# **Ultrafast Molecular Spectroscopy**

Marcus Motzkus, Physikalisch-Chemisches Institut Universität Heidelberg

> IMPRS – QD Workshop 30.09.2013 – MPI für Kernphysik



Feature Article



Figure 2. Time scales. The relevance to physical, chemical, and biological changes. The fundamental limit of the vibrational motion defines the regime for femtochemistry. Examples are given for each change and scale.



# Ultrafast Molecular Spectroscopy

## Outline

#### I. Intro - Ultrafast Molecular Spectroscopy

- Time scale of chemical processes, Overview of methods
- Pump-probe principle
- seminal experiments, applications
- wavepackets

### **II. Optical Methods of Pump-Probe-Spectroscopy**

- Transient Absorption: Population dynamics
- Examples
- Problem of overlapping resonances

### III. Multidimensional spectroscopy

- Case study: dynamics on Carotenoids
- Pump-dump-spectroscopy
- Pump-DFWM
- Quantum control spectroscopy

# "not observable" fast processes: slow-motion movie



(Eadweard Muybridge, "The Horse in Motion", 1878)

# **'Doc' Edgerton - Strobe Photography**





Harold Edgerton MIT, 1942



"How to Make Apple sauce at MIT", 1964

 $\rightarrow$  Time Resolution: a few microseconds



## Transitions in a molecule



# Frequency conversion with nonlinear optics: $\chi^{(2)}$ - Processes





From: Spectra-Physics



From R. Trebino, GaTech

# Supercontinuum Generation in a Photonic Crystal Fiber (PCF)

PCF

100 fs (TL)

 $\Delta\lambda$  = 9 nm @ 800 nm

Photo from *www.bath.ac.uk/physics*.

λ

>1 ps (chirped)

 $\Delta\lambda$  > 600 nm

# **Ultrafast Spectroscopy: Pump and Probe**



(Temporal duration corresponds to the time it takes for the pulse to travel along the path which is set by the variable delay stage)

The excite and probe pulses can be different colors.

First fs-observation of a transition state: ICN-Dissociation



M.J. Rosker et al., J. Chem. Phys. 89 (1988) 6113

# Pump-Probe Femtosecond Experiment (Zewail lab)

5662 J. Phys. Chem. A, Vol. 104, No. 24, 2000

Zewail







# Real-time observation of wavepacket dynamics in a dissociation reaction



Internuclear separation

Paradigma: Chemical bond in a two-atomic molecule NaI changes its character (covalent or ionic) with time before dissociation into Na- and I-atoms takes place (bond forms again after an electron was transferred).

# **1999 Nobel Prize in Chemistry**

# Ahmed H. Zewail



"for his studies of the transition states of chemical reactions using femtosecond spectroscopy"



## http://nobelprize.org/

# Probing of vibrational dynamics in real-time









One mode  $\rightarrow$  single-mode operation  $\Delta E$  minimal

Mode locking:

 $T_{repetition} = 1/\Delta v$ Time-bandwidth product Harmonic potential



One eigenstate → time-independent △E minimal



## **Concept of wavepackets**

Quantum mechanics = Stationary wavefunctions extending over a relatively large region of space

## Classical mechanics = Moving point objects; Localization but is it valid?

Erwin Schrödinger, "Der kontinuierliche Übergang von der Mikro zur Makromechanik," Die Naturwissenschaften, Heft 28, 9.7.**1926**, 664-660: (Translation)

...I show, that **a group of eigenmodes** with high quantum number n and relatively small differences in their quantum numbers **describe a point mass which moves according to usual mechanics**...

$$\Psi(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{t}) = \sum \mathbf{a}_n \phi_n \mathbf{e}^{-i\frac{\mathbf{E}_n}{\hbar}\mathbf{t}}$$

## **Coherent vibration dynamics**



R.M. Bowman et al. – Chem. Phys. Lett. 161 (1989) 297



Potential energy curves of Na<sub>2</sub>-molecule and schematic representation of wavepacket

T. Baumert, Universität Kassel

## **Pump-probe: Time-resolved photoelectron spectroscopy**



*Left:* Measured photoelectron distribution of  $Na_2$  as a function of the pump-probe delay. The kinetic energy of the photoelectrons has been transformed to the internuclear distance. *Right:* Classical oscillation of a molecule consisting of two atoms.



## Ultrafast Molecular Spectroscopy

#### Outline

#### I. Intro - Ultrafast Molecular Spectroscopy

- Time scale of chemical processes, Overview of methods
- Pump-probe principle
- seminal experiments, applications
- wavepackets

#### II. Optical Methods of Pump-Probe-Spectroscopy

- Transient Absorption: Population dynamics
- Examples
- Problem of overlapping resonances

#### III. Multidimensional spectroscopy

- Case study: dynamics on Carotenoids
- Pump-dump-spectroscopy
- Pump-DFWM
- Quantum control spectroscopy

# **Pump-probe: Time-resolved absorption spectroscopy**

<u>'*pump*</u> > 100

probe

## **Transient absorption**

- One of the most used time-resolved spectroscopical techniques (third-order method).
- A (weak) probe pulse measures the variation of absorption after the interaction with a (strong) pump pulse.
- Requires spectral resolution, which is given by the detector (filters, gratings, monochromators, etc).



## **Pump-probe: Time-resolved absorption spectroscopy**

• The absorption of the Probe Intensity is measured at different delays ( $\tau$ ):



## **Pump-probe: Time-resolved absorption spectroscopy**

• The absorption of the Probe Intensity is measured at different delays ( $\tau$ ):



**Pump-probe: Time-resolved absorption spectroscopy** Example: Energy flow in carotenoids

Pump excites  $S_2$ , Probe measures population of  $S_1$ 



Interpretation of signal: Fit to rise and decay of the transient







$$S_{TA} = \log\left(\frac{I_{Pr}^{PumpOff}}{I_{Pr}^{PumpOn}}\right) = \Delta C \cdot \varepsilon \cdot d$$

$$I_{Pr}^{PumpOff} > I_{Pr}^{PumpOn} \rightarrow$$
 Positive signal  
Excited State Absorption (ESA)





$$S_{TA} = \log\left(\frac{I_{Pr}^{PumpOff}}{I_{Pr}^{PumpOn}}\right) = \Delta C \cdot \varepsilon \cdot d$$

$$l_{Pr}^{PumpOff} > l_{Pr}^{PumpOn}$$
  $\rightarrow$  Positive signal  
Excited State Absorption (ESA)





$$S_{TA} = \log\left(\frac{I_{Pr}^{PumpOff}}{I_{Pr}^{PumpOn}}\right) = \Delta C \cdot \varepsilon \cdot d$$

$$l_{Pr}^{PumpOff} > l_{Pr}^{PumpOn}$$
  $\rightarrow$  Positive signal  
Excited State Absorption (ESA)





$$S_{TA} = \log\left(\frac{I_{Pr}^{PumpOff}}{I_{Pr}^{PumpOn}}\right) = \Delta C \cdot \varepsilon \cdot d$$

$$l_{Pr}^{PumpOff} > l_{Pr}^{PumpOn} \rightarrow Positive signal$$
  
Excited State Absorption (ESA)


Transient absorption: Positive and negative signal contributions



$$S_{TA} = \log\left(\frac{I_{Pr}^{PumpOff}}{I_{Pr}^{PumpOn}}\right) = \Delta C \cdot \varepsilon \cdot d$$

$$l_{Pr}^{PumpOff} > l_{Pr}^{PumpOn}$$
  $\rightarrow$  Positive signal  
Excited State Absorption (ESA)



## Three contributions in transient absorption



### Pump-probe: Time-resolved absorption spectroscopy

**Example of Femtobiology:** 

**Observation of first step in vision - Isomerization of Rhodopsin** 



⇒ Photosensivity and high quantum yield due to ultrafast non-adiabatic isomerization reaction

R.W. Schoenlein et al., Science **254** (1991) 412 P. Kukura et al., Science **310** (1990) 1006

## **Femtochemistry:**

Observation of ultrafast dynamics in complex molecules



- → Due to overlapping resonances of many contributing states more sophisticated optical techniques are needed !!
- $\rightarrow$  Multidimensional spectroscopy

## **Multidimensional Time-Resolved Spectroscopy**

- Multidimensional techniques opens up new observation windows (new axis in your graph).
- Many approaches:
  - Tailoring of Optical Pulses (Quantum Control Spectroscopy)
  - Additional Interactions with Optical Pulses.



• Several spectroscopies: 2D Electronic, DQ2D, 4D, ...., Pump-DFWM



#### Ultrafast Molecular Spectroscopy

#### Outline

#### I. Intro - Ultrafast Molecular Spectroscopy

- Time scale of chemical processes, Overview of methods
- Pump-probe principle
- seminal experiments, applications
- wavepackets

#### II. Optical Methods of Pump-Probe-Spectroscopy

- Transient Absorption: Population dynamics
- Examples
- Problem of overlapping resonances

#### III. Multidimensional spectroscopy

- Case study: dynamics on Carotenoids
- Pump-dump-spectroscopy
- Pump-DFWM
- Quantum control spectroscopy

Going beyond simple pump-probe: Complex excitation + complex probe







### Ultrafast dynamics in Light Harvesting

Internal conv. **Energy transfer** 0.2ps  $S_2$ 0.3pQx 0.1ps  $S_1$  $Q_y$ 30ps 0.8ps 4ps **BChl**  $S_0$ g Q<sub>y</sub> B850 B800 **B850** Car **B800** Carotenoid **S**<sub>2</sub> **BChl** Q, 0-2 800/ B850 400 450 500 550 600 650 700 750 800 850 900 950 Polivka & Sundström, Chem. Rev. (2004) Wavelength, nm



## **Biological function of carotenoids**

Light harvesting Photoprotection Quenching →

Electronic Energy Transfer: fs-ps

EET between non-degenerate states  $\rightarrow$  Excess <u>vibronic</u> excitation: fs-ps

## **Classical 3-level Scheme**



#### Predicted dark states Conjugation length N 13 12 11 10 9 $3A_g^-$ 22000 $1B_u^+$ (S<sub>2</sub>) 20000 -1B\_u<sup>-</sup> Energy, cm<sup>-1</sup> 18000 -16000 2A<sup>-</sup><sub>g</sub> (S<sub>1</sub>) 14000 · 12000 · ground state: $1A_q^{-1}$ (S<sub>0</sub>) 0,040 0,050 0,055 0,035 0,045 1/(2N+1)

Theory: Tavan & Schulten, J. Chem. Phys. 85 (1986) 6602

## Carotenoids in solution



Three different models for relaxation:



Energy level diagram derived from *alltrans*-polyenes with C<sub>2h</sub> symmetry.

T. Polìvka, V. Sundström; Chem. Rev. **2004**, 4, 2021 T. Polìvka, V. Sundström; Chem. Phys. Lett. **2009**, 477, 1 Going beyond simple pump-probe: Complex excitation + complex probe



# Dynamics in Carotenoids studied with transient absorption

Pump excites  $S_2$ , Probe measures population of  $S_1$ 





## **Transient absorption (Zeaxanthin)**



#### Pump&Probe: kinetics traces



S\* risetime is the lifetime of S<sub>2</sub> fluorescence!

#### **Two Hypothesis:**

1. S\* does not rise instantaneously, i.e. it starts from S<sub>2</sub>

#### OR

2. S\* rises instantaneously, i.e. it doesn't depend on the population of  $S_2$ 

# Study of dynamics in carotinoids with transient absorption



Two possible models which provide an explanation of additional signal:



W. Wohlleben; J. Phys. Chem. B 2004, 108, 3320.

- Transient absorption (A) increases with  $\tau_{\mbox{\scriptsize S2}}.$
- Stimulated emission (SE) decreases with  $\tau_{s2}$  .

- Transient absorption (A) increases instantaneously.
- Stimuliert emission (SE) decreases with  $\tau_{s2}$  ab.
- → In both cases the sum of A und SE give rise to the same result!

Going beyond simple pump-probe: Complex excitation + complex probe





Probe  $S_0$  bleach, S\* and  $S_1$  absorption  $\longrightarrow$  correlation with  $S_2$ ?



## **Pump-deplete-probe setup**



Pump Deplete excited state Probe manipulated absorption spectra



## **Transient absorption (reminder)**







# Study of dynamics in carotinoids with transient absorption



Two possible models which provide an explanation of additional signal:



W. Wohlleben; J. Phys. Chem. B 2004, 108, 3320.

- Transient absorption (A) increases with  $\tau_{s2}$ .
- Stimulated emission (SE) decreases with  $\tau_{s2}$  .

- Transient absorption (A) increases instantaneously.
- Stimuliert emission (SE) decreases with  $\tau_{s2}$  ab.
- → In both cases the sum of A und SE give rise to the same result!

Going beyond simple pump-probe: Complex excitation + complex probe



## Excitation with several pulses (E-Fields): Nonlinear Interaction



- $\rightarrow$  in media with inversion symmetry:  $\chi^{(2)}=0$
- $\rightarrow$  first non-linear term in gases and liquids:  $\chi^{(3)}$
- $\rightarrow$  two conditions important:

Conservation of energy and momentum

#### **Time-resolved four-wave-mixing**





## Excited State Dynamics Investigated by Pump-DFWM



## Excited State Dynamics Investigated by Pump-DFWM



**Reaction Coordinate** 

- Pump and Stokes arrive simultaneously
- Transients in  $\tau$  at different values of T



J Phys Chem A **111** (2007) 10517 Chem Phys Lett **402** (2005) 283 J Phys Chem **100** (1996) 5620

Namboodiri et al Laser Phys **19** (2009) 154 Fujiyoshi et al JPCA **108** (2004) 11165 Oberle et al CPL **241** (1995) 281 Probing vibrational dynamics in real-time





**Reaction Coordinate** 

### **Dynamics of Vibrational Modes**



## Shift of Vibrational Frequencies

C-C Stretch

C=C Stretch





- C=C modes are coupled stronger than C-C mode.
- Intra-/intermolecular energy distribution 90 fs.
- Absence of evolution for the C-C mode.



Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 483 (2009) 219.



Experimental T vs.  $\tau$  Scan



## Simulation of the pump-DFWM signal

- Pump-DFWM = DFWM on excited state.
- Initial pump: 10% population into  $S_2$ , 1% population into hot  $S_0$ .
- Simulation of DFWM signal based on Brownian oscillator model.<sup>[1]</sup>



<sup>[1]</sup>S. Mukamel, *Principles of Nonlinear Optical Spectroscopy* (Oxford University Press, New York, 1995)



## Lycopene's pump-DFWM signal



Experimental T vs.  $\tau$  Scan



Simulation with real pulse duration




## Carotenoids in solution



Three different models for relaxation:



Energy level diagram derived from *alltrans*-polyenes with C<sub>2h</sub> symmetry.

T. Polìvka, V. Sundström; Chem. Rev. 2004, 4, 2021.

# Energy levels



Excited state energies are dependent on conjugation length N



Interesting region:

- Crossing between states
- Spectral region accessible with fs-

pulses

P. Tavan and K. Schulten J. Chem. Phys. 1986, 85, 6602.

# **Energy levels**



Excited state energies are dependent on conjugation length N





Long living signal in spheroidene at later *T* and overlaid with strong rapidly decaying component.





Summary of pump-DFWM



Pump-DFWM in combination with numerical model simulations allows determination of relaxation pathways:



Going beyond simple pump-probe: Complex excitation + complex probe





# **Coherent control of chemical reactions**



- calculation for real molecules complicated (if not impossible)
- experimental realization of predicted E-fields difficult



Science 288 (2000) 824

Concept: R.S. Judson and H. Rabitz, Phys. Rev. Lett. 68 (1992) 1500

# Shaping of fs-Laser Pulses



Reference: A.M. Weiner, Rev. Sci. Instrum. 71 (2000) 1929

# Liquid crystal spatial ligt modulator



128 pixel device

→ Development of new 640 pixel shaper in cooperation with University of Jena and Jenoptik: Ap

Appl. Phys. B 72 (2001) 627

## LH2 of Rps. Acidophila - Standard model





- Significant loss channel IC
- Negligible cross talk IC-EET
- Energy funnel precludes back transfer

### 64-parameter optimisation of IC/EET



### Convergence curve

### Optimal pulse FROG trace



ChemPhysChem 6 (2005) 850

# Reducing the complexity





### **Optimal Control Results**



Natural Light Harvesting: LH2



Time (fs) <sup>100</sup> <sup>500</sup> <sup>0</sup> <sup>500</sup> <sup>100</sup> <sup>10</sup>

Artifical Light Harvesting: Dyad

Bacteriorhodopsin



Prokhorenko et al, Science 313 (2006) 1257.



What is the general QM mechanism behind all these results?

# Further reduction of complexity





# **Pulse Spacings**



Energy (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	T(fs)	2 T(fs)	3 T(fs)	4 T(fs)	5 T(fs)
1524	21.9	43.8	65.7	87.6	109.5
1157	28.8	57.6	86.4	115.2	144
1004	33.2	66.4	99.6		



# Control of ground state vibrations



# Coherent Control (pulse shaping) + Spectroscopy

• Modify the excitation to learn more about the dynamics

• Several possible "new" molecular responses

# → Disentanglement of complex dynamics and symplifying experiments

Nature **417** (2002) 533 ChemPhysChem **6** (2005) 1 JPPA **125** (2006) 194505 PNAS **105** (2008) 7641 Faraday Discuss. **153** (2011) 213

PCCP **10** (2008) 168 Opt. Lett. **37** (2012) 4239 Quantum Control Spectroscopy (QCS)





- Open-loop complex pulse synthesis and characterization
- UV-MIR shaping
- Photonic crystalls
- FWM-spectroscopy

- Plurality of closed-/ open-loop control and pump-probe
- Parameterisation of pulse shapes
- Role of coherence and contrability

- Prototype molecul.: Dimers, Dyes etc.
- Biomolecules:
  ultrafast energy flow
  in LH2 and
  carotenoids
- Nonlinear microscopy
- Medical application



### Literature

Basics and Applications:

- Ultrashort Laser Pulse Phenomena, J.-C. Diels and W. Rudolph, 2nd ed., Academic Press, 2006
- Femtosecond Laser Pulses, ed. by C. Rullière, 2nd ed., Springer, 2005
- Laser Spectroscopy: Vol. 1 and 2, W. Demtröder, 4th ed., Springer, 2008

Femtochemistry:

- Femtochemistry: Atomic-scale dynamics of the chemical bond, A.H. Zewail, J. Phys. Chem. A , Vol. 104, pp. 5660-5694, 2000
- Ultrafast Phenomena I XVII, Conference Proceedings, Springer and Oxford Press
- Femtochemistry and Femtobiology, 1994 2011, Proceedings, Elsevier et al.
- Femtosecond Laser Spectroscopy, ed. by P. Hannaford, Springer, 2005

Control:

- Coherence and Control in Chemistry, Faraday Discuss., 2011, 153, RSC Publishing
- Quantum Control of Molecular Processes, P. Brumer and M. Shapiro, 2nd ed., 2011, Wiley-VCH Verlag
- Optical Control of Molecular Dynamics, S.A. Rice and M. Zhao, 2000, John Wiley & Sons

Femtoscience: Ultrafast Dynamics, Spectroscopy and Coherent Control

- Tiago Buckup
- •H.-R. Volpp
- Jan-Philip Kraack
- Marie Marek
- Jens Möhring
- Christoph Pohling
- Jean Rehbinder
- Dzmitry Starukhin
- Alexander Wipfler
- Jürgen Hauer
- Bernhard von Vacano

## Thanks to ...

#### Marburg

• Prof. Norbert Hampp

### Munich

- Prof. Regina de Vivie-Riedle
- Judith Voll

### Twente, NL

• Prof. Jennifer Herek



#### **Financial Support**

Max-Planck-Gesellschaft

BMBF: ActIOL + MediCARS

#### EU: CROSSTRAP

Fonds der Chemischen Industrie

...the audience!