in cases where only two or three Fourier–Bessel terms overlap to produce the observed intensity), the equal-amplitude assumption can be of great value in fiber diffraction analysis, both to be sure of obtaining an unbiased map, and to obtain a map when no reasonable preliminary model is available. In view of the difficulties often experienced when attempting to make heavy-atom derivatives of fibrous assemblies, this conclusion has great potential value in studies of viruses, cytoskeletal elements, and other biological filaments.

The structures of TMV and CGMMV-W are clearly very similar, at least in the α-helical core. At 5 Å resolution, it is not possible to say how CGMMV-W compensates, if at all, for the loss of Glu 50 and Asp 77; however, the overall similarity of the two viruses permits us to speculate that CGMMV-W may contain another pair of carboxylates serving the same function. Any of the residues Asp 42, Glu 46, Asp 126 and Glu 130 might be involved in this, but higher-resolution structural analysis will be necessary before any definitive statement can be made.

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