

Dr. Fraenkel Conrat,
Virus Laboratory,
University of California,
BERKELEY 4,
California,
U.S.A.

15th September, 1955.

Dear Dr. Fraenkel-Conrat,

During the course of our discussions in Brussels you mentioned that it might be possible for you to send me some Hg-TMV which had less tendency to gel, and in which the amount of Hg bound was known with greater precision. This would be extremely valuable to us. I have now got quite good photographs from the Hg-TMV you sent, but before embarking on a lengthy quantitative study of the diagrams it would be preferable to look at the better preparation.

Would it be possible to prepare polymerised A-protein with Hg on it? This would be even more useful than the Hg-TMV as far as the investigation of the structure of the protein part is concerned. The equator of the A-protein diagram is so completely different from that of normal TMV that knowledge of the TMV diagram cannot be used to determine the signs for A-protein. Hg-A-protein would make it possible to bridge the gap.

Best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

Rosalind Franklin.