

I81005@JSPS Alumni in Finland

# Enzymes for biomass utilization

How do difficult biotechnologies  
contribute to Bioeconomy?

Graduate School of Agricultural and Life  
Sciences, The University of Tokyo

VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland

五十嵐 圭日子 Kiyohiko Igarashi



# Advanced approaches for enzymatic biomass utilization and modification “BioAd”



Prof. Penttilä



Dr. Koivula

**Biosynthesis**

**Biodegradation**

Finland Distinguished Professor  
(FiDiPro) Program  
supported by TEKES  
=> Business Finland

**Biomodification**

@VTT



*Kuopio*



# Department of Biomaterial Sciences (former Department of Forest Products)

Wood Physics



Forest Chemistry



Wood-based materials  
& Timber Engineering

Wood Chemistry



Paper Science

Polymeric Materials

Bio-based material  
Science







**Cellulose**

**40~50%**

Homopolymer of glucose

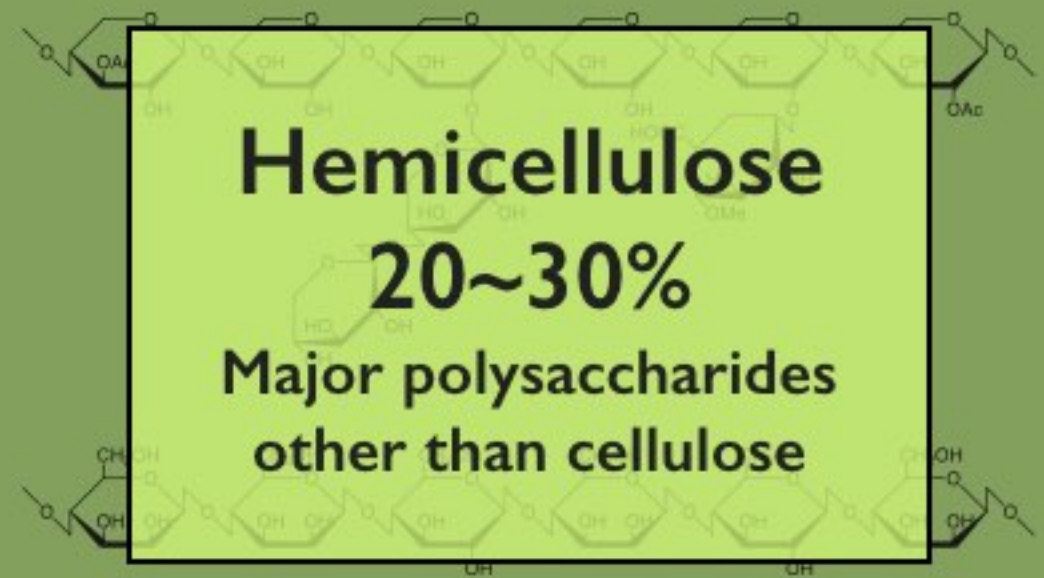
10~100Gt/year

## Polysaccharides

**Hemicellulose**

**20~30%**

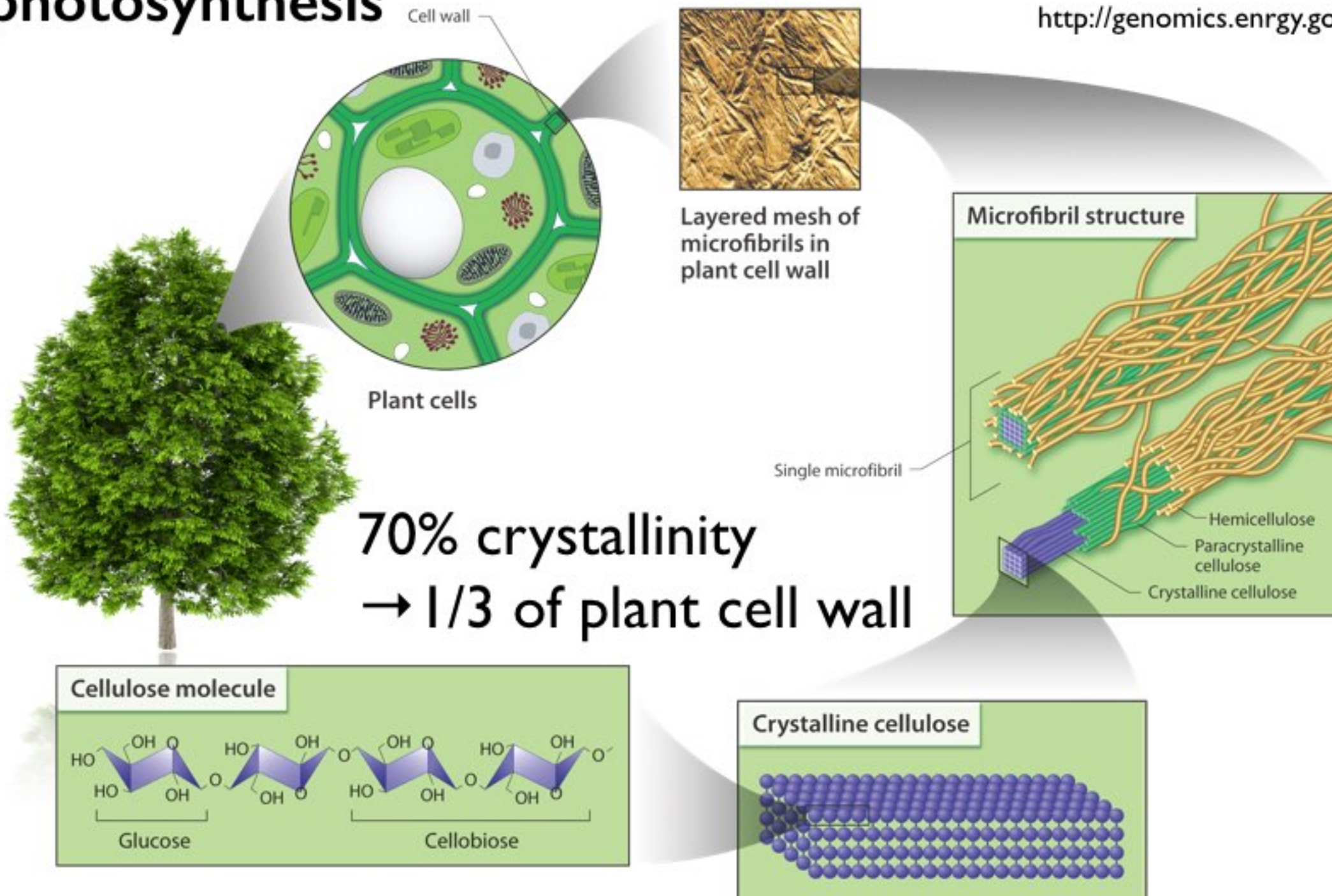
Major polysaccharides  
other than cellulose



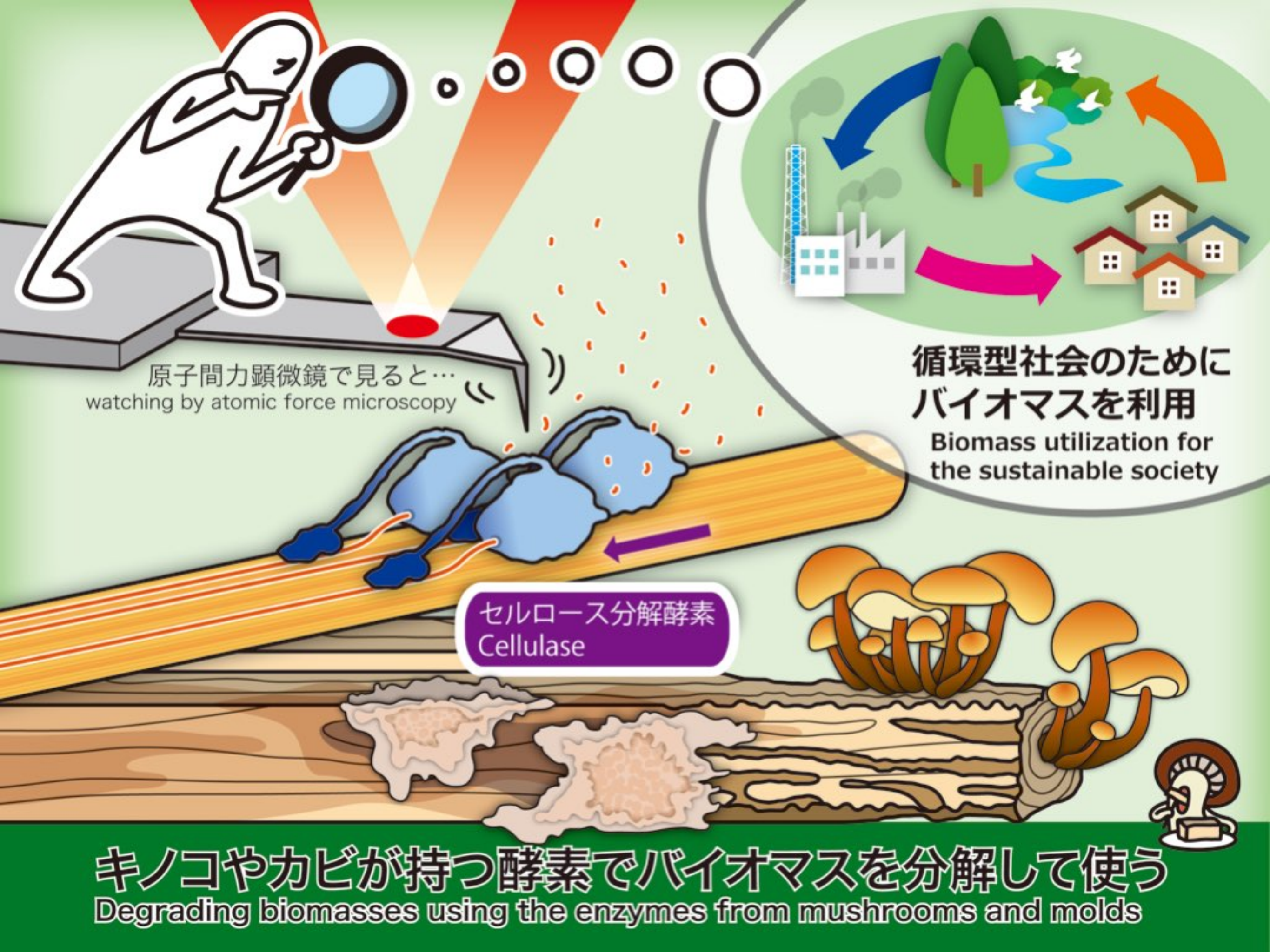


**Cellulose is a major component of plant cell wall  
up to 50% and  $10^{10} \sim 10^{11}$  ton/year production by  
photosynthesis**

<http://genomics.energy.gov>







原子間力顕微鏡で見ると…  
watching by atomic force microscopy

セルロース分解酵素  
Cellulase

循環型社会のために  
バイオマスを利用

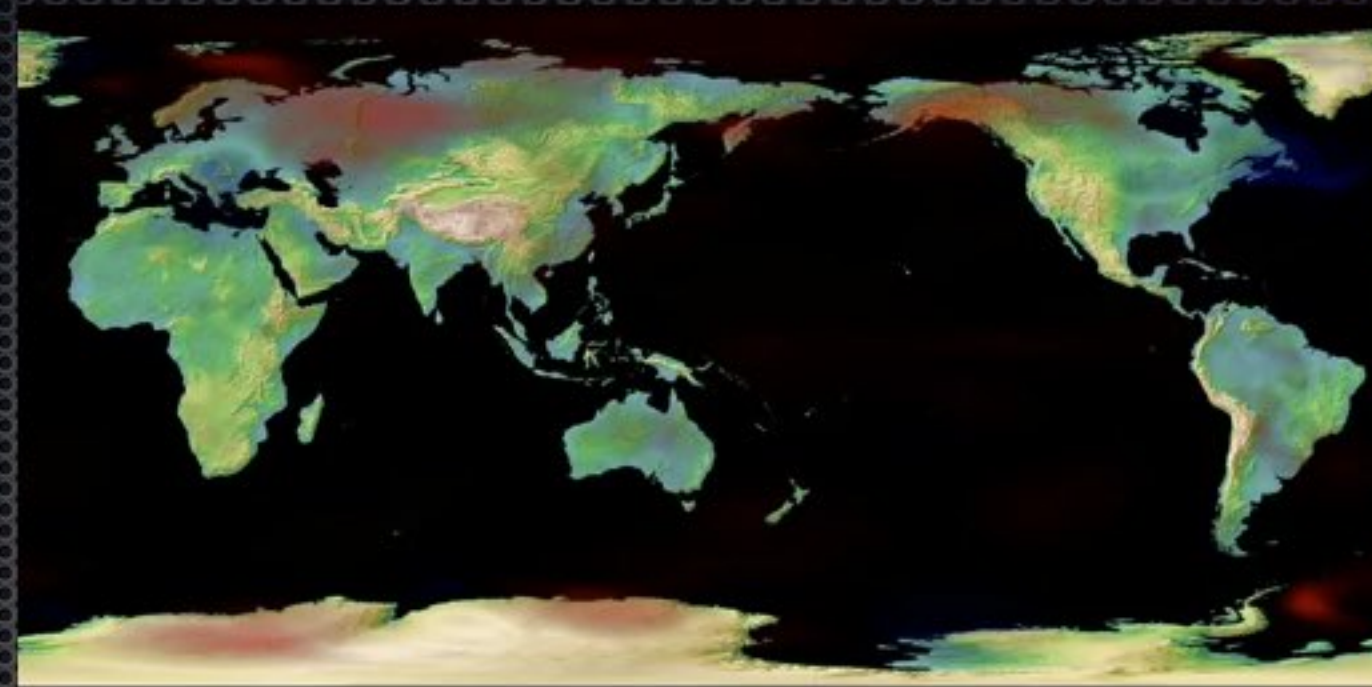
Biomass utilization for  
the sustainable society

キノコやカビが持つ酵素でバイオマスを分解して使う  
Degrading biomasses using the enzymes from mushrooms and molds



# Simulation of Temperature Change

Scenario with  
“no action”



1950

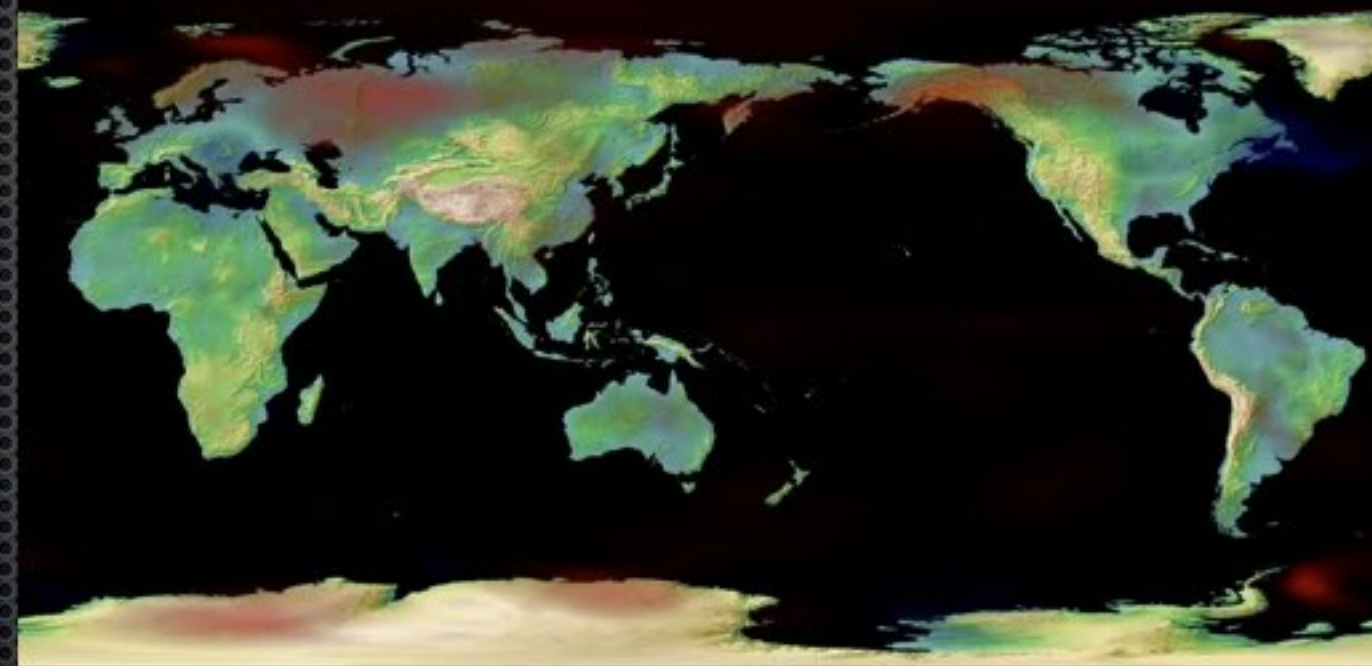


2m temperature change

MIROC5 / RCP8.5

AORI / NIES / JAMSTEC

Scenario to achieve  
“below +2°C”  
Paris Agreement



1950



2m temperature change

MIROC5 / RCP2.6

AORI / NIES / JAMSTEC

By MIROC5 Climate Model  
(AORI/NIES/JAMSTEC/MEXT)





2017 July@Kyushu



One week before  
from space

Damage for Agriculture  
2017: 200B¥ ( $\approx 1.5\text{B€}$ )  
pred. 2018: 200B¥ ( $\approx 1.5\text{B€}$ )  
> 1T¥ ( $\approx 7.7\text{B€}$ ) for all damages



2018 August@Tokyo



2018 July@Western Japan



# Bioeconomy

## バイオエコノミー

The goal is a more innovative and low-emissions economy, reconciling demands for sustainable agriculture and fisheries, food security, and the sustainable use of renewable biological resources for industrial purposes, while ensuring biodiversity and environmental protection.

その目的は、生物多様性と環境保護を確保しつつ、持続可能な農業と漁業、食糧安全保障、再生可能な生物資源の持続可能な利用を産業目的で調和させる、革新的かつ低排出の経済です。

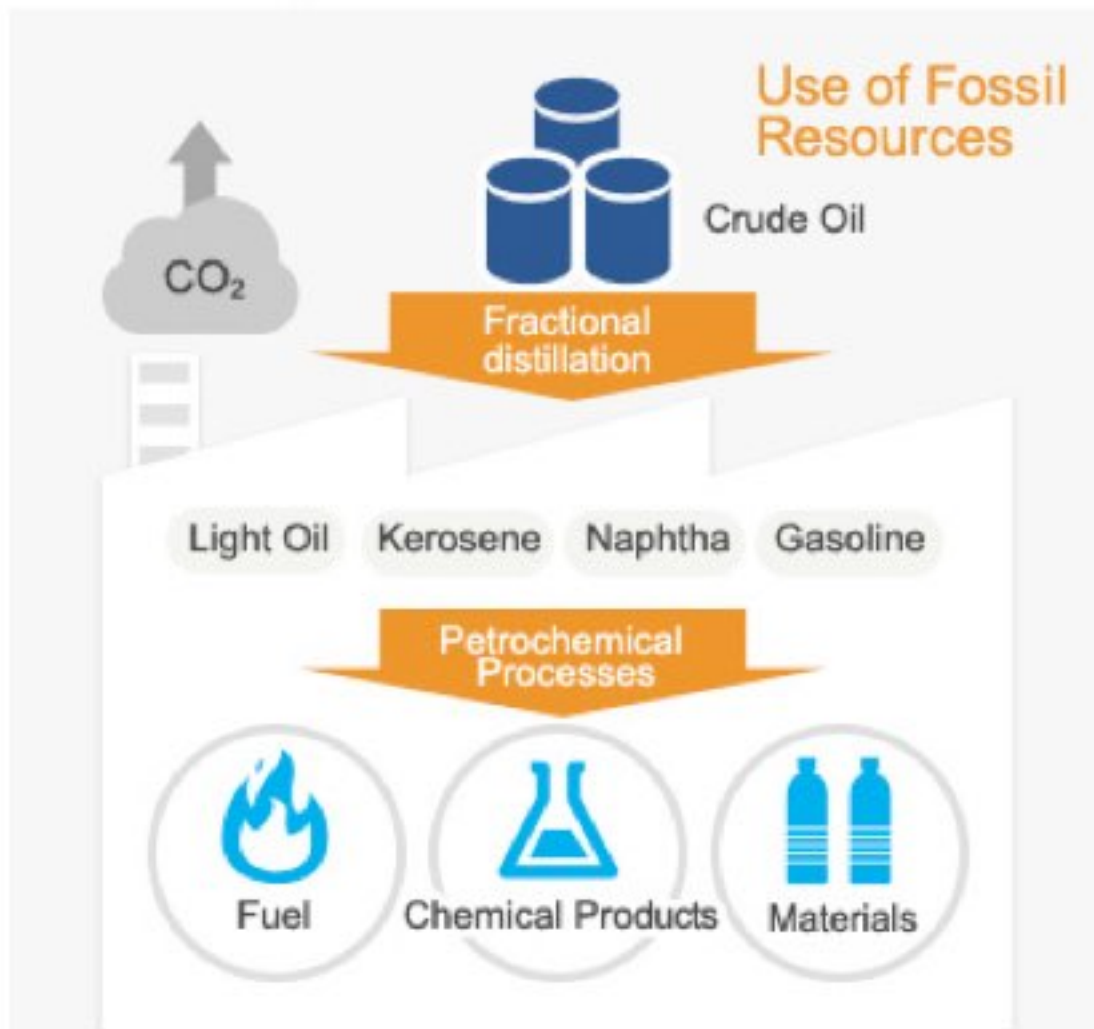


BIOECONOMY  
STARTS  
here

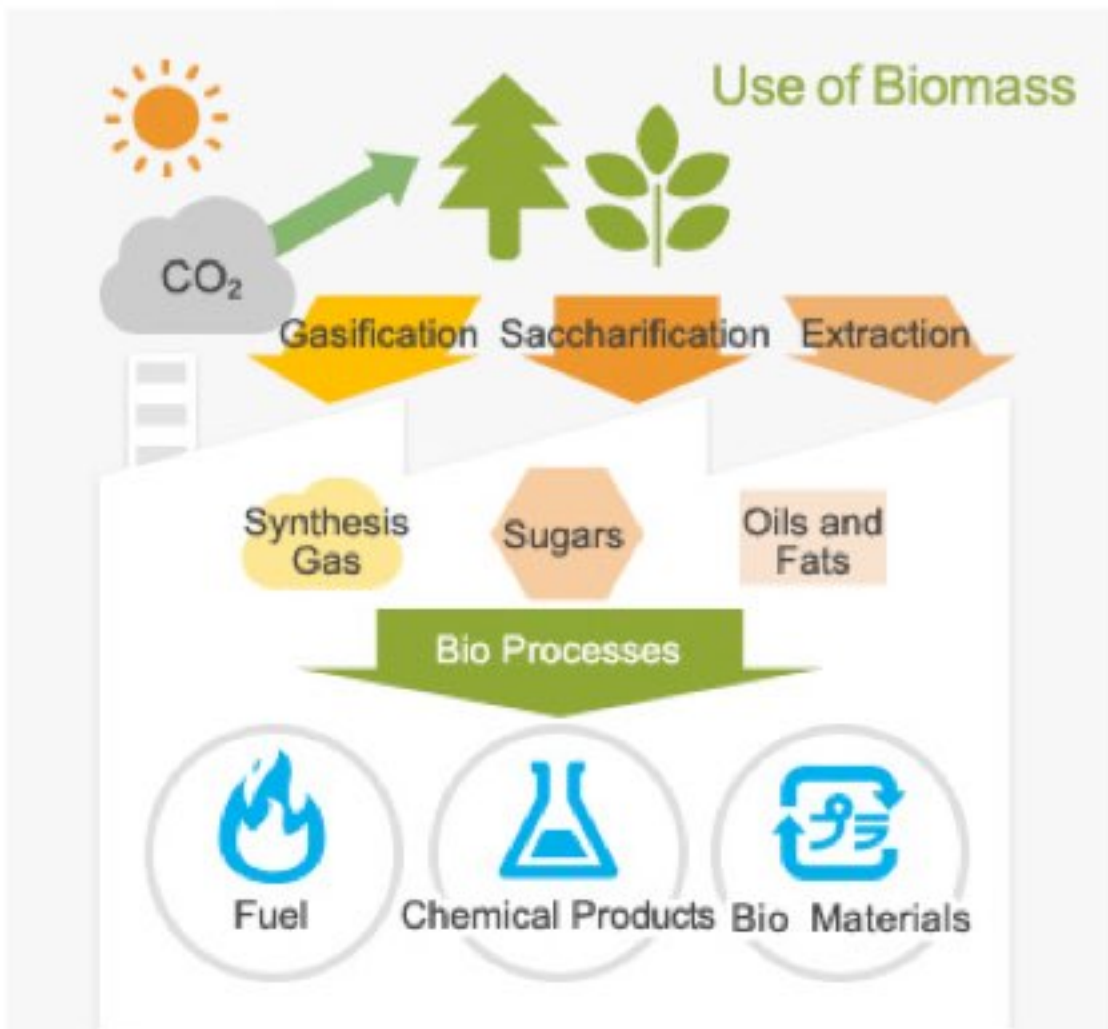


# Oil refinery vs Biorefinery

## Oil Refinery



## Biorefinery







# Bioeconomy

## in everyday life

*Catalogue  
Bioeconomy Apartment  
Exhibition, 9-10 November  
Brussels, 2015*

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## Bike



Sources: abet/fotolia.com (left), Lignotubes technologies (right)



**Sector:**  
Consumer goods

**Producer:**  
Lignotube  
Technologies

### Raw material

Unlike materials such as aluminium, iron or carbon, **wood** is a renewable resource, for which you only need sunlight and CO<sub>2</sub> for photosynthesis. Meanwhile, engineered wood has caught up in terms of strength and processability. The German company Lignotube Technologies uses real wood veneer as the basis for lightweight tubes for bicycles.

### Procedure

Inventors at Lignotube Technologies have developed a resource-saving procedure for **lightweight hollow tubes** called Lignotubes, which are made from a multi-layer composite material of wood veneers. The thin-walled tubes are lightweight and robust and their production uses a minimal amount of real wood. The individual layers of veneer are crosswise glued. The first product is a designer bicycle built using a Lignotubes frame.

Contribution to the bioeconomy



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# Toilet brush



Sources: Philipp Graf/BLOCOM AG (left), Tecnaro (right)

**Sector:**  
Consumer goods

**Producers:**  
Tecnaro | Bio.k



## Raw material

Plastics are for the most part, petroleum based. But there are now procedures that use the renewable raw material **wood** as a raw material source. A large proportion is made up from lignin. Lignin is a waste product during paper production and is usually burnt afterwards. But the German company Tecnaro uses it as a key component for biobased plastics, which can be used to produce a wide range of household products.

## Procedure

Tecnaro produces a **bio-composite** material from a mix of biopolymers derived from renewable raw materials. The result is a granular material, which like plastic, can be processed in injection moulding machines, extruders or presses in many different ways. Furthermore, the products are completely biodegradable and compostable. They can, for example, be used for the production of toilet brushes.

Contribution to the bioeconomy



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# Dishes



Sources: oly5/fotolia.com (left), Andrea Izzotti/fotolia.com (right)

**Sector:**  
Consumer goods

**Producers:**  
Magu | Capventure



## Raw material

Fast-growing plants such as bamboo are easily cultivated and are therefore increasingly used by tableware manufacturers as a renewable resource. Companies like German Magu or Dutch company Capventure, offer, for example, bamboo tableware, consisting of up to 60% shredded **bamboo fibres**. The plants come from plantations which are regularly cut and replanted.

## Procedure

So that colourful cups, plates and bowls can be made from renewable raw materials, the bamboo fibres are first ground and mixed with dyes and other raw materials, such as corn. For durability, a synthetic resin is often added to the bamboo, which makes the products food safe, odour and taste neutral, durable, dishwasher safe and can be cleaned hygienically. Some companies use natural **resin** as a binding agent.

Contribution to the bioeconomy



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# Trainers



Sources: nitchaporn/fotolia.com (left), Puma (right)

**Sector:**  
Consumer goods

**Producer:**  
Puma

## Raw material

The waste which accumulates during food is usually thrown away. This is also true for **rice husks**. German sportswear manufacturer Puma uses this waste material for its eco-friendly trainers "Re-suede". The rice husks replace a portion of the rubber content used for the outsoles. Therefore less petroleum-based rubber is used. This reduces energy consumption and increases the environmental balance.

## Procedure

The remake of Puma's classic trainer "Suede" was designed as an eco-product based mainly on **recycling**. Compared to conventional products, it reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 80%. But it's not just the outsole that's made from waste materials. The synthetic Ultrasuede upper material is also comprised of recycled polyester fibres. And what's more – the shoe comes in sustainable packaging – Puma's "Clever Little Bag".

Contribution to the bioeconomy



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# Bioethanol



Sources: Clariant/Rötzer (left), Kathryn Cross/TGAC

**Sector:**  
Chemical industry

**Producer:**  
Clariant



## Raw material

Biofuels such as bioethanol are derived from renewable raw materials. Until now, sugars from arable crops have been used. To avoid competition with food production, residual materials such as **straw** have come to the attention of several biofuel manufacturers. This is because straw or wood is largely composed of lignocellulose fibres, which has a high potential for energy conversion.

## Procedure

The Swiss chemical company Clariant has established a biorefinery demonstration plant, in which wheat straw bioethanol is produced. With the help of enzymes, the lignocellulose is decomposed and recovered from the plant fibre into its individual components. The resulting sugar molecules serve as food for **yeast** and the fungi ferment them into alcohol. This can then be added to premium petrol for petrol engines.

Contribution to the bioeconomy



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EuropaBioAgnes Borg氏Twitterより



# Global Bioeconomy Summit 2018@Berlin







source: Biobased industry Consortium



# Enzyme (from Wikipedia)

Enzymes are macromolecular biological catalysts. Enzymes accelerate chemical reactions. The molecules upon which enzymes may act are called substrates and the enzyme converts the substrates into different molecules known as products. Almost all metabolic processes in the cell need enzyme catalysis in order to occur at rates fast enough to sustain life...

Enzymes are known to catalyze more than 5,000 biochemical reaction types. Most enzymes are proteins...

Enzymes' specificity comes from their unique three-dimensional structures.



Essence of  
fermentation

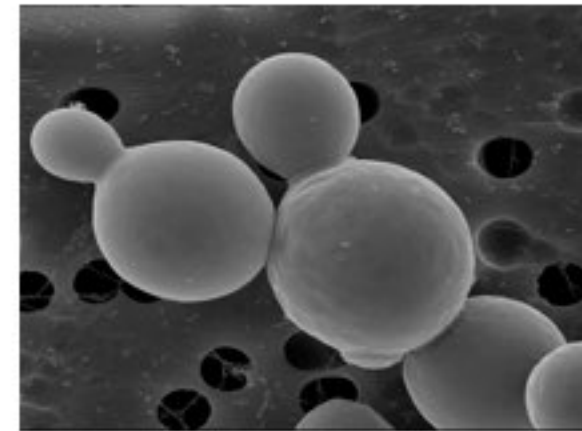
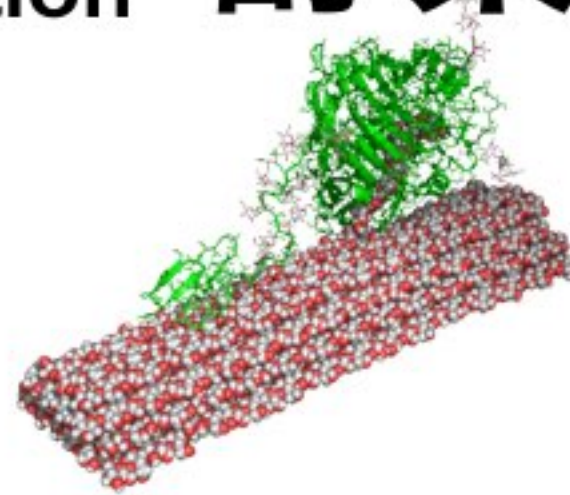
kouso

酵素 ≠ 酵母

koubo

Mother of  
fermentation

**10nm**



**3μm**

In 1877, German physiologist Wilhelm Kühne (1837–1900) first used the term *enzyme*, which comes from Greek ἐνζυμον, "leavened" or "in yeast", to describe this process.

The word *enzyme* was used later to refer to nonliving substances such as pepsin, and the word *ferment* was used to refer to chemical activity produced by living organisms.



# ENZYMES



# extremely higher velocity

RCSB PDB-101



Enzymatic Rate Acceleration

Catalyzed Rate

$$2 \times 10^3 \text{ } k_{\text{cat}} (\text{s}^{-1})$$

$$10^{11} \\ k_{\text{cat}} / k_{\text{non}}$$

Uncatalyzed Rate

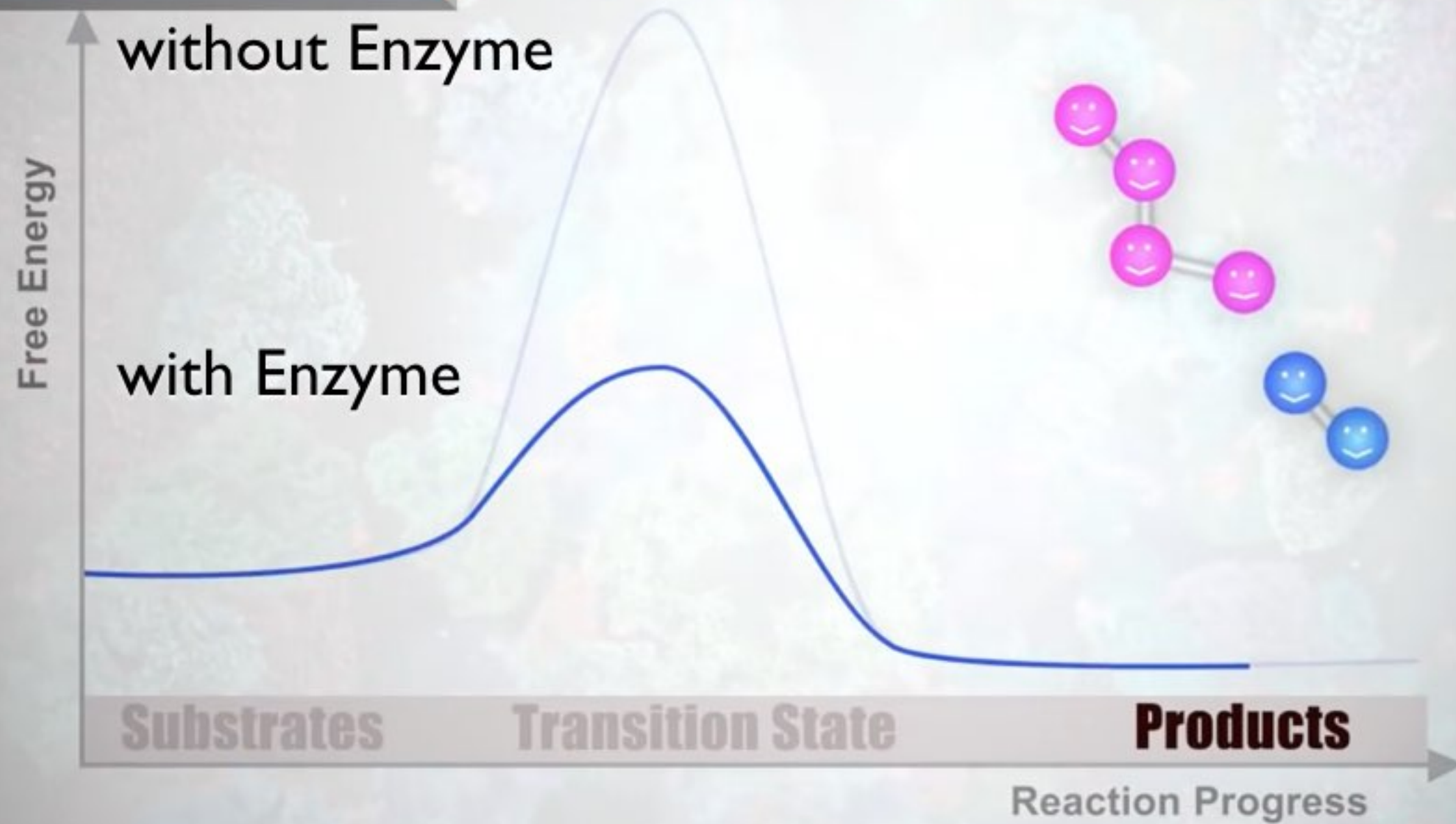
$$2 \times 10^{-8} \text{ } k_{\text{non}} (\text{s}^{-1})$$



# with less energy

## Catalyzed Reaction

RCSB PDB-101





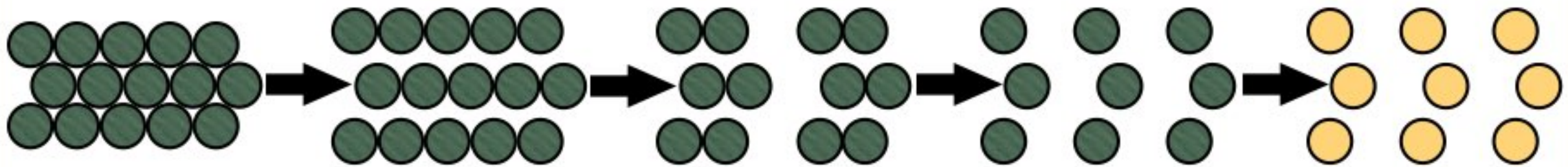
# Process of Japanese Sake brewery



Pretreatment

Saccharification

Fermentation

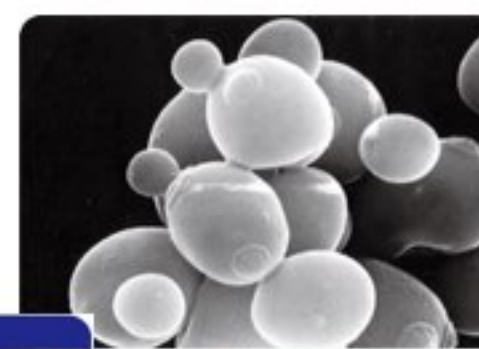
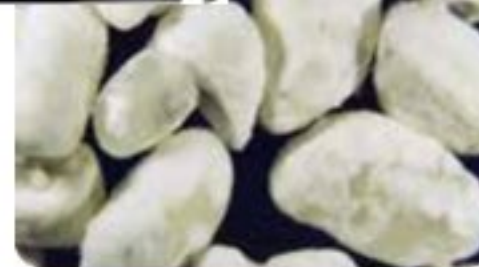
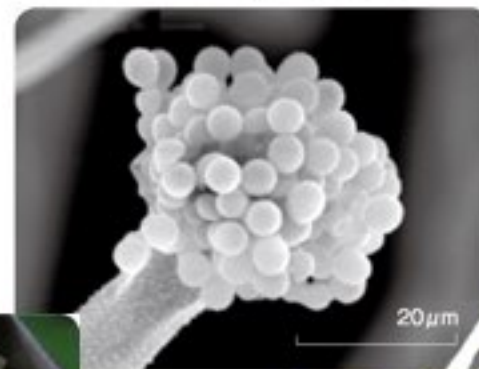
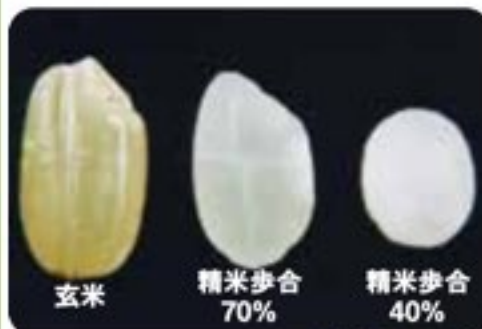


Mill & Heat

Amylase

$\alpha$ -glucosidase

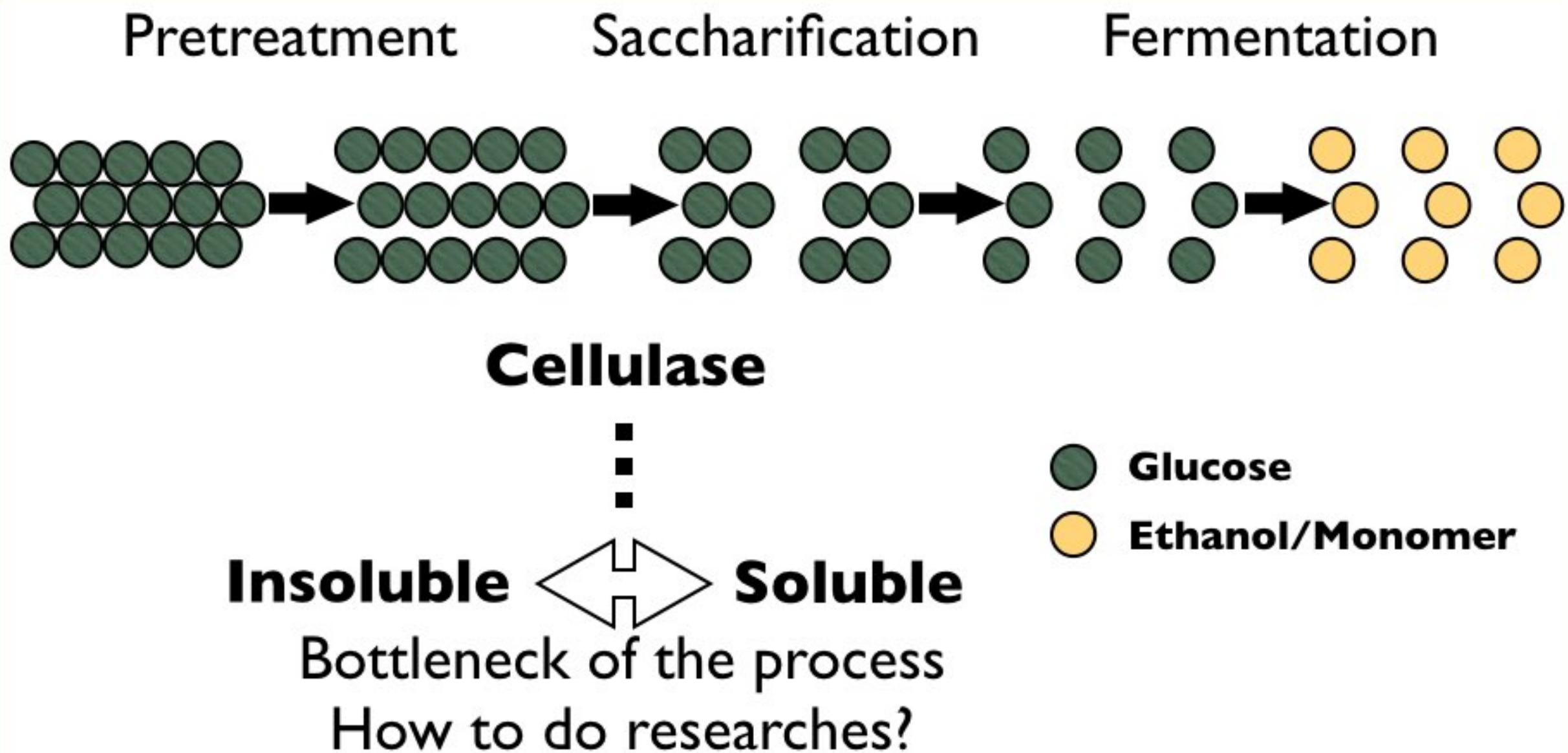
Yeast



● Glucose  
● Ethanol



# What is the difference between starch and cellulose?





# Wood-rotting fungi consist with "mushroom" and "mold"

Basidiomycetes

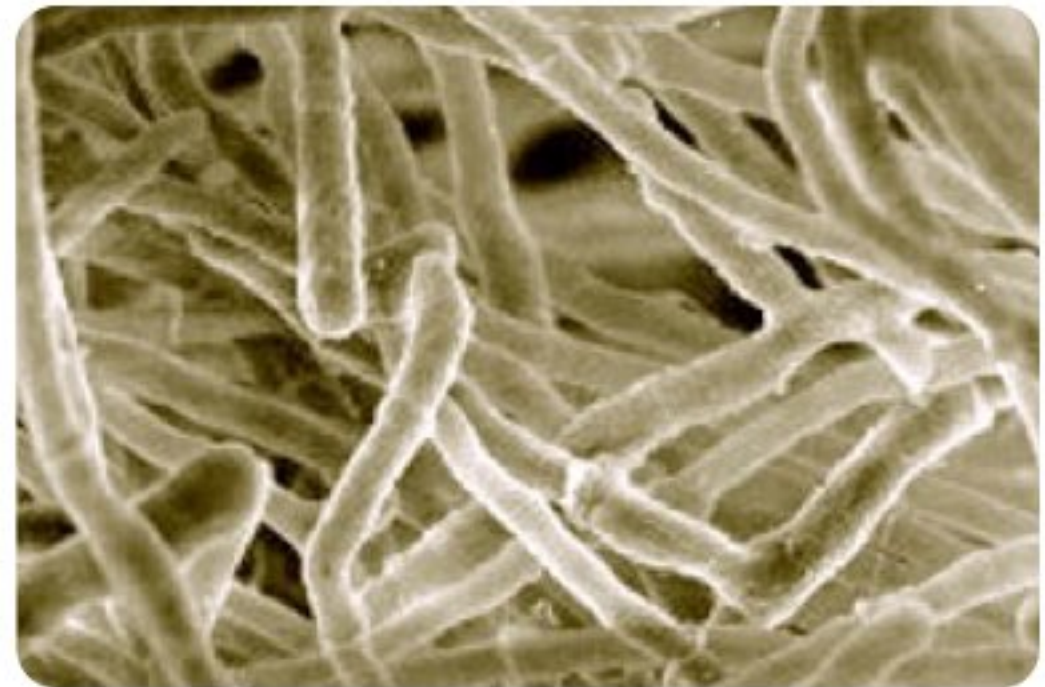
*Phanerochaete chrysosporium*



White-rot  
Brown-rot

Ascomycetes

*Trichoderma reesei*

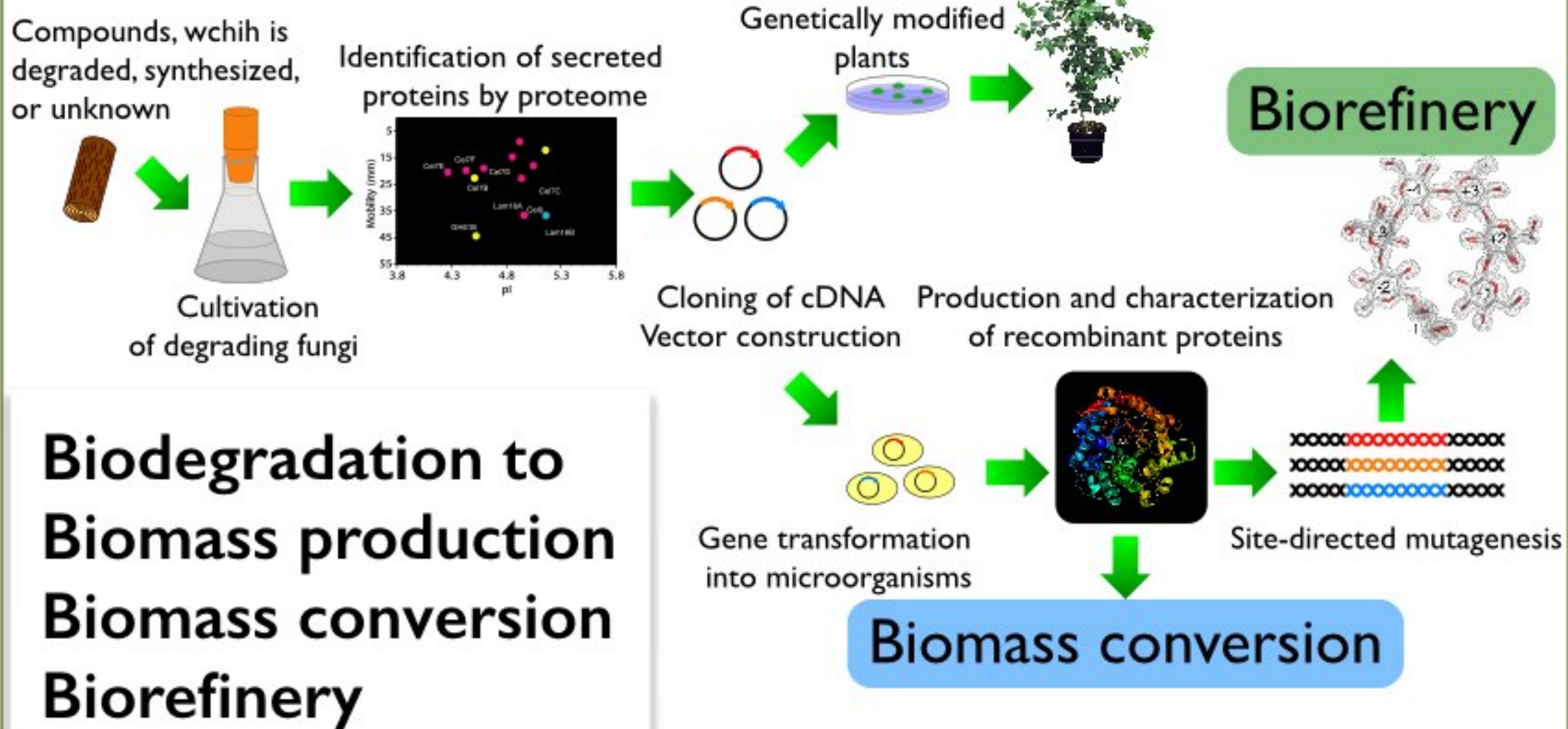


Soft-rot



# We can convert biomass if fungi can “eat” it

## Biomass production



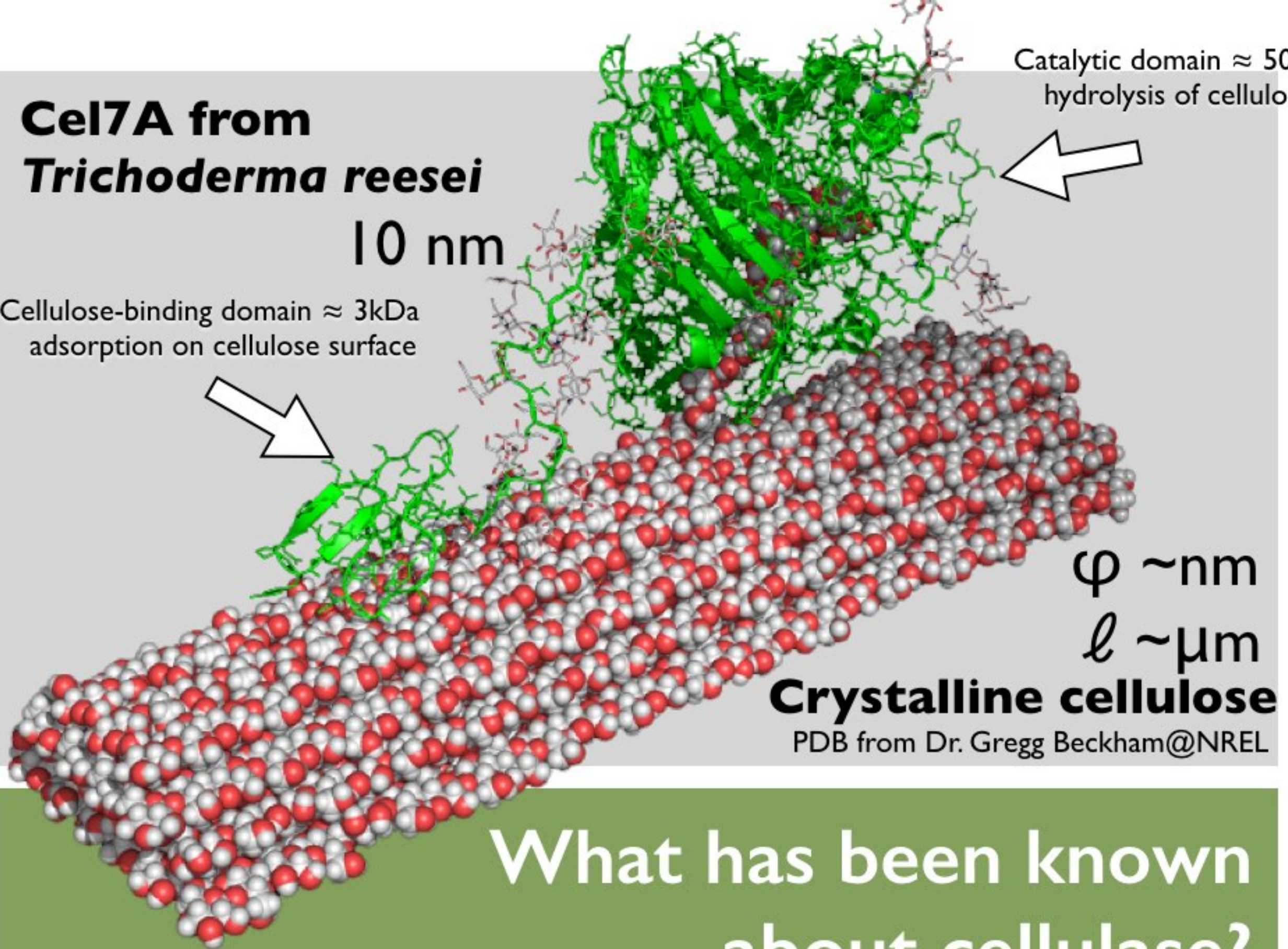


# **Cel7A from *Trichoderma reesei***

10 nm

Cellulose-binding domain  $\approx$  3kDa  
adsorption on cellulose surface

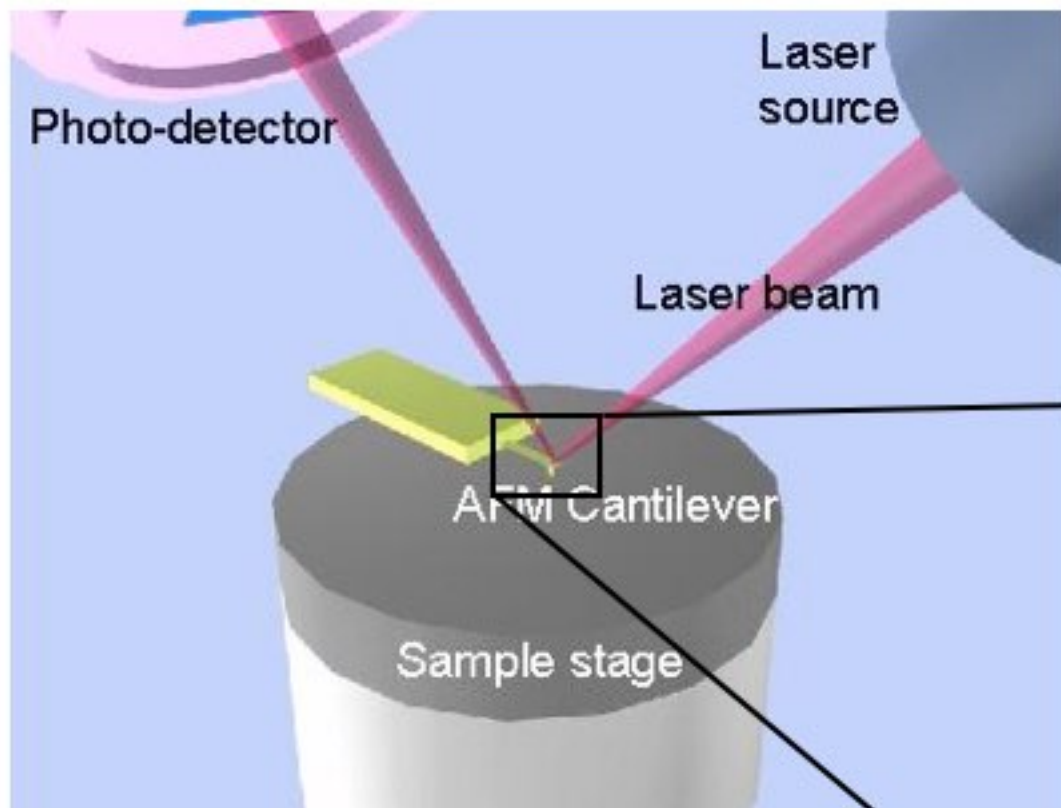
Catalytic domain  $\approx$  50kDa  
hydrolysis of cellulose



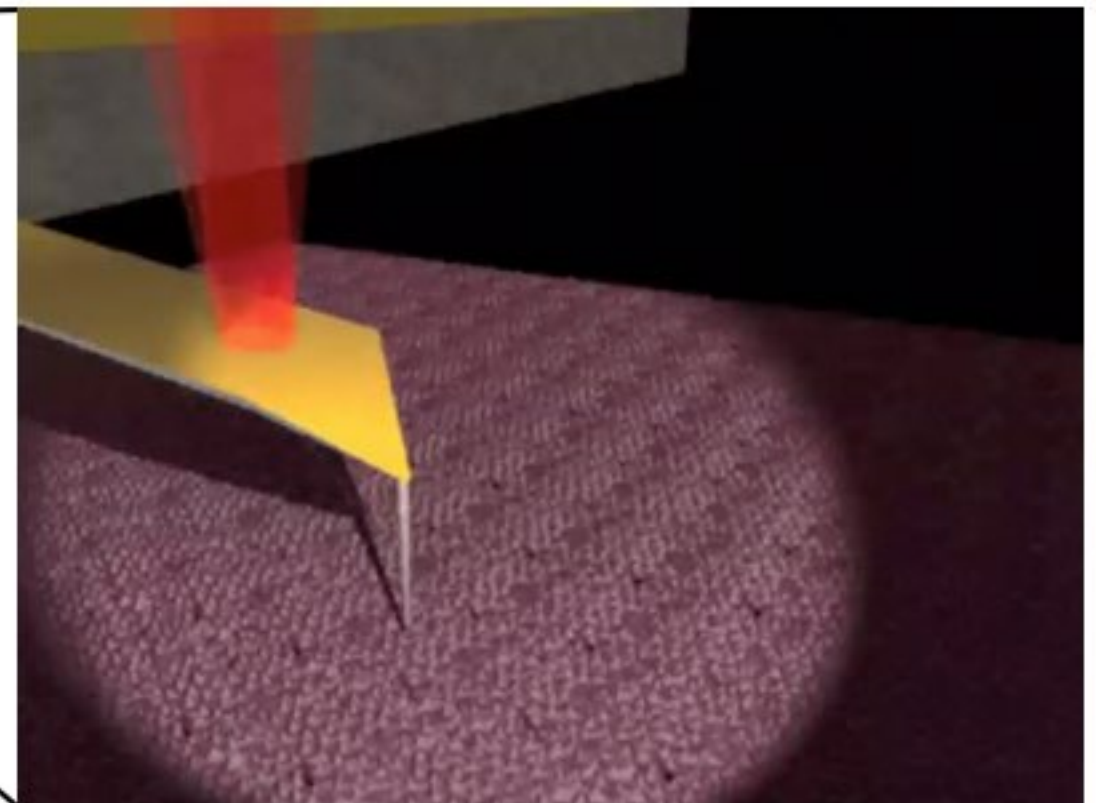
What has been known  
about cellulase?



# Atomic force microscopy (AFM) to observe molecules



Scanning the surface of objects by the small needle (tip) on cantilever

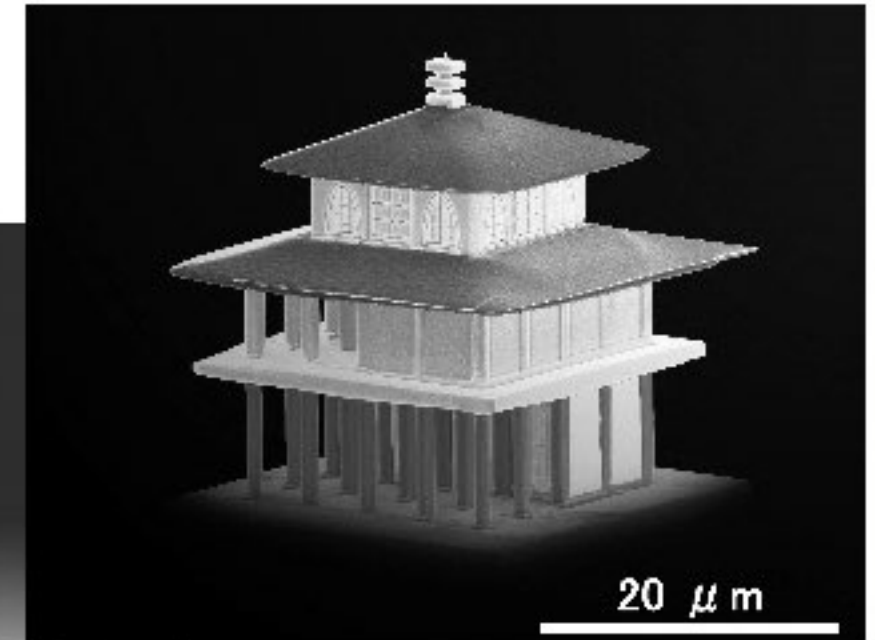
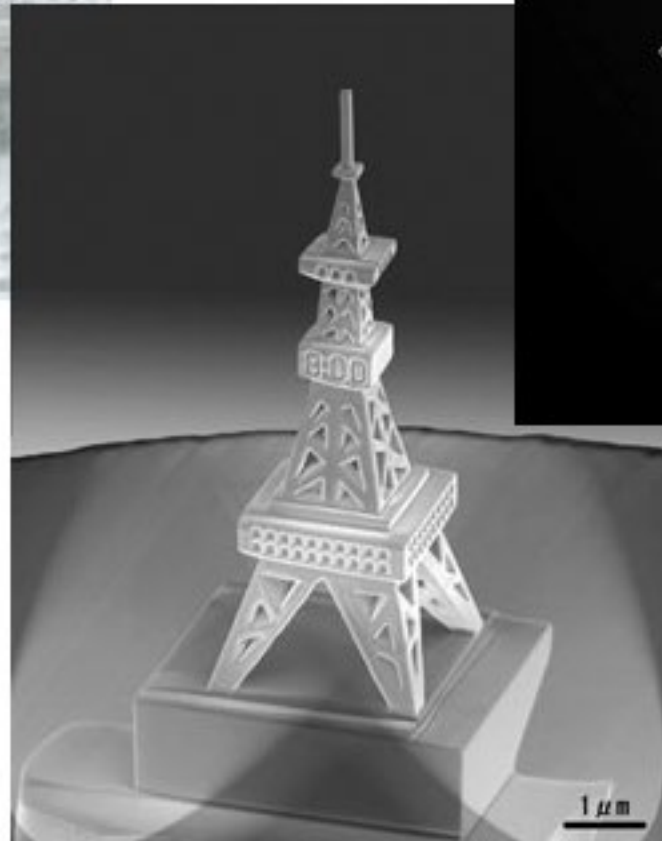


## Advantages

- space resolution less than nm
- not affected by the feature of sample
- do not choose the condition (liquid, air etc.)



milli=>micro=>nano technology  
Japanese likes small (tiny?) things



Hitachi High-Technologies  
**nanoart**

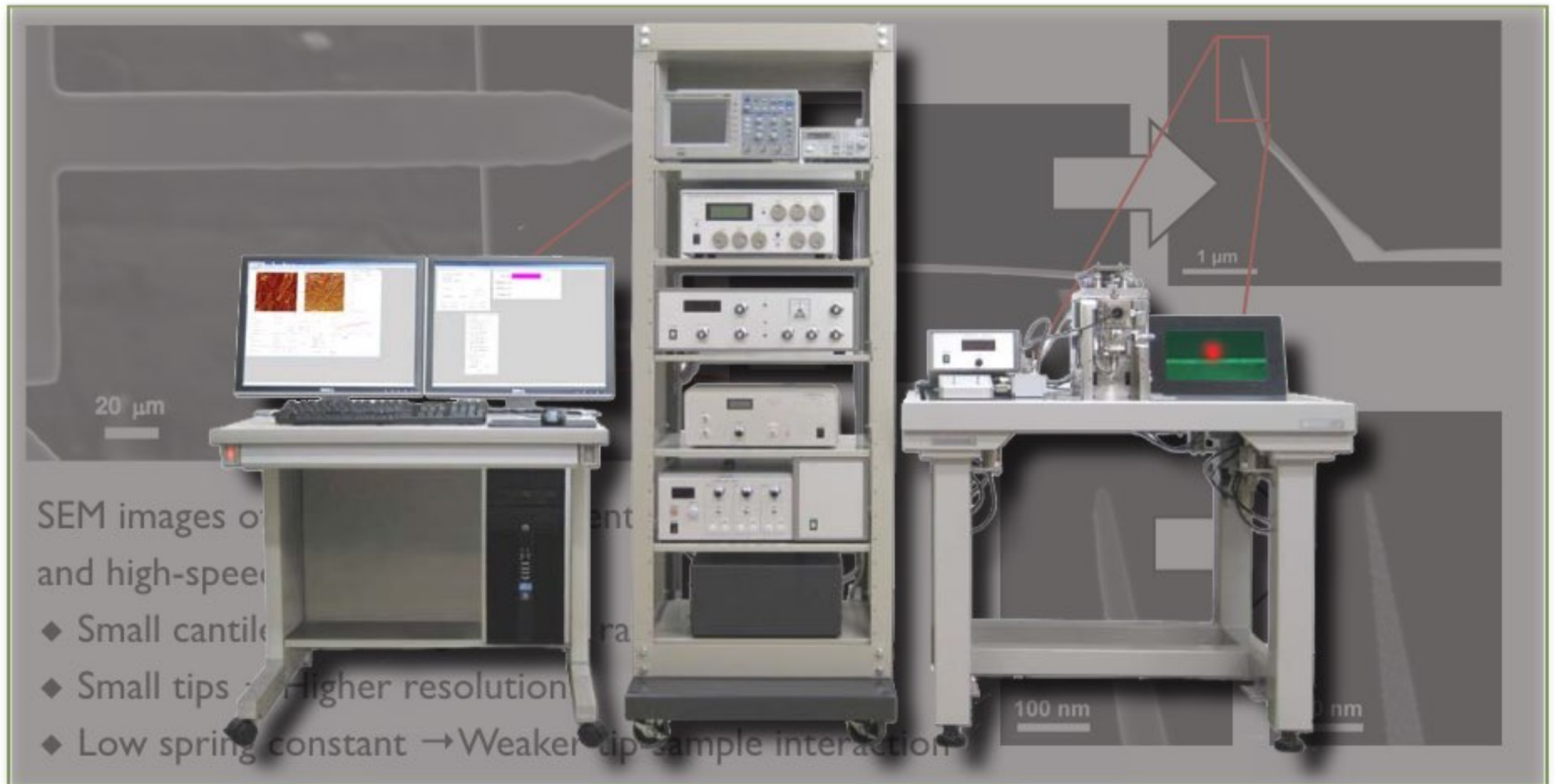
mm

μm

nm!

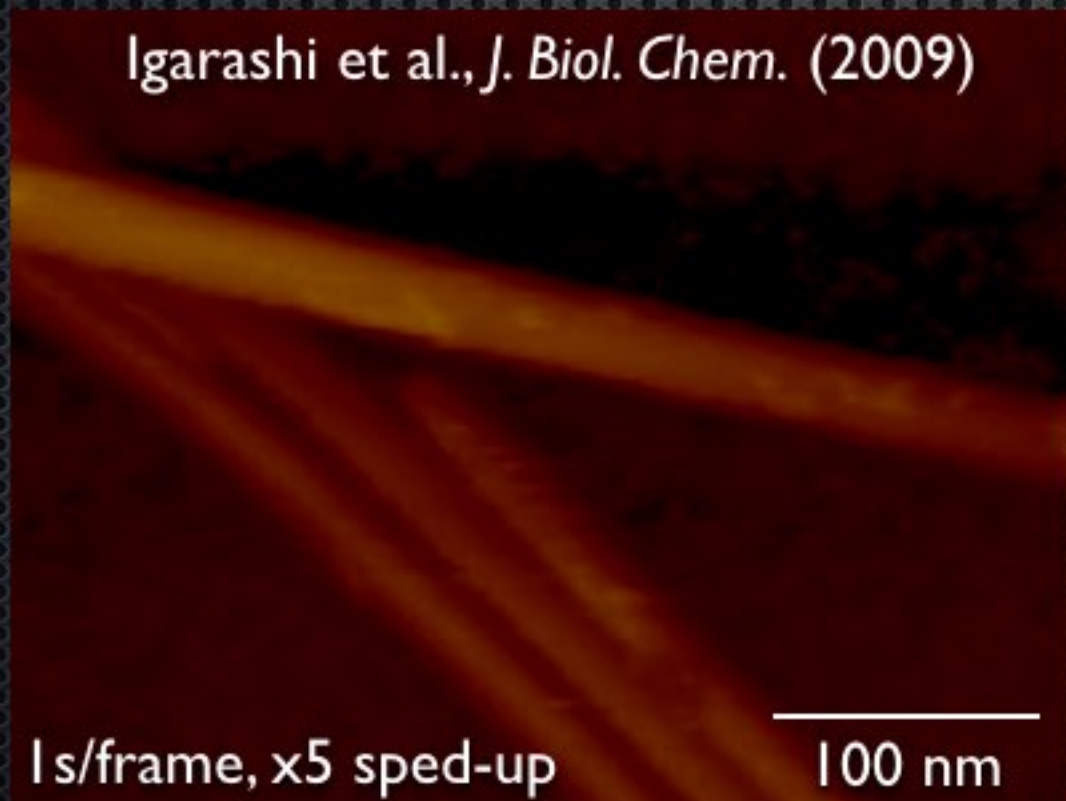
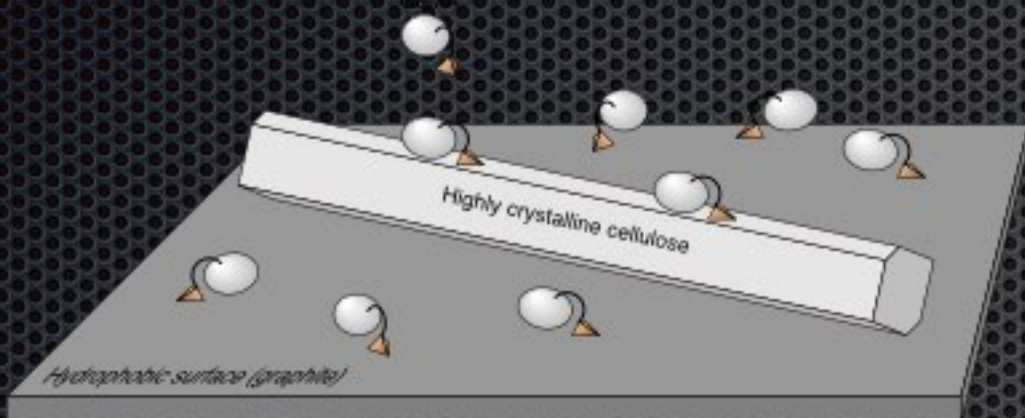


# Brilliant high-speed AFM apparatus in Kanazawa University

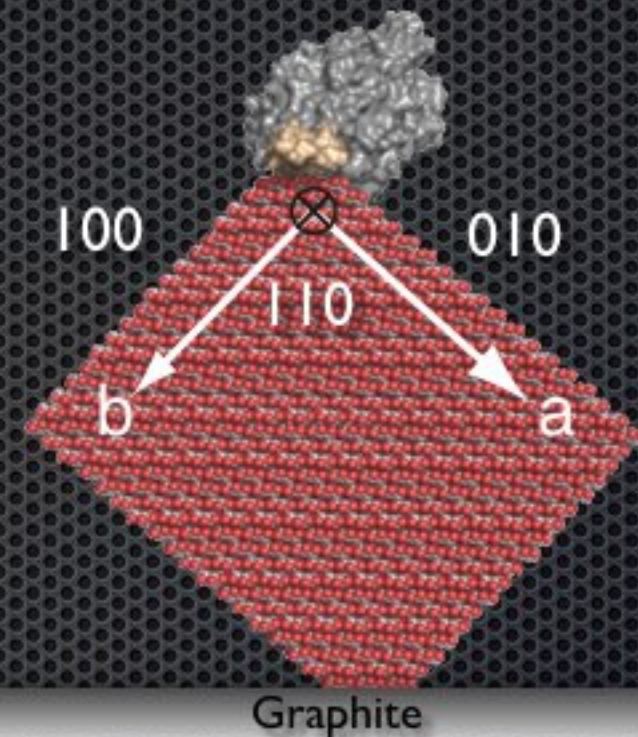




# Enhanced time/space resolution of HS-AFM shows detailed movement of *Trichoderma* Cel7A

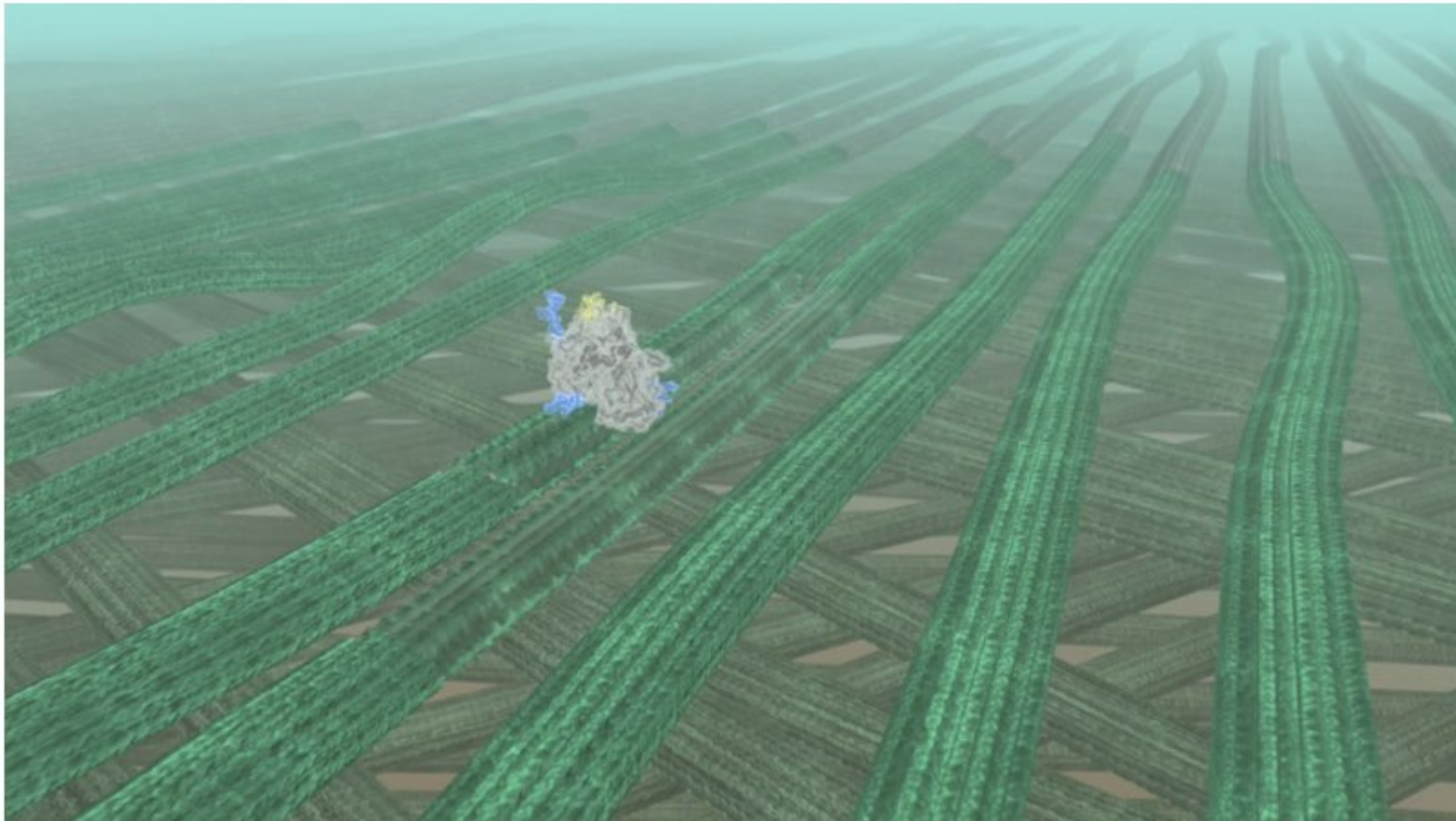


Igarashi, Uchihashi et al., *Science* (2011)





# Reaction of cellobiohydrolase from *Trichoderma reesei* "Processivity"





# High Quality Protein Crystallization Project

このプロジェクトは、地上における結晶化条件検討の効率化をはかるとともに、結晶生成の場を宇宙に移すことで、より大型で高品質な結晶を作製し、タンパク質の構造研究をステップアップさせることを目的としています。

バイコヌール  
宇宙基地

プログレス補給船

打ち上げ



ソユーズ宇宙船

回収



ISS実験棟「きぼう」

## 高品質タンパク質結晶を 宇宙でつくる

タンパク質  
の調整

結晶化  
条件の  
検討

今後の  
結晶研究

地上で結晶生成

重力影響下  
結晶は小型で均一になりにくい



結晶の解析

従来の結晶研究



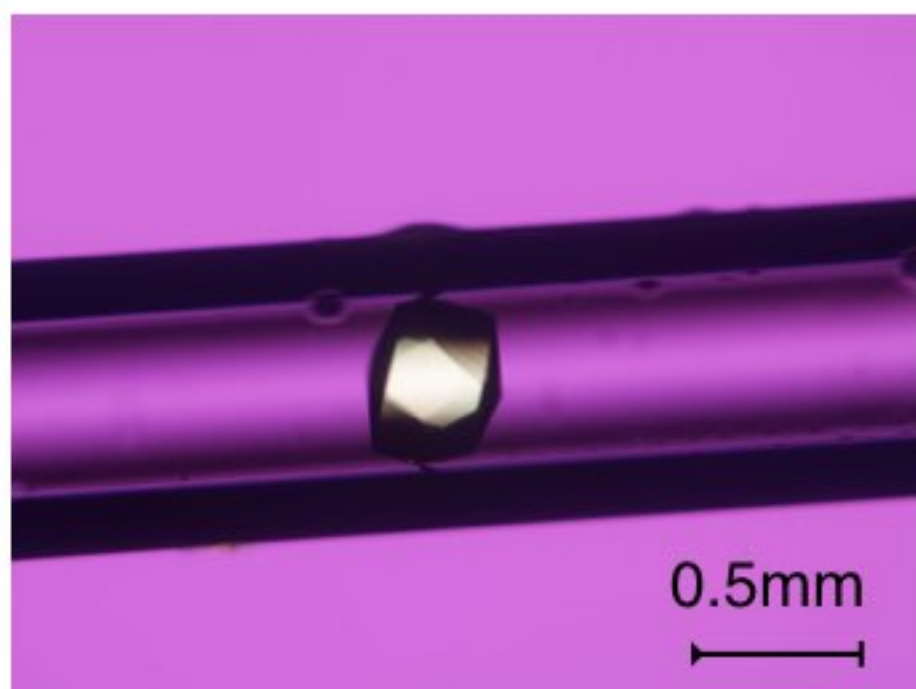
X線  
結晶構造解析



中性子  
結晶構造解析



# Crystallization of *PcCel45A* at microgravity



沈殿材：60% MPD

結晶化法：PCG

結晶化温度：20 °C

結晶化化期間：2 週間+ $\alpha$

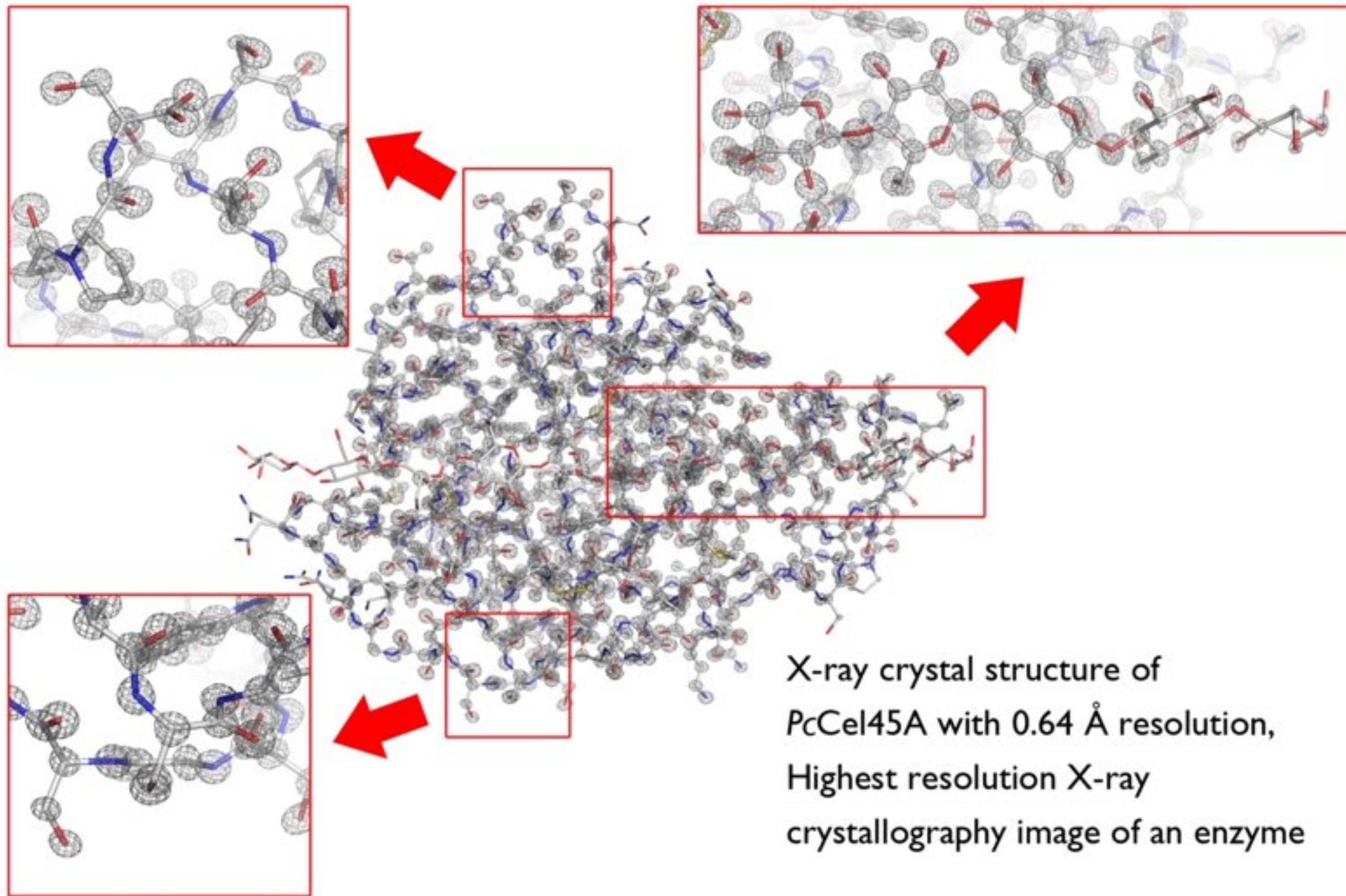
再現性：◎

(地上ではVD法CD法共に再現性高)

Space Group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>
Cell dimensions	a=45.5, b=58.1, c=62.9 (Å)
Beam Line	SPring-8 BL44XU
Wavelength	0.720
Resolution Range (Å)	40 - 0.83
Total Number of Reflections	766,867
Number of Unique Reflections	156,957
Linear R-factor in shell <40.00 - 2.84>	0.064
Completeness (%)	98.3
Completeness in shell <0.84 - 0.83>	94.7
Mean I/sigma	47.8
Mean I/sigma in shell <0.84 - 0.83>	4.2
Total Linear R-Merge	0.071
Linear R-factor in shell <0.84 - 0.83>	0.260
Mosaicity Range	0.16 - 0.29



# X-ray crystal structure of *PcCel45A* with super high resolution



X-ray crystal structure of  
*PcCel45A* with 0.64 Å resolution,  
Highest resolution X-ray  
crystallography image of an enzyme





# Giant Larvacean Houses: Rapid Carbon Transport to the Deep Sea Floor

Robinson, et al., *Science* (2005)



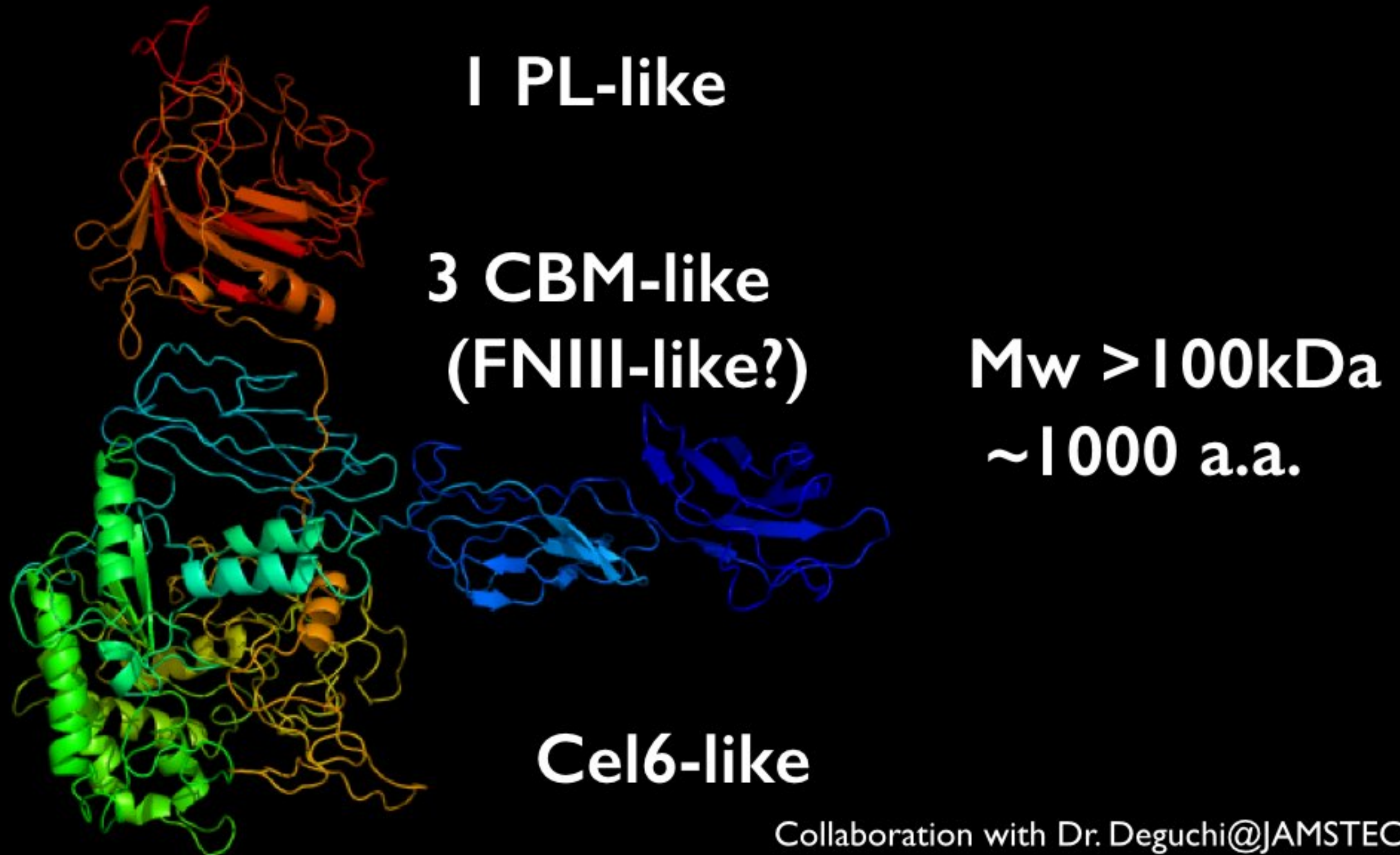
**JAMSTEC**

<http://www.jamstec.go.jp/>





# Unusual multi-domain cellulase from deep sea bacteria





{ bits }

Bioethanol plant

in single  
molecular study  
 $\approx 10^3$

in biochemical  
experiments

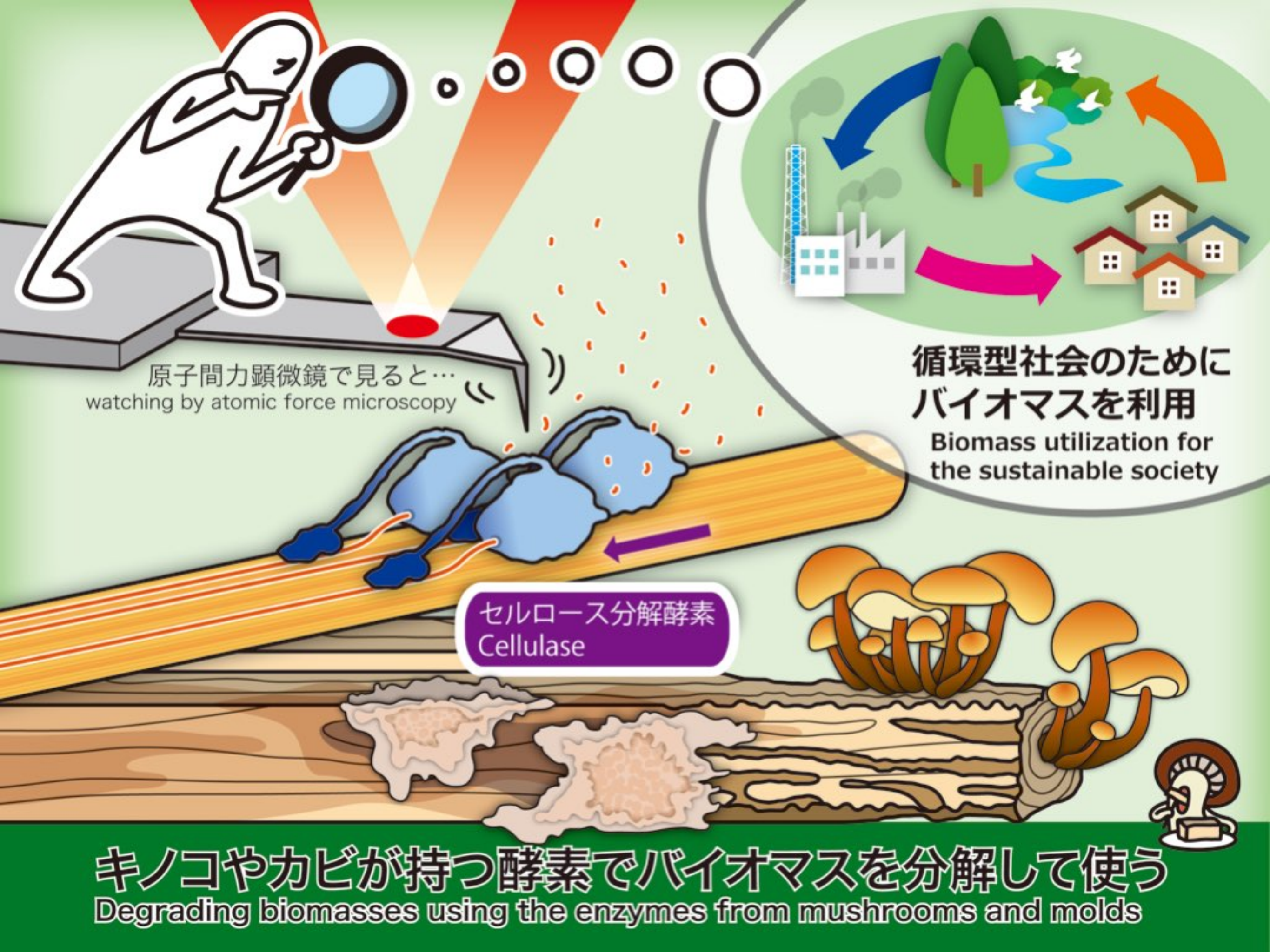
$1\mu\text{M} \times 1\text{mL}$   
 $\times 6 \times 10^{23} \approx 10^{15}$

in bioethanol  
plant

$5\text{kg cellulase}$   
 $\times 6 \times 10^{23} \approx 10^{23}$







原子間力顕微鏡で見ると…  
watching by atomic force microscopy

循環型社会のために  
バイオマスを利用

Biomass utilization for  
the sustainable society

セルロース分解酵素  
Cellulase

キノコやカビが持つ酵素でバイオマスを分解して使う  
Degrading biomasses using the enzymes from mushrooms and molds



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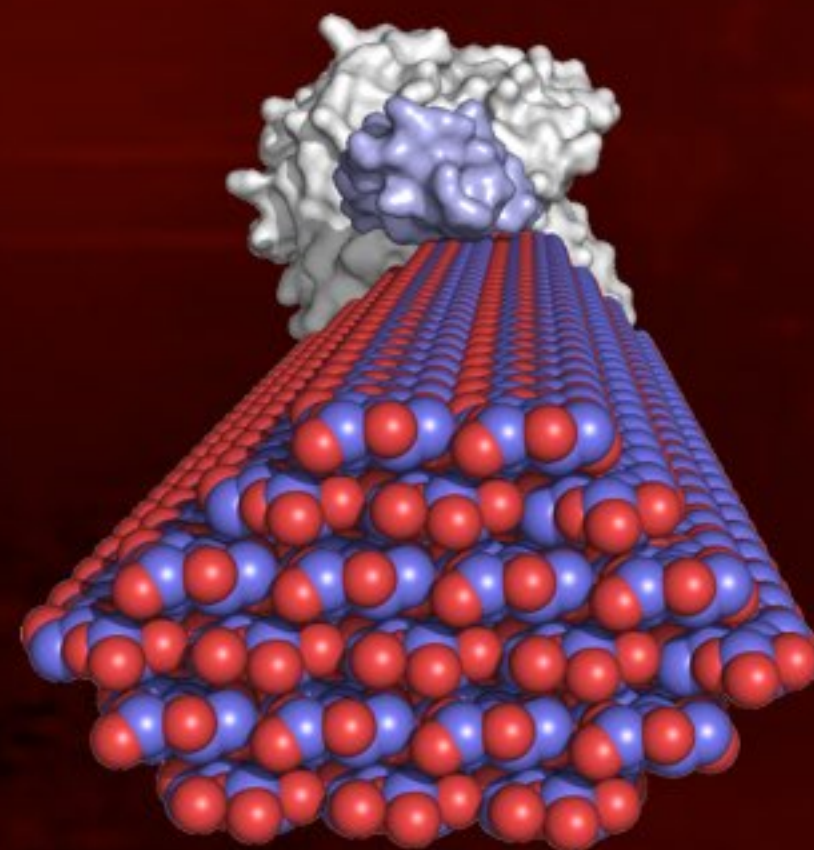
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Dr. Kouta Takeda

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Dr. Kouki Yoshida



科研費  
KAKENHI



革新的研究開発推進プログラム  
**IMPACT**  
Impulsing Paradigm Change through Disruptive Technologies Program

x20 sped-up



# Acknowledgement



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Ibaraki biological crystal diffractometer (iBIX) BL03  
Spring-8 BL44XU (Prof. Atsushi Nakagawa in Osaka Univ.)  
Photon Factory BL5A, BL17A, NW12A, NE3A



# 謝辞



THE PLANT CELL WALL  
THE PLANT CELL WALL AS  
INFORMATION-PROCESSING SYSTEM

## 科学研究費補助金 新学術領域研究

植物細胞壁の情報処理システム「植物細胞壁成分の合成酵素および分解酵素を用いた細胞外情報処理空間の動的可視化」



文部科学省

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
CULTURE, SPORTS,  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-JAPAN

## 地球観測技術等調査研究委託事業

高品質蛋白質結晶化技術の宇宙科学研究拠点形成



高品質タンパク質結晶化プロジェクト  
High Quality Protein Crystallization Project



## JAXAオープンラボ公募

「水」から考えるエコフレンドリーな洗剤用酵素の開発



## 科学研究費補助金 基盤研究 (B)

未利用バイオマスの完全酵素糖化を目指した $\beta$ -グリカナーゼ新規アッセイ法の開発



茨城県

## iBIX プロジェクト課題

バイオマス高度利用に向けた立体反転型糖質加水分解酵素の活性に関する水分子の機能解析

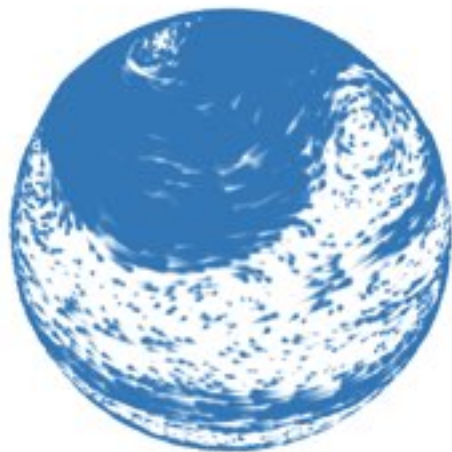




**Elucidation of the strategies of  
mechanical optimization in plants  
toward the establishment of the bases  
for sustainable structure system**

Prof. Taku Demura in NAIST & 11 Pls

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas  
from MEXT, 10M EUR for 4.5 years



## **ONE EARTH GUARDIANS**

One Earth Guardians Development Program:  
Program in Grad. Sch. Agric. & Life Sci., UTokyo  
750k EUR for 5 years, >50 Companies