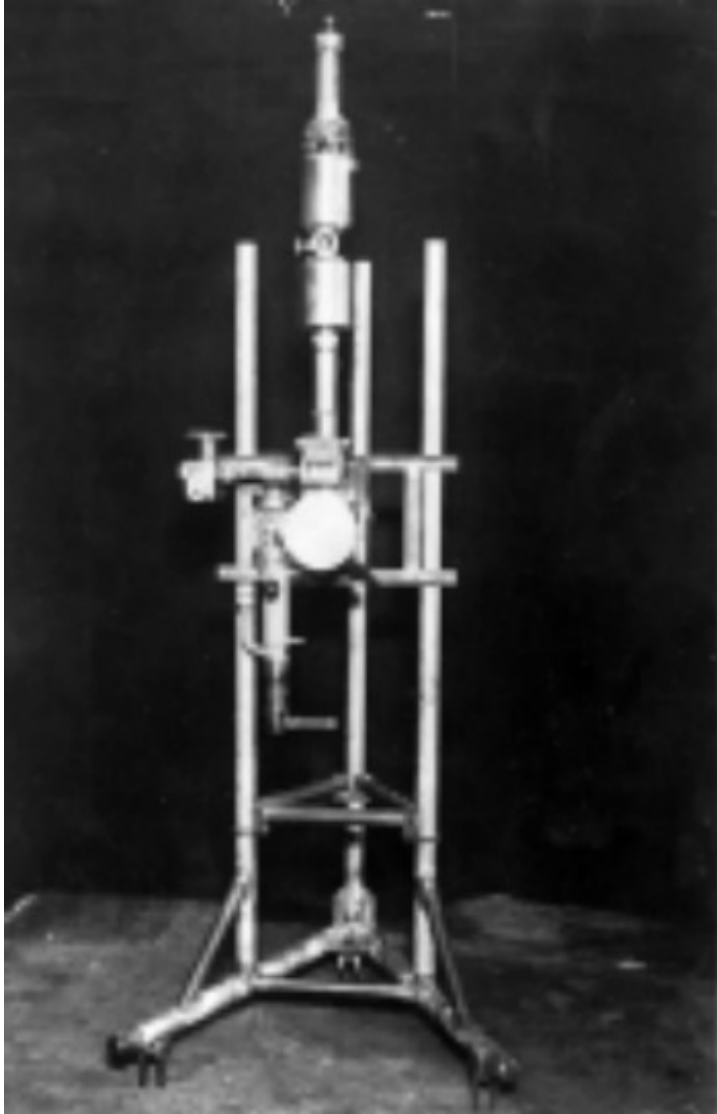
<http://www.rfcafe.com>





# Electron microscopy in the Czech Republic

“Tripod,” 1950



<http://www.isibrno.cz>

First high-vacuum system, 1961



<http://www.isibrno.cz>

# Electron microscopy in the Czech Republic

## TESLA BS 242

Prozařovací elektronový mikroskop  
Oceněný zlatou medailí na světové výstavě  
EXPO 1958 v Bruselu

Transmission Electron Microscope  
Awarded a Gold Medal at the  
EXPO 1958 in Brussels

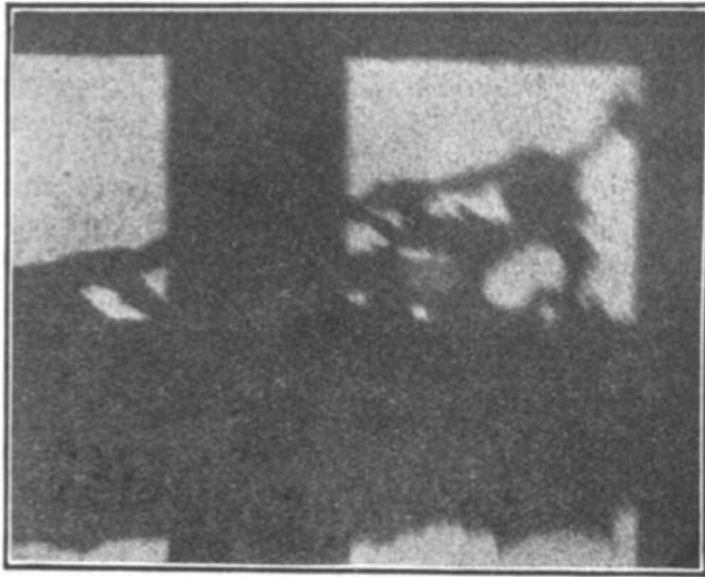


Tescan Factory in Brno

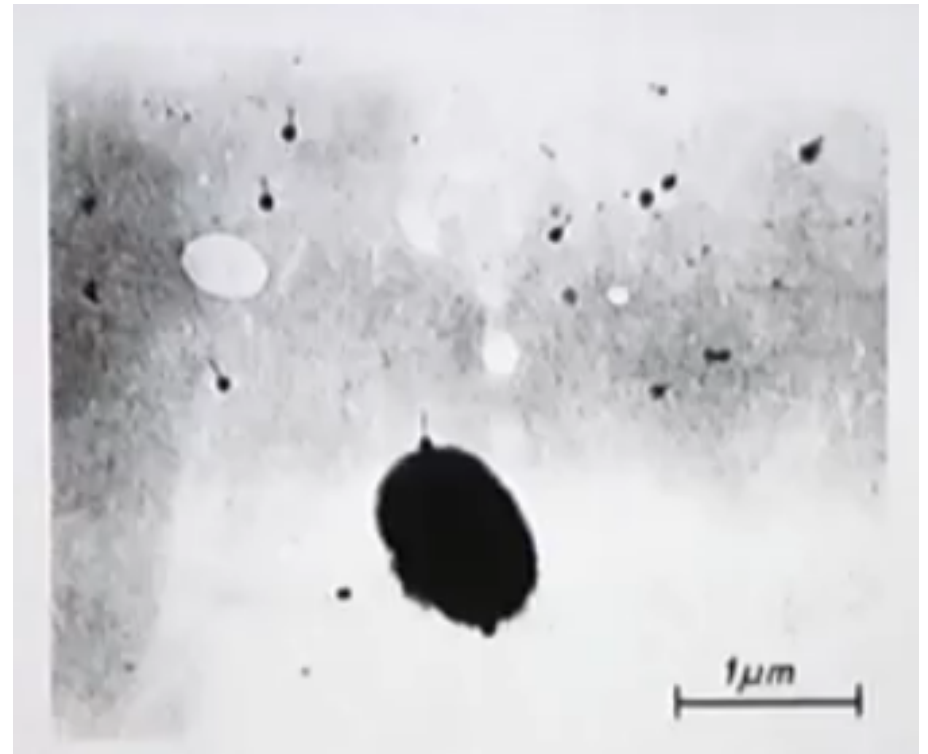


Technical Museum in Brno

# Electron microscopy of biological specimen



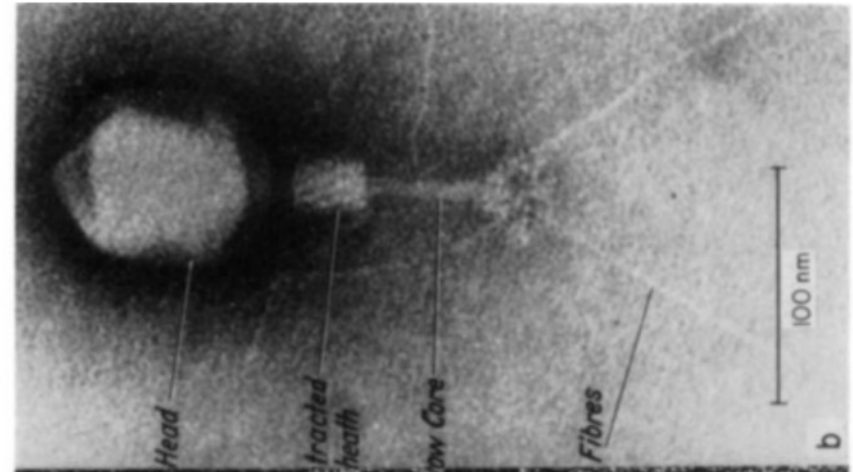
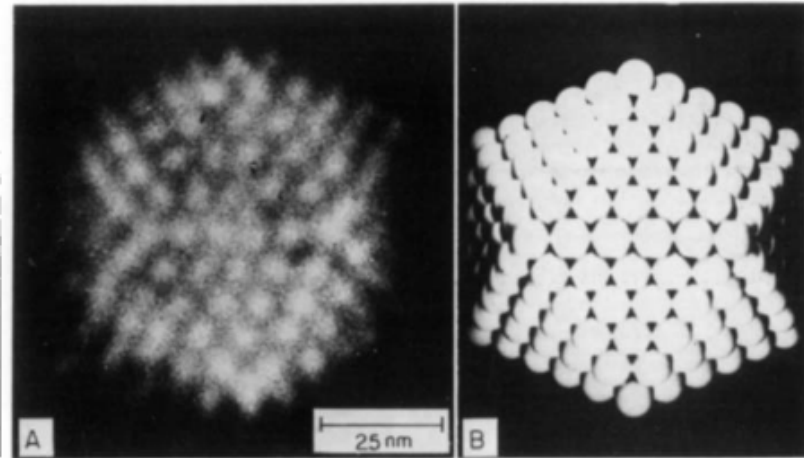
**FIG. 2.**  $\times$  about 450.  
15 $\mu$ m section of Drosera leaf, Marton, 1934



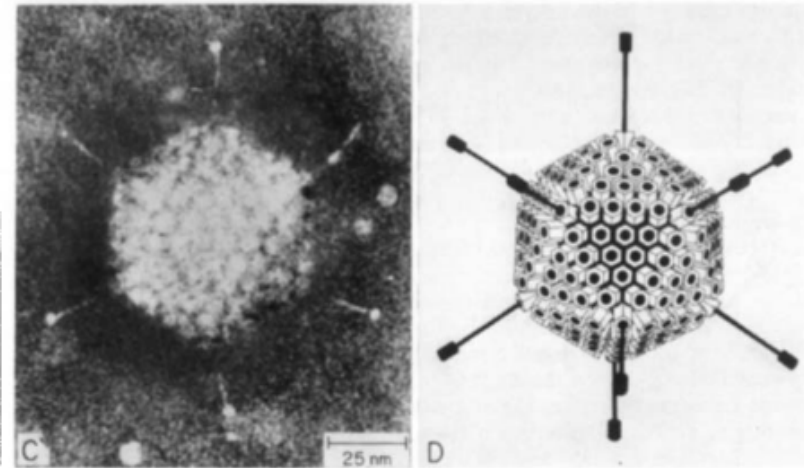
Bacteriophage, H. Ruska 1942

# Electron microscopy of biological specimen

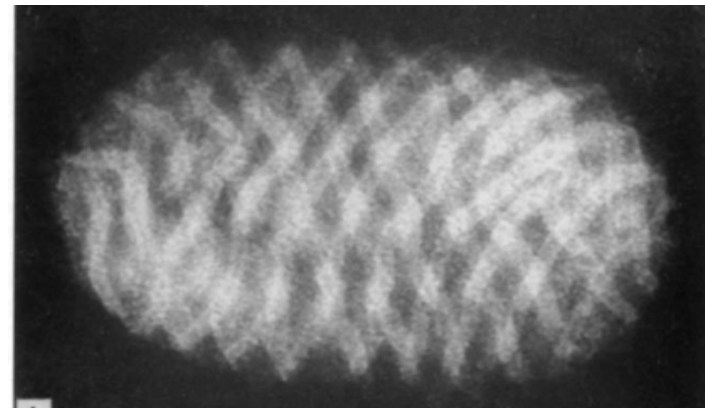
Negative staining (S. Brenner)



T4 bacteriophage



Adenovirus, W. Horn



Orf virus, W. Horn

# Electron microscopy of biological specimen

*(Reprinted from Nature, Vol. 217, No. 5124, pp. 130-134, January 13, 1968)*

## Reconstruction of Three Dimensional Structures from Electron Micrographs

by

D. J. DE ROSIER  
A. KLUG

MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology,  
Hills Road, Cambridge

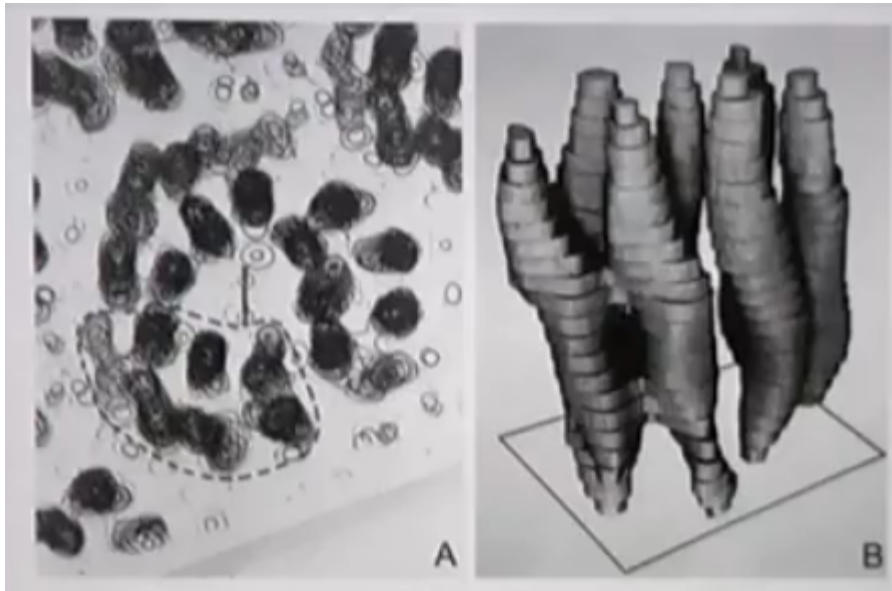
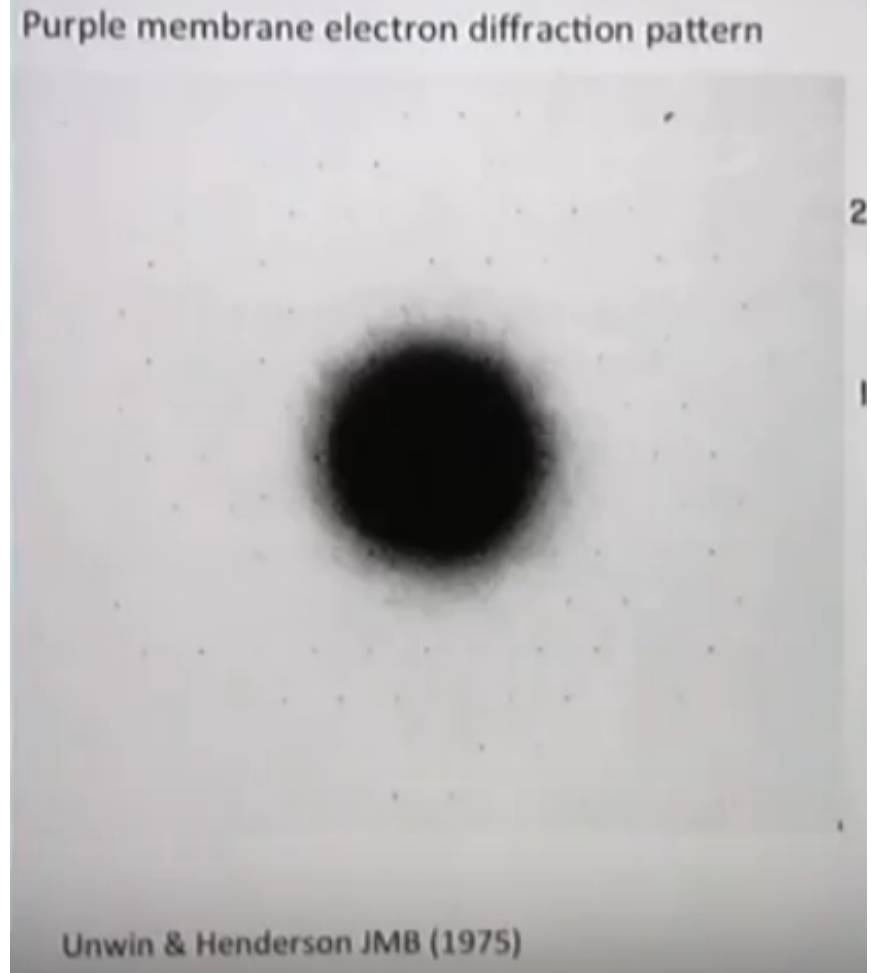
General principles are formulated for the objective reconstruction of a three dimensional object from a set of electron microscope images. These principles are applied to the calculation of a three dimensional density map of the tail of bacteriophage T4.



First qualitative image analysis

# Electron microscopy of biological specimen

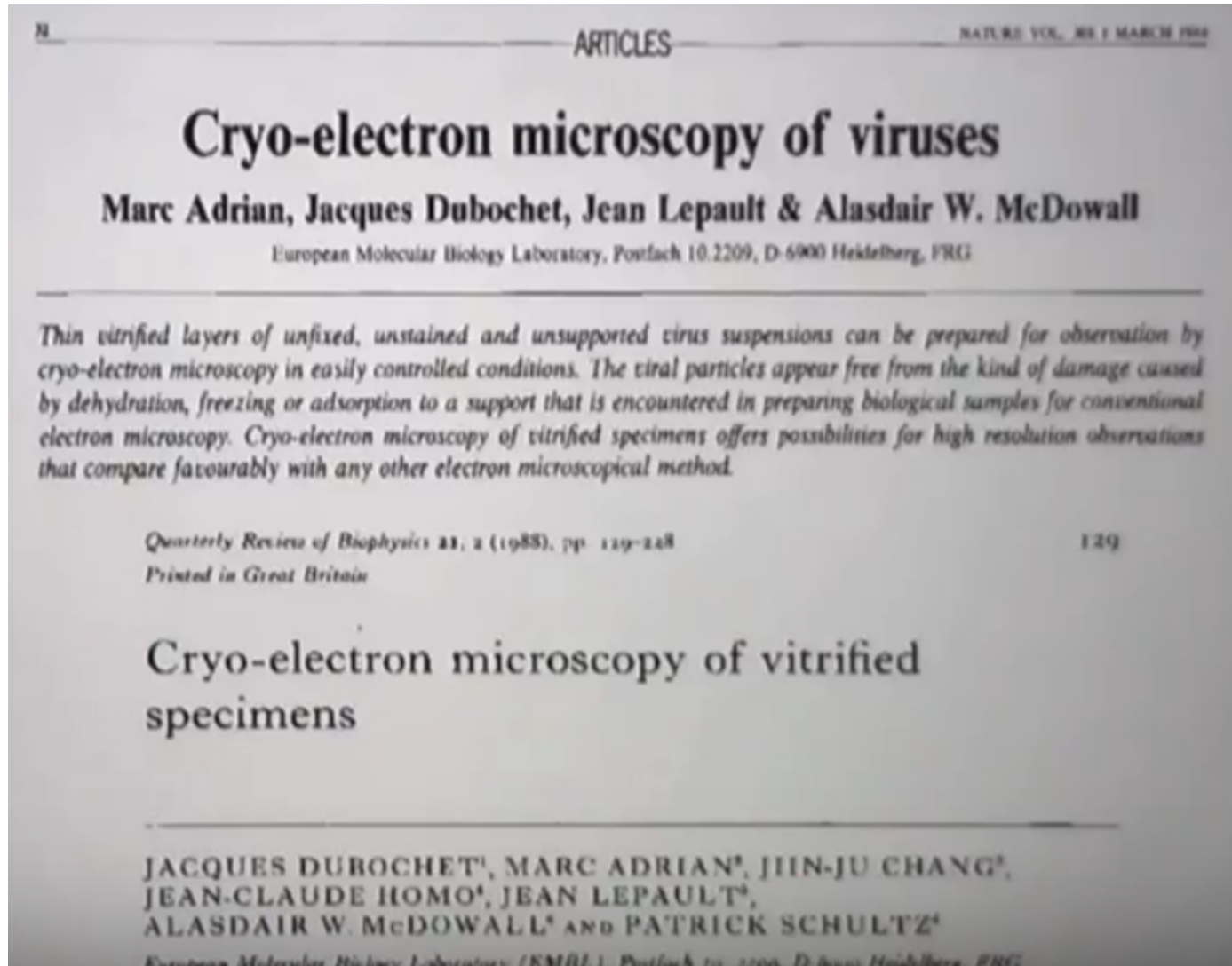
Electron crystallography (R. Henderson, N. Unwin)



First sub-nanometer electron microscopy structure

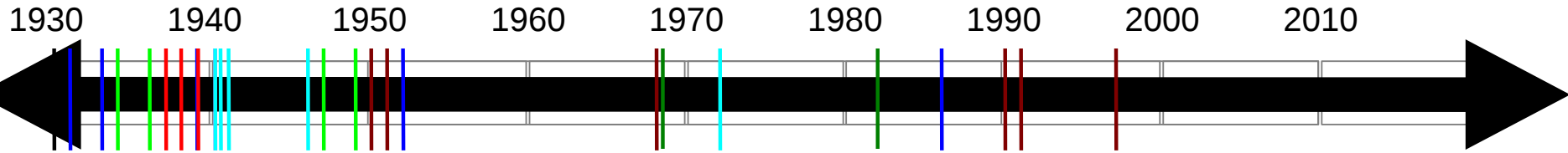
# Electron microscopy of biological specimen

Vitrification → Cryo-electron microscopy (J. Dubochet)



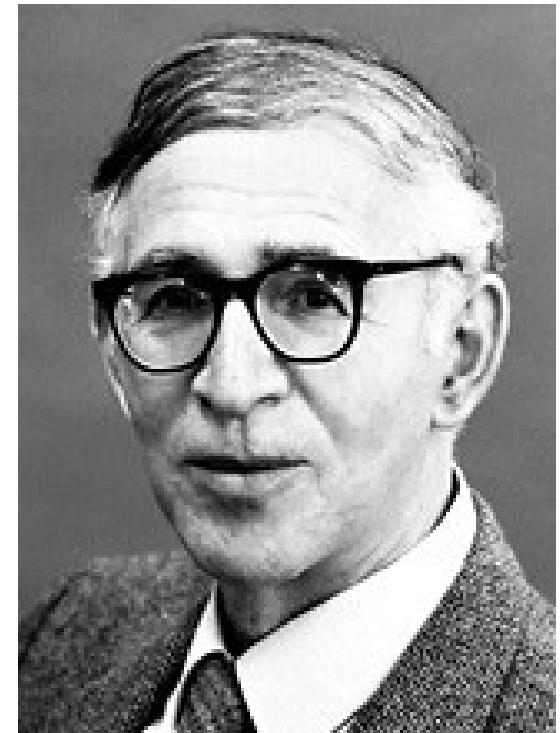
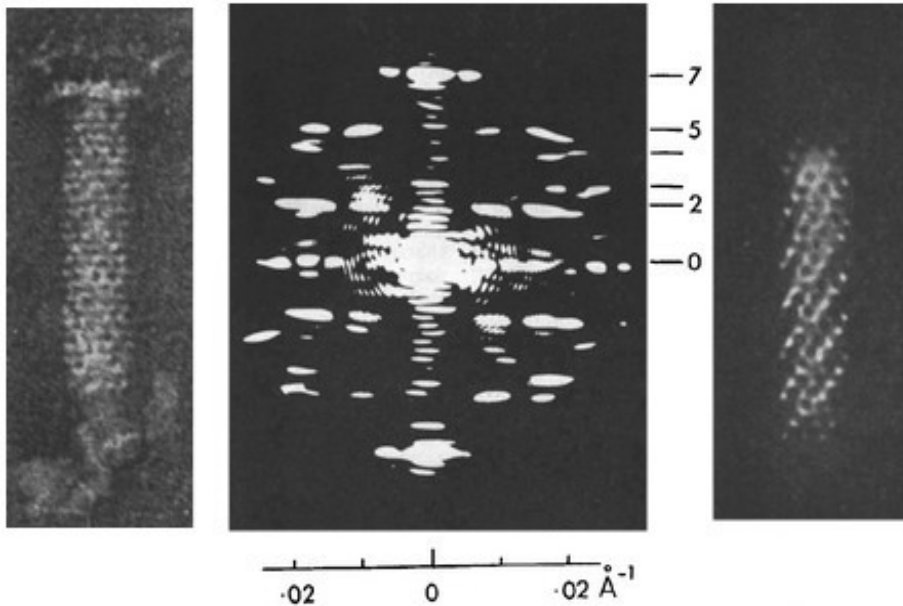


# Aaron Klug: tim

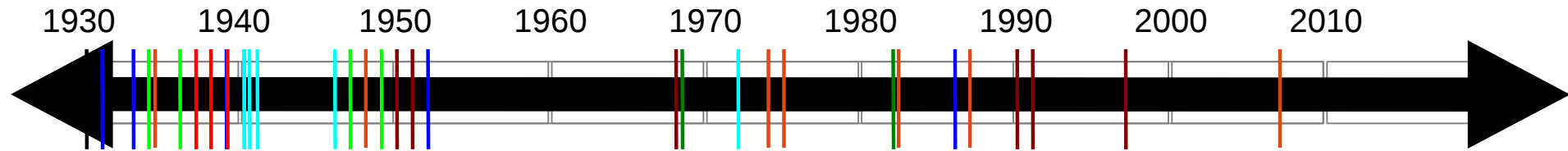


## Milestones:

- ◆ 1968: DeRosier & Klug – first 3D EM reconstruction (phage T4)
- ◆ 1982: Nobel Prize in Chemistry



# Other notable events



## Milestones:

- ◆ 1934: Ladislaus Laszlo “Bill” Marton takes the first image of biological specimen: sections of a plant leaf
- ◆ 1937: Manfred von Ardenne (CRT) develops SEM
- ◆ 1948: Dennis Gabor develops electron holography (Nobel Prize in Physics, 1971)
- ◆ 1974: Ken Taylor & Bob Glaeser – electron crystallography of frozen hydrated catalase
- ◆ 1974: Walter Hoppe – 3D reconstruction of fatty acid synthase using tomography
- ◆ 1975: Richard Henderson – subnanometer electron crystallography
- ◆ 1982: Jacques Dubochet – modern cryo techniques
- ◆ 1987: Joachim Frank – “single particle” reconstruction of 50S ribosome
- ◆ 2007: Direct Electron develops first commercial direct electron detector



Středoevropský technologický institut  
c/o Masarykova univerzita  
Žerotínovo nám. 9  
601 77 Brno, Česká republika

[www.ceitec.cz](http://www.ceitec.cz) | [info@ceitec.cz](mailto:info@ceitec.cz)



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