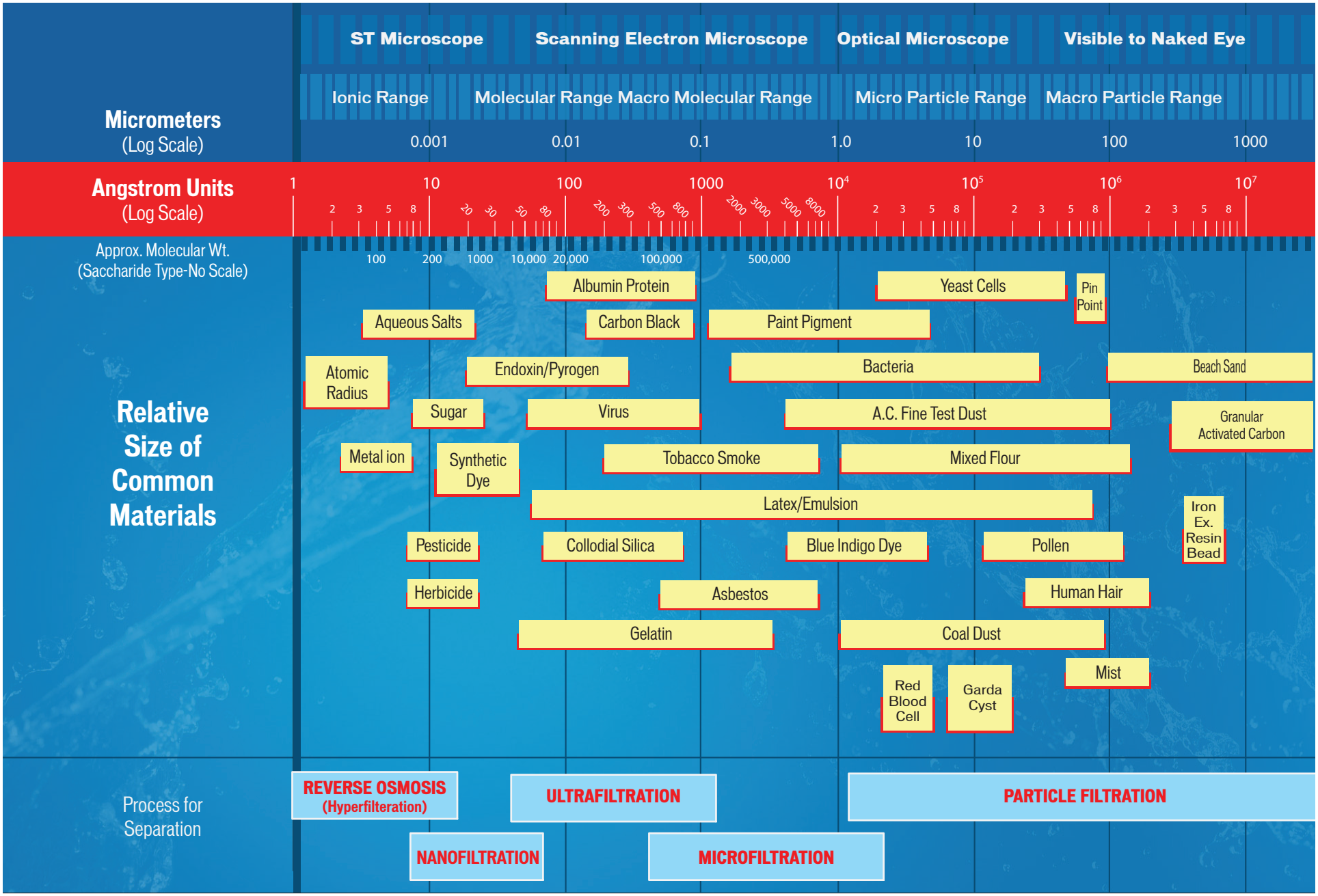THE FILTRATION SPECTRUM