

# Lab instruments ...Lecture-4

## The Spectrophotometer-2

جامعة المعقل  
الكلية التقنية الصحية  
قسم تقنيات التحليلات المرضية

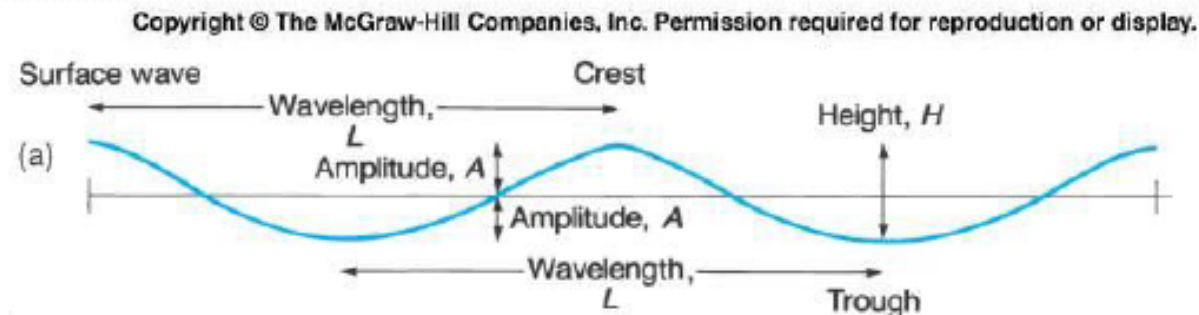


## **Out line :**

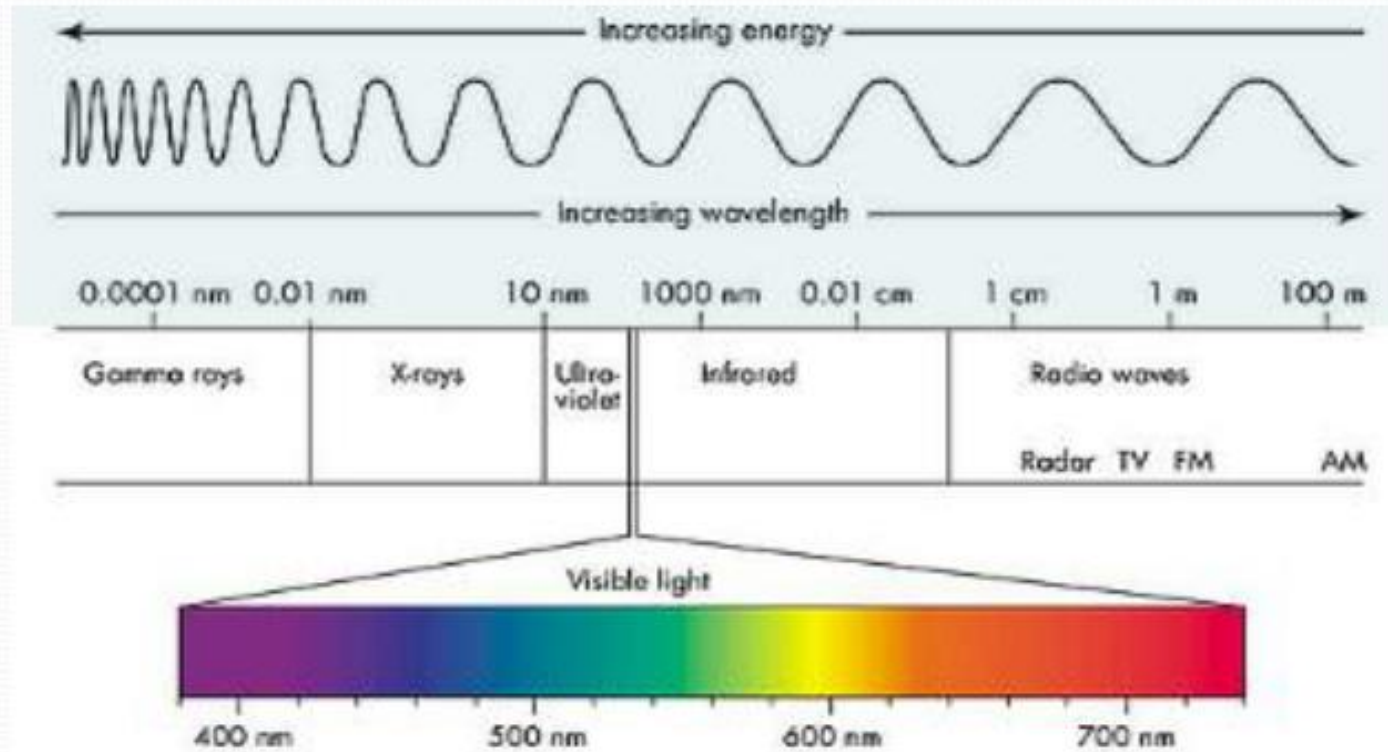
- **Introduction to Spectrophotometry**
- **Principles of Spectrophotometer**
- **Instruments of Measurement**
- **Instrumentation (Spectrophotometers)**
- **Definitions & Symbols**
- **Beer - Lambert law**
- **Applications of a spectrophotometer**

# Introduction to Spectrophotometry

- **Properties of Light:**
- *Electromagnetic radiation* moves in waves
- **Light** (called **electromagnetic radiation**) moves in waves.
- Wavelength = different types of light have different wavelengths. Some are longer than others. For instance, in the visible light spectrum, red light waves are longer than blue light waves.
- Wavelengths are commonly given in ????



# Electromagnetic spectrum




# Colors & Wavelengths

Only those substances appear coloured that absorb VIS radiation  
The colour is then determined by the reflected light (the colour of the substance is *complementary* to that one which has been absorbed):

Visible Light

Color absorbed	Color observed	Absorbed radiation(nm)
Violet	Yellow-green	400-435
Blue	Yellow	435-480
Green-blue	Orange	480-490
Blue-green	Red	490-500
Green	Purple	500-560
Yellow-green	Violet	560-580
Yellow	Blue	580-595
Orange	Green-blue	595-605
Red	Blue-green	605-750





## What are Spectroscopy and Spectrophotometry??

- Light can either be *transmitted or absorbed* by dissolved substances.
- Presence & concentration of dissolved substances is analyzed by passing light through the sample.
- **Spectroscopes** measure electromagnetic *emission*
- **Spectrophotometers** measure electromagnetic *absorption*



# Principles of Spectrophotometer

- A spectrophotometer consists of two instruments:
- **Spectrometer:** for producing light of any selected color (wavelength),
- **Photometer:** for measuring the intensity of light.

# Instruments of Measurement

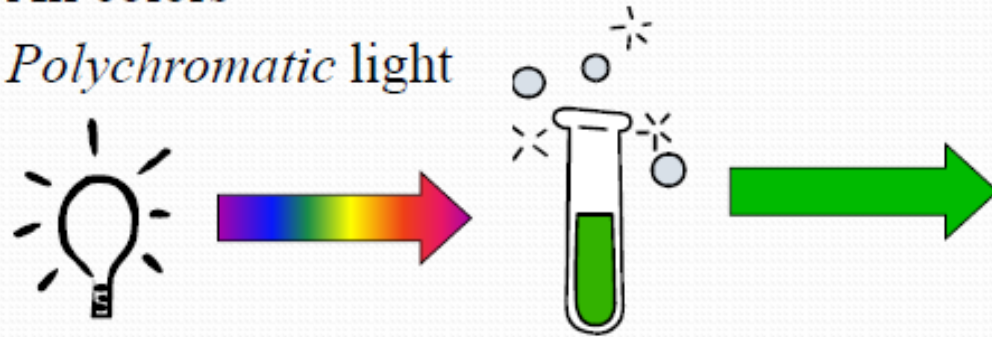
- **What do spectrophotometers measure?**
  - The absorption of light indicates **the presence of the substance**. This is a qualitative measurement.
  - The amount of light absorbed measures the **concentration of the dissolved substance**. This is a quantitative measurement.



# Absorption of Light

- **White light**

- All colors
- *Polychromatic* light



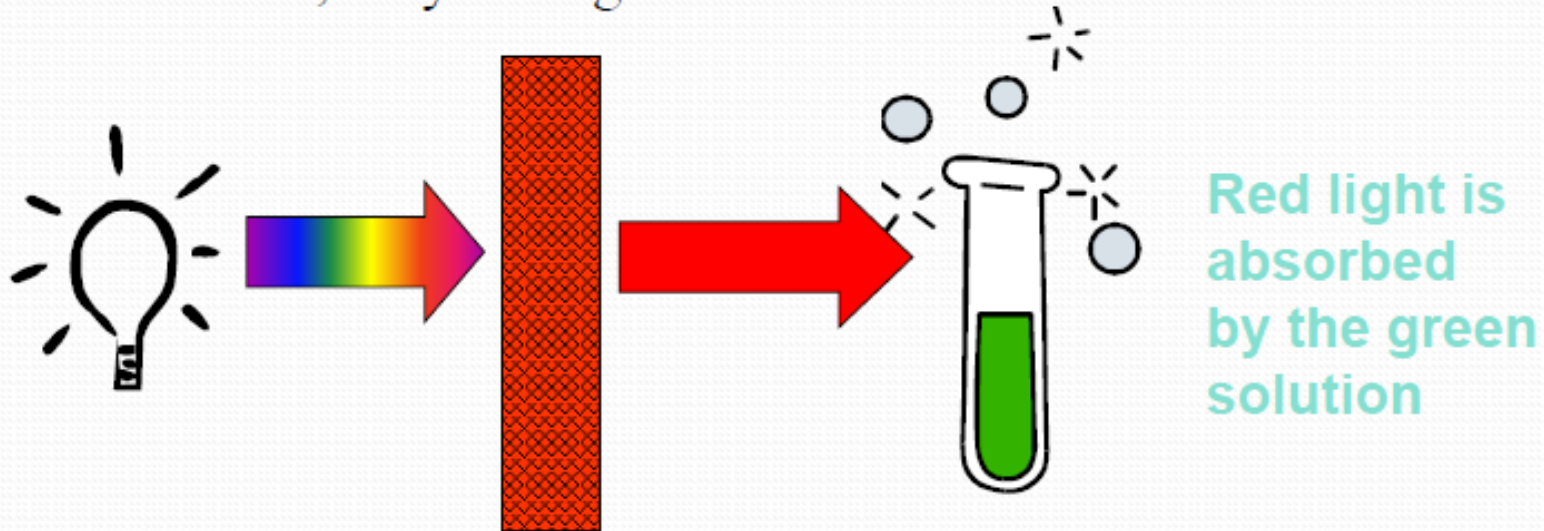
**-When white (polychromatic) light passes through a coloured solution some of the light is absorbed by the substances in the solution, and the rest passes through.**

**-For Example: Green solution absorbs light other than green.**

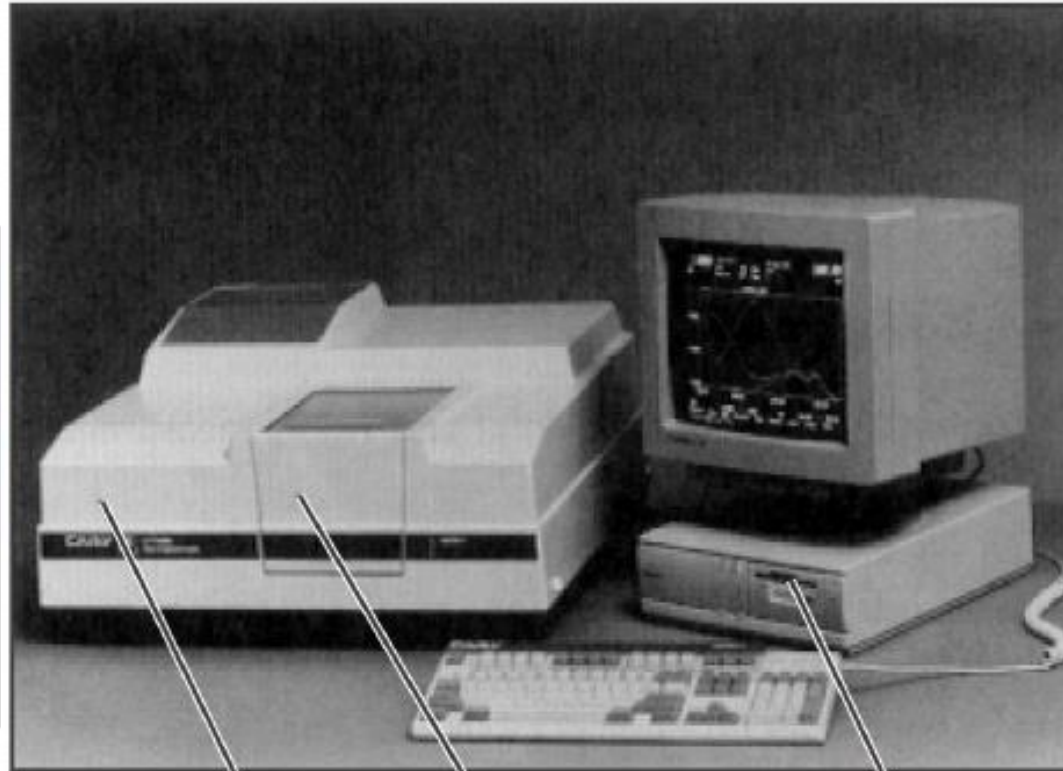
# Absorption of Light

- **Monochromatic light**

- Light of one color
- For example: If white light is made to pass through a red filter, all light except red is filtered out and absorbed. Therefore, only red light hits the solution.



# The Spectrophotometer



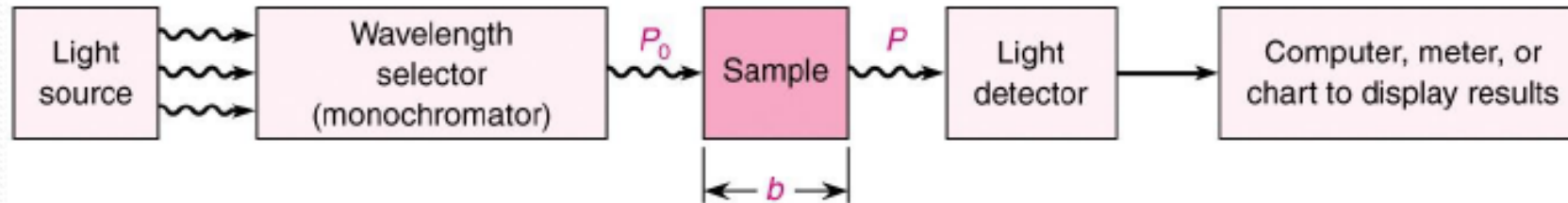
Source, monochromator, detector

Sample  
compartment

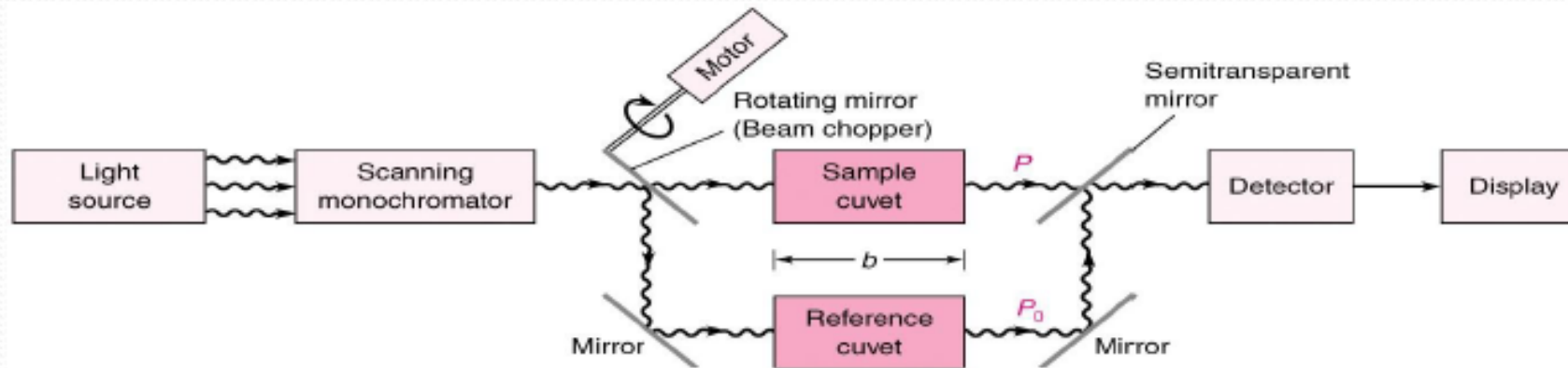
Display and  
controls

# The Spectrophotometer

- a) Single-beam



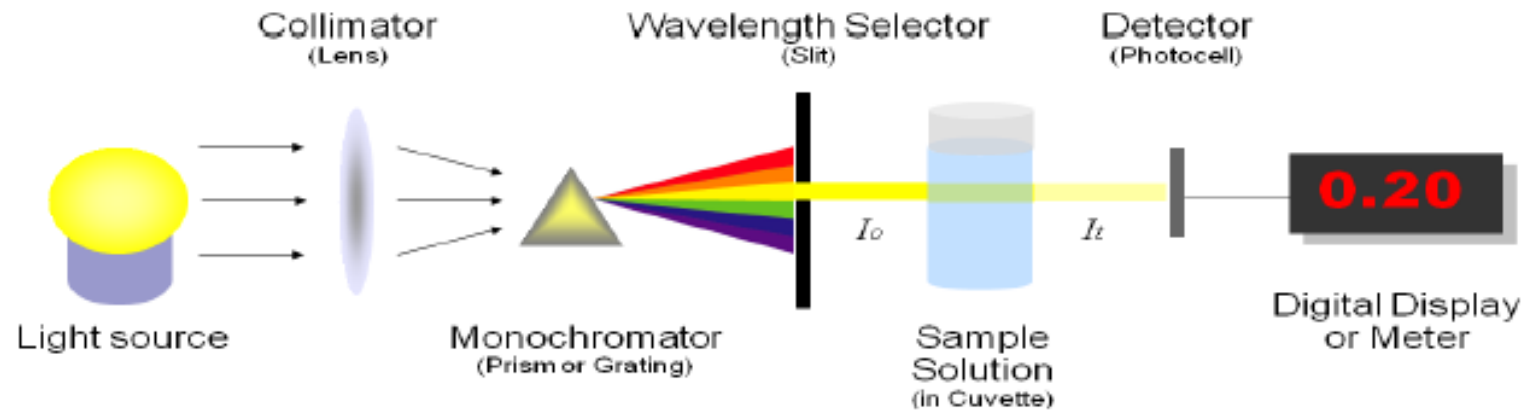
- b) Double-beam

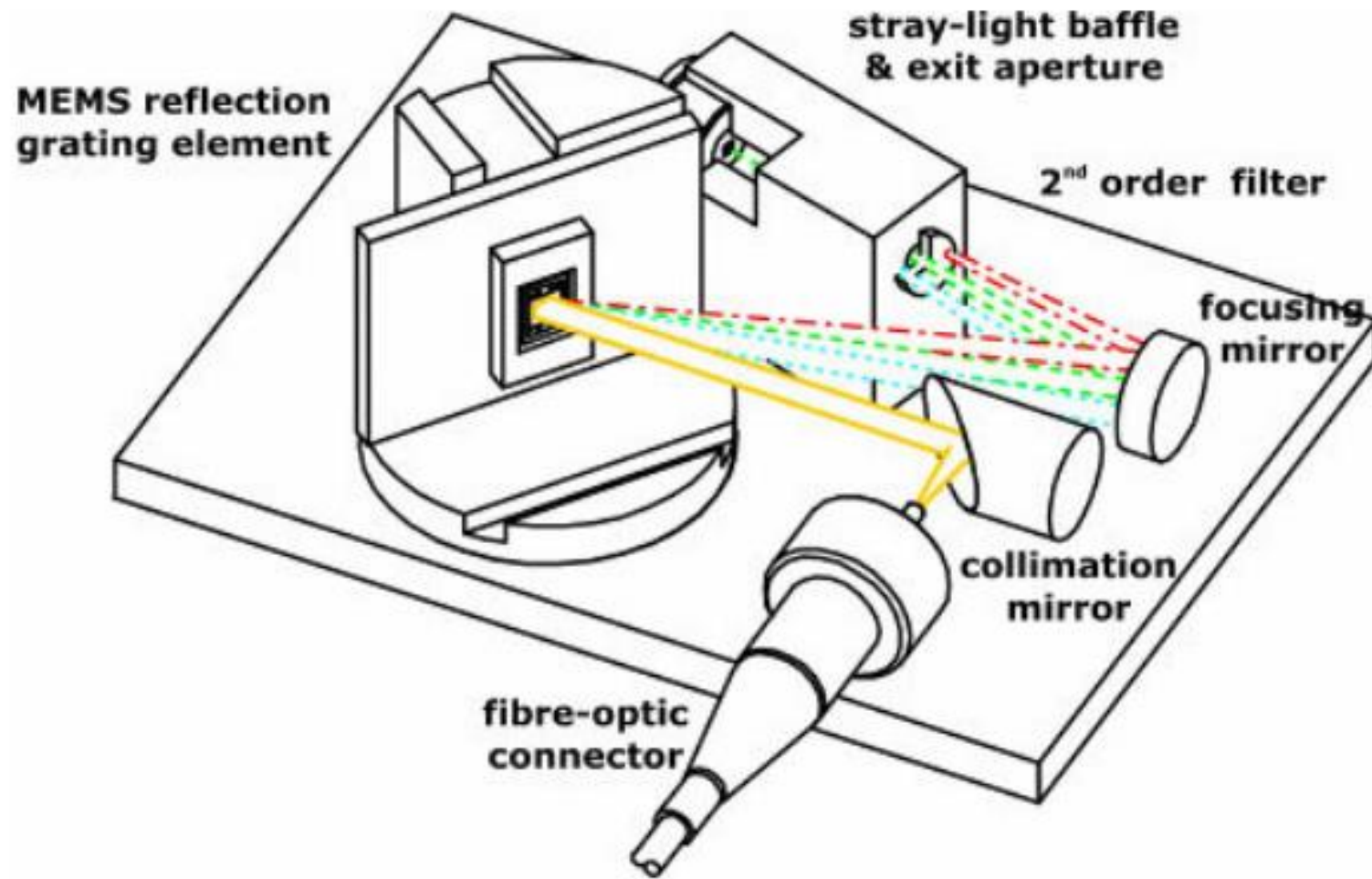




# Instrumentation (Spectrophotometers)

- 1- Sources of light
- 2- Wavelength Selectors
- 3- Sample Containers
- 4- Detectors
- 5- signal processor and readout

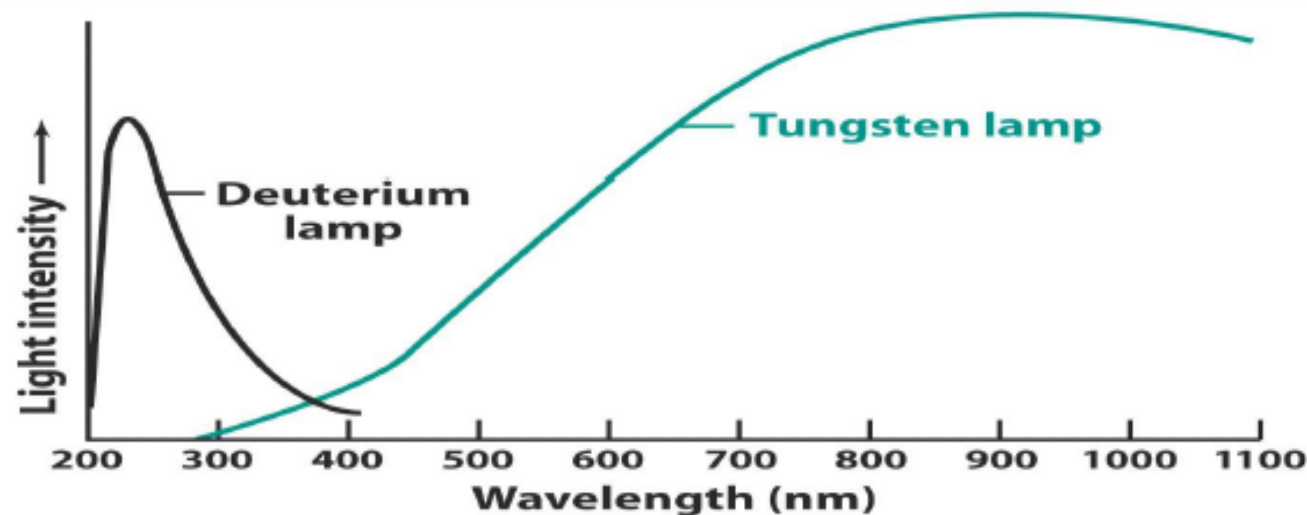




# The Spectrophotometer

## 1-Source of Light

- **UV light from 200 to below 380 nm** = deuterium or hydrogen lamp.
- **Visible region from 380 nm to 780 nm** = tungsten or tungsten-halogen.





## 2- Wavelength Selectors

- To limit light to a certain wavelength
- Monochromator (prism or grating) can isolate a specific wavelength of white light and allow it to pass through the solution being analyzed.

## 3- Sample Containers

- **Cell or cuvettes:**
- Visible range = glass cuvette and plastic cuvette
- UV range = quartz cuvette





## 4- Detectors

**Detector:** Convert radiant energy (photons) into an electrical signal.

- **Photocell:** To detect transmitted light,
- **Or Photomultiplier tube:** very sensitive detector

## 5- signal processor and readout

### Out put:

- The final instrument component, the output transducer, converts the modified electrical signal into information in a form useful to the analyst.
- Meter
- Digital
- Chart paper; or recorder
- Computerizes system

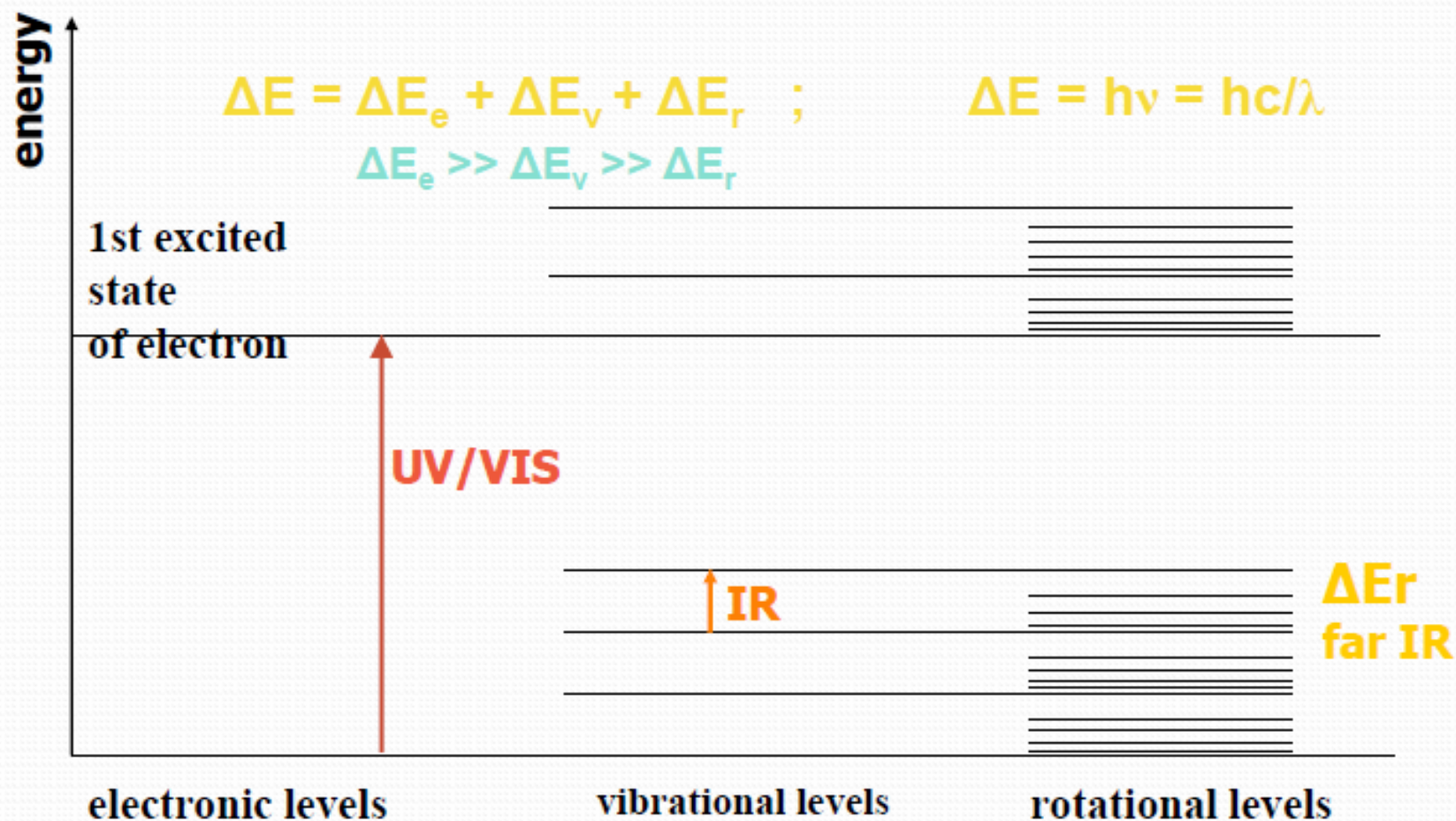




# Absorption of radiation

- Molecules of the sample absorb the photons of a suitable wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) and change their energy level (state):
  - 1) in the microwave and far infrared region, the photons have such a low energy that, if absorbed, can cause only the changes of the rotational energy states
  - 2) absorption of photons of the infrared radiation can bring about the changes of the vibrational energy states
  - 3) energy of photons of UV and visible light (VIS) is sufficient to cause the transition of electron to a higher electronic energy level

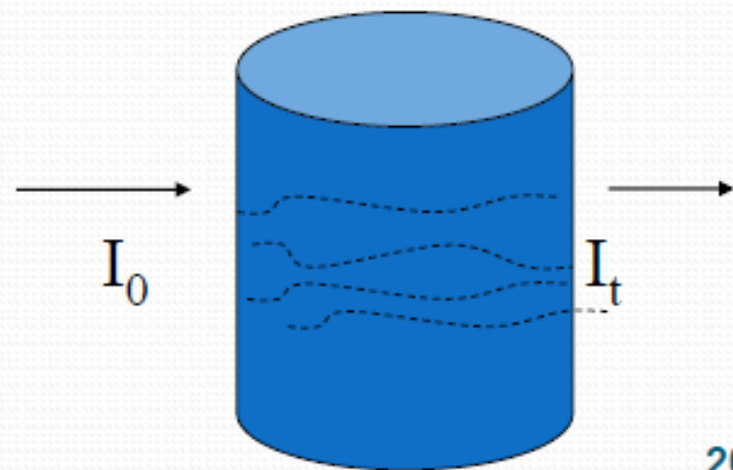
# Energy levels of a molecule





## Definitions & Symbols:

- Radiation Intensity (I)
- $I_t$  : is the radiation transmitted by the solution.
- $I_o$  : is the radiation transmitted by the pure solvent (blank).
- **Transmittance (T)**
  - It's also referred to as %T or  $T \times 100$
  - $\%T = \frac{I_t}{I_o} \times 100$
  -



# Definitions & Symbols:

- **ABSORBANCE (A)**
- $A = \log(1/T) = -\log(T)$
- $A = \log \frac{I_o}{I_t} = \log I_o - \log I_t$
- Absorbance is what is generally recorded from a spectrophotometer.

# Beer - Lambert law

More dissolved substance = more absorption and less transmittance.

Beer-Lambert's Law is:

$$A = \epsilon b C$$

$$\text{Log} \left[ \frac{I_0}{I_t} \right] = \epsilon b C$$

A = Absorbance (no units)

$\epsilon$  = molar extinction coefficient, **molar absorptivity**

$c$  = concentration of the absorbing species (mol/L)

$b$  = path length of the light-absorbing sample (cm)

# Sample Problem

- Cytosine has a molar extinction coefficient of  $6 \times 10^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ L cm}^{-1}$  at 270 nm at pH 7. Calculate absorbance of  $1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$  cytosine solution in 1mm cell at 270 nm.
- **Solution:**
- $A = \text{Log} \left[ \frac{I_0}{I_t} \right] = \epsilon b C$
- $\epsilon = 6 \times 10^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ L.cm}^{-1}$
- $b = 1\text{mm} = 0.1 \text{ cm}$
- $C = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$
- $A = \epsilon b c = (6 \times 10^3) \times (0.1) \times (1 \times 10^{-3})$   
 $= 6 \times 10^{-1}$   
 $= 0.6$



# Applications of Spectrophotometry



Chemical analysis  
Food safety analysis  
Blood analysis  
DNA/RNA Conc. analysis  
Residual Pesticide analysis  
Residual chlorine analysis

# The important characteristics of Spectrophotometric methods

1. Wide applicability to both organic and inorganic systems
2. High sensitivity of  $10^{-6}$ - $10^{-4}$  M
3. Moderate to **high selectivity**.
4. **Good accuracy** the relative error encountered in concentration lie in the range from **1% to 3%**
5. **Ease and convenience** of data acquisition

# Home work

- Q1.// Which one is more sensitive? Explain why?  
Photo tube or photomultiplier tube as detector.
- Q2.//Why can't we use glass or plastic cell in UV spectroscopy with wave length from 200-400nm?

# Resources and references:

- Textbook: Principles of instrumental analysis, Skoog et al., 5<sup>th</sup> edition, chapter 7, 13.
- Quantitative chemical analysis, Daniel C. Harris, 6<sup>th</sup> edition , chapter 20.
- Lecture slides partially adopted from Dr. Raafat Aly slides.
- Useful links
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxC6F7bK8CU&feature=player\\_detailpage](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxC6F7bK8CU&feature=player_detailpage)
  - <http://bio-animations.blogspot.com/2008/04/double-beam-uvvis-spectrophotometer.html>