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PRESS RELEASE



The Chinese University of Hong Kong announces the installation of a superconducting nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer, Burker model WM250, which has been made possible through a generous donation of HK\$1.25 million from the Croucher Foundation.

The NMR spectrometer is a powerful analytical instrument to be used by chemists for structural determination of organic compounds, physicists doing solid-state research, biochemists and molecular biologists concerned with structure-function relationships, as well as the identification of known drugs, toxins, etc., and new compounds from natural source and Chinese herbs. This superconducting instrument, operated at -270°C mainly through the consumption of liquid helium and liquid nitrogen, allows high performance at a low cost comparable to the conventional 60 MHz spectrometer equipped with an electromagnet.

An agreement has been reached between the University and the Croucher Foundation that the instrument is to remain technically the property of the Croucher Foundation while the Chemistry Department of The Chinese University undertakes the responsibility for its maintenance and running. It is expected that along with other major pieces of equipment, the NMR spectrometer will cater to the needs of synthetic chemists and physical scientists in the two universities as well as other institutions in Hong Kong.