

Spectroscopy

Practical use of UV Spectroscopy Example: Multi-wavelength AUC

Approach:

To exploit the dynamic range of the UV spectrophotometer, measure multiple concentrations of the analyte over a wide wavelength range and globally fit the resulting absorbance traces to an intrinsic absorption spectrum over all wavelengths. Each analyte must be dialyzed into the same buffer, and the spectrophotometer must be blanked with the buffer to get pure analyte spectra.

Model the UV spectrum with a linear sum of Gaussians:

$$\text{Spectrum} = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i G_i(\lambda)$$

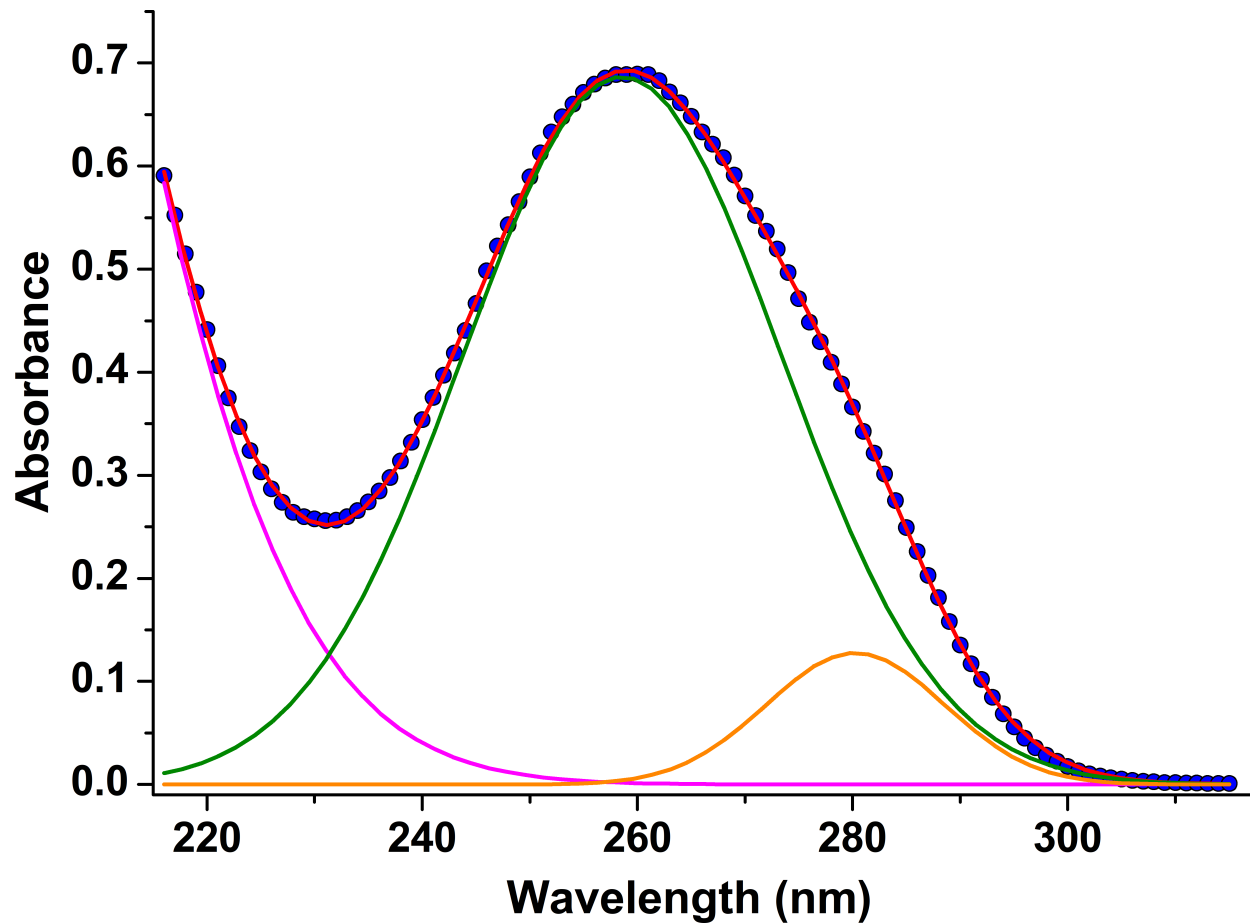
$$\text{where } G(\lambda) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\lambda-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2\right] \text{ and } \lambda = \text{wavelength,}$$

σ = standard deviation (width), and μ is the mean

Spectroscopy

Practical use of UV Spectroscopy

Example: DNA fitted by three Gaussian terms:



Spectroscopy

Practical use of UV Spectroscopy

Example: Multi-wavelength AUC

Decompose an unknown mixture of two or more analytes into a linear combination of intrinsic absorption profiles to determine the amplitude (partial concentration) of each analyte in the mixture:

$$\text{Spectrum (Mixture)} = \sum_{j=1}^m a_j \text{Spectrum}_j$$

Minimize with NNLS (Lawson CL, Hanson RJ. Solving Least Squares Problems. Prentice-Hall, Inc. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1974).

DEMO

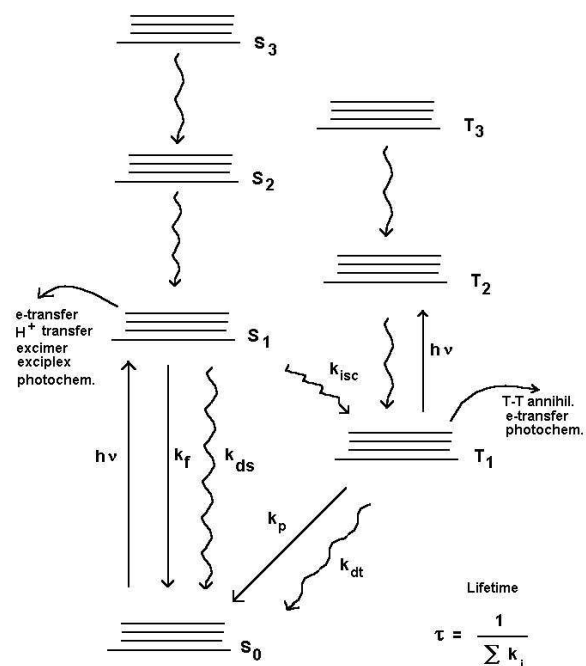
Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Loss of Energy from Excited State back to Ground State

- **Internal Conversion (IC; mainly through vibrational relaxation)**
- **Quenching: collisions with solvent, solutes, or groups of chromophore**
- **Intersystem Crossing (ISC) - phosphorescence from long-lived triplet state**
- **Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)**
- **Fluorescence - Emission of a photon at a lower energy than from initial absorption; Stoke's shift**
- **Excited-State Reactions, bond breakage, formation, rearrangement, proton transfer**

Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Aleksander Jablonski

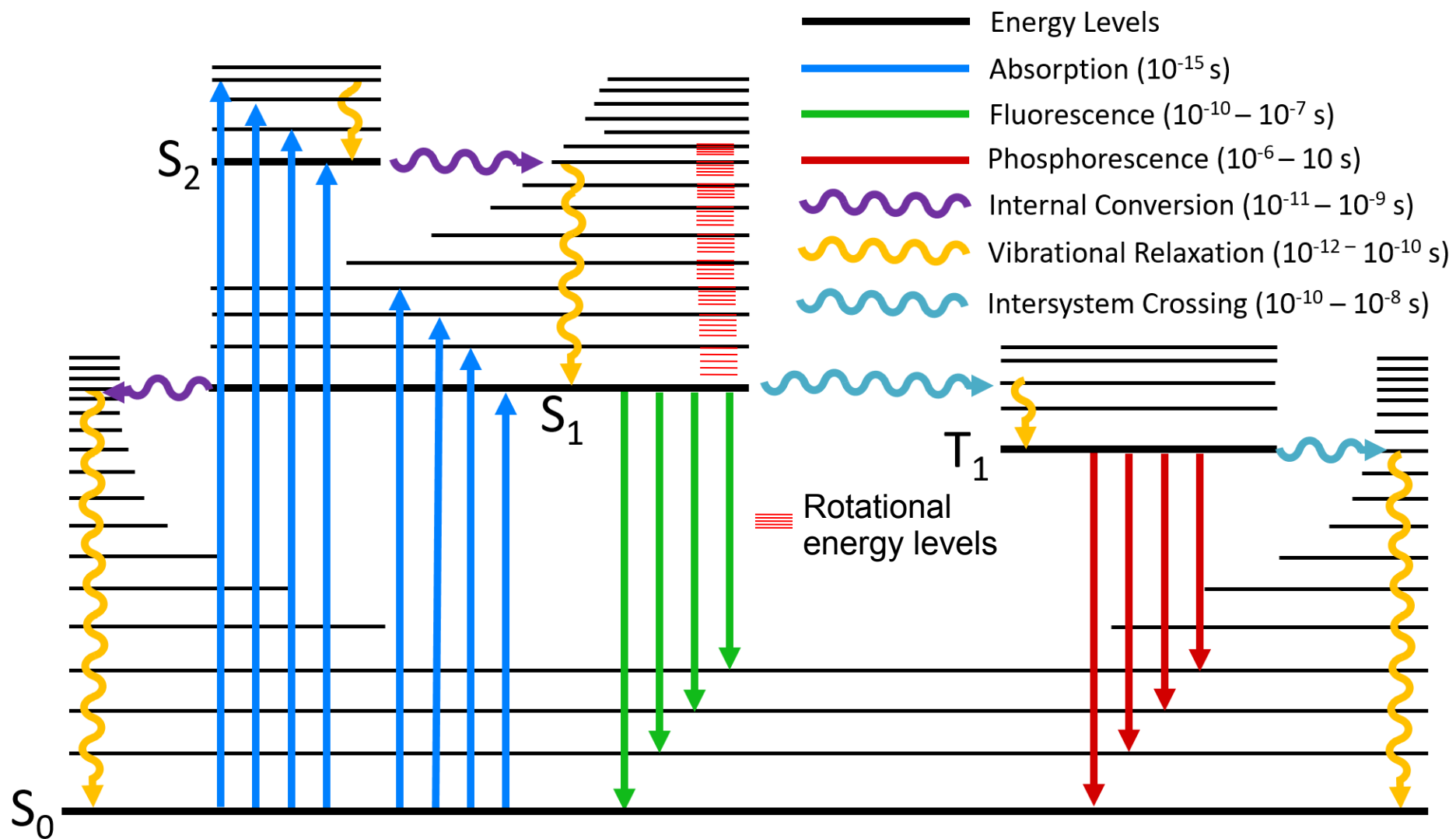


1934 habilitation

“On the influence of intermolecular interactions on the absorption and emission of light”

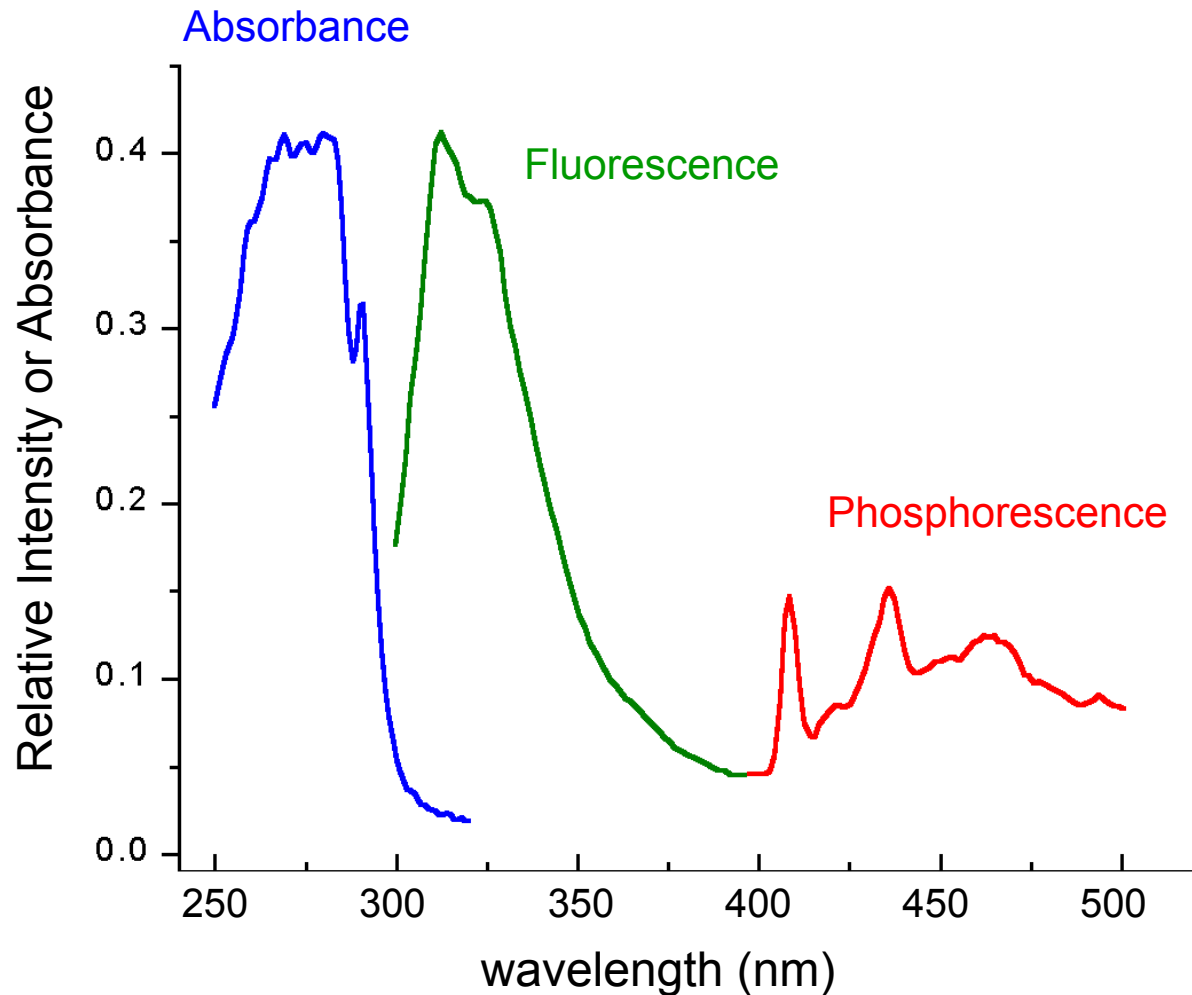
Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Jablonski Diagram



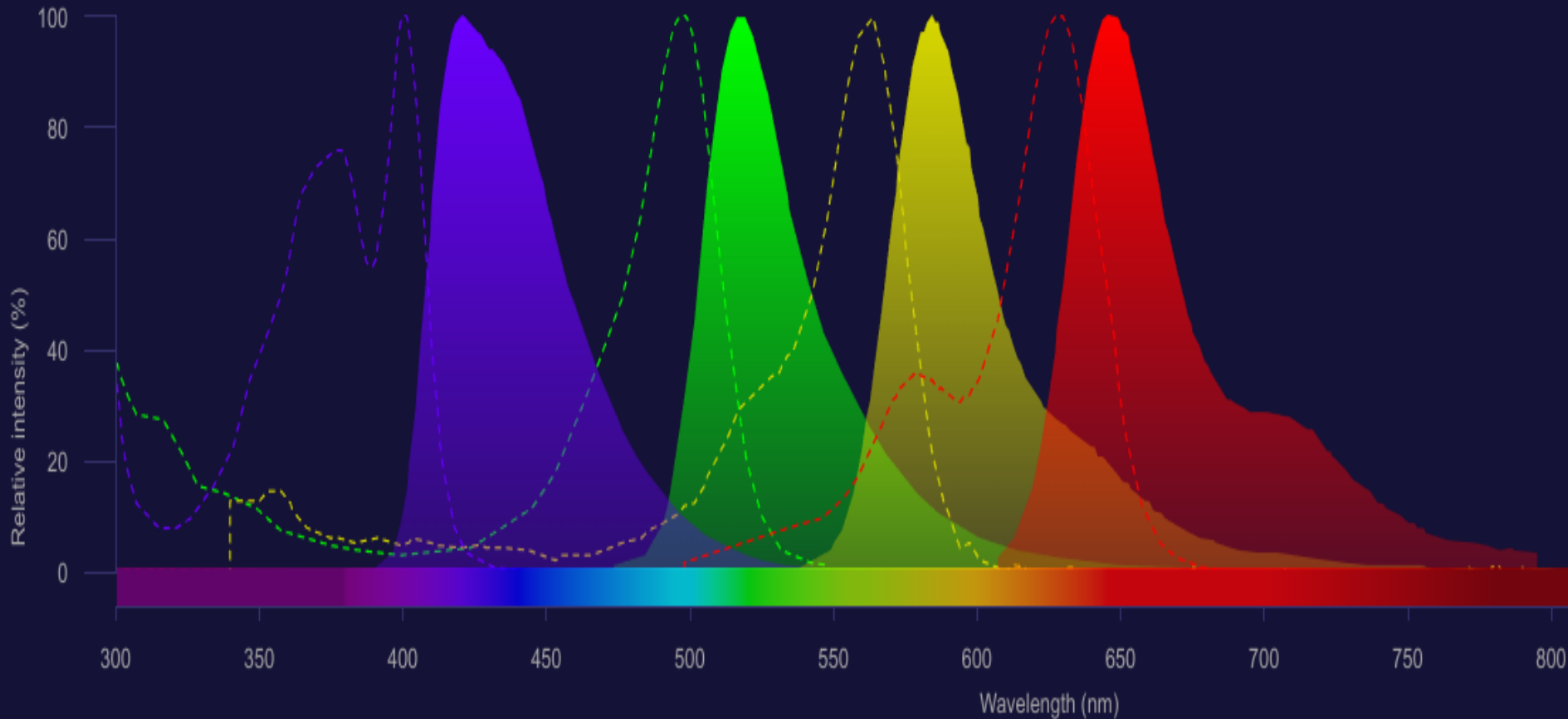
Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Single Trp Residue in Cod Parvalbumin; 77 K



Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Absorbance and emission spectra of various Alexa Fluors 405, 488, 586, 633 nm



<https://www.thermofisher.com/order/fluorescence-spectraviewer>

Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Commercially Available Fluorophores:

Extrinsic probes

- Alexa dyes

Molecular Probes Handbook:

<https://www.thermofisher.com/us/en/home/references/molecular-probes-the-handbook.html>

Alexa 488 TFP ester

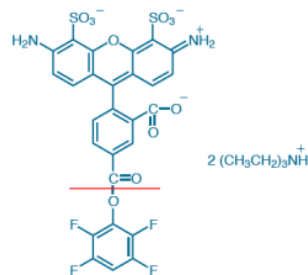
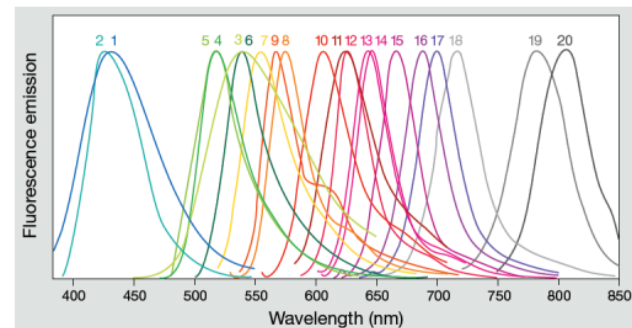


Table 1.5 Fluorescence quantum yields (QY) and lifetimes (τ) for Alexa Fluor® dyes.

Alexa Fluor® Dye *	QY †	τ (ns) ‡
Alexa Fluor® 488	0.92	4.1 §
Alexa Fluor® 532	0.61	2.5
Alexa Fluor® 546	0.79	4.1
Alexa Fluor® 555	0.10	0.3
Alexa Fluor® 568	0.69	3.6 §
Alexa Fluor® 594	0.66	3.9 §
Alexa Fluor® 647	0.33	1.0
Alexa Fluor® 660	0.37	1.2 **
Alexa Fluor® 680	0.36	1.2
Alexa Fluor® 700	0.25	1.0
Alexa Fluor® 750	0.12	0.7

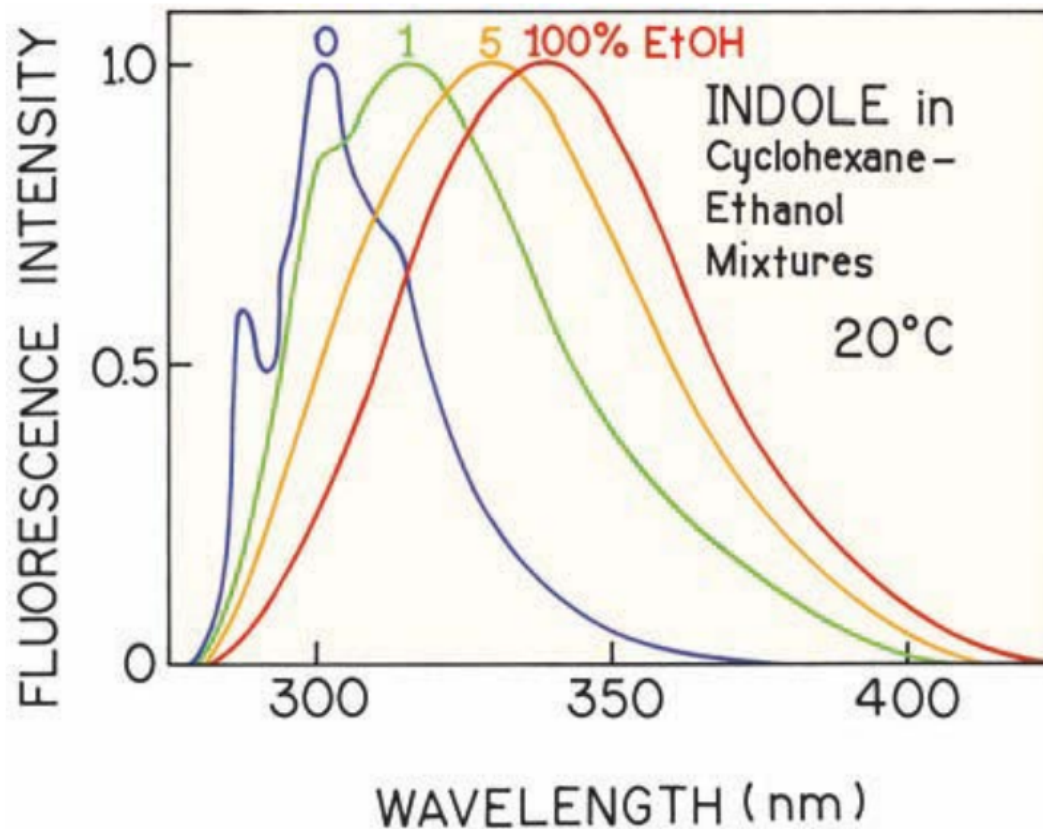
Table 1 Spectral properties of Molecular Probes® Alexa Fluor® dyes.

Alexa Fluor® Dye	Absorption Max (nm) *	Emission Max (nm) *	Emission Color †	Extinction Coefficient ‡
Alexa Fluor® 350	346	442	Blue	19,000
Alexa Fluor® 405	402	421	Blue	35,000
Alexa Fluor® 430	434	539	Yellow-green	15,000
Alexa Fluor® 488	495	519	Green	73,000
Alexa Fluor® 514	518	540	Green	80,000
Alexa Fluor® 532	531	554	Yellow	81,000
Alexa Fluor® 546	556	573	Orange	112,000
Alexa Fluor® 555	555	565	Orange	155,000
Alexa Fluor® 568	578	603	Red-orange	88,000
Alexa Fluor® 594	590	617	Red	92,000
Alexa Fluor® 610	612	628	Red	144,000
Alexa Fluor® 633	632	647	Far-red	159,000
Alexa Fluor® 635	633	647	Far-red	140,000
Alexa Fluor® 647	650	668	Far-red	270,000
Alexa Fluor® 660	663	690	Near-IR §	132,000
Alexa Fluor® 680	679	702	Near-IR §	183,000
Alexa Fluor® 700	702	723	Near-IR §	205,000
Alexa Fluor® 750	749	775	Near-IR §	290,000
Alexa Fluor® 790	782	805	Near-IR §	260,000



Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Fluorescent intensity and wavelength can change with solvent:

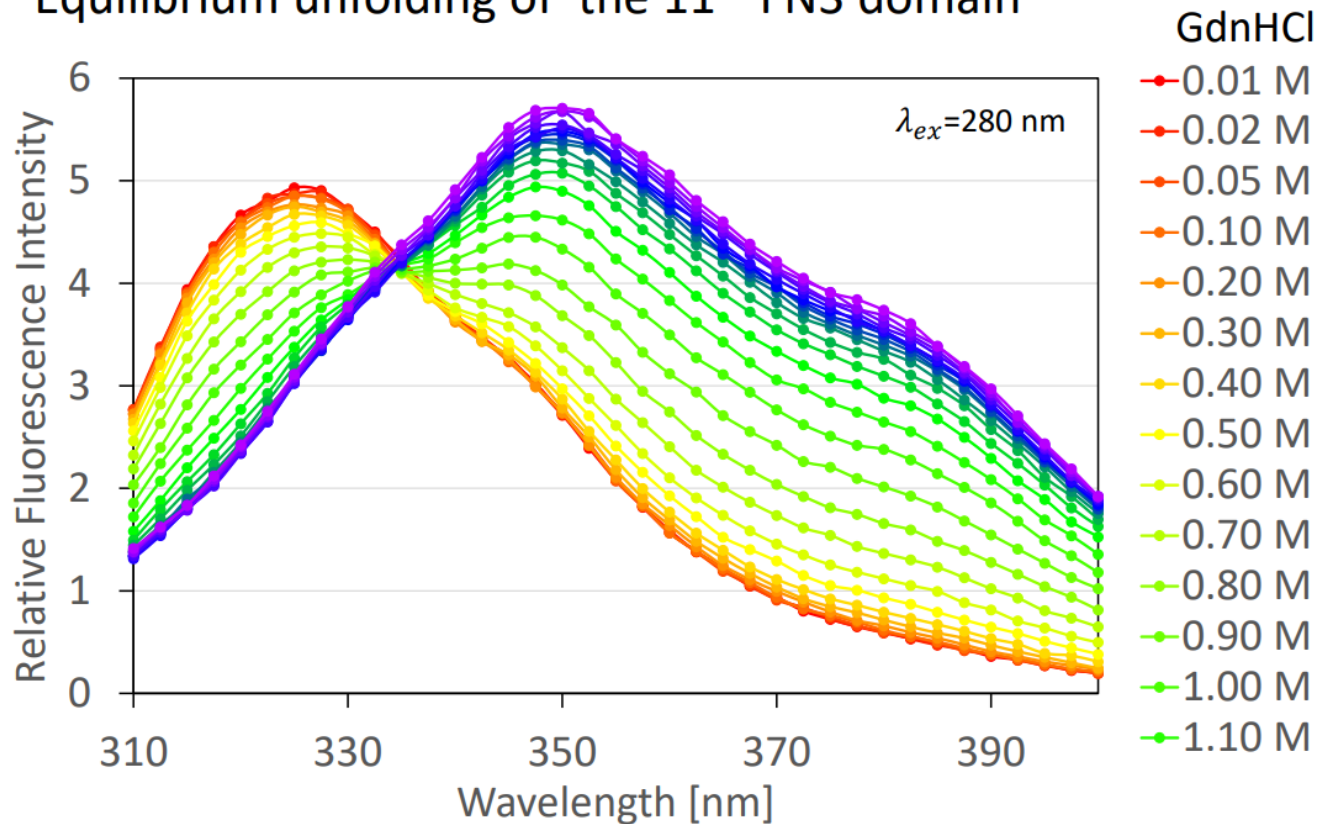


Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Fluorescent intensity and wavelength
can change with solvent:

Application to protein folding:

Equilibrium unfolding of the 11th FN3 domain

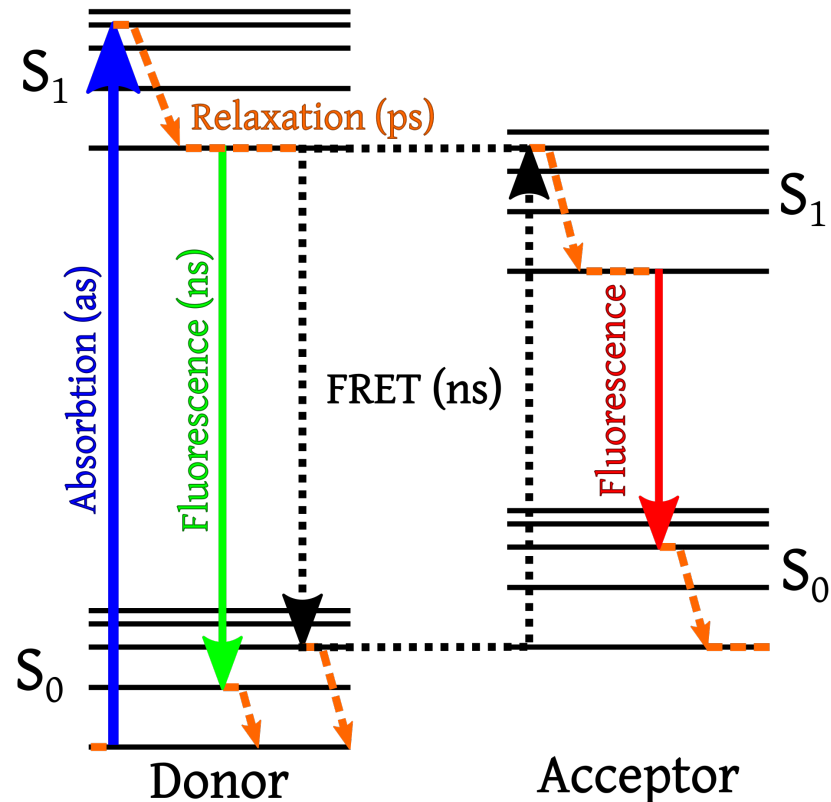


Credits: Klara Briknarova

Förster resonance energy transfer (FRET)

Förster resonance energy transfer (FRET) is the process of energy transfer between two chromophores, a donor and receptor chromophore using nonradiative dipole-dipole coupling.

The donor, which has an electron in the excited state, can transfer a portion of the electron's energy to an acceptor chromophore. This process is on the nanosecond time scale, and does not involve the radiation of a photon. The process requires the two molecules to be close in space, and the efficiency of this energy transfer is inversely proportional to the sixth power of the distance (10-100 Å) between donor and acceptor, making FRET extremely sensitive to small changes in distance.



Förster resonance energy transfer (FRET)

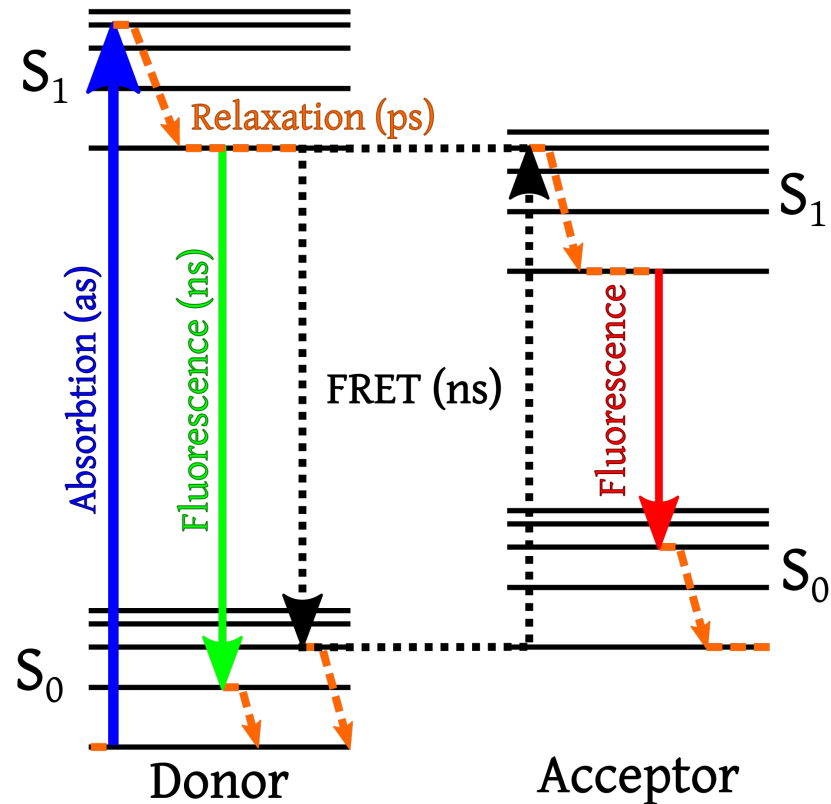
The absorption spectrum of the acceptor must overlap the fluorescence emission spectrum of the donor, and the efficiency of the transfer depends on the donor-acceptor orientation.

$$E = 1 - \frac{F_{DA}}{F_D}$$

Fluorescence intensity of the donor in the presence of acceptor

Fluorescence intensity of the donor in the absence of acceptor

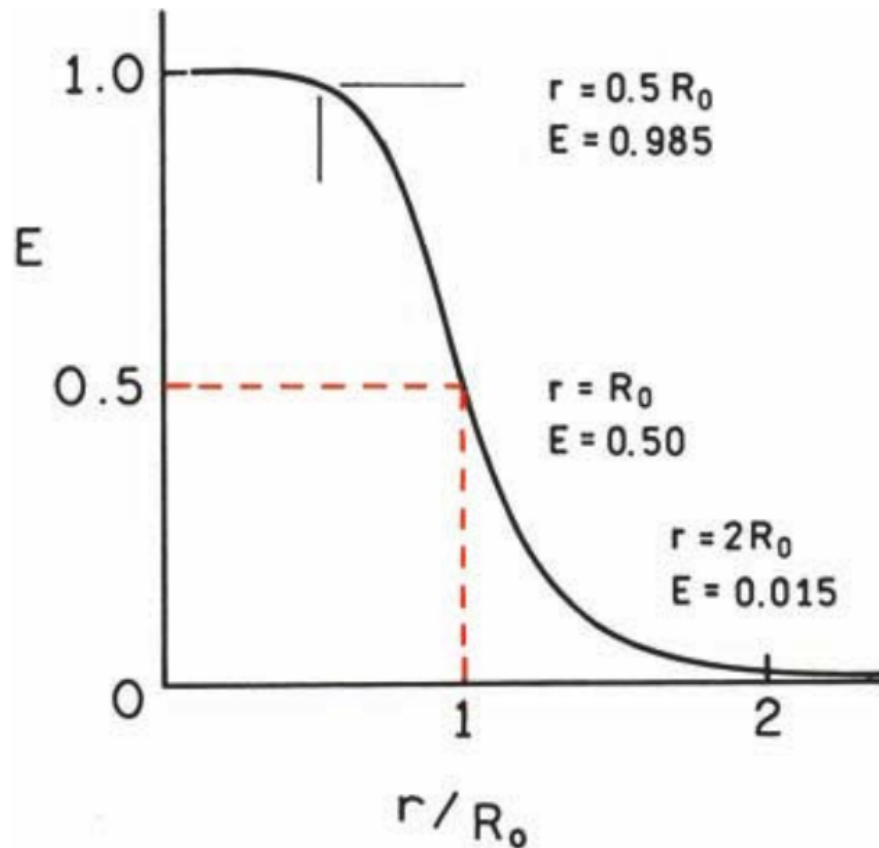
The efficiency (E) of the transfer is the fraction of photons absorbed by the donor which are transferred to the acceptor.



Fluorescence Spectroscopy

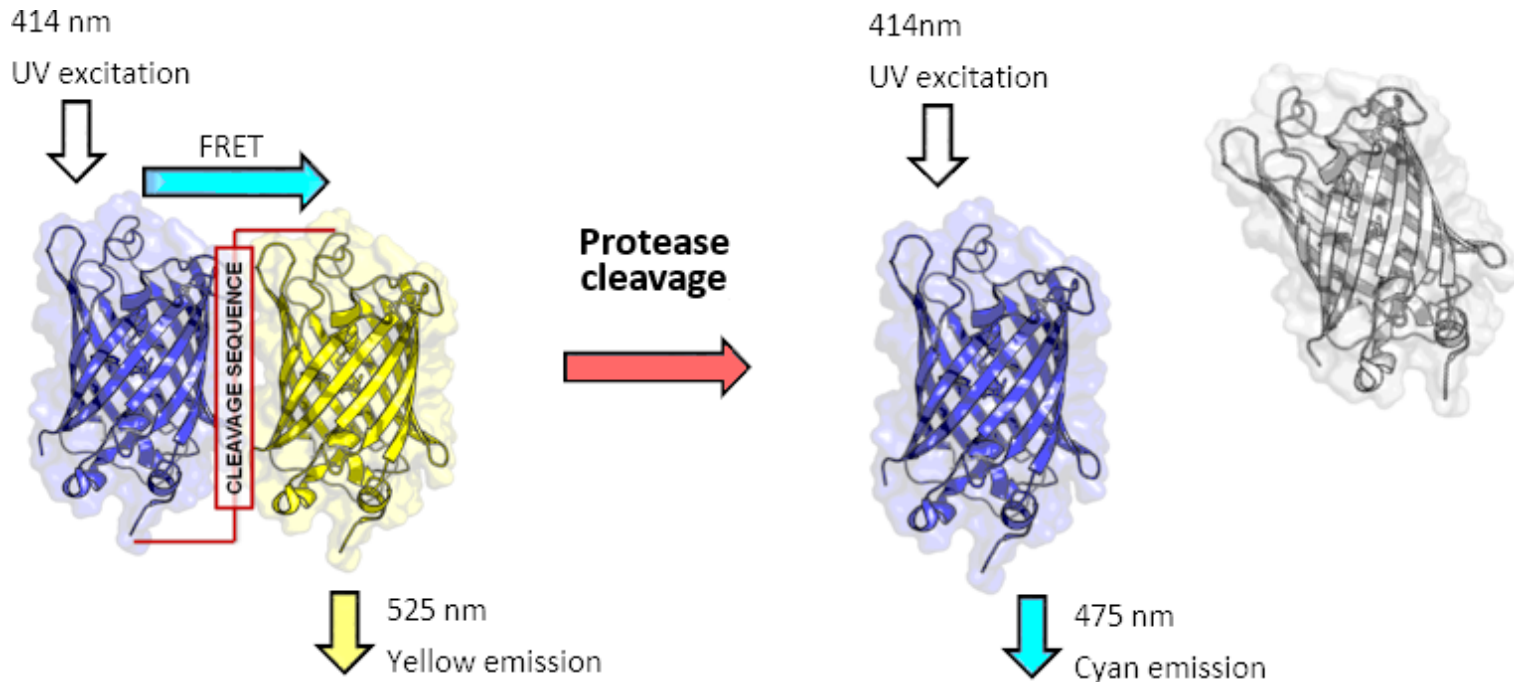
Förster distance (R_0)

- Distance at which energy transfer is 50% efficient



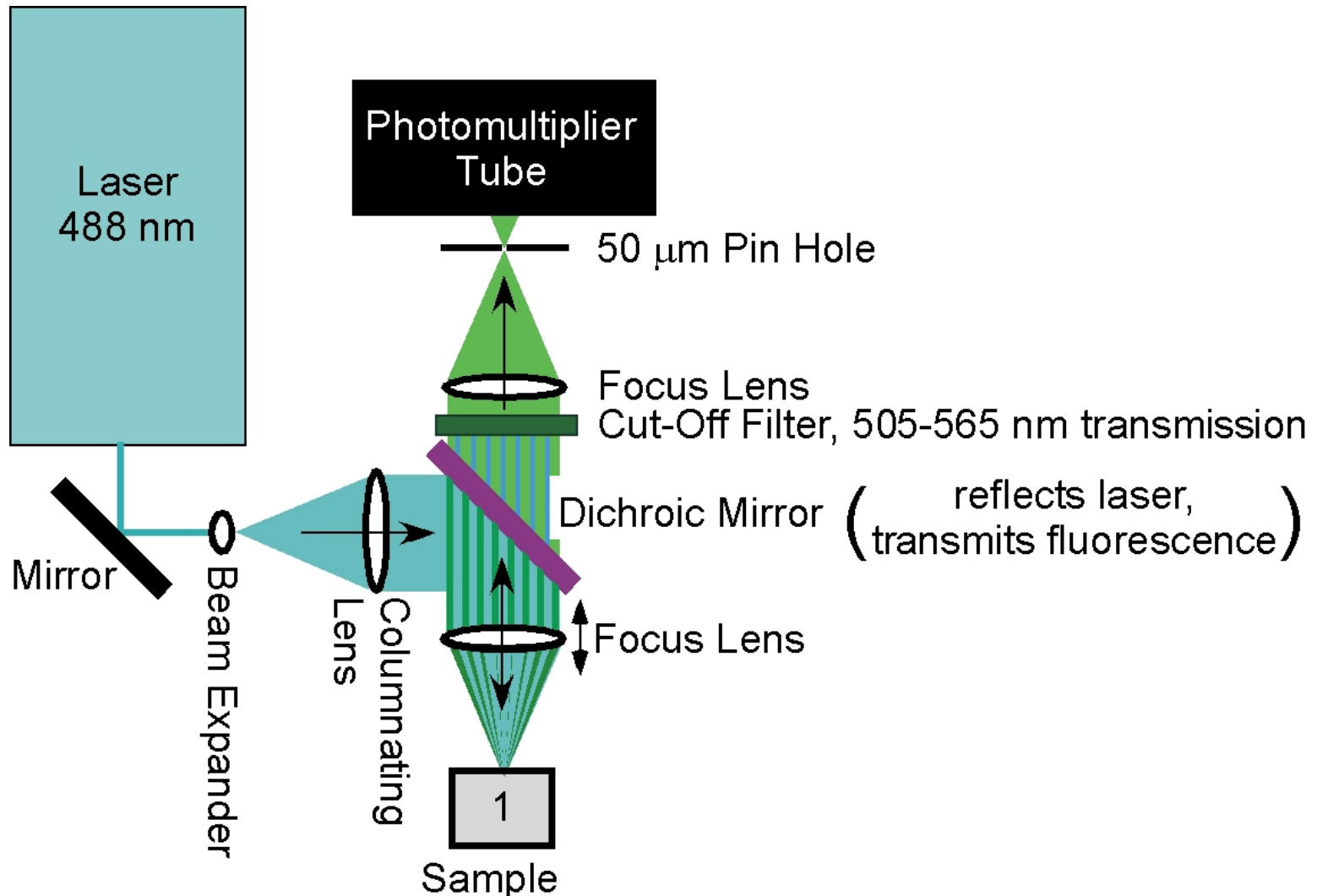
$$E = \frac{R_0^6}{R_0^6 + r^6}$$

Förster resonance energy transfer (FRET)

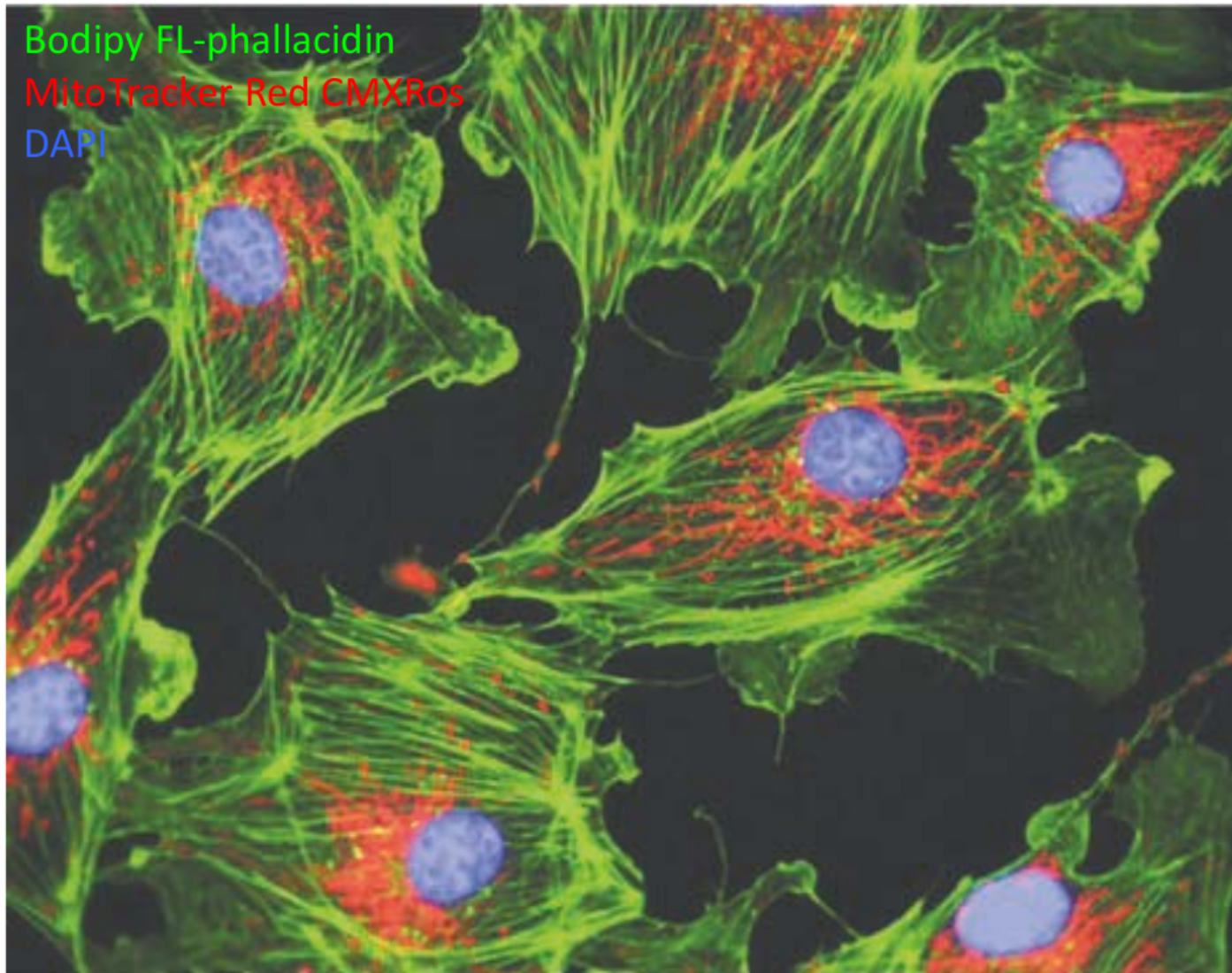


As seen in the Jablonski diagram, some of the donor photon's energy is dissipated on the picosecond time scale through rotational/vibrational relaxation before energy transfer occurs, which causes the emitted fluorescence to be of longer wavelength/lower energy than the absorbed photon in the donor chromophore.

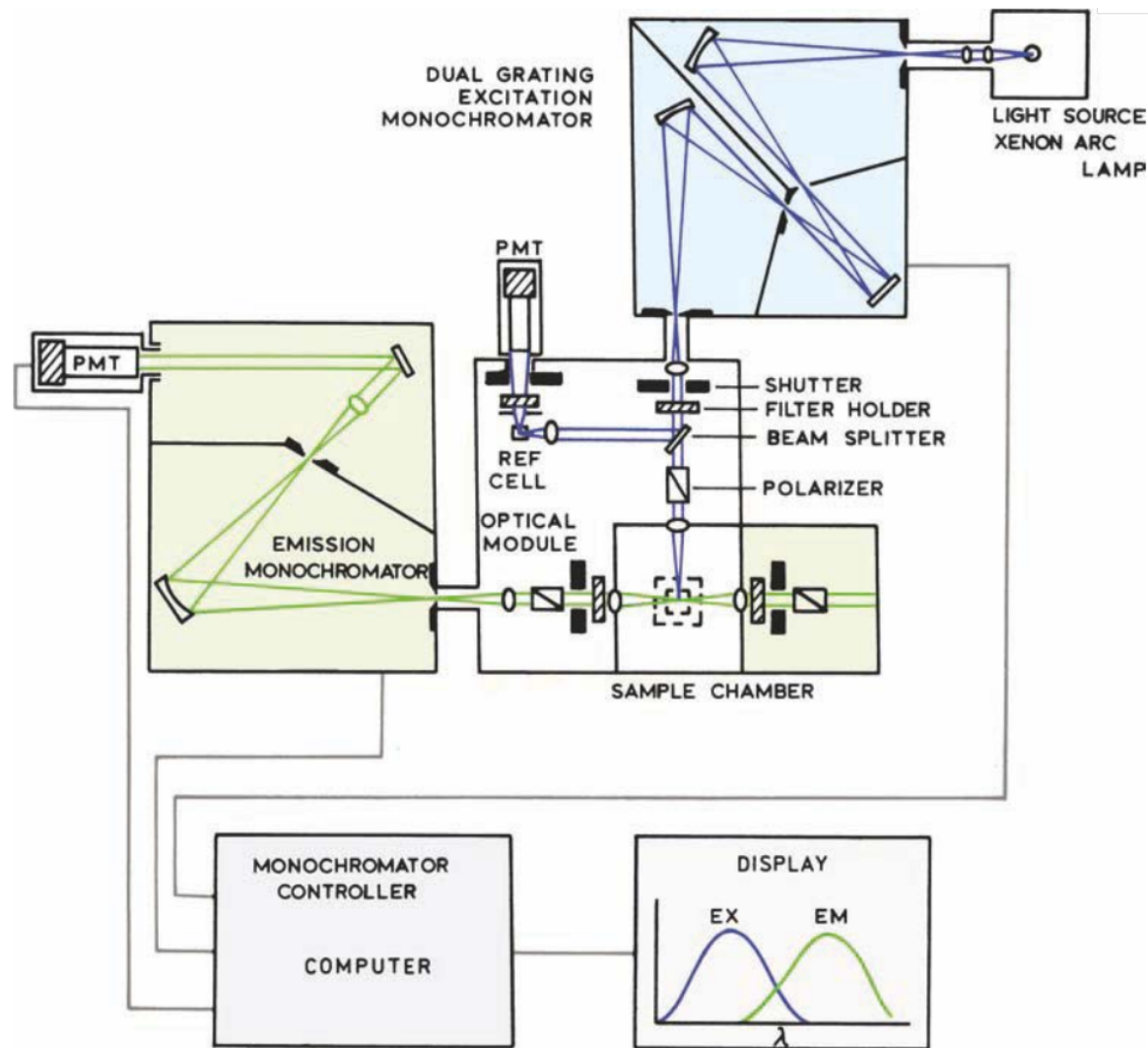
Confocal Microscope Setup



Confocal Microscopy



Spectrofluorometer



Lakowicz, J.R. Principles of Fluorescence Spectroscopy, 3rd edition, 2006, Springer

Plate Reader:

