

**SHORT REPORT ABOUT CD2001 IN SENDAI**

The 8th International Conference on Circular Dichroism has been held in Sendai (Japan) on Sept 23-28. Scientific level has been regarded as high, but we will report here a few considerations based on our service engineer experience:

Hardware exhibitors:

- Jasco Corporation** *J-820* (similar to J-810 for export markets), *J-805SF* (a strip-down version of J-810 equipped with own new stopped-flow device), *JV-2001* (a pre-production CD for IR range), a full HPLC system with *CD-2095* CD detector (CD-1595 for export markets)
- Biotoools** *Chiralir* (CD unit for IR range)

So the interest toward **VCD** (Vibrational Circular Dichroism) seems to be growing, several posters and a few lectures were presented too, even if many from same origin. In next few issues we will start dealing with this topic which may interest several people.

Non conventional instruments/sampling devices were presented either in lectures or in poster section, we will come back with details in next issues, however briefly:

- VUV-CD** K. Gekko (Hiroshima Univ.) presented first results of the synchrotron radiation CD that they are setting up there, a large investment to expand the operating range effectively down to 140nm. Today several synchrotron laboratories around the world seems to compete each other in order to offer far UV CD measuring facilities for protein and saccharide people.
- FDCD** a refined fluorescence detected circular dichroism accessory named PFD-425L had been presented by Jasco, unit is mainly designed to improve sensitivity while correcting aberrations often associated with this type of measurements.
- High-pressure CD cell** presented by A. Nakamura (JST ERATO project, Toyonaka) and on the way of commercial release. It has quartz windows to cover the UV range, in order to be applied also for protein analysis.
- Solid sampling** several posters about solid state CD, ranging from simple KBr or Nujol approach to a few film applications.
In a far more complex scale Miss R. Kuroda (JST ERATO project, Tokyo Univ.) gave several interesting details on a fully dedicated unit (Jasco J-800KCM) designed and built for artifact free measurements on difficult samples. It's not yet clear if this instrument will have a commercial future.
Also P. Biscarini (Univ. of Bologna) presented data from diffuse reflectance sampling for undiluted compounds in the VIS range.
- Near IR CD** interesting results from the home made unit of University of Brescia (S. Abbate), actually for VCD overtones application.
- PEM techniques** S. Maeda (Fukui Univ.) presented state of the art discussion on UV-VIS PEM construction, as well as on related control units.
L. Nafie and R. Dukor gave several examples of the advantage of double PEM modulation in VCD.

These presentations demonstrate that CD technique is not yet static and that there is still space for innovation. Let's hope in a bright future.