

area of the right valve (Fig. 1a). Other closed valves were pried open, revealing preserved soft parts in several specimens. The soft parts were the chitinous appendages: legs, antennae, maxilla, mandible, for the most part disarticulated; some were shrivelled from desiccation.

Other complete valves were examined with transmitted light to detect possible preservation of the soft parts. Remains of appendages were found in other specimens of *Paracyprideis pseudopunctillata* (Fig. 1, b and c) and in *Normanicythere concinella* (Fig. 1d) and an immature specimen of *Echinochthereis*. In most instances, however, the remains were jumbled in the anterior or ventral part of the valves, as can be seen.

The ostracods with these mummified remains were found in samples from only two localities: locality A (Fig. 1), a raised beach ridge that is exposed in

a vertical section by a wave-cut escarpment just southwest of Barrow Village; and locality B, a sampled core hole in Elson Lagoon, the material examined coming from 5.2 m below the bottom of the lagoon. The possibility of contamination by sloughing of Recent material is ruled out.

The samples containing the specimens come from strikingly different depositional environments: The beach-cliff locality, consisting of clean sandy gravels typical of a rigorous nearshore environment, contrasts with the silts and silty sands from which the Elson Lagoon specimens were picked.

Positive dating of these sections is not yet completed, but on the basis of the stratigraphic position and dates from other sections in the area, it is reasonable to assume that they are at least older than 38,000 years and probably no older than mid-Pleistocene (1). Preserved soft parts had been found in

marine pelecypods collected from an elevated beach in Greenland (2).

We assume that the ostracod specimens were preserved by rapid burial in a cold environment and subsequently frozen, remaining in this state until they were collected. Desiccation may have occurred either before or during the frozen period, so that only chitinous parts of the endoskeleton and appendages remain. The valves being tightly sealed reduced the likelihood of decay.

As a result of this discovery, closed valves of *Normanicythere concinella* from the Bootlegger Cove Clay (BC in Fig. 1), a Pleistocene cold-water deposit in south-central Alaska, were opened: a few specimens yielded disarticulated appendages less well preserved than the northern material.

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References and Notes

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Laser as Light Source for Optical Diffractometers; Fourier Analysis of Electron Micrographs

Abstract. *Fourier analysis of electron micrographs has been accomplished under optimum conditions with a gas laser as the light source for an optical diffractometer.*

Klug and co-workers have proposed a novel application of the optical diffractometer to analysis of electron microscopic images and have demonstrated the versatility and power of the technique in detecting structure not apparent on visual examination (1, 2).

The ideal conditions for the production of optical diffraction patterns and the means for their attainment have been established (3). Of primary importance are a source of coherent monochromatic light, the use of refracting elements of high quality, and a system

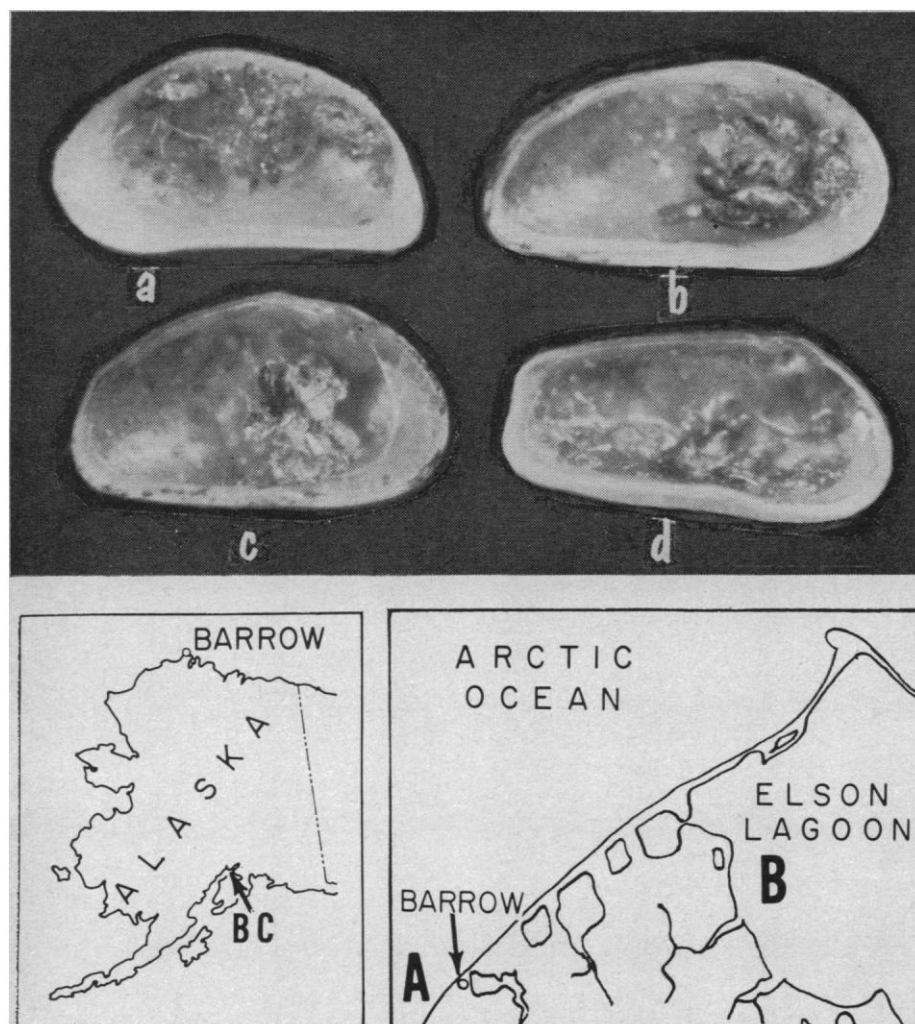


Fig. 1. Mummified Ostracoda and their sources. Specimens a, b, and c are from locality A; specimen d, from locality B. *Paracyprideis pseudopunctillata*: a, interior right valve; b and c, interior left valves. *Normanicythere concinella*: d, interior left valve. ($\times 50$)

in which all components have their optic axes accurately collinear.

For the particular case in which electron micrograph plates are the objects, optimum results have been achieved when both the average optical density and the contrast of the plate are high. Because of this, the great utility of the optical diffractometer as an adjunct to the analysis of electron micrographs has, in some instances, been limited by the inability of the conventional mercury-arc light source to provide sufficiently intense illumination. Direct visual observation of the diffraction patterns has become most difficult, and photographic recording has occasionally required exposures of several hours' duration. Replacement of the mercury vapor lamp by a gas laser appears to be an ideal solution to this problem. It has been shown by Harburn *et al.* (4) that the sharply monochromatic output of a helium-neon laser could be employed to improve the quality of diffraction patterns. Since the instrument available to these investigators operated in more than one mode (multimodal output) where each mode may be considered as an independent, coherent source of light, and, since a single coherent source was required, only a fraction of the total power delivered by the laser could be used. The exposure time could not, therefore, be reduced below that necessary with a conventional light source.

Now that commercial helium-neon lasers with unimodal outputs as high as 50 mwatt are available, we have explored the practicability of using these instruments in a manner which would realize the full intensity of the monochromatic radiation. Three different lasers were tested, namely, Spectra-Physics model 130 (0.3 mwatt) and model 125 (50 mwatt), and Perkin Elmer model 5200 (0.5 mwatt). All operated at 6328 Å. Patterns were recorded on Polaroid 55 P/N film (ASA rating approximately 50).

Although diffraction patterns could be generated by placing objects in the direct beam of the laser, this approach was unsatisfactory for two reasons. First, all diffraction spots have a minimum size given by the diameter of the laser beam which, in our case, was about 1.6 mm; second, only a few diffracting elements in the object can be illuminated by a beam of this width and, as a result, the diffraction maxima are even further broadened. It was,

therefore, necessary to use one of the several optical arrangements which have been described (3) for production of Fourier transforms. These all require a "point source" of illumination. We have obtained an effective point source by using a converging lens of very short (5 to 10 mm) focal length to focus the bundle of parallel rays delivered by the laser. An aperture approximately 1 mm in diameter, placed to coincide with the "point source," has been useful in shielding the diffractometer proper from stray light.

The usual optical diffractometer design employs two main lenses. Light diverging from a "point source" is collimated by the first lens, and the parallel beam is subsequently focussed by a second lens. The principal focal plane of this second lens is the transform plane, that is, the plane in which the Fourier transform may be observed; the resolution attainable in the transform is directly related to the distance, D , between this lens and the transform plane. For the two-lens diffractometer, D is, of course, equal to the focal length of the second lens. As a result, the resolving power of the instrument may be altered only by photographic enlargement or reduction of the electron microscope plate itself. To suit the resolving power of the diffractometer to the requirements of the particular object under investigation, we have used a single lens diffractometer in which the "point source" and the center of the transform plane are at conjugate foci of a single main lens. Here, D is no longer invariant.

Certain practical points should be noted with respect to the two alternative diffractometer designs. In the double-lens instrument, the object of study is placed between the two lenses; as long as the object is perpendicular to the optic axis, its exact positioning is not critical. This is a particular advantage of the two-lens design and is a direct consequence of the illumination of the object by parallel light; in the single-lens instrument the object is placed close to the lens in nonparallel light, and the magnification of the diffraction pattern will thus vary with the exact position of the object in the beam. Although this is not ideal for the most precise work, the single-lens instrument can provide very good results and is extremely useful for surveying rapidly a large number of objects with different resolution requirements.

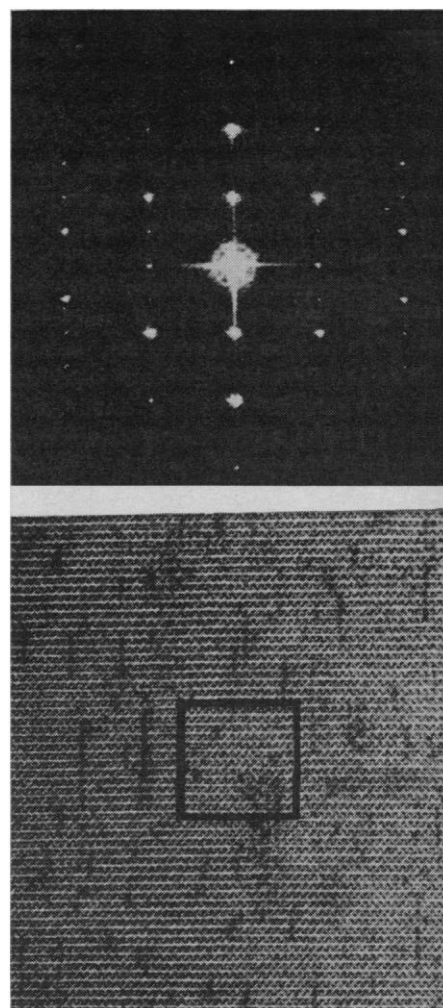


Fig. 1. (Top) Optical diffraction pattern of the electron microscopic plate illustrated in Fig. 1 (bottom). One millimeter on this pattern corresponds to 0.19 mm^{-1} (reciprocal millimeters). (Bottom) Catalase crystal, phosphotungstic acid stain ($\times 146,000$). The area enclosed in the square was used as the object.

An example of the results obtained with a laser-powered single-lens diffractometer is given in Fig. 1 (top); exposure time was 0.1 second with a Spectra-Physics 130 laser. The electron micrograph plate (5) used as the object is illustrated in Fig. 1 (bottom). This is a duplicate of the plate previously analyzed by the use of a conventional diffractometer with mercury-arc light source (1). Exposure time for the previously published transform was about 1 minute.

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