Optical Spectroscopy

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Electromagnetic Spectrum of atoms and molecules



Diagram by Robert Clegg in Photosynth Res. 2009 Aug-Sep;101(2-3):181-94.

Types of Fluorescent Molecules



10.1021/nl1021909

Green Fluorescent Protein

Perrin-Jablonski energy diagram

illustrates the electronic states of a molecule and the transitions between them



Alexander Jabłoński 1898-1980



Diagram by Ulai Noomnarm in Photosynth Res. 2009 Aug-Sep;101(2-3):181-94.



Steady State Measurements: Absorbance

One of the very first commercially available instruments that measures absorbance was the Beckman DU spectrophotometer





Machines nowadays that utilize diffraction grating and diode array detector can acquire an absorbance spectra in less than 10 seconds.



Fluorescence $(S_1 - S_0)$





Solvent Effect:



http://micro.magnet.fsu.edu



http://www.bio.davidson.edu

Time-Dependent Fluorescence: Fluorescence Lifetime

Fluorescence Lifetime: The average amount of time a molecule stays in excited state



Diagram by Robert Clegg in Photosynth Res. 2009 Aug-Sep;101(2-3):181-94.

Lifetime is sensitive to other decaying pathways present!



The Bolognian Stone

http://www.isbc.unibo.it/Files/10_SE_BoStone.htm



Marc Antonio Cellio (1680) representing the light emission of heated barite



It is now a long time since the cobbler of Bologna, in Italy, astonished and amused his friends with a peculiar substance since known as Bologna phosphorus, Bologna stone, or Solar phosphorus, which shines brightly in the dark after having been placed in the sunlight for some time. This substance is sulphuret of barium. The cobbler prepared it by heating red-hot with charcoal a piece of sulphate of baryta, or Barytine, (Fig. 1,) a stone which he



Fig. 1,

picked up in the secondary strata of the Monte Paterno, where he found it in lumps of considerable weight.* The German chemist, Marggraf, used to prepare solar phosphorus by powdering down the stone, and making it into thin cakes, with a mixture of flour and water, before submitting it to calcination. This "Bologna phosphorus" was the first substance known to become phosphorescent after insolation, and, consequently, it has been

1870. Т. L. PHIPSON, Ph.D., F.C.S. submitted to many and varied experiments. It is best obtained by the calcination of pulverized sulphate of baryta, made into a firm paste with common gum. It should be preserved in a bottle which closes hermetically with a glass stopper.

It will be easily understood what is meant by the term *Phosphorescence*, when we remind our readers that phosphorus, which shines so curiously in the dark, and which enters into the composition of our common lucifer matches, is the most remarkable of all phosphorescent bodies. The word "phosphorus," which signifies a substance that bears or emits a light, has frequently been applied to various other substances besides the non-metallic element termed *phosphorus* in chemistry, on account of the property these substances possess likewise of shining in the dark.

First mention of lifetimes?

"The Bologna stone, when placed in the sun attracts the rays, and retains them so long as to give light a considerable time after it is removed into the dark." *Goethe* "The Sorrows of Werter"



Lastusaari et al. 2011

Dr. Brand in 1674-5 attempted to distil human urine and in this way discovered phosphorus.

Phosphorus (Greek phosphoros was the ancient name for the planet Venus) was discovered by German alchemist Hennig Brand in 1669 through a preparation from urine. Working in Hamburg, Brand attempted to distill salts by evaporating urine, and in the process produced a white material that glowed in the dark and burned brilliantly.



Misnomer: Phosphorescence of phosphorous is due to slow oxidation

Painting by Joseph Wright of Derby (18thcentury) representing the discovery of the "phosphorescence" of the phosphorus extracted from urine by Hennig Brand in 1669 Measuring the Depletion of the excited state

$$\left[\#x^*\right] = \left[\#x_o^*\right]e^{-(k_F+k_t)t}$$



 $\begin{bmatrix} \# x^* \end{bmatrix} (k_F) =$ Intensity that you measure



Intensity measured is proportional to the # of molecules in the excited state!

Measuring Lifetime: Time Domain



What do you need?

-Collect signal fast enough

-Fitting

Measuring Lifetime: Frequency Domain

$$E(t) = E_o + E_{o} cos (\omega_E t + \varphi_E)$$

$$F(t) = F_o + F_{o} cos (\omega_E t + \varphi_E - \varphi)$$

$$tan (\varphi) = \omega_E \tau_{\varphi}$$

$$M = \frac{F_{o}/F_o}{E_o/F_o} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega \tau_{Mod})^2}}$$
What do you need?
-Intensity modulators

-Synchronization

AOMs - Intensity Modulator

MEASUREMENTS OF SUBNANOSECOND FLUORESCENCE LIFETIMES WITH A CROSS-CORRELATION PHASE FLUOROMETER*

Richard D. Spencer and Gregorio Weber Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering University of Illinois Urbana, Ill.

Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences Vol. 158 pp 361-376, 1969



CROSS CORRELATION FLUOROMETER



FIGURE 7. The figure shows the cross-correlation photocurrents from a scattering solution (first from left), a solution of NADH in phosphate buffer, pH 7.0, 17° C (second from left), and a solution of fluorescein $(1 \ \mu gm/m)$ in 0.01 M NaOH (right).

-modulation frequency limited by resonance frequency of the acoustooptic cell

-variations in the intensity modulation caused by temperature

Pockels Cell

A CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE FREQUENCY CROSS-CORRELATION PHASE FLUOROMETER WITH PICOSECOND RESOLUTION

E. GRATTON AND M. LIMKEMAN Department of Physics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois 61801

Biophysical Journal Vol. 44 (1983) pp 315-324









Directly Modulated Diode







Laser Diodes -> (405nm,436nm,473nm,635nm,690nm,780nm,830nm)

LEDs -> (280nm,300nm,335nm,345nm,460nm,500nm,520nm)

Champaign, IL: domain of fluorescence lifetime imaging microscopy

Robert Clegg - UIUC Full-Field FLIM





Enrico Gratton - UIUC Scanning Confocal FLIM (FLIMBox)







Beniamino Barbieri – ISS Inc. Commercialization of FD FLIM







Applications of Fluorescence in Biology

Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging on Live Cells







Single Molecule Fluorescence Imaging



Super Resolution Fluorescence Imaging

Basic Principle of STORM Superresolution Imaging





http://www.microscopyu.com/articles/superresolution/stormintro.html Huang et al Science,2008