

2D Classification and Initial Structure Generation

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Image processing

3D reconstruction

Modeling

100 nm

H34

uL3

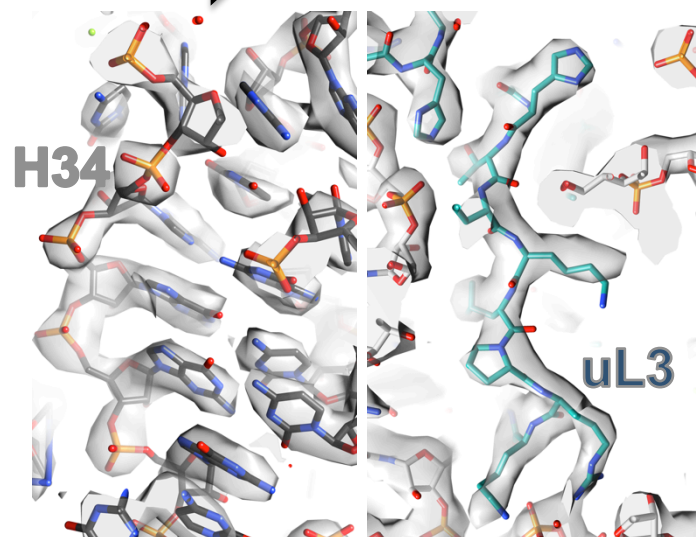
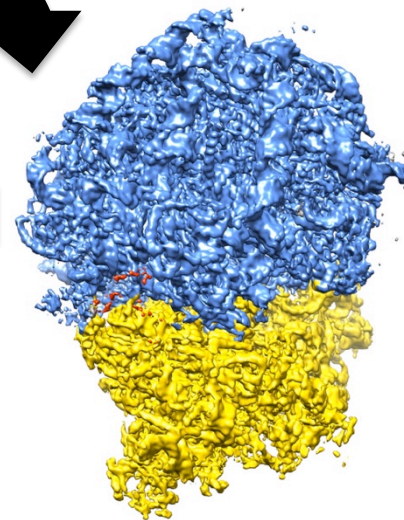
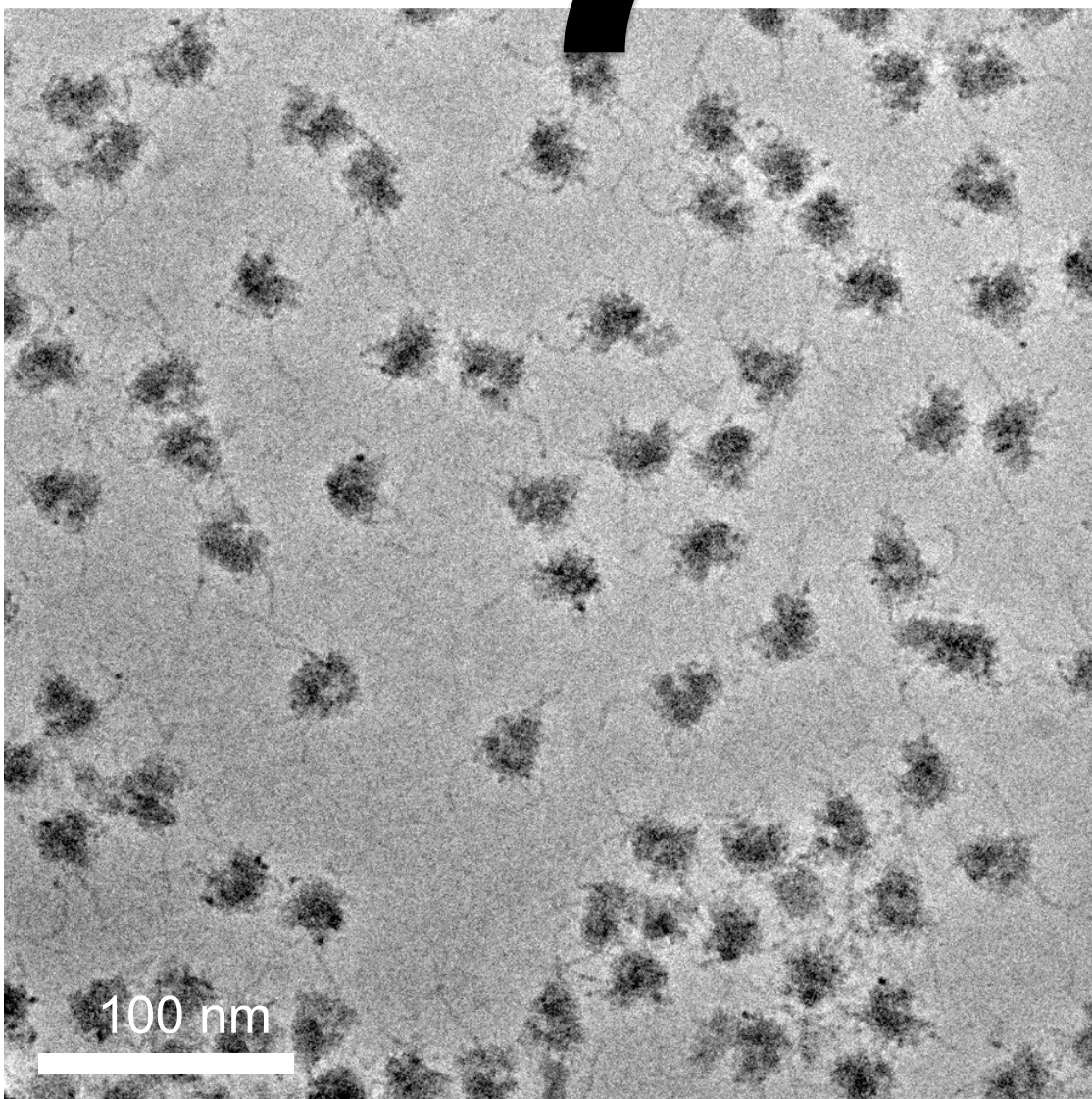


Image processing pipeline

Data collection -> Movies

- Movie alignment
- CTF estimation
- Particles boxing, filtering, normalisation

Structure determination

- Alignment
- Classification
- Initial structure generation (angles assignment)
- 3D reconstruction
- 3D Classification
- resolution assessment
- Map interpretation/Atomic model building

Getting contrast from noisy images

- The ideal case:

Image = Signal

- The reality of cryo-EM:

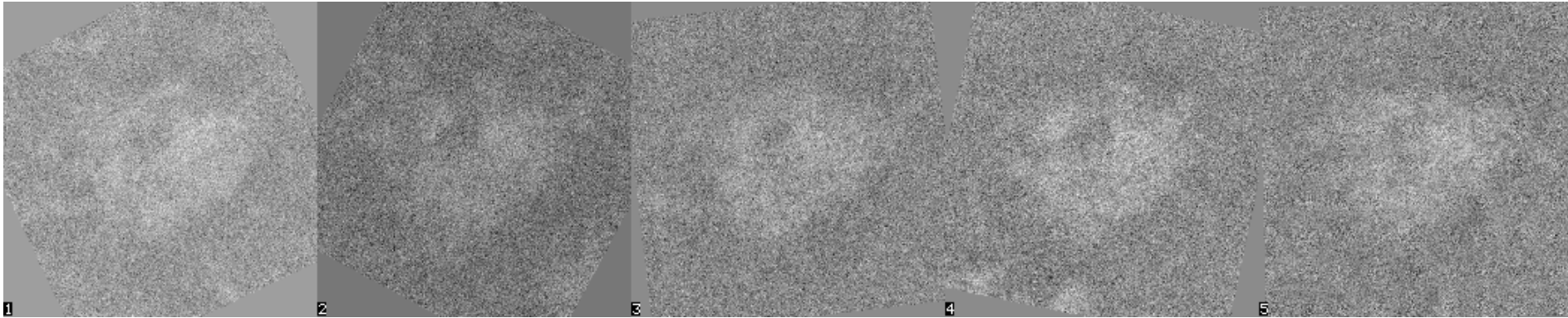
Image = Signal + Noise

Projection of
a 3D object (interaction
of the beam with the
sample, elastic
scattering)

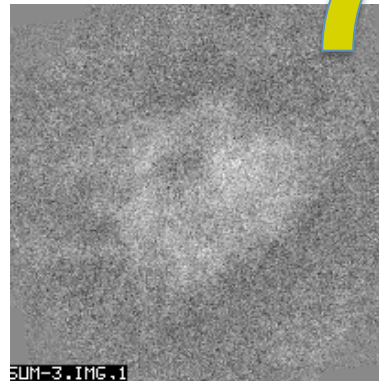
Low dose (inelastic scattering = radiation
damage), ice thickness, carbon support, no
interaction with the sample

Averaging to increase image contrast

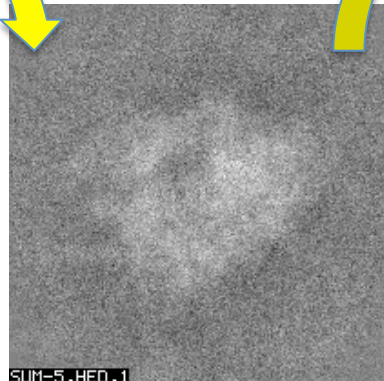
Raw images



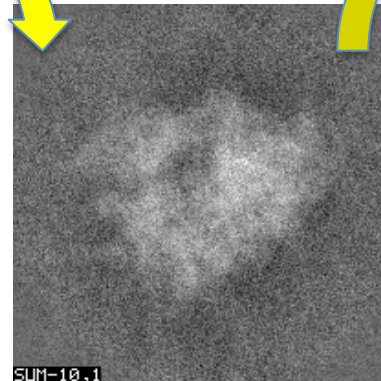
sum of 3



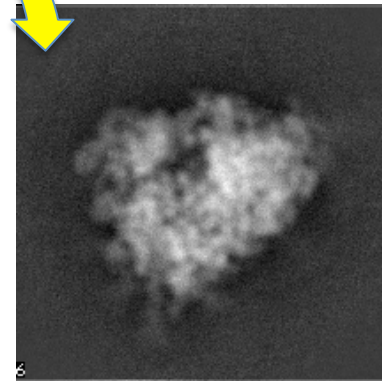
sum of 5



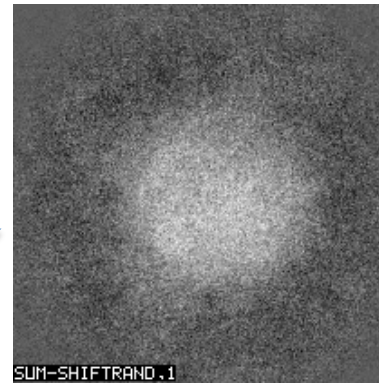
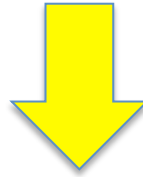
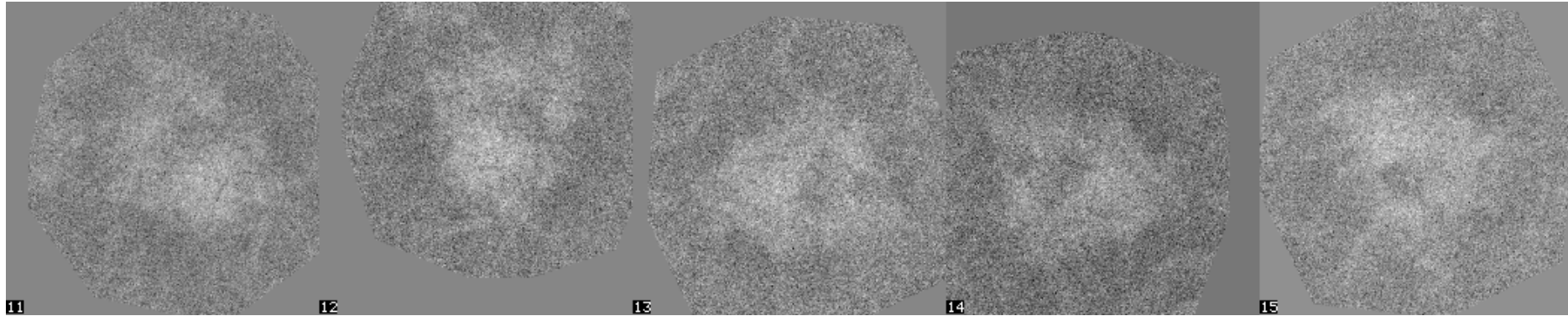
sum of 10



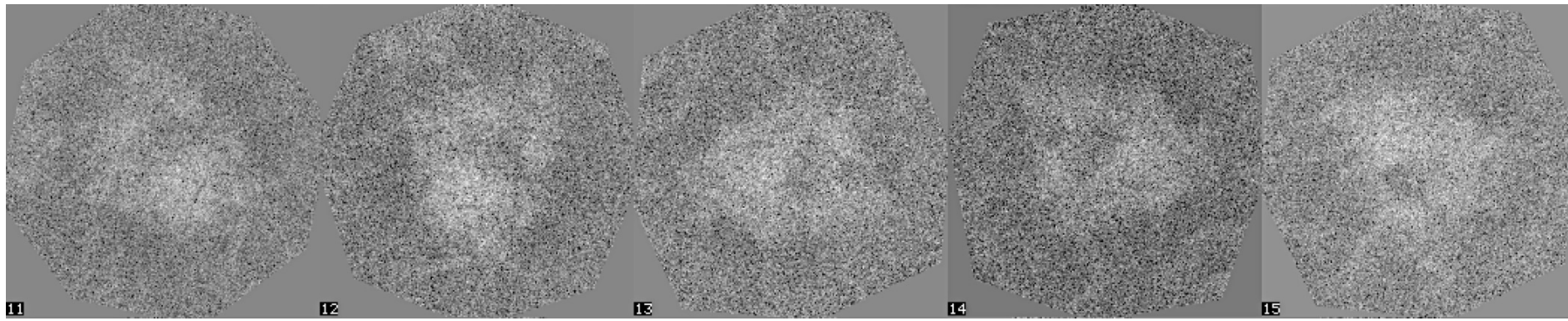
sum of 210



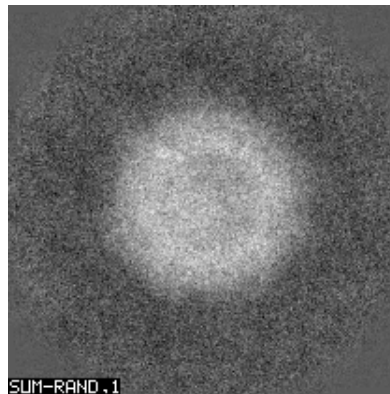
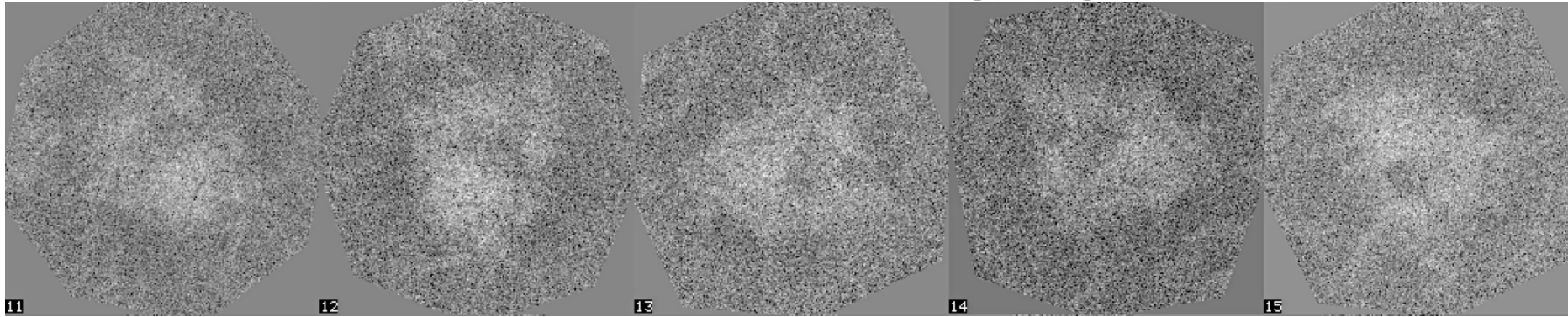
Images centering



Alignment using a
rotational average
as reference



Images need to be rotationally aligned prior to averaging

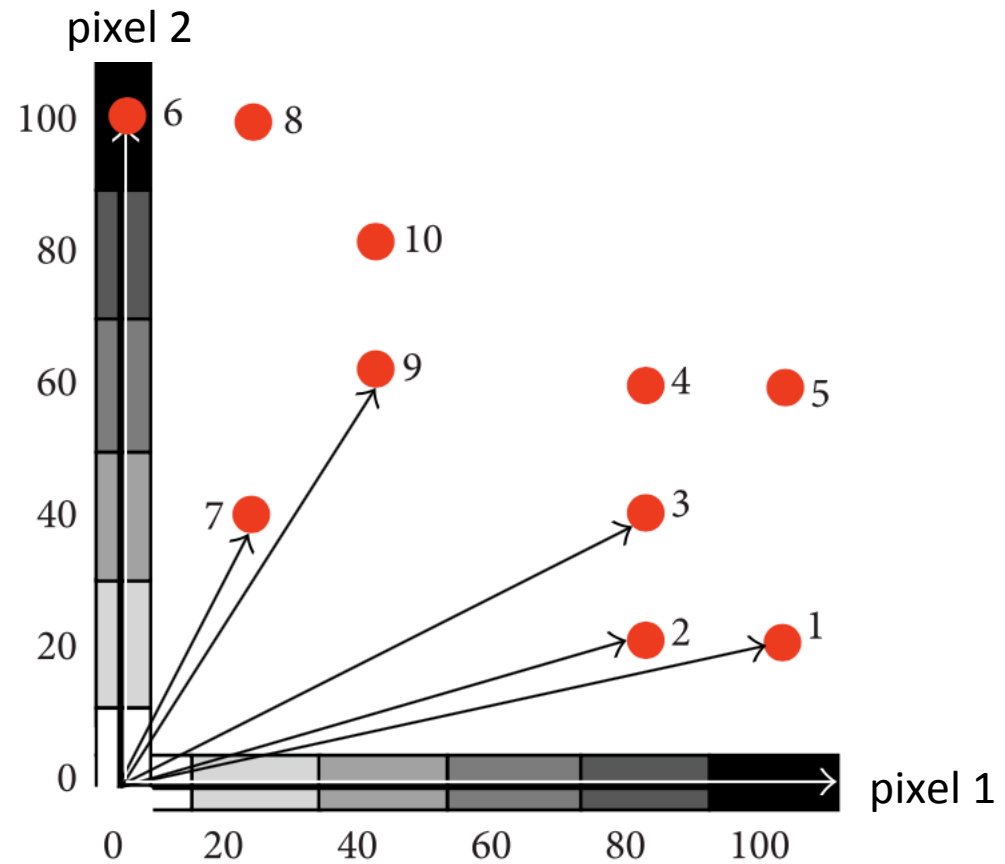


Rotational average
of centered particles

Calculation with images

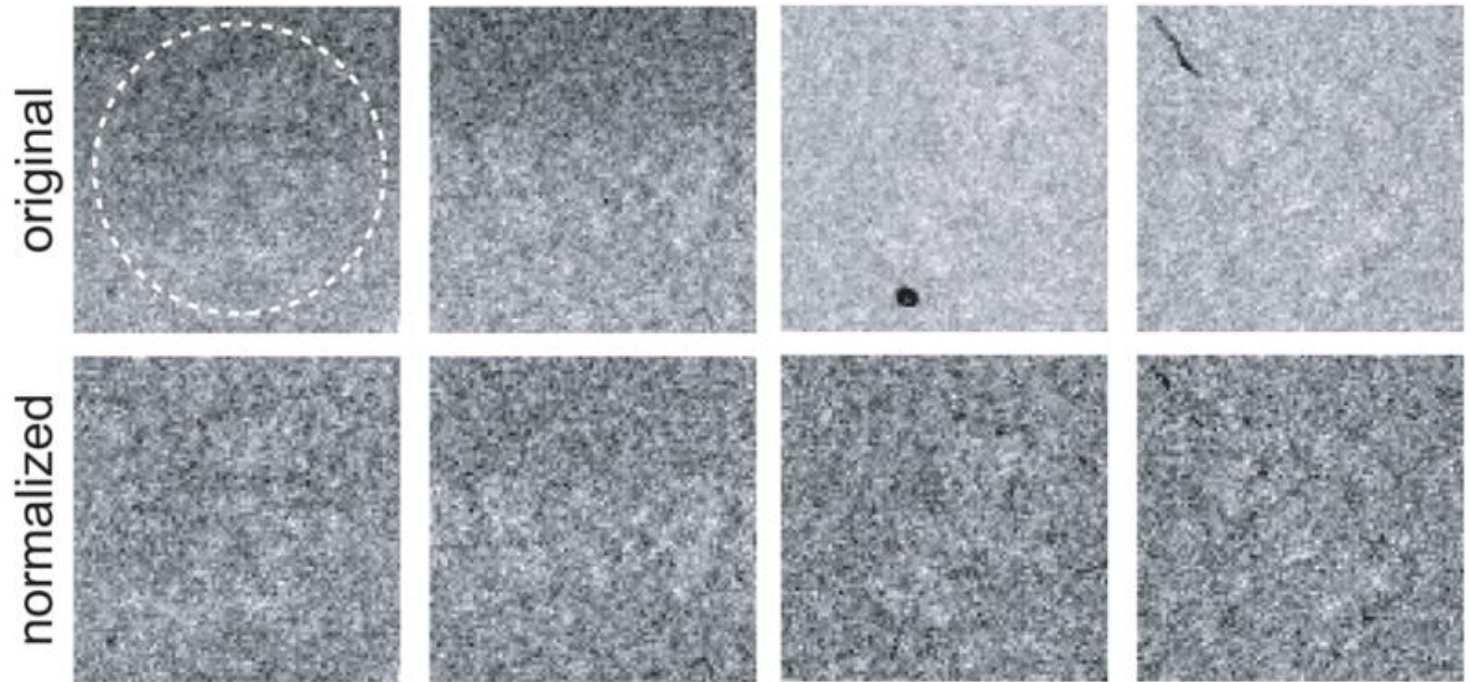
Simplified Image pixel 1 pixel2

#1		100	20
#2		80	20
#3		80	40
#4		80	60
#5		100	60
#6		0	100
#7		20	40
#8		20	100
#9		40	60
#10		40	80



Normalization

Normalisation: bringing all particles to similar gray value distribution. Therefore comparison between the particles is more robust

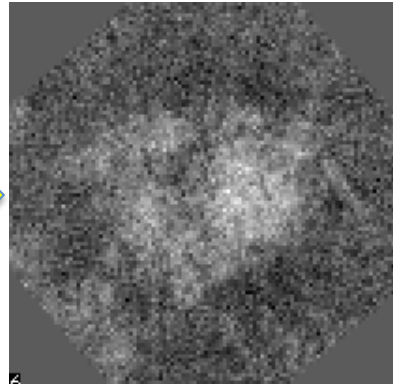
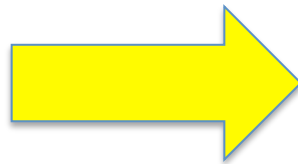
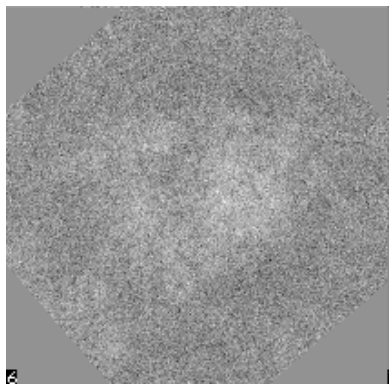
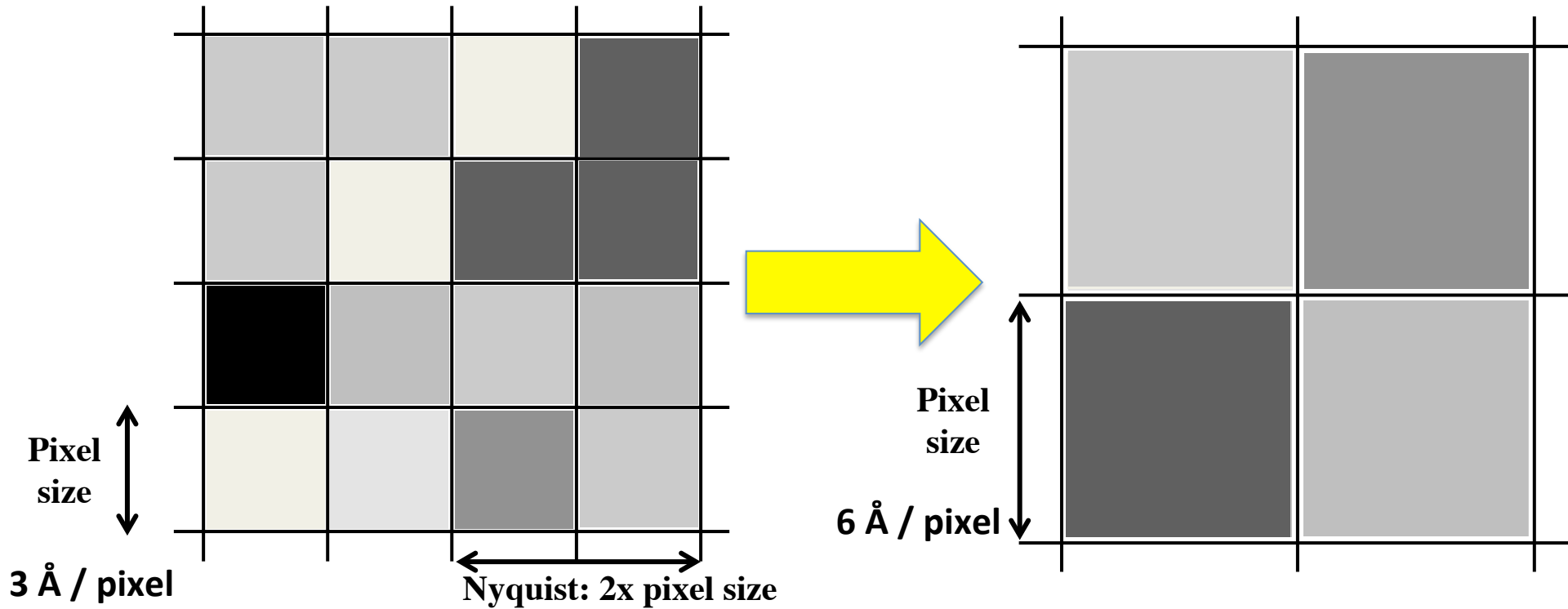


Two possibilities:

- 1: set mean of all images to 0 and normalize all pixel values to a given standard deviation
- 2: use pixel outside a set radius in each particles to calculate their mean and standard deviation value that is then applied on the particle

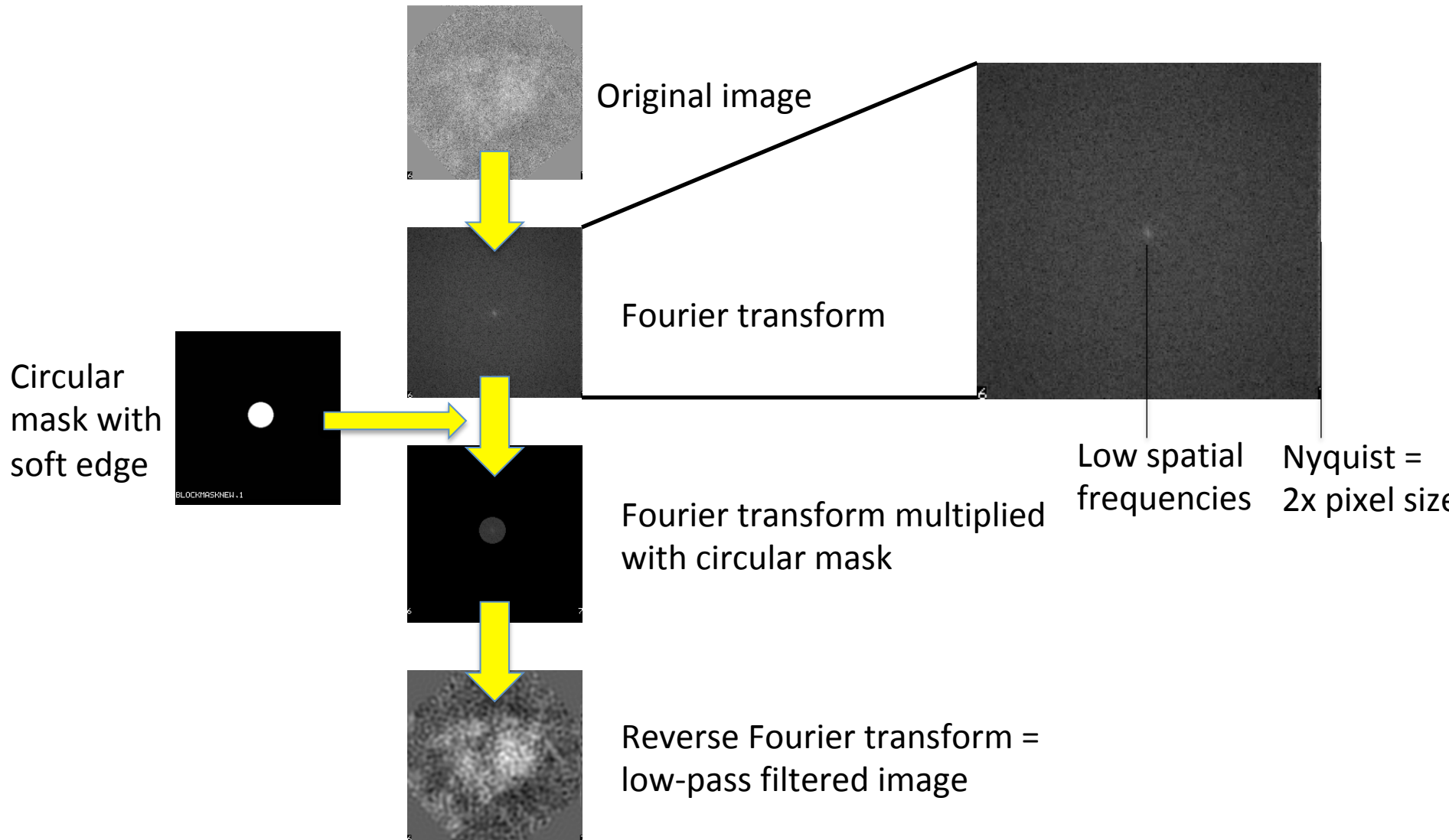
Down-sampling

Grey values in pixels:



Increased contrast but resolution is lost

Low-pass filtering

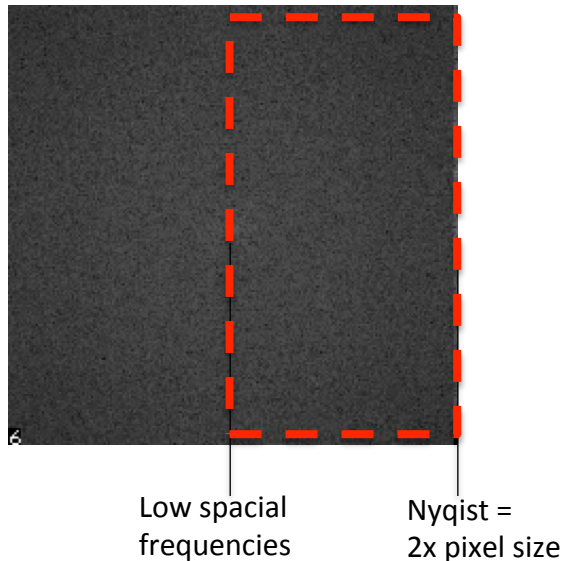


I. Pre-processing

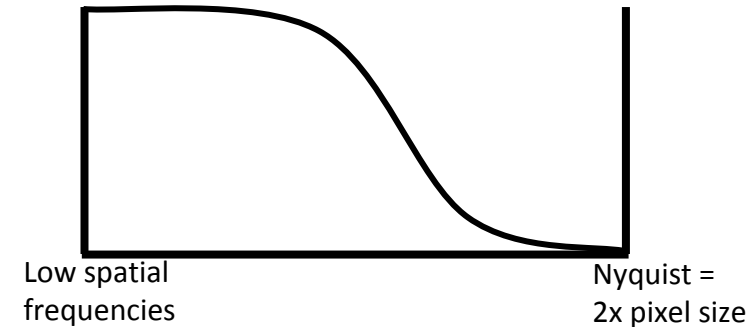
- band-pass filtering and normalisation of particle images

Combination of high-pass and low-pass filters:

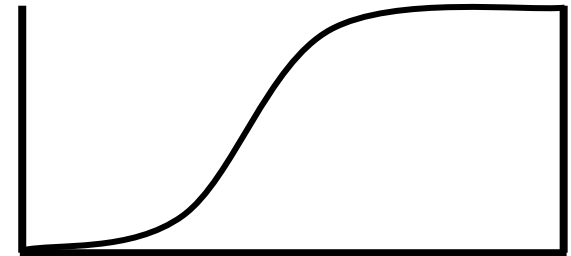
Fourier transform



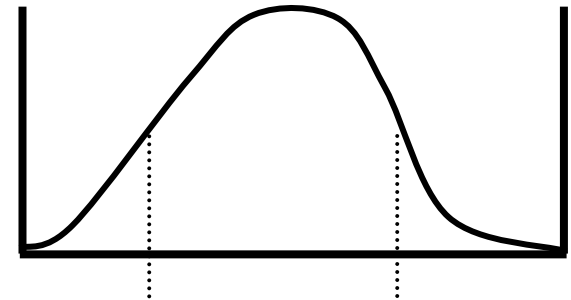
low-pass



high-pass



band-pass

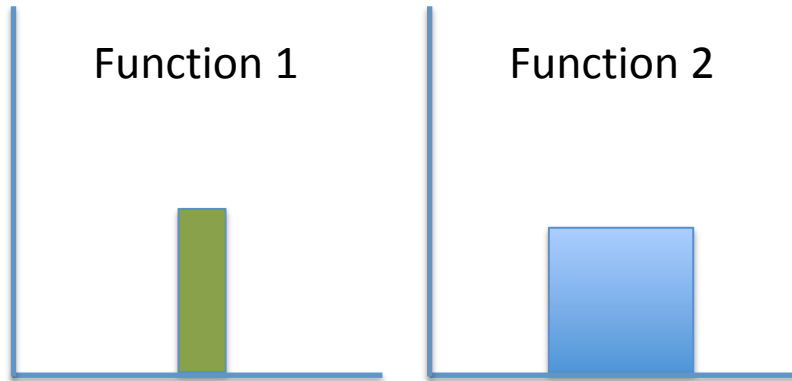


Removes:

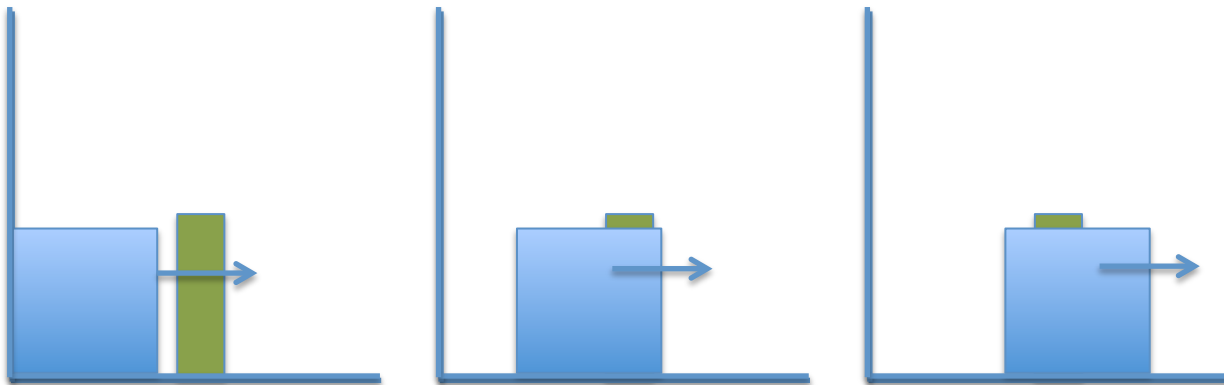
- low frequency contribution (scanner, etc.)
- high frequency noise

Particle size Effective high reso.
e.g. 200 Å e.g. 6 Å

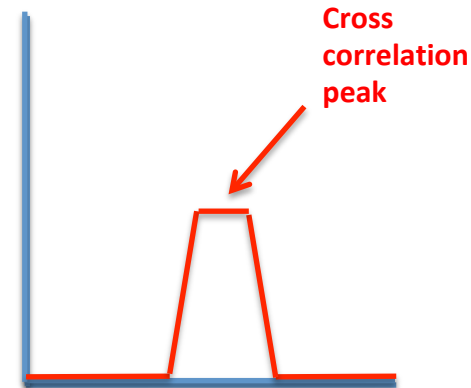
Aligning Images using Cross Correlation Function



Moving Function 2 to fit Function 1



Cross correlation



$$CCF(x') = \frac{\int Function1(x) \cdot Function2(x + x')dx}{\sqrt{\int Function1(x)^2 dx \cdot \int (Function2(x))^2 dx}}$$

Cross Correlation Peak

Image 1 (reference)

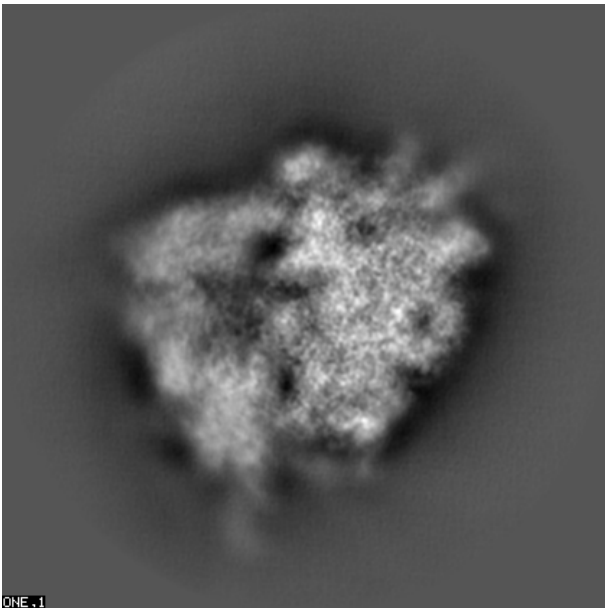
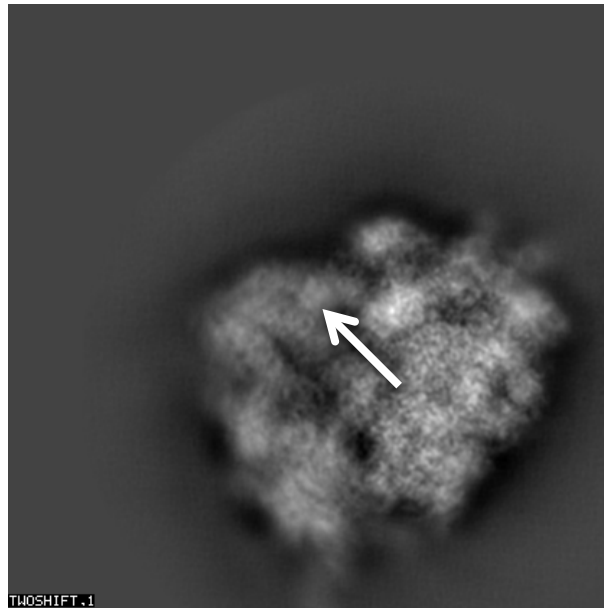
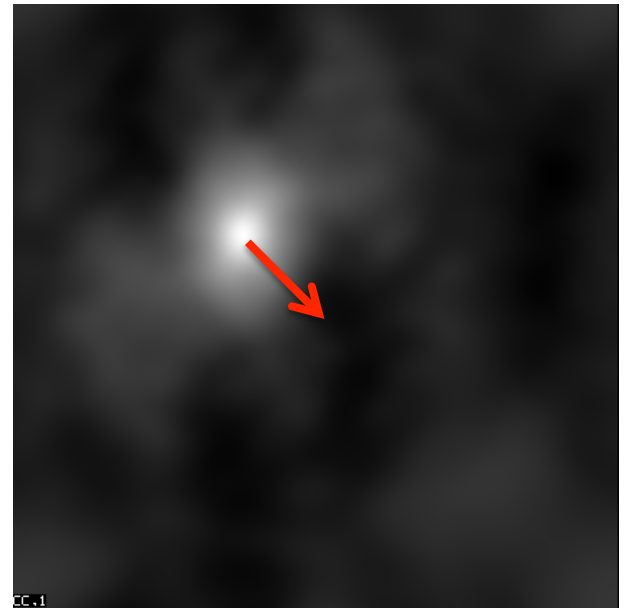


Image 2 (with shift)



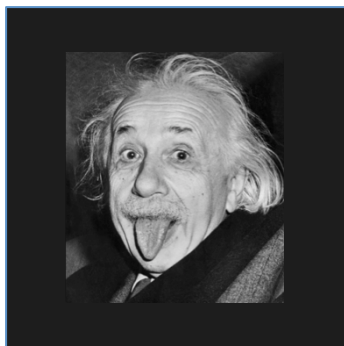
Cross correlation peak (shifted)



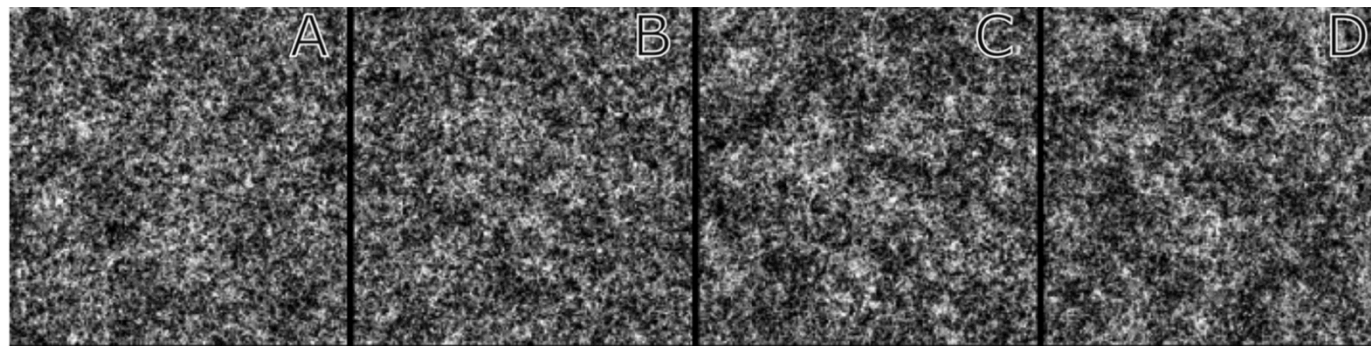
showing how to shift image
2 to match reference best

Reference-based Alignment: Model Bias: “Einstein from Noise”

Reference:



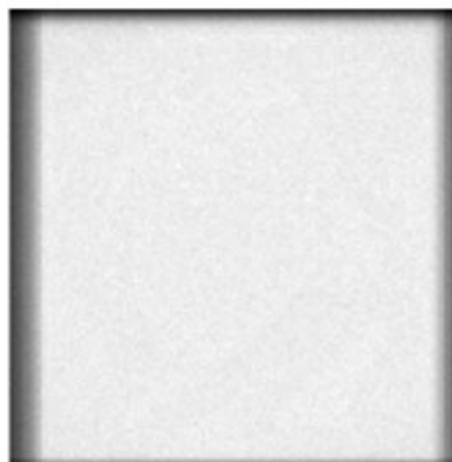
Noisy data:



Cross correlation:

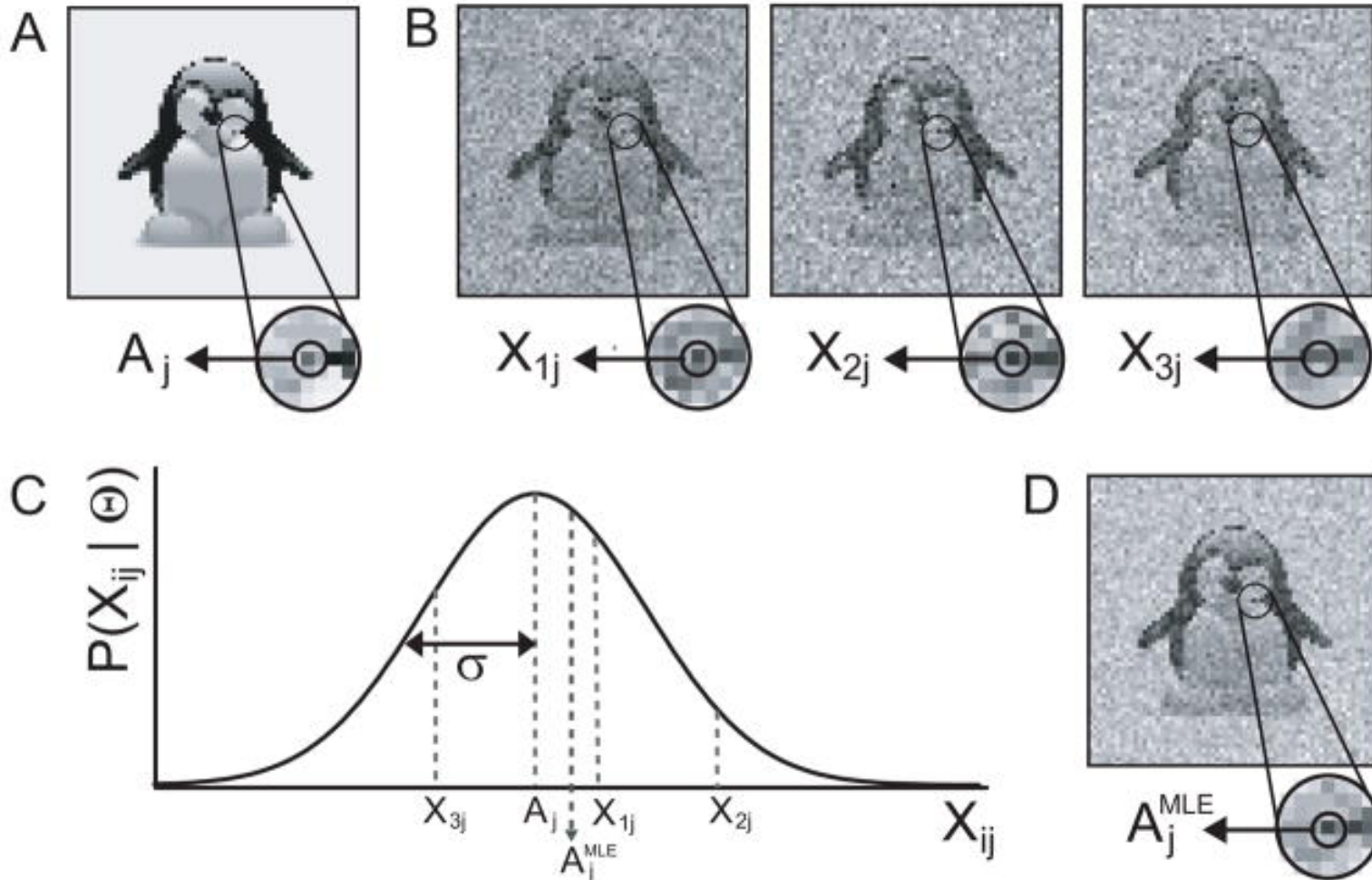


Mutual information:



“One can find anything one wishes to find in random noise!”

Maximum Likelihood

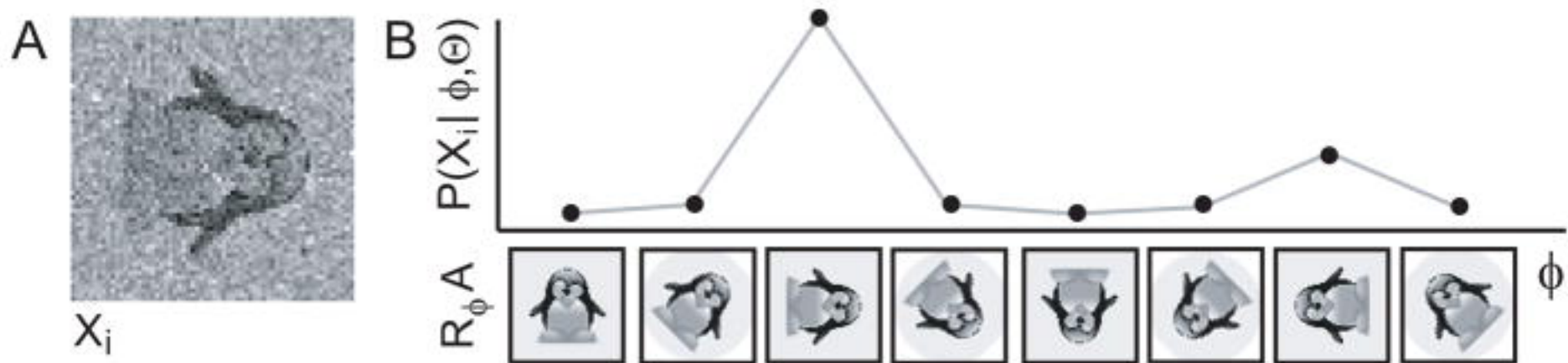


The noise has Gaussian distribution

For a pixel (j) with added noise the most likely correct gray value is A_j

The incomplete data problem in EM: Probability distribution function

How do I need to align my image to get a meaningful average?

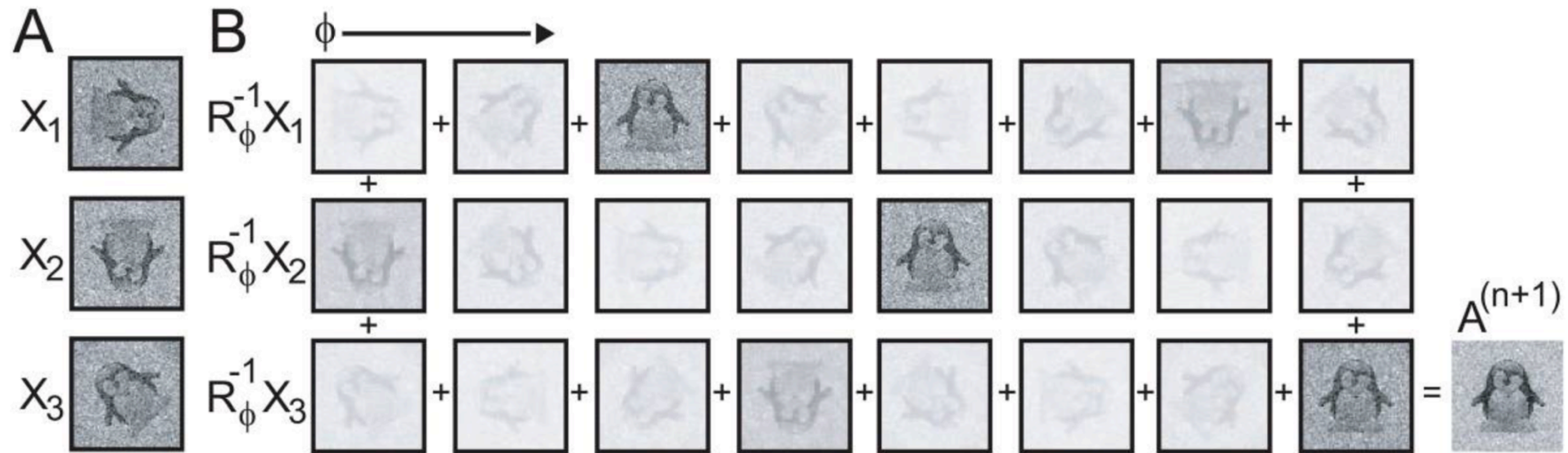


ϕ : the displacement

X : your cryo-EM image

Θ : The current model of your cryo-EM image

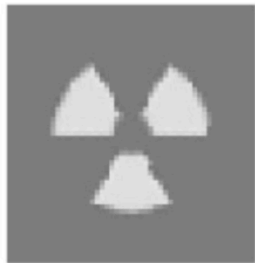
Reference image calculation by probability-weighted averaging



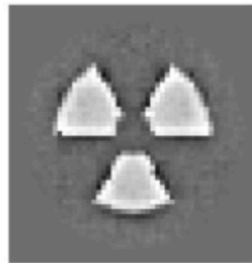
The less likely orientations are considered, but down-weighted

Less model bias with Maximum Likelihood

Cross correlation:



Reference



Align 1



Align 10



Align 30

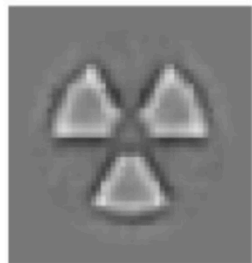


Align 77

Maximum Likelihood:



Reference



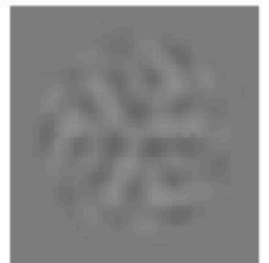
ML 10



ML 50

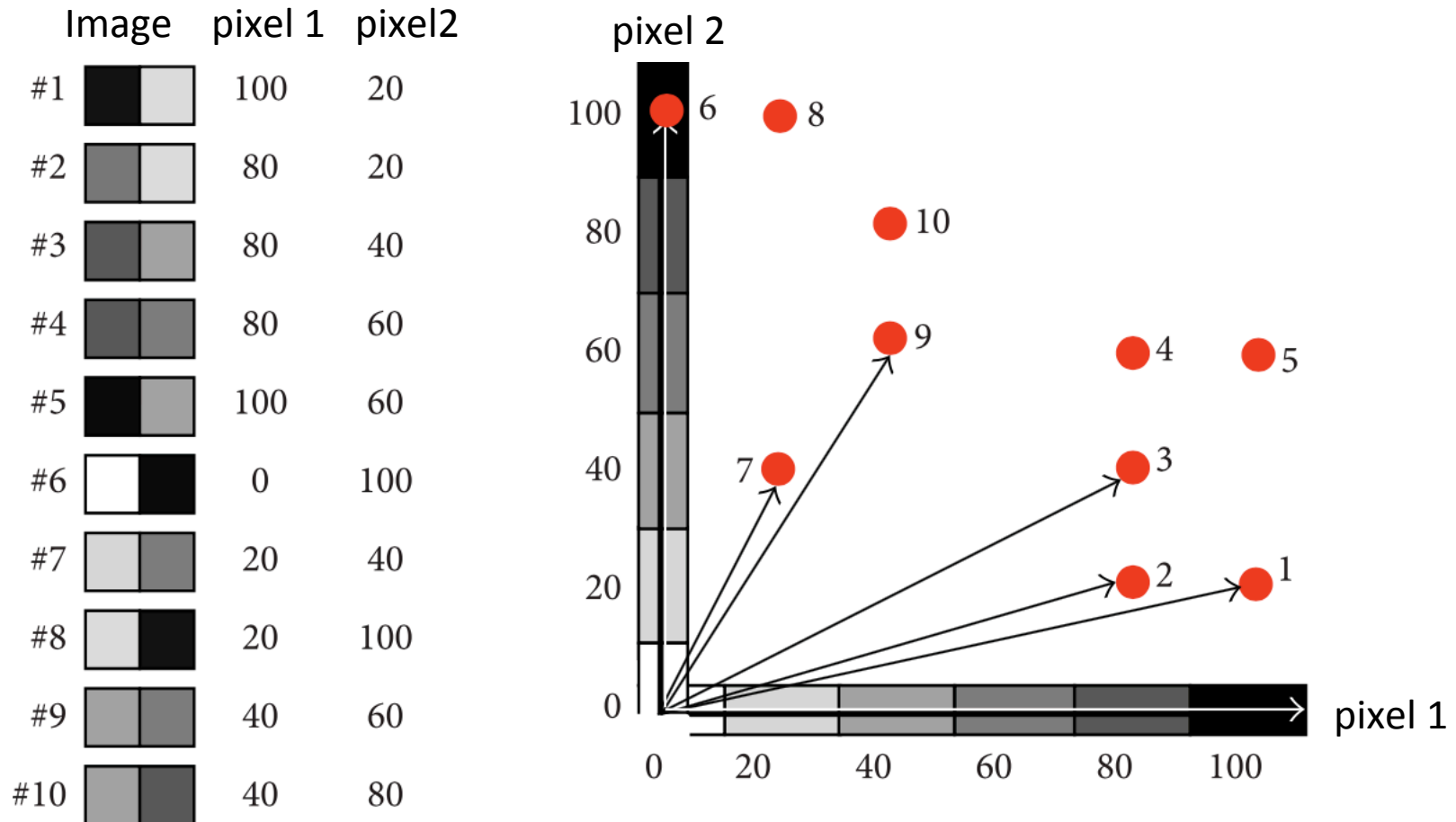


ML 100

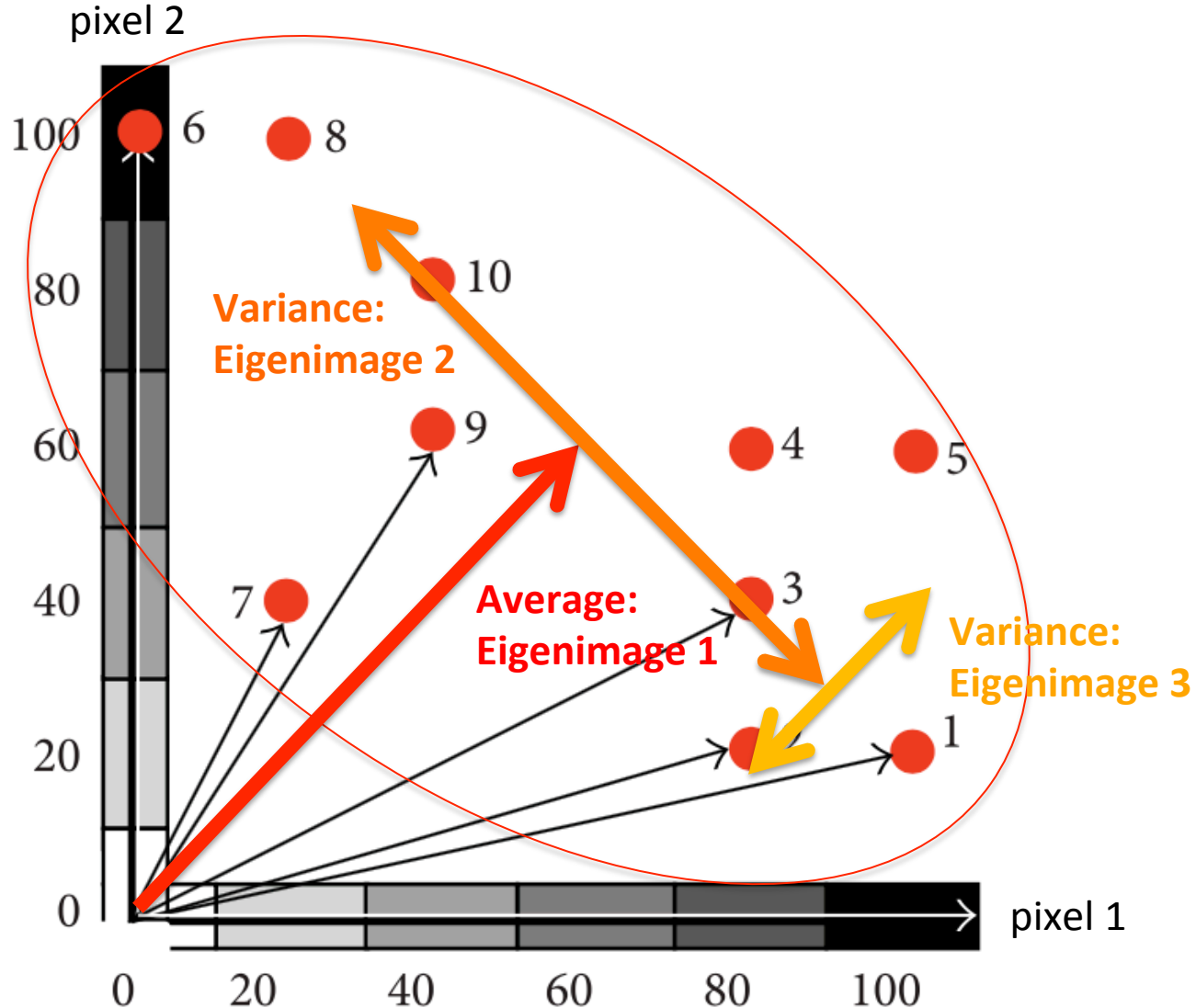


ML 380

Classification of Images

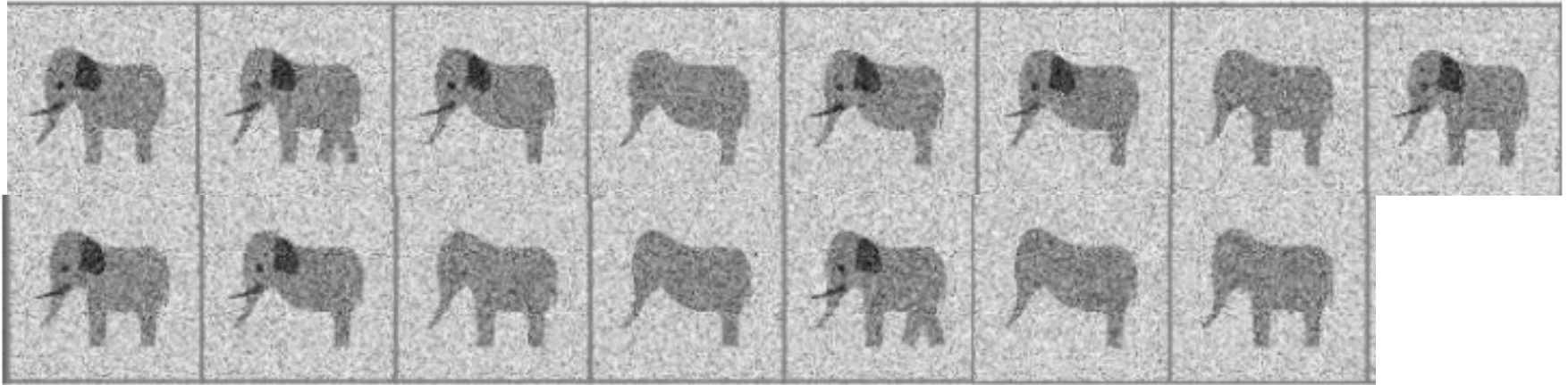


2D classification using Multivariate statistical analysis (MSA)

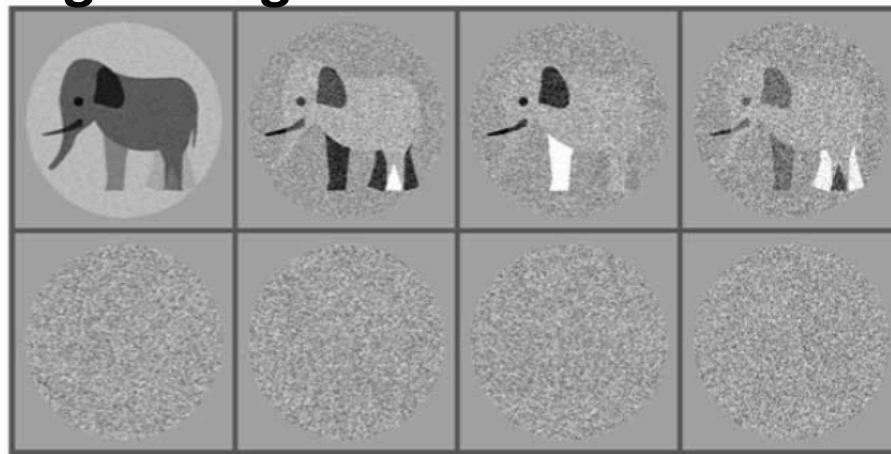


Example for Eigenimages

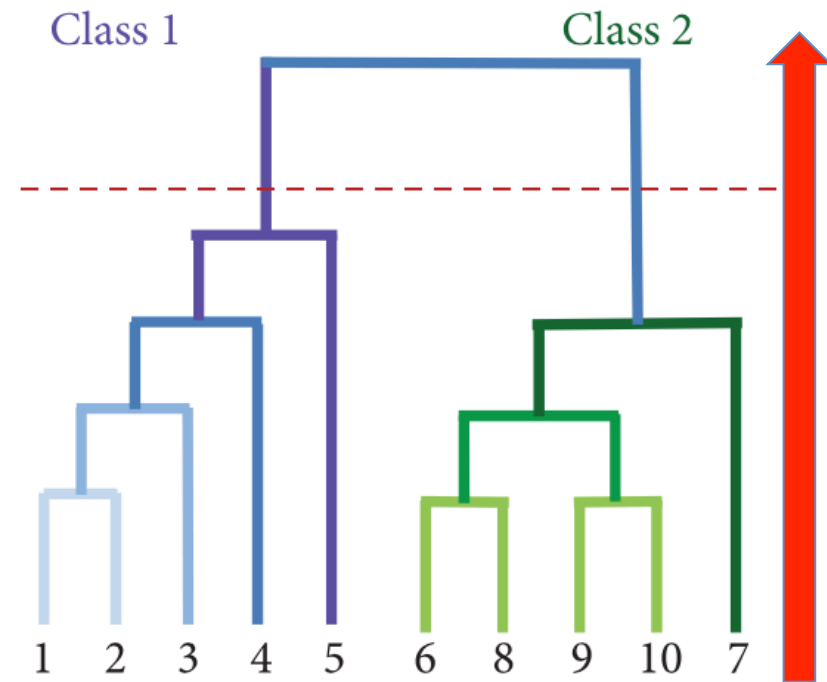
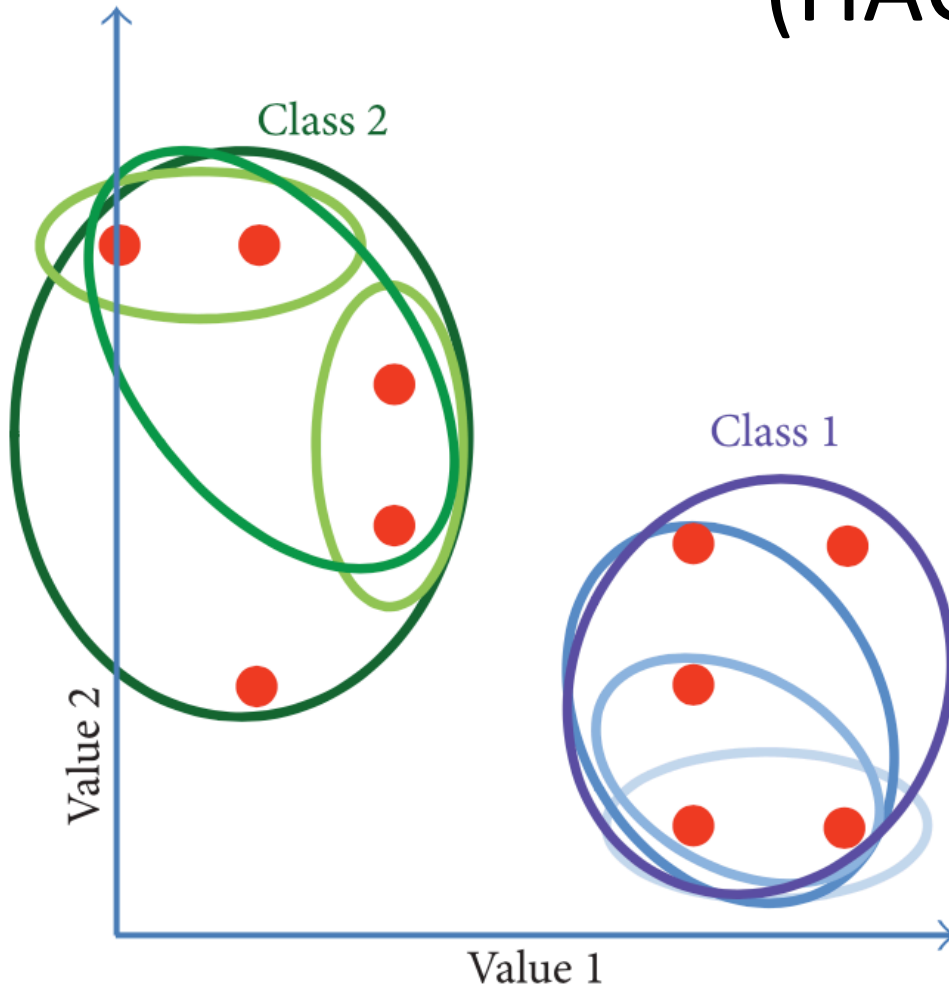
Dataset



Eigenimages



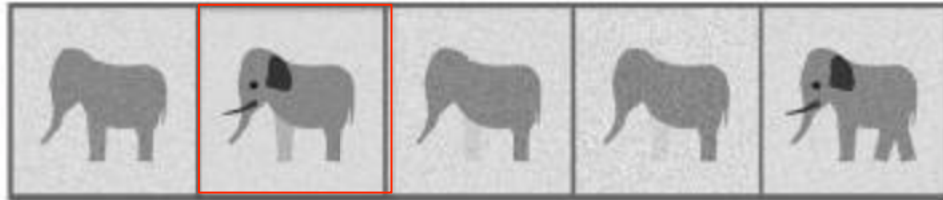
Hierarchical ascendant classification (HAC)



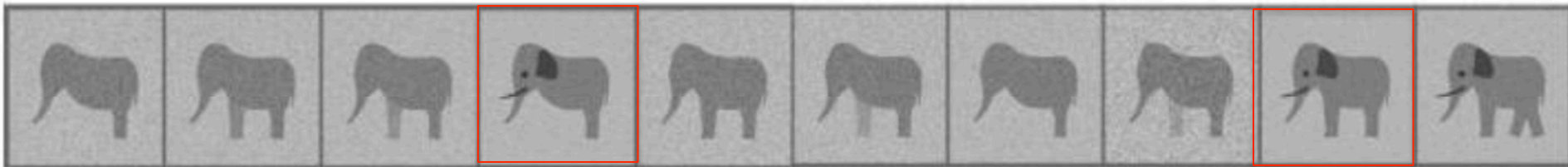
Each image is considered to be a class. The “classes” are merged in respect to their variance/eigenimage until a chosen cutoff

Classification using Eigenimages

Classification into 5 classes

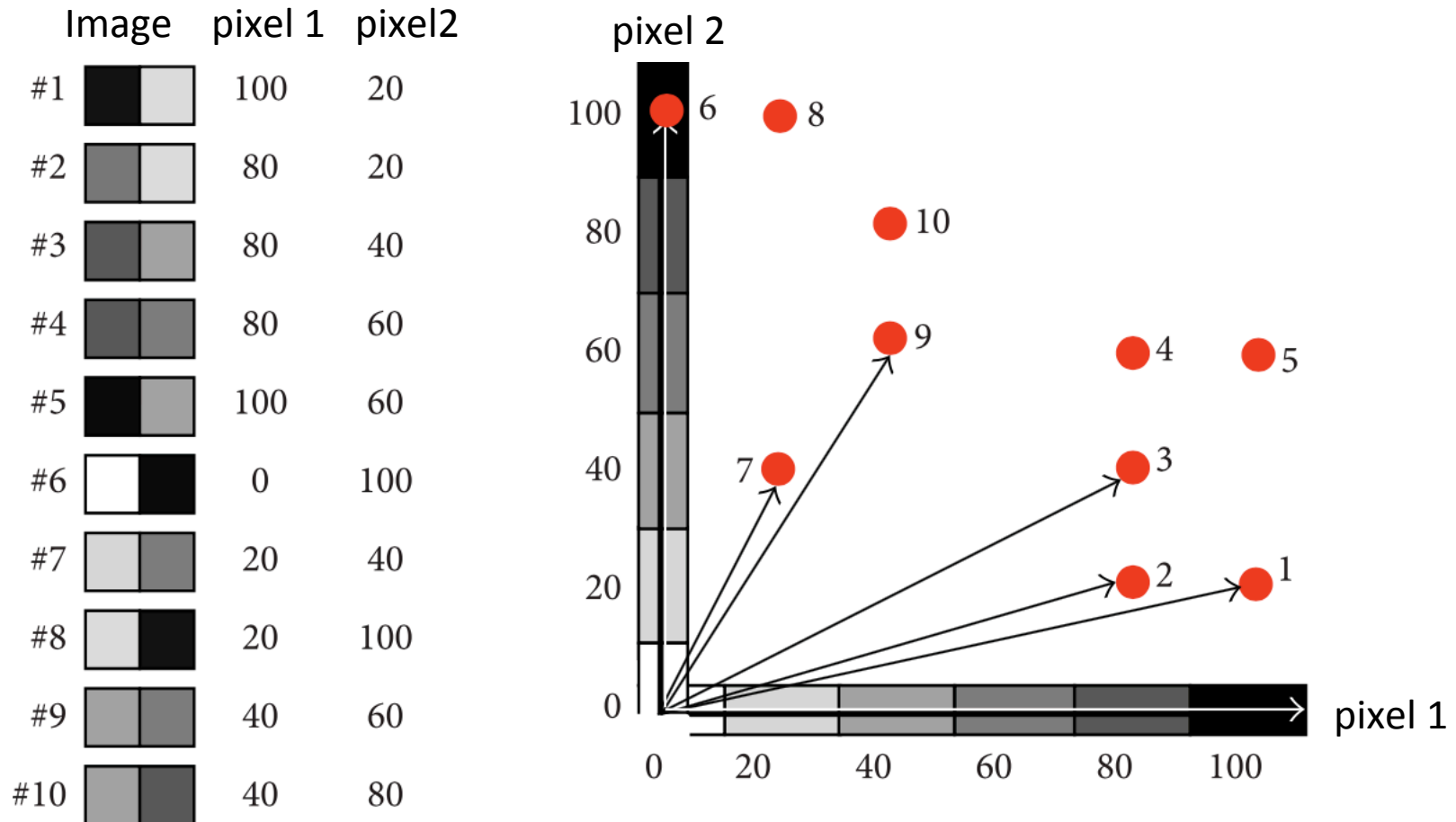


Classification into 10 classes

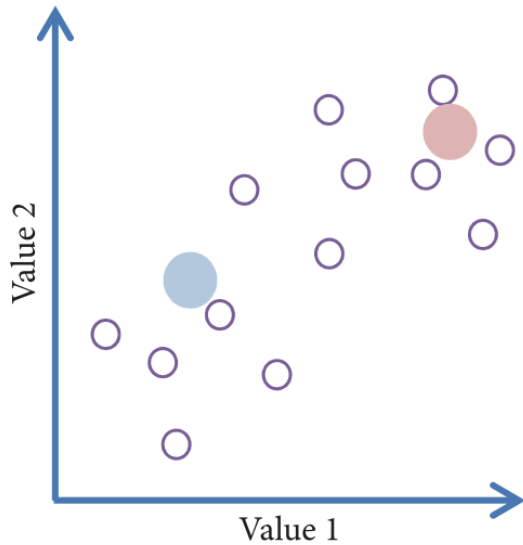


The class number must be large enough to be able to represent all heterogeneity in a dataset

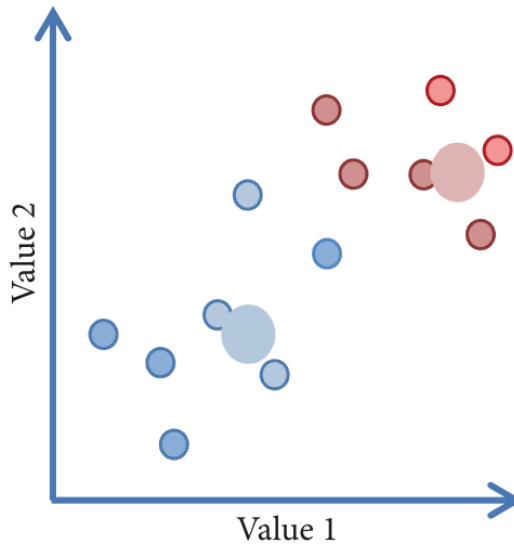
K-means clustering



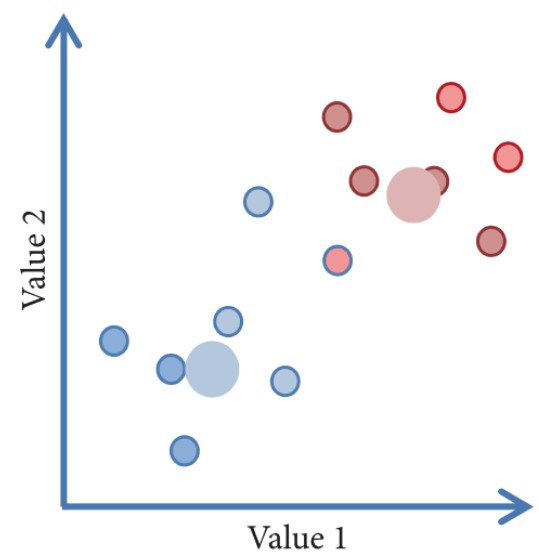
K-means clustering



K cluster centers placed randomly into a dataset



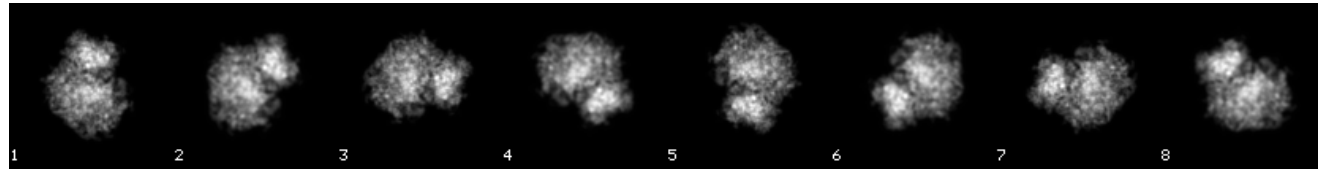
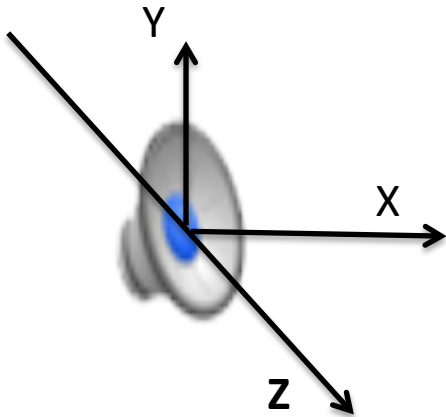
Each image is assigned to belong to the nearest cluster center and class averages are calculated



The class averages are the new cluster centers and image assignment is repeated

Euler angles

Psi: in plane rotation



Important for alignment of particles in 2D

Theta and Phi: Description of a volume

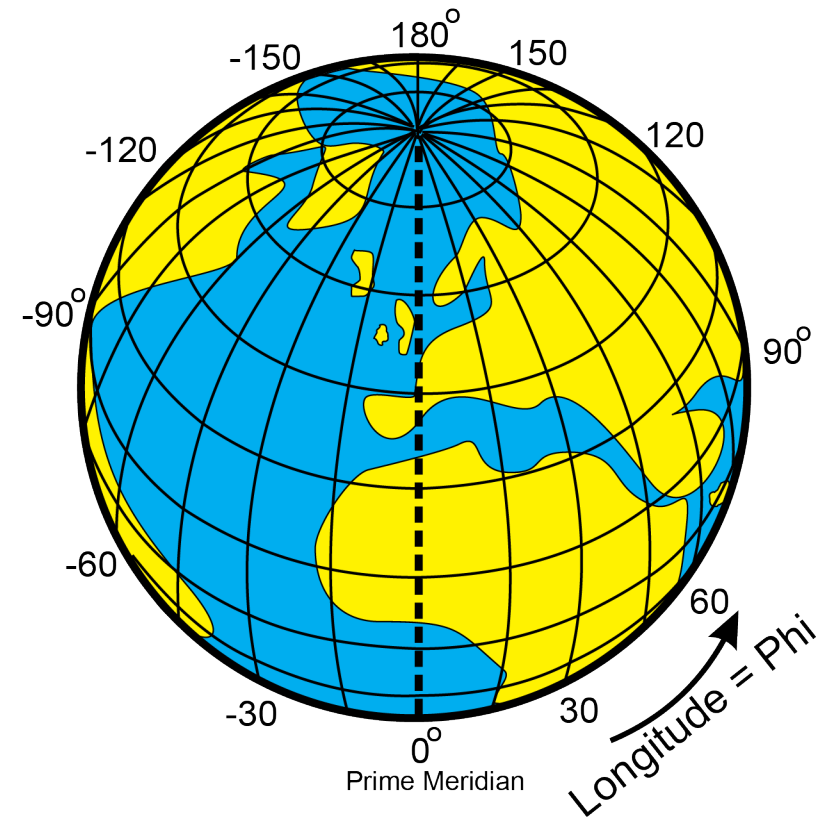
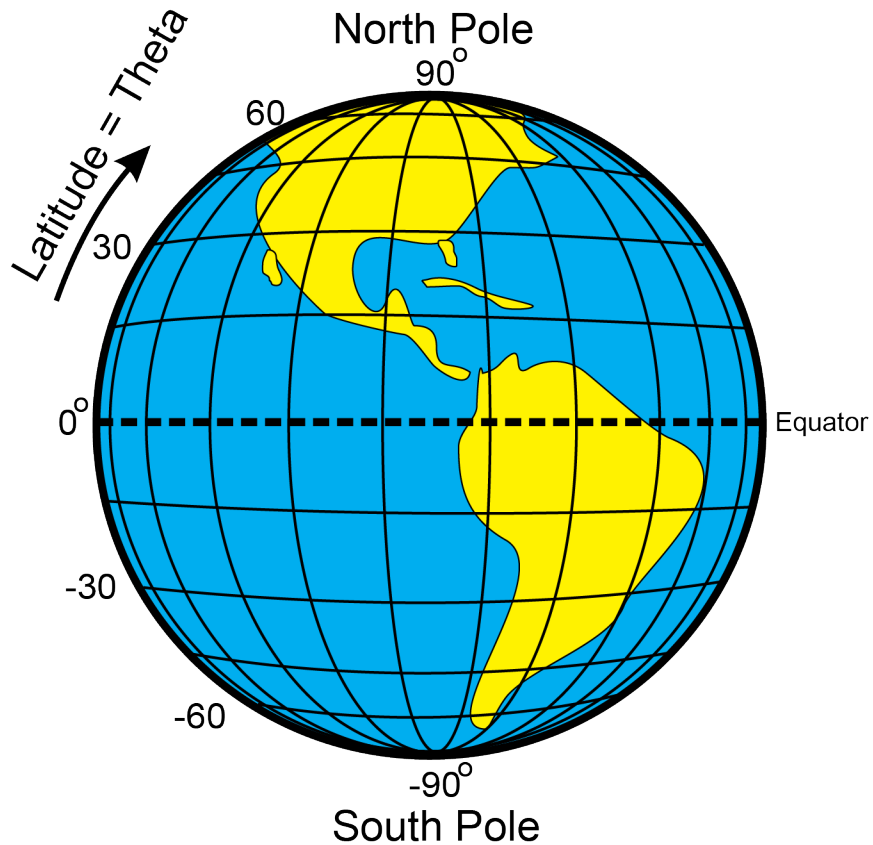
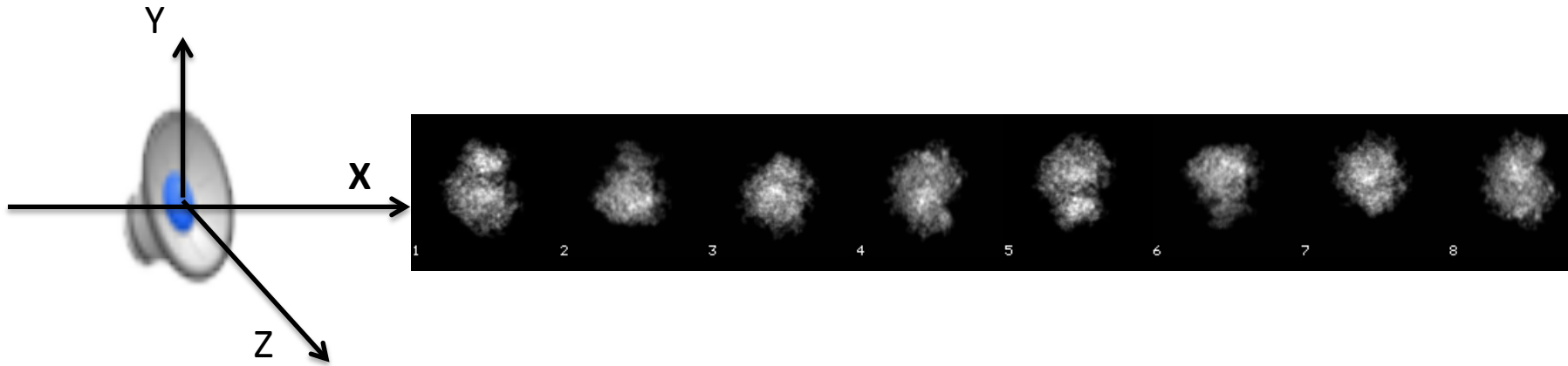


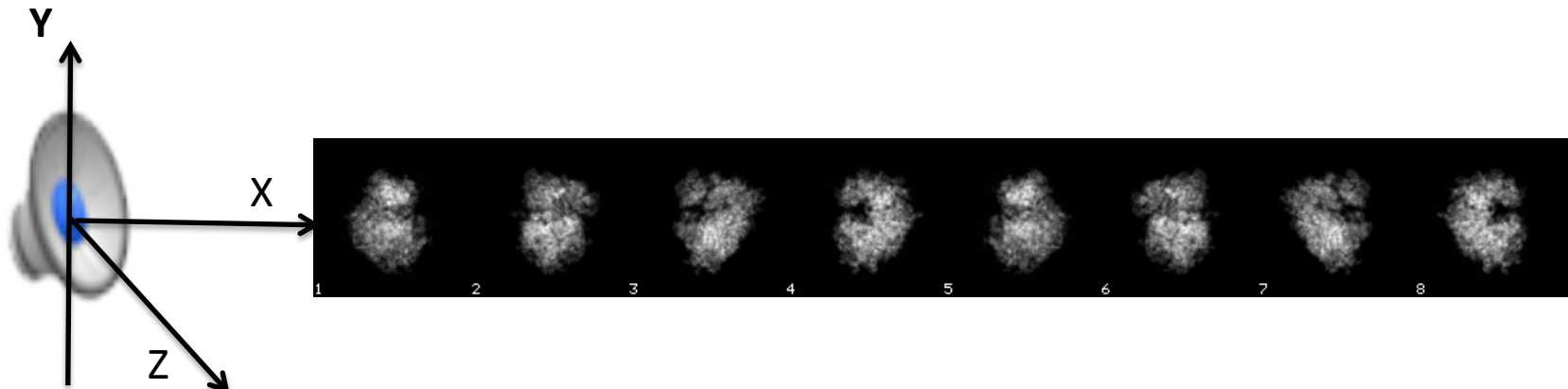
Image adapted from Wikipedia

Euler angles

Theta: out of plane rotation



Phi: rotation around Y-axis
+ 90° Theta



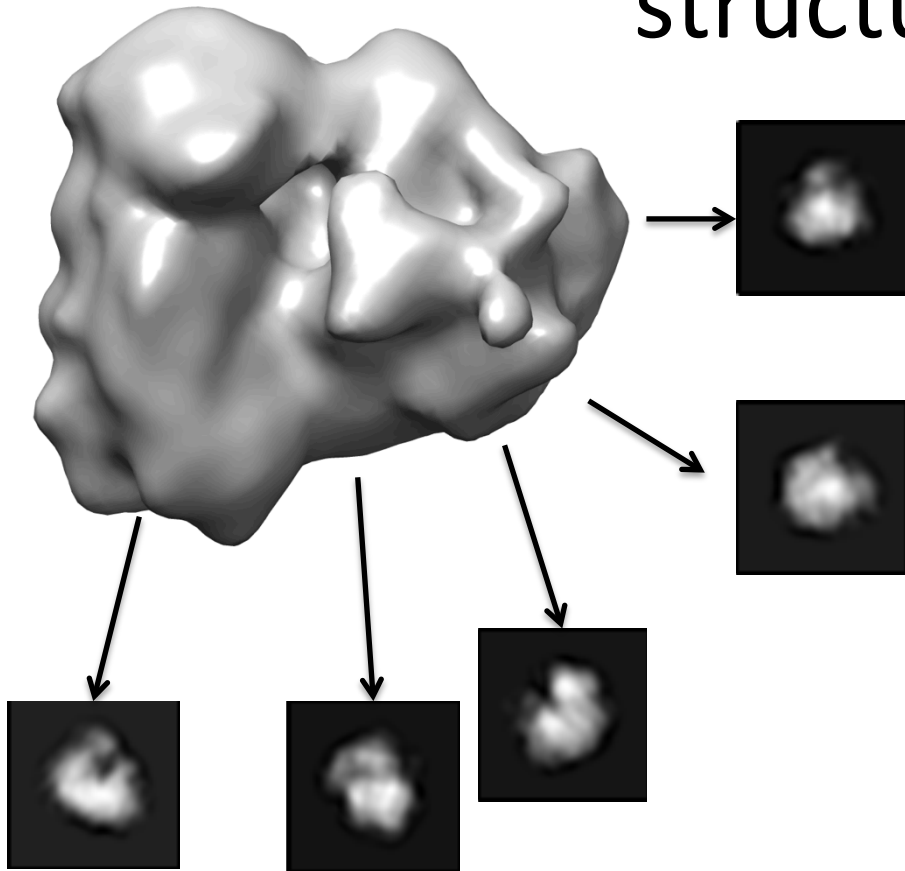
Theta and phi are used to describe the position of 2D images inside a 3D

Determination of Euler angles

- Projection matching
- Random conical tilt/tomography
- Common lines
- Statistical Methods

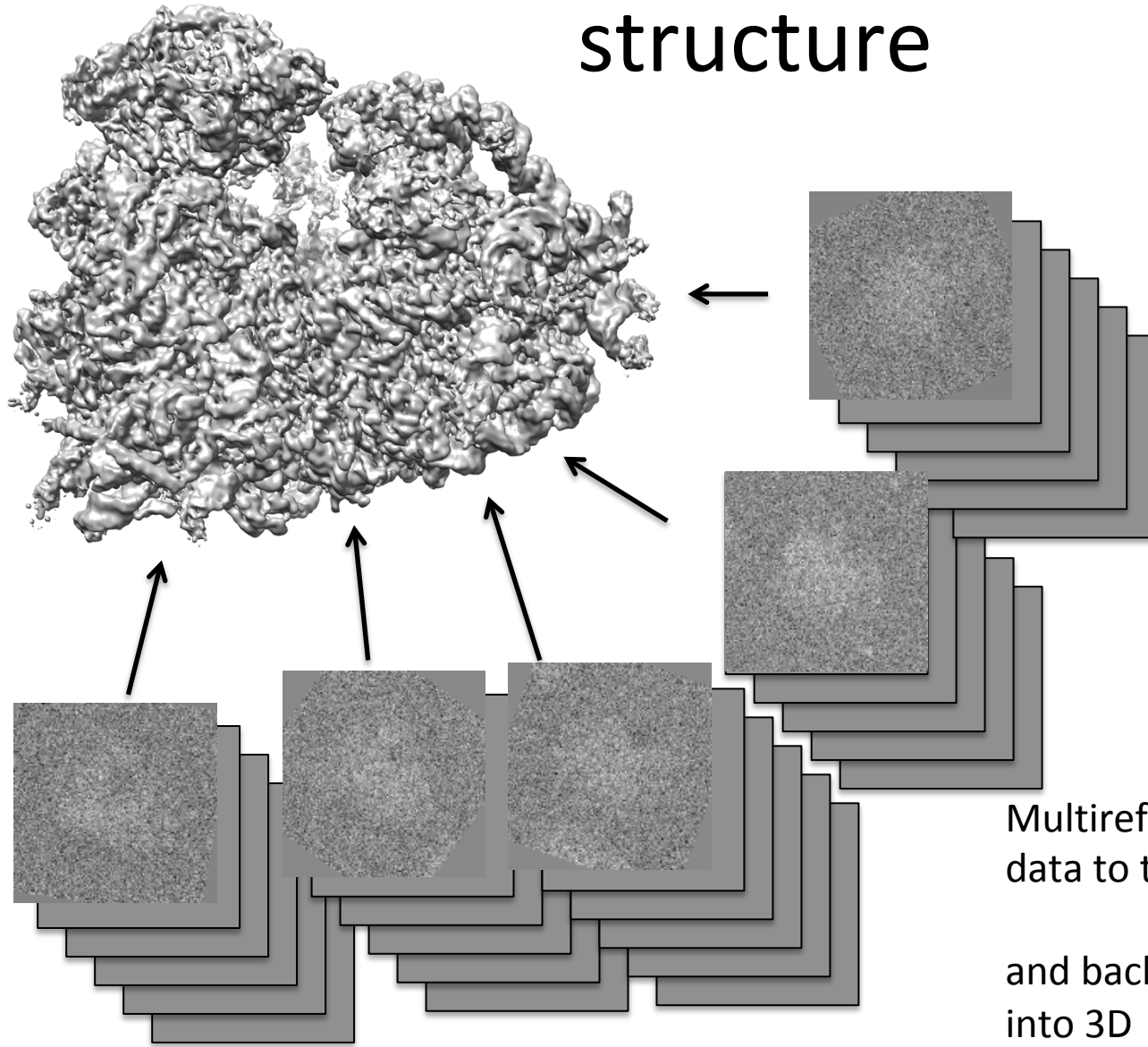
1. Projection matching:

You already have an idea of the 3D-structure



Generate 2D projections from a similar 3D structure, which will be used as references

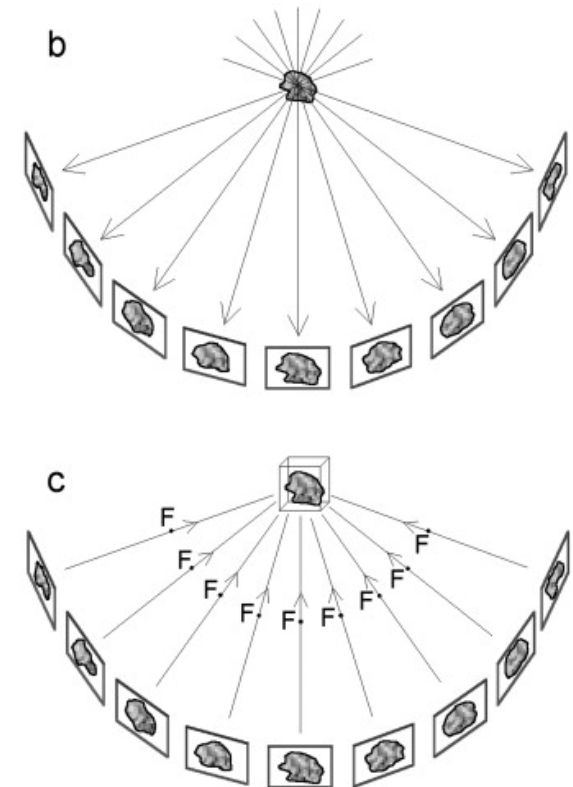
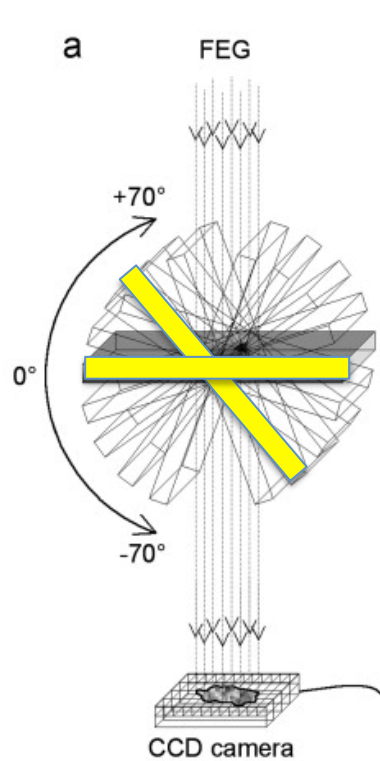
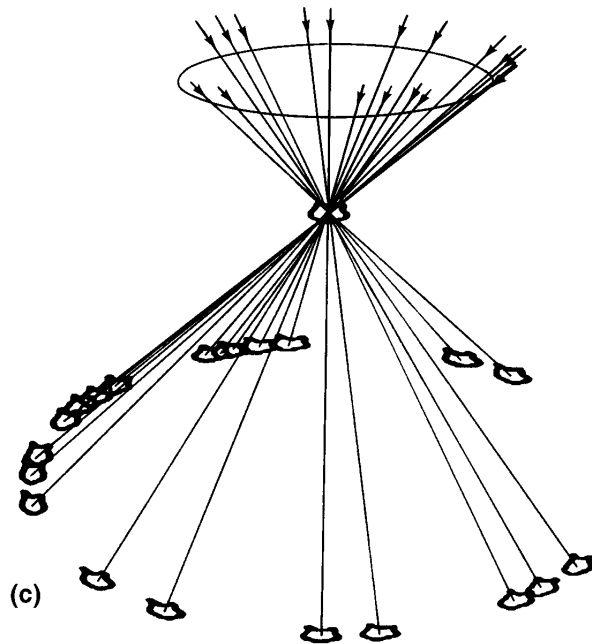
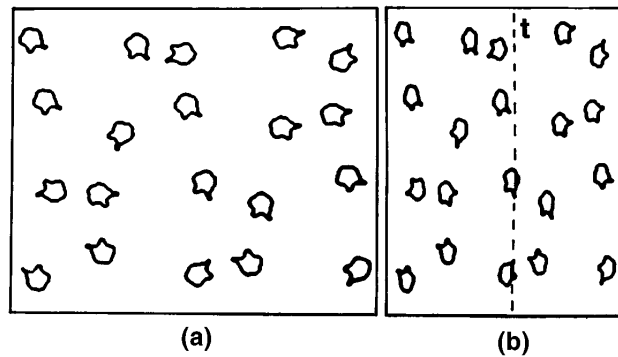
1. Projection matching: You already have an idea of the 3D- structure



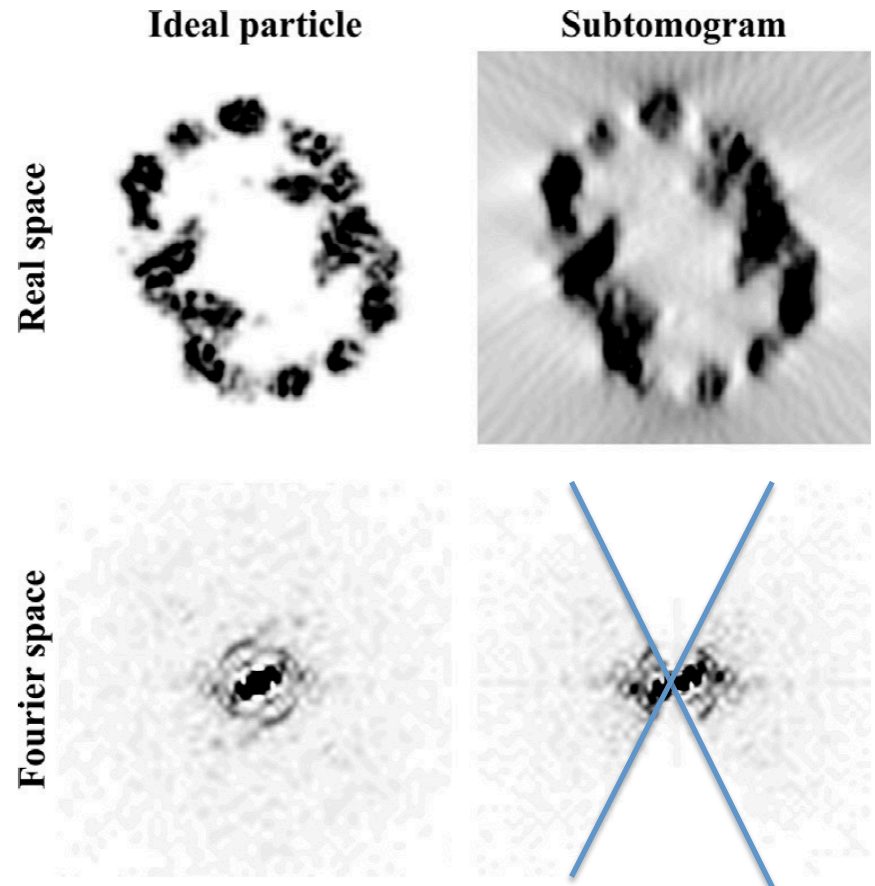
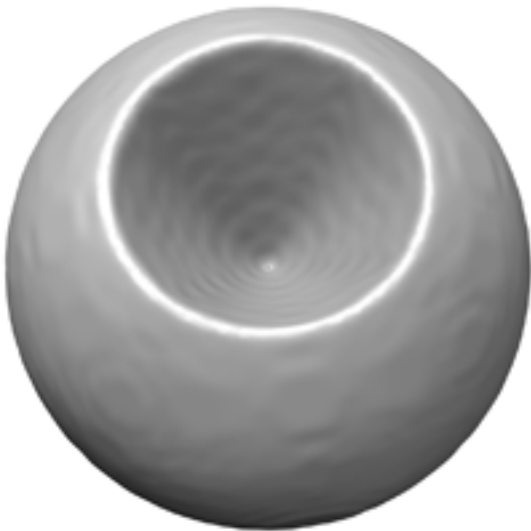
Multireference alignment of your
data to the reference-projections

and back-projection of all particles
into 3D

2. Random conical tilt/Tomography

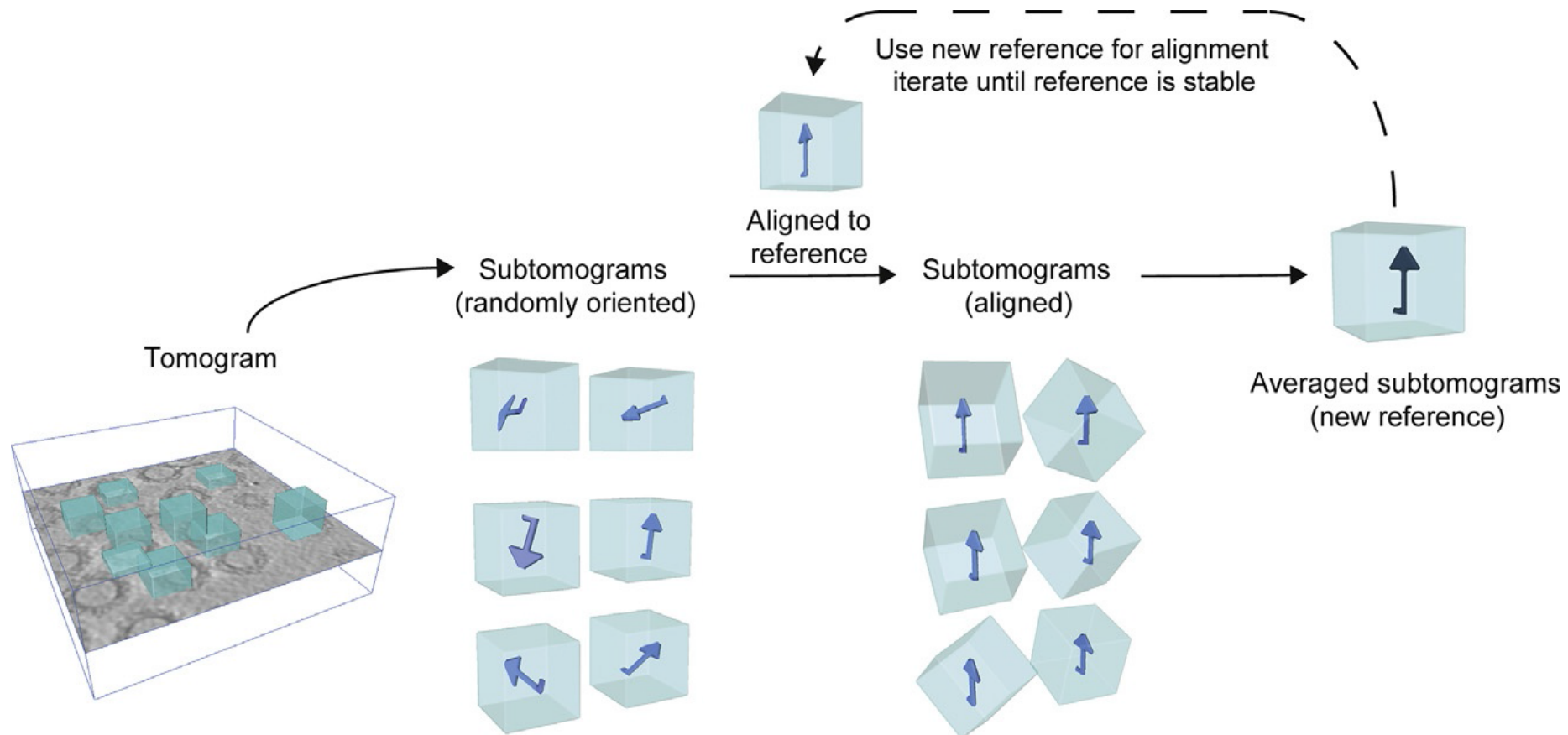


The Missing Wedge problem

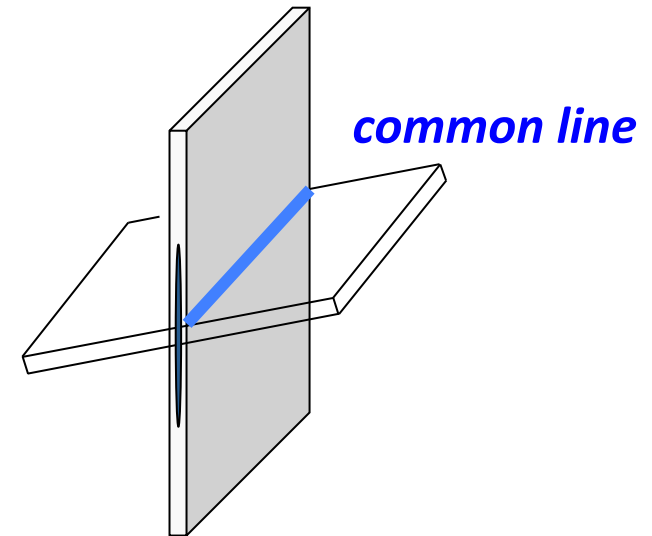
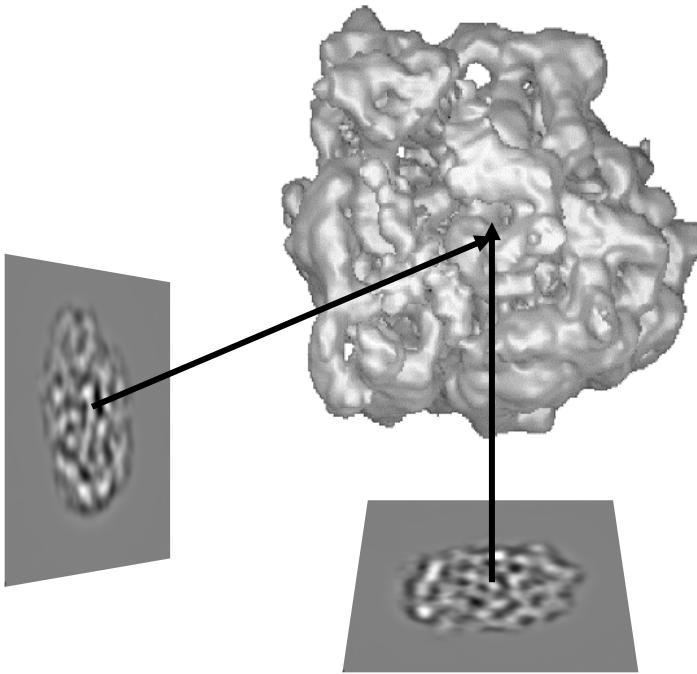


Wan, Briggs, 2016, Methods in Enzymology

Sub-Tomogram Averaging



3. Angular reconstitution with Common lines



common line projections theorem
Theorem of the central section.

II. Structure determination

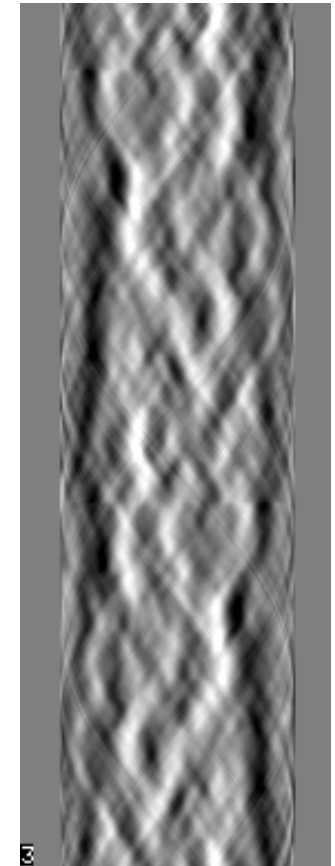
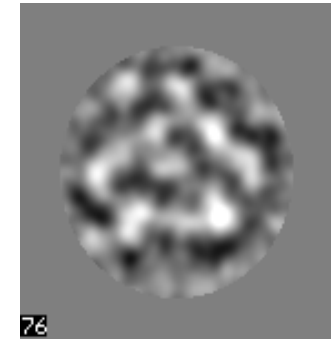
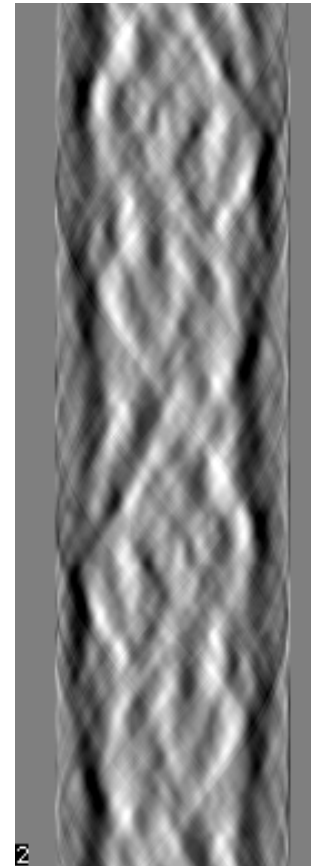
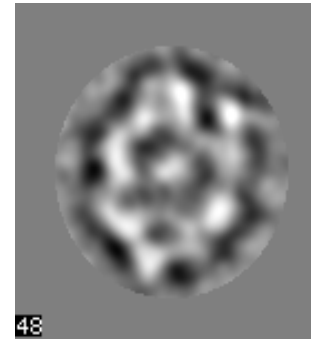
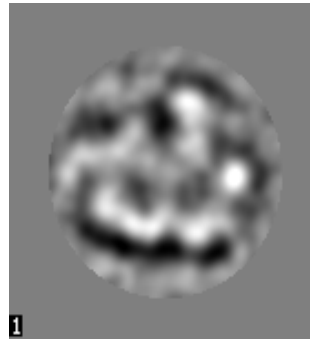
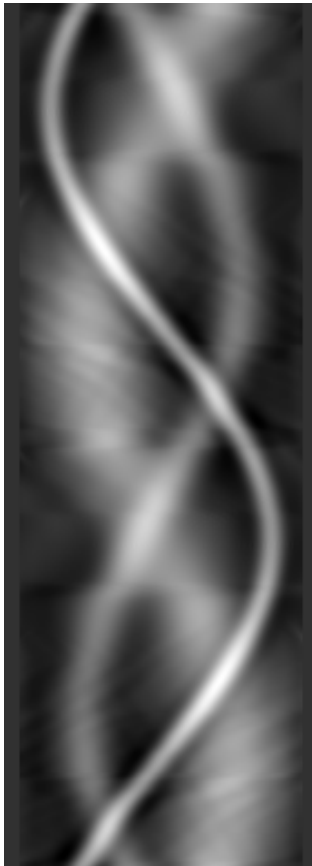
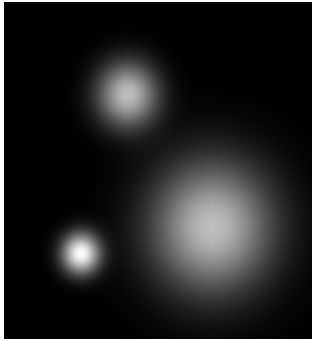
- angle assignment
- angular reconstitution



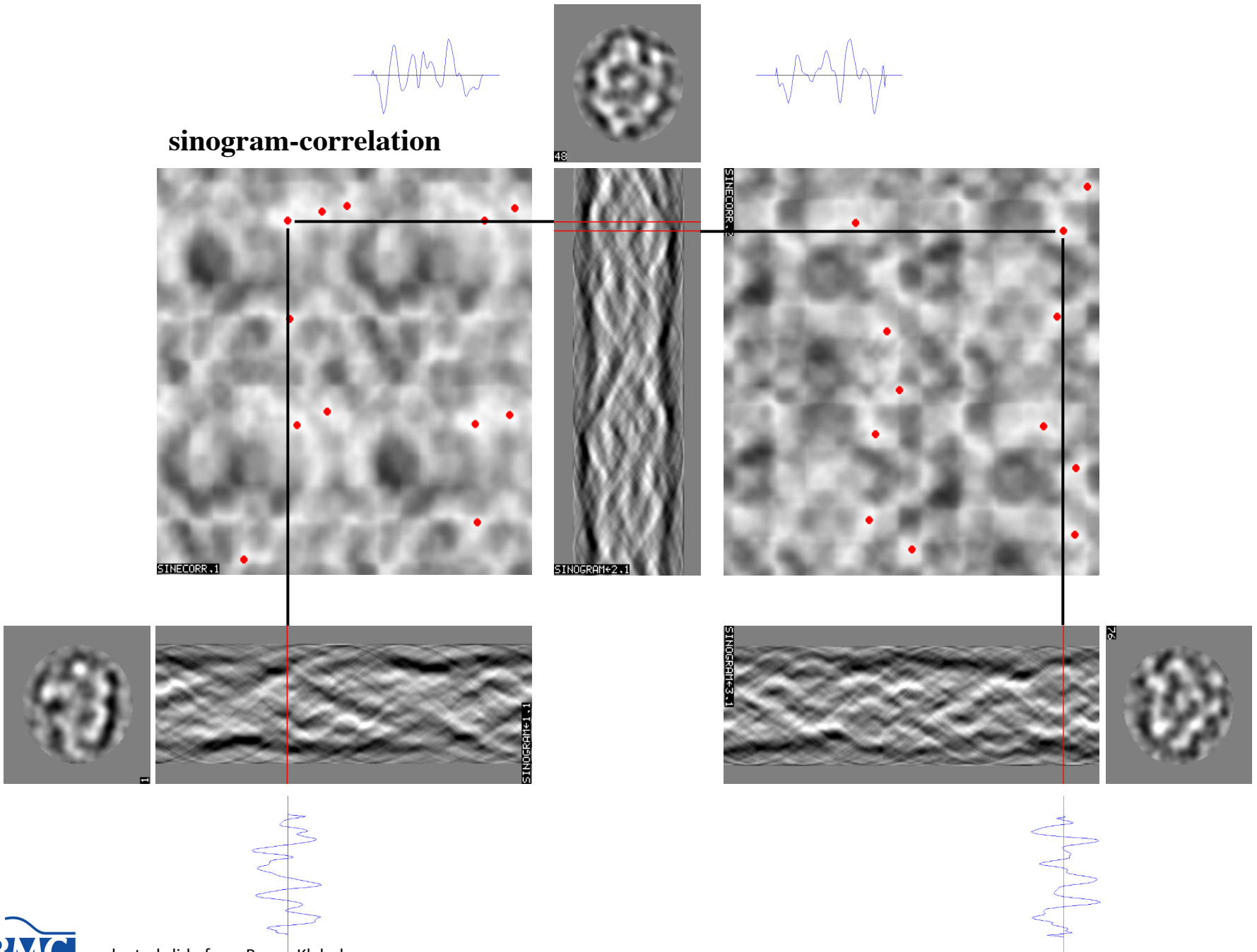
sinogram = **line-projection** of the 2D image
(also called Radon transform)

amplitude-square-root filtered

Select 3 clearly different views (here: class average numbers 1,48,76):

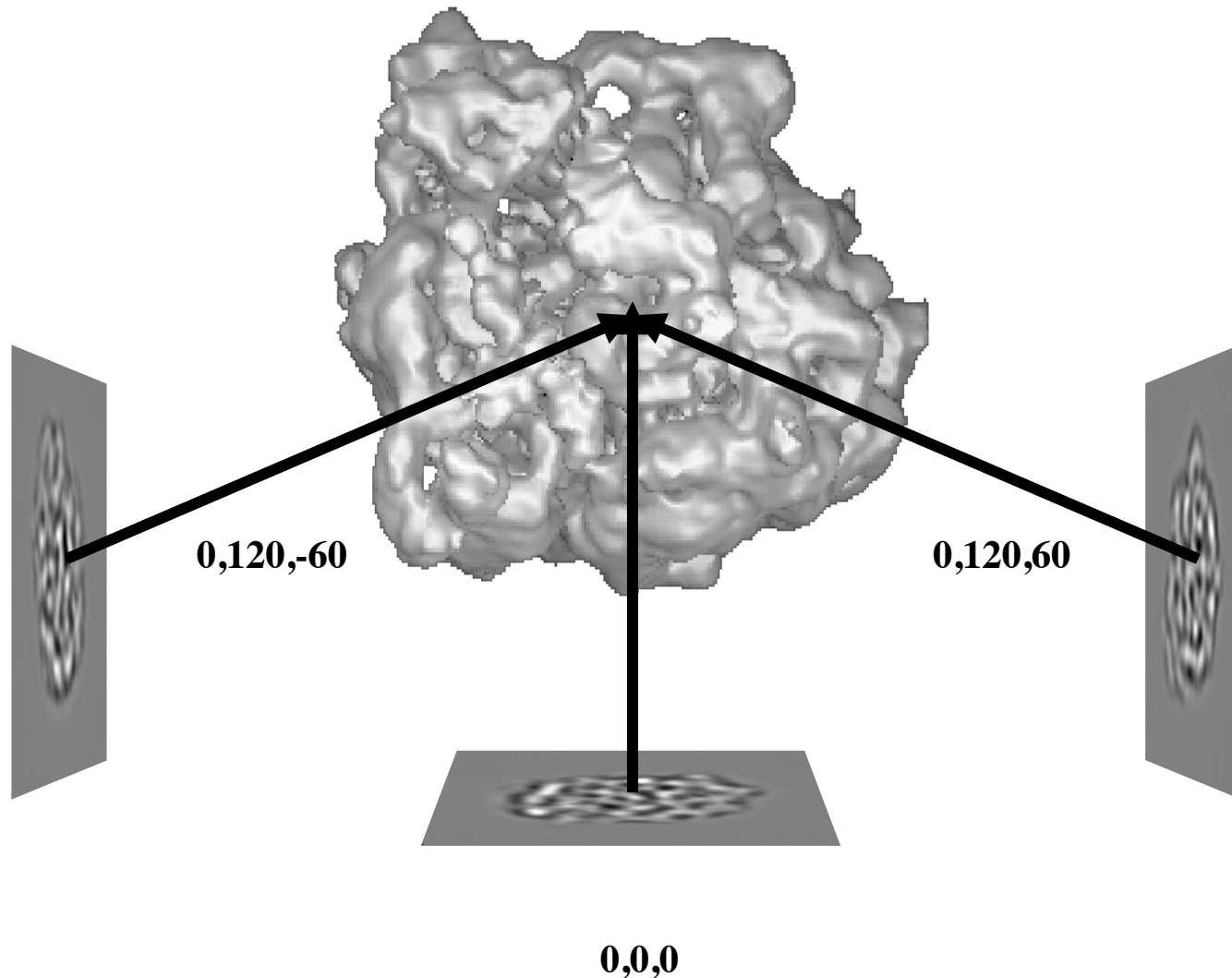


sinogram-correlation



II. Structure determination

- 3D reconstruction

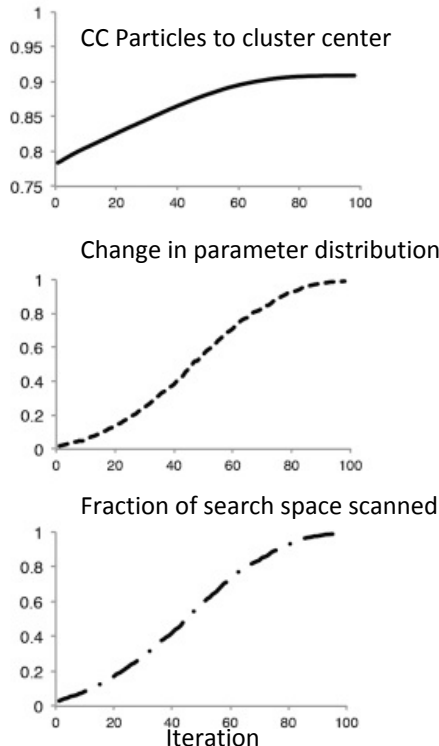


back-projection → 3D reconstruction

4. Stochastic approach

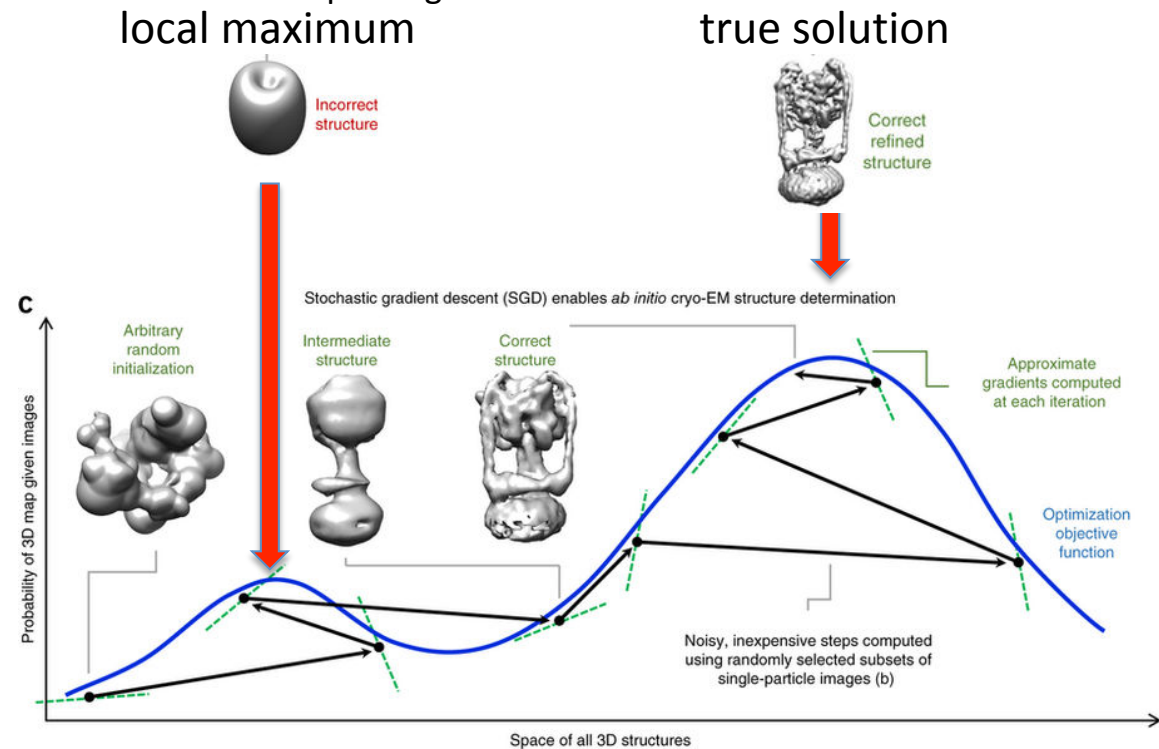
hill climbing

1. Assign images random angles
2. sort images into x number of random classes.
3. For each individual particle image, identify the in-plane rotation and cluster assignment that improves the correlation in comparison to last round.
4. Iterate the process until convergence.

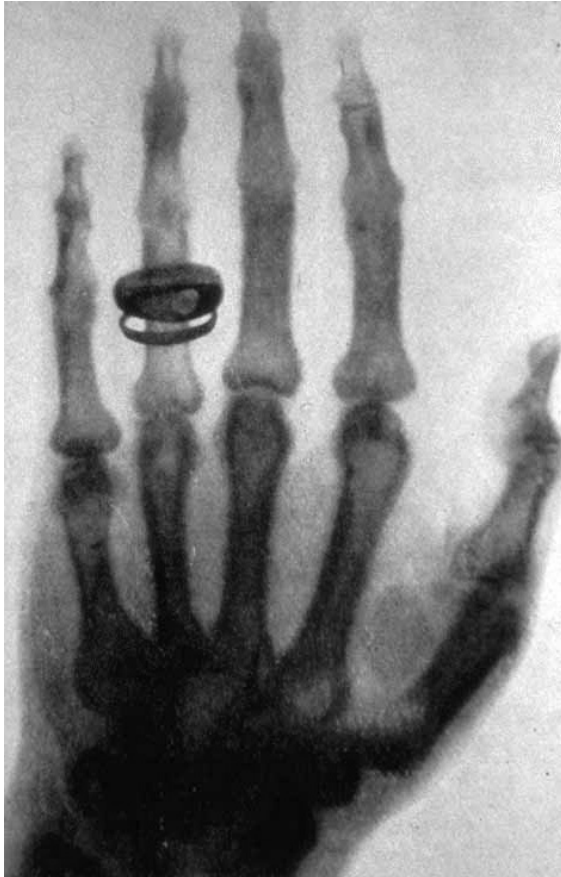


gradient descent

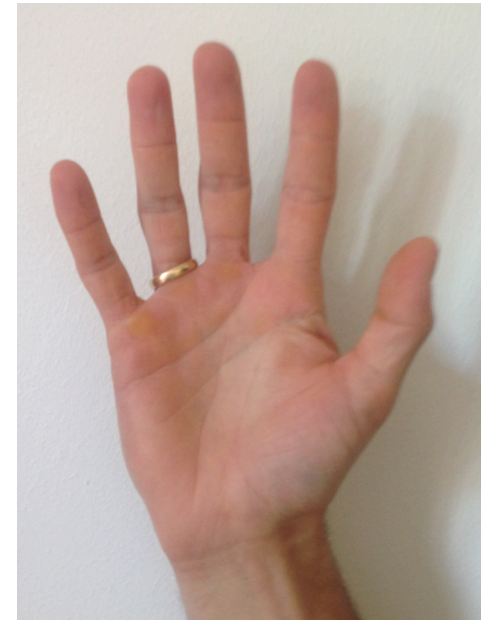
1. Overall likelihood of a small number of randomly chosen images to correspond to a 3D structure is calculated
2. Each iteration a different subset is chosen and the gradient between overall likelihood compared to previous round is computed
3. 3D structure is updated each iteration based on computed gradient



The problem of the right hand



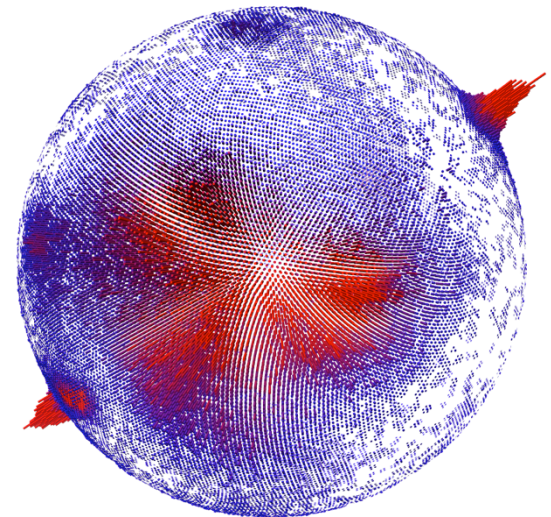
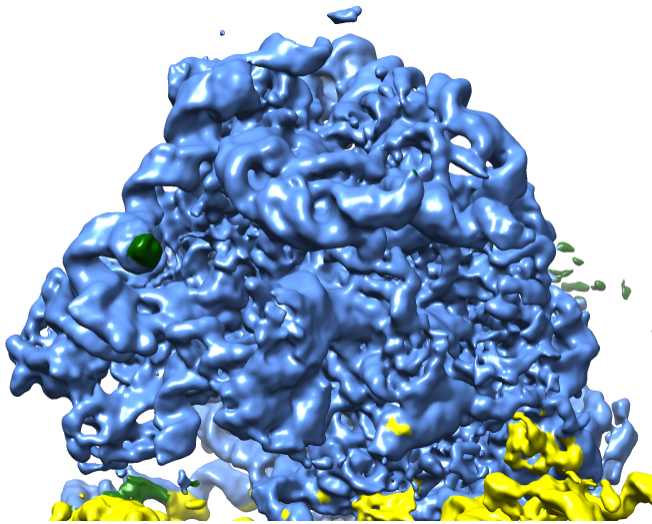
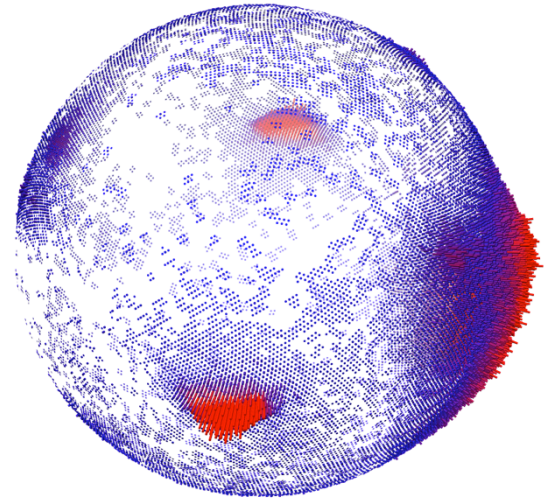
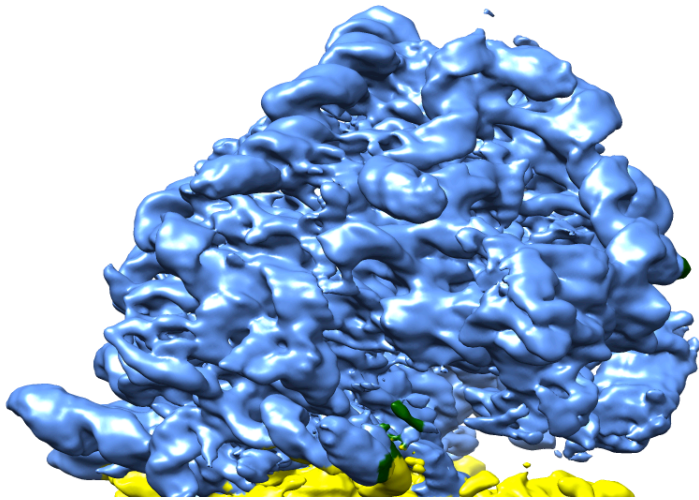
One of the first x-ray images taken by C. Roentgen



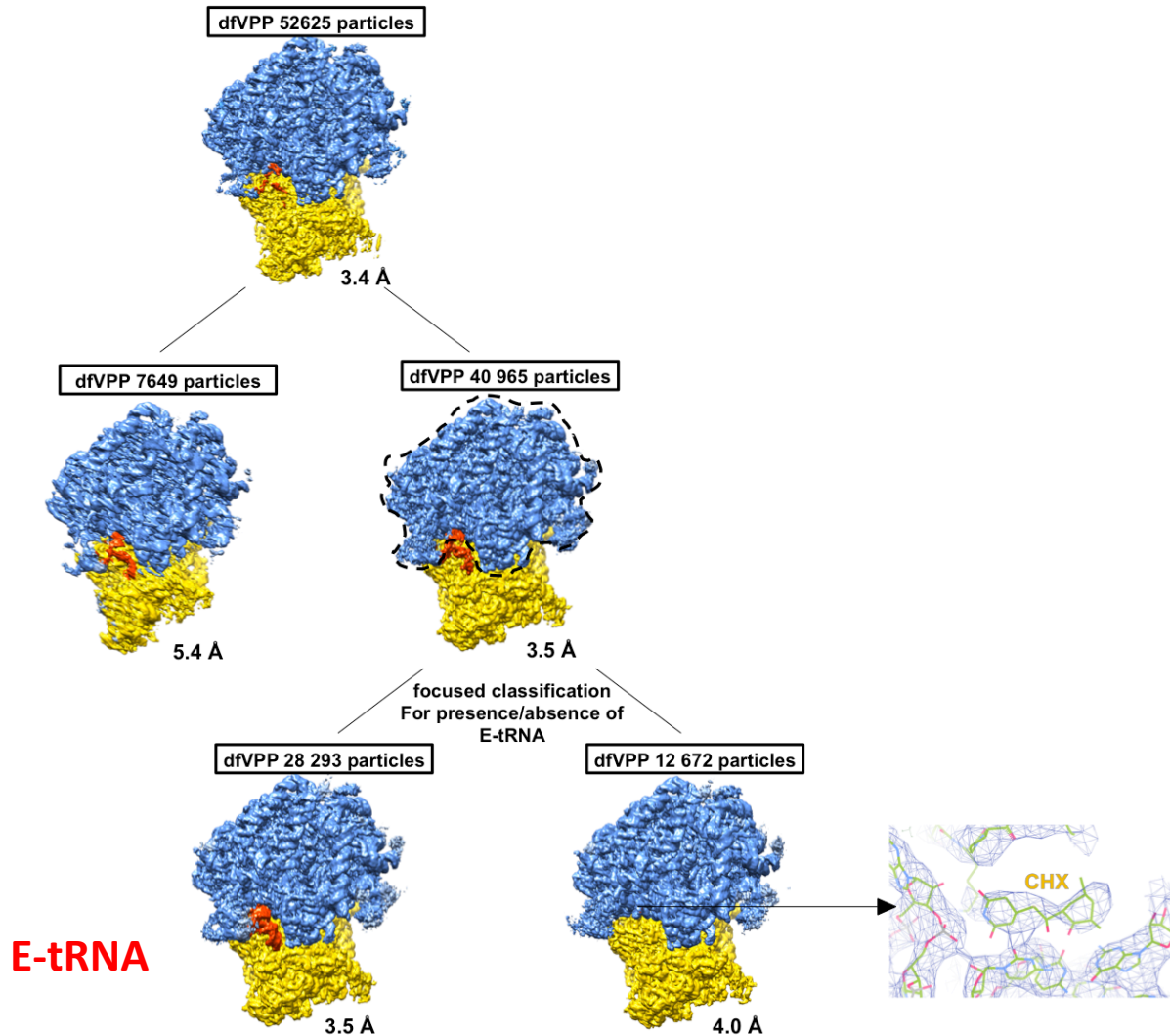
In transmission microscopy it is not possible to distinguish between the left and the right hand from one image

Issue with common lines and statistical approach. For RCT/Tomography the hand is fixed by tilting the specimen

Uneven angular distribution (preferential orientation)



Heterogeneity



Only after sorting for heterogeneity it is possible to see full density for CHX/E-tRNA

Further reading

- Classification and Alignment

- Elad, N., Clare, D.K., Saibil, H.R., Orlova, E.V., 2008. Detection and separation of heterogeneity in molecular complexes by statistical analysis of their two-dimensional projections. *J Struct Biol* 162, 108–20. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsb.2007.11.007>
- Scheres, S.H., 2010. Classification of structural heterogeneity by maximum-likelihood methods. *Methods Enzym.* 482, 295–320. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0076-6879\(10\)82012-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0076-6879(10)82012-9)
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- White, H.E., Ignatiou, A., Clare, D.K., Orlova, E.V., 2017. Structural Study of Heterogeneous Biological Samples by Cryoelectron Microscopy and Image Processing. *BioMed Res. Int.* 2017, 1032432. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2017/1032432>

- Initial Structure Generation

- Crowther, R.A., DeRosier, D.J., Klug, A., 1970. The reconstruction of a three-dimensional structure from projections and its application to electron microscopy. *Proc R Soc Lond A* 317, 319–340. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspa.1970.0119>
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- Reboul, C.F., Bonnet, F., Elmlund, D., Elmlund, H., 2016. A stochastic hill climbing approach for simultaneous 2D alignment and clustering of cryogenic electron microscopy images. *Structure* 24, 988–996. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.str.2016.04.006>
- Van Heel, M., 1987. Angular reconstitution: A posteriori assignment of projection directions for 3D reconstruction. *Ultramicroscopy* 21, 111–123. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0304-3991\(87\)90078-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/0304-3991(87)90078-7)

- Book about cryo-EM and image processing

J. Frank, *Three-Dimensional Electron Microscopy of Macromolecular Assemblies: Visualization of Biological Molecules in Their Native State*, Oxford University Press, 2nd edition, 2008.