

The problem of absolute configurations

 Bijvoet (1951)	 Fischer (1891)
About the configuration of glucose and its isomers: "As all observations made so far for carbohydrates are in such a good agreement with the asymmetric carbon atom theory, it will be allowable to risk already now to use this theory as a basis for the classification of these compounds." One problem, he could not solve was that of the absolute configuration of the compounds, and he made a choice in conventionally defining the absolute configuration of D-glucose. (+)-D-glucose and (-)-D-glucose are physical values and do, stem from a theoretical agreement.	

Absolute Configuration

Description

From Fischer, Bijvoet

The problem of absolute configuration

Fischer (1891)



Bijvoet (1951)



Solving the problems of the absolute configuration via crystallographic studies.

Fischer made the right choice that "dextrorotatory glucose = D-glucose".

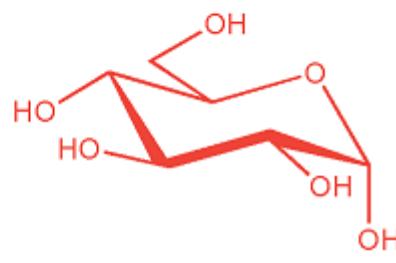
About the configuration of glucose isomers:

"As all observations made so far for carbons are in such a good agreement with the new carbon atom theory, it will be allowable to already now to utilize this theory as a basis for classification of these substances."

One problem, he could not solve was that the absolute configuration of the compounds made a choice in correlating optical rotatory absolute configurations $[+]/[-]$ are physical and D/L stem from a theoretical agreement.

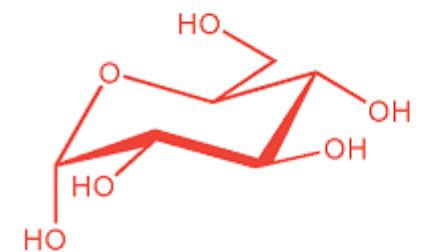
Absolute configuration (D/L) determination of monosaccharides using the polarimeter

D-enantiomer



$\alpha\text{-D-glucose}$

L-enantiomer



$\alpha\text{-L-glucose}$

mirror

direction of light propagation



light source



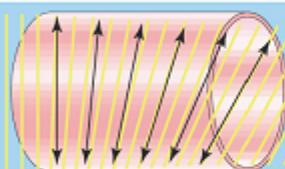
normal light



polarizer



plane-polarized light



sample tube containing a chiral compound

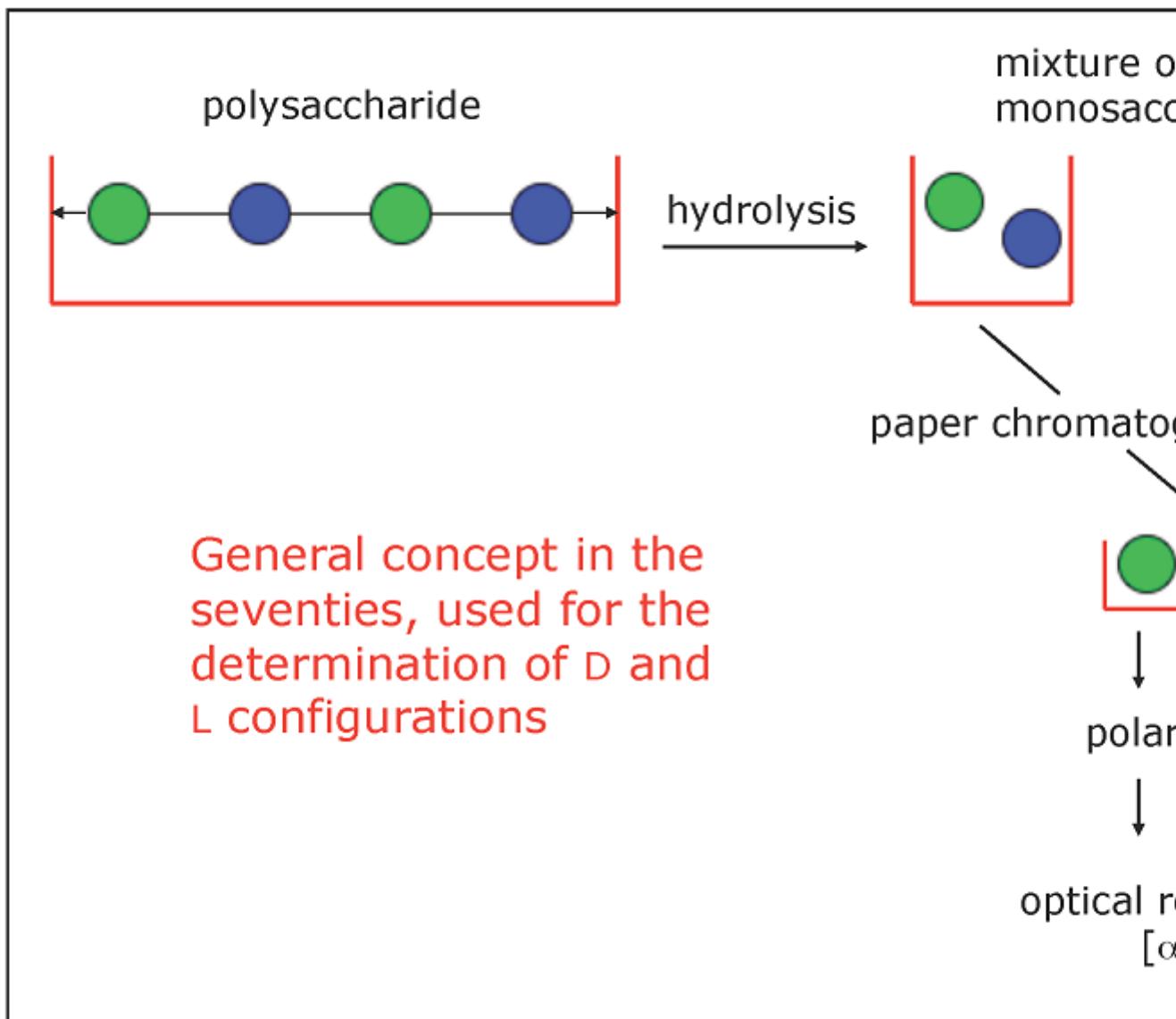


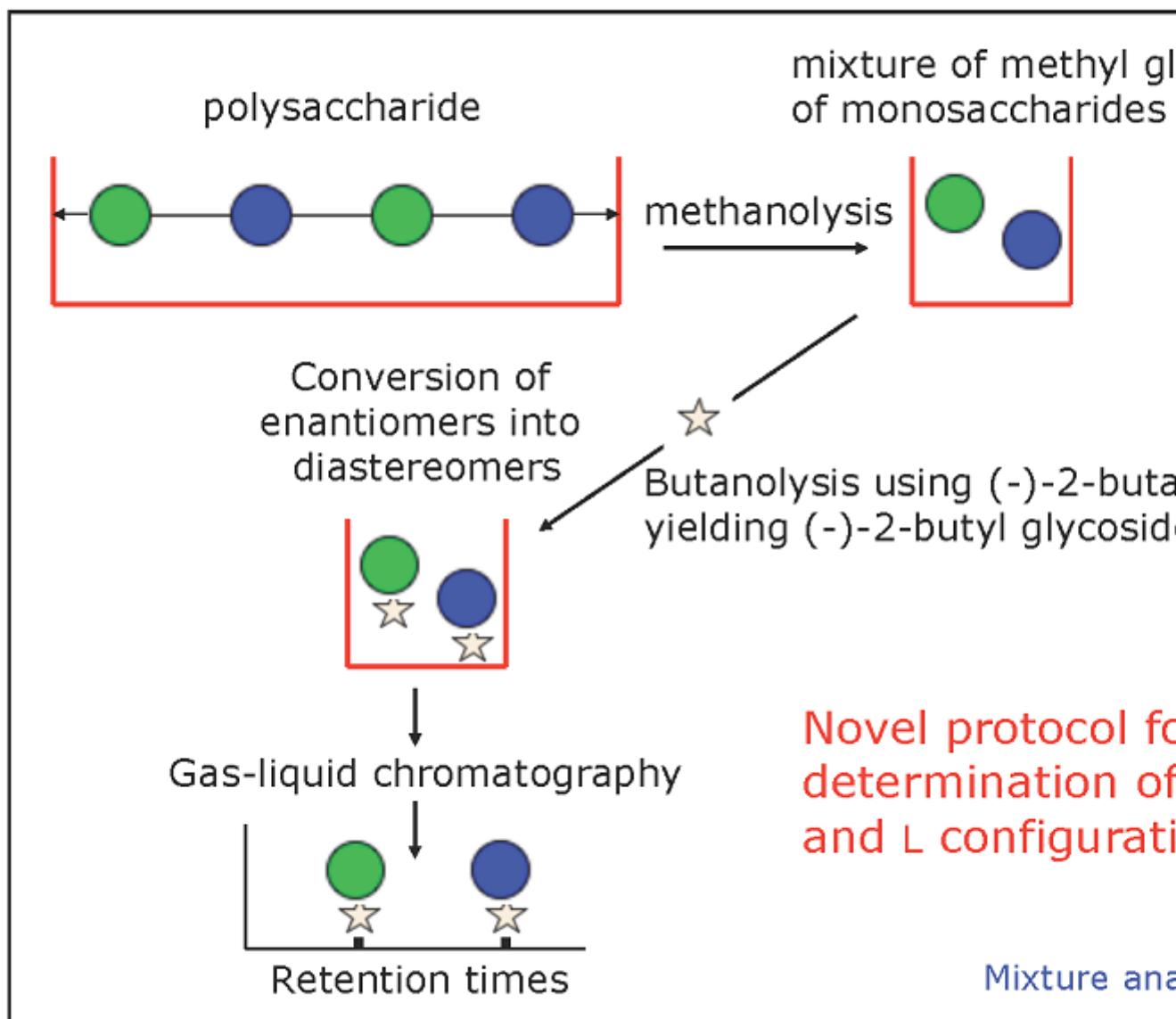
plane-polarized light



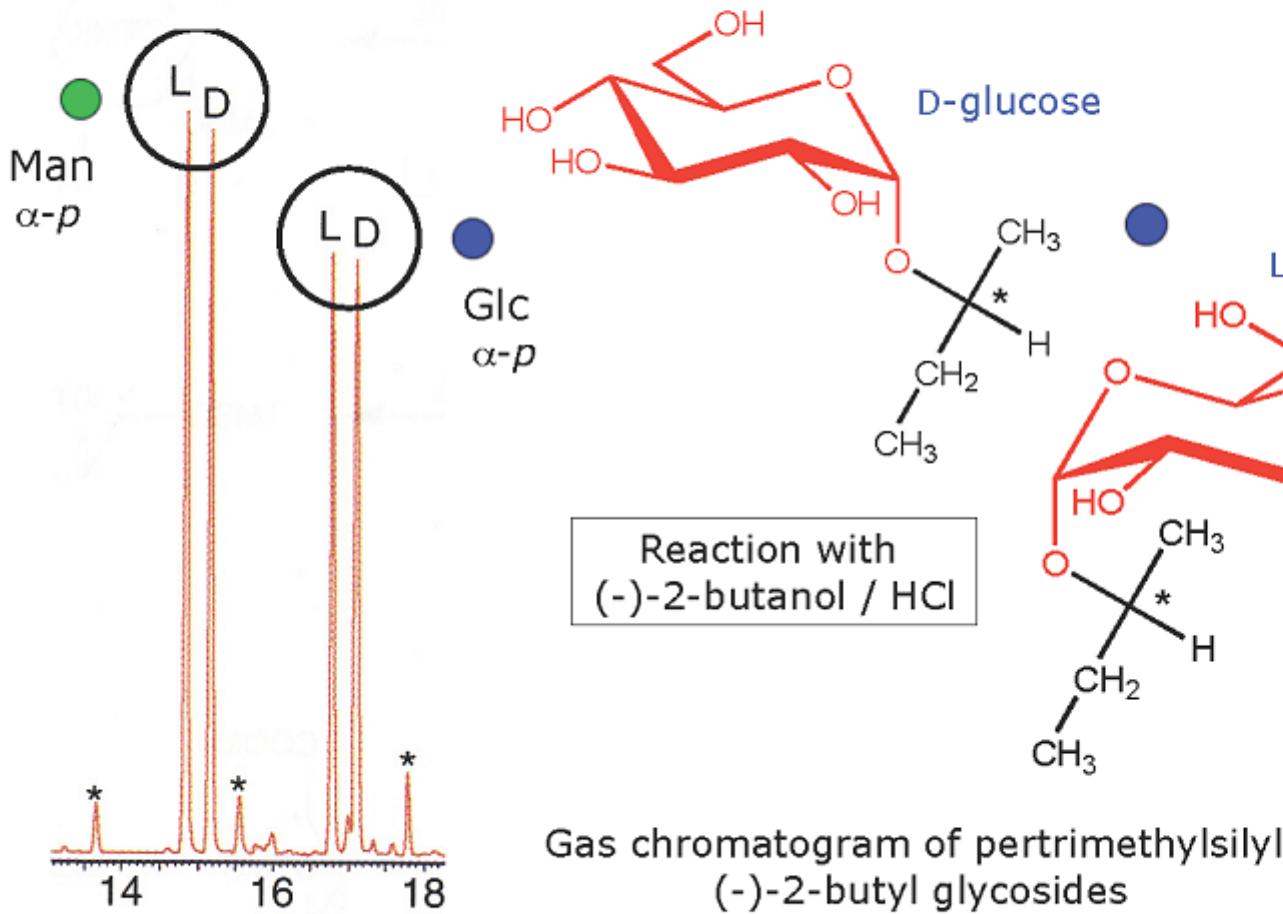
analyzer

Polarimeter

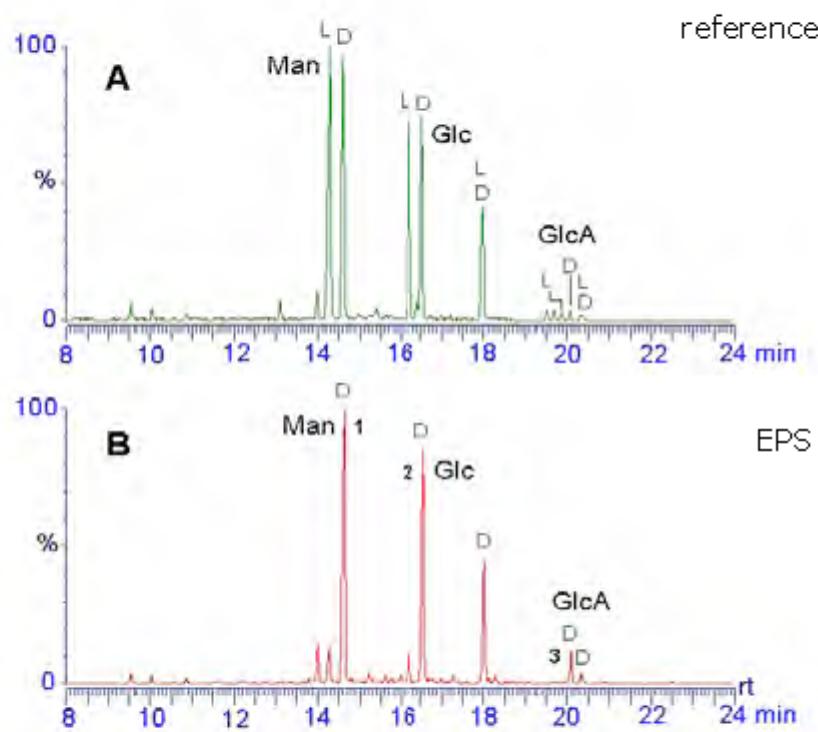




Absolute configuration (D/L) determination of monosaccharides using the gas chromatogram

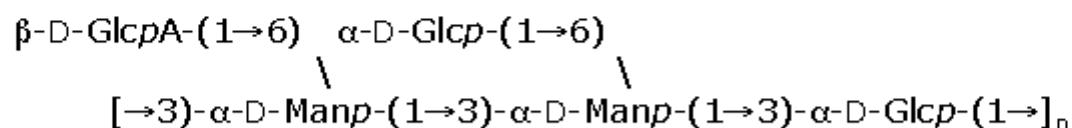


GLC analysis of absolute configurations



Exopolysaccharide
Propionibacterium freudenreichii ZK

General note about retention times:
 (-)-2-butyl α -L-Hexose =
 (+)-2-butyl α -D-Hexose





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DETERMINATION OF THE D AND L CONFIGURATION OF N MONOSACCHARIDES BY HIGH-RESOLUTION CAPILLARY G.L.C.

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DETERMINATION OF THE ABSOLUTE CONFIGURATION OF SACCHARIDES IN COMPLEX CARBOHYDRATES BY CAPILLARY

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