

Towan Nöthling

Chris
Engelbrecht
summer school
Lecture 3



Overview of quantum mechanics in biological systems

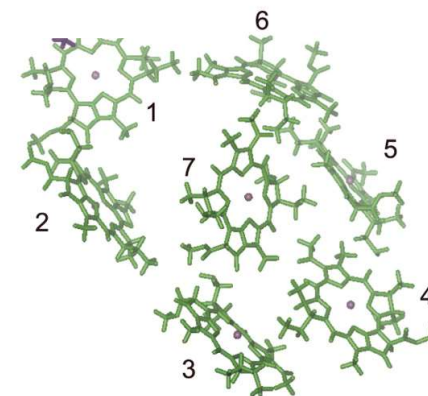
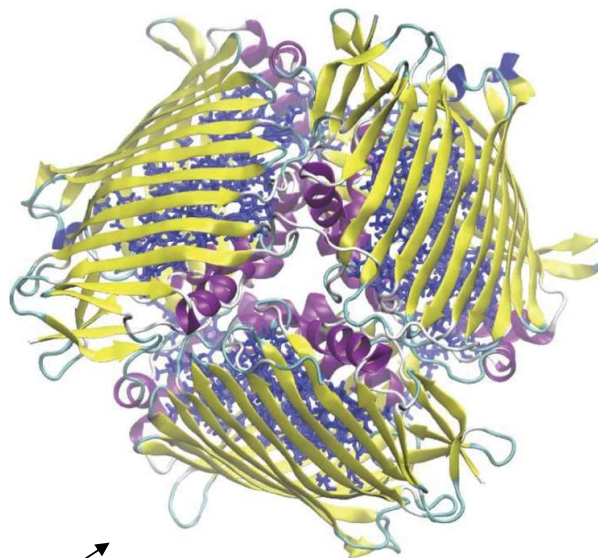
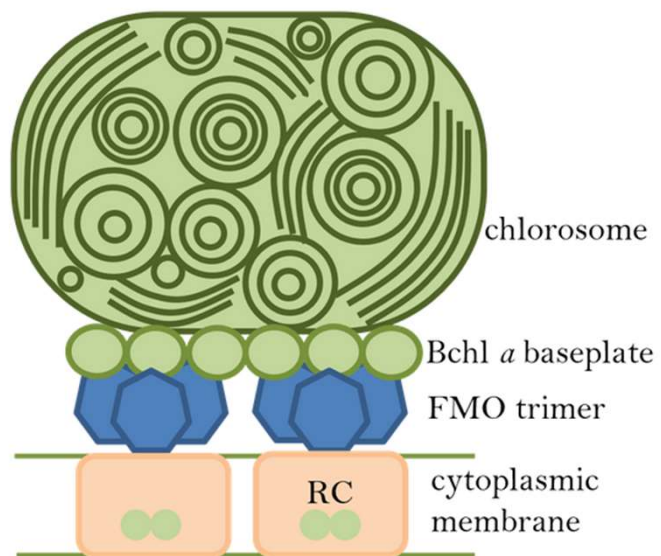
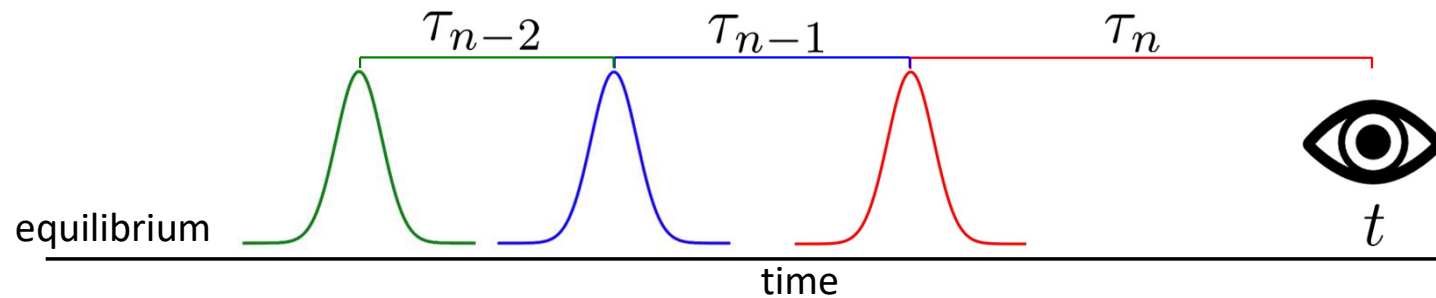


Figure credit: Jia, X., Mei, Y., Zhang, J. *et al. Sci Rep* **5**, 17096 (2015). CC BY 4.0

QM of linear response

$$P^{(n)}(t) = \int_0^\infty d\tau_n \int_0^\infty d\tau_{n-1} \dots \int_0^\infty d\tau_1 \mathcal{R}^{(n)}(\tau_n, \tau_{n-1}, \dots, \tau_1) \boxed{E(t-\tau_n)} \boxed{E(t-\tau_n-\tau_{n-1})} \dots \boxed{E(t-\tau_n-\tau_{n-1}-\dots-\tau_1)}$$



$$\mathcal{R}^{(n)}(\tau_n, \tau_{n-1}, \dots, \tau_1) = i^n \text{Tr}[\hat{\mu} \mathcal{U}_{\text{mol}}(\tau_n) \mathcal{V} \mathcal{U}_{\text{mol}}(\tau_{n-1}) \mathcal{V} \dots \mathcal{U}_{\text{mol}}(\tau_1) \mathcal{V} \rho^{\text{eq}}]$$

$$\mathcal{R}^{(1)}(t) = i \text{Tr}[\hat{\mu} \mathcal{U}_{\text{mol}}(t) \mathcal{V} \rho^{\text{eq}}]$$

$$\mathcal{V} \bullet = [\hat{\mu}, \bullet]$$

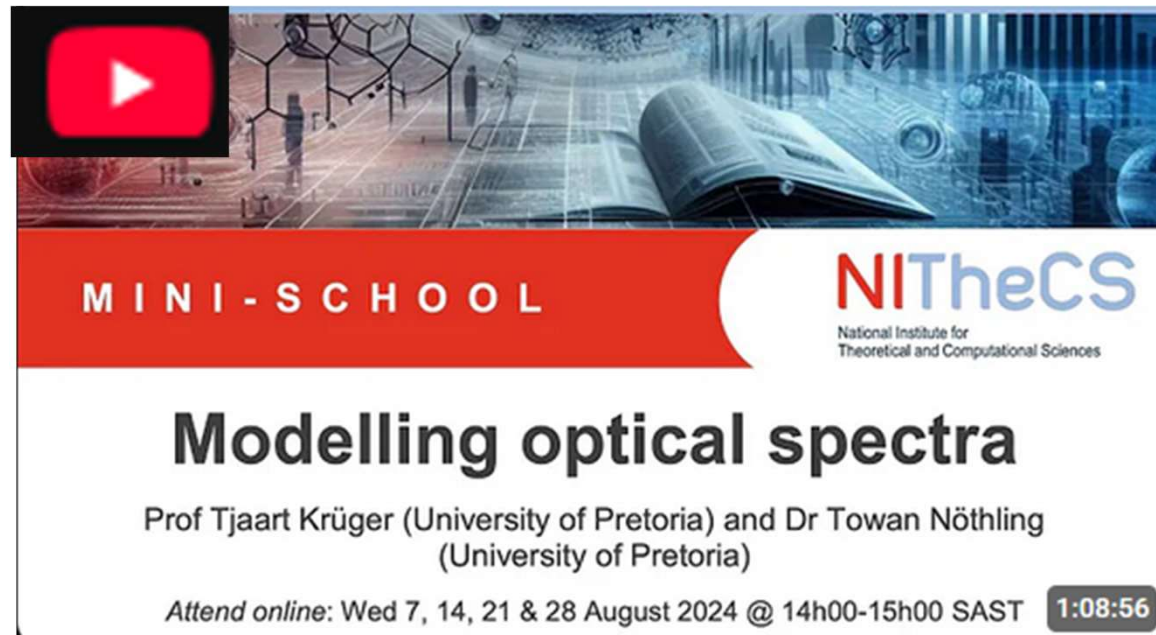
QM of linear response

$$S^A(\omega) \propto 2\text{Re} \int_0^{\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} R^{(1)}(t)$$



QM of linear response

$$S^A(\omega) \propto 2\text{Re} \int_0^\infty dt e^{i\omega t} R^{(1)}(t)$$



The image shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top, there is a red play button icon. Below it, a banner image depicts a futuristic laboratory or office setting with a large open book, a globe, and various scientific instruments. The banner is divided into two sections: a red section on the left with the text 'MINI-SCHOOL' in white, and a white section on the right with the 'NITheCS' logo and the text 'National Institute for Theoretical and Computational Sciences'. Below the banner, the title 'Modelling optical spectra' is displayed in a large, bold, black font. Underneath the title, the names of the speakers are listed: 'Prof Tjaart Krüger (University of Pretoria) and Dr Towan Nöthling (University of Pretoria)'. At the bottom, the text 'Attend online: Wed 7, 14, 21 & 28 August 2024 @ 14h00-15h00 SAST' is shown, followed by a dark grey button with the text '1:08:56' in white.

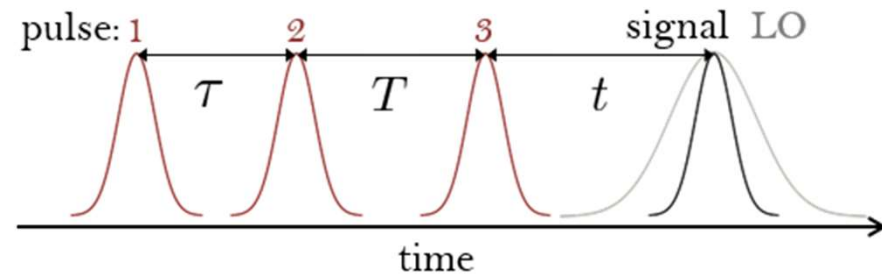
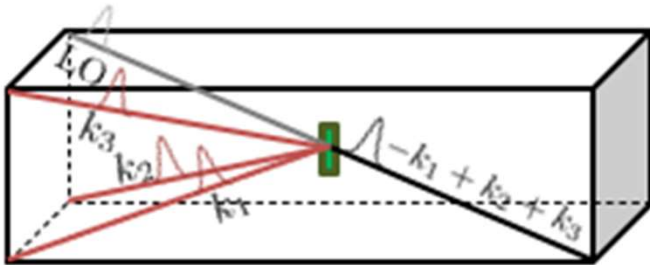
MINI-SCHOOL

NITheCS
National Institute for
Theoretical and Computational Sciences

Modelling optical spectra

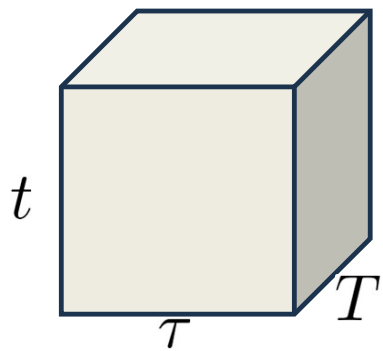
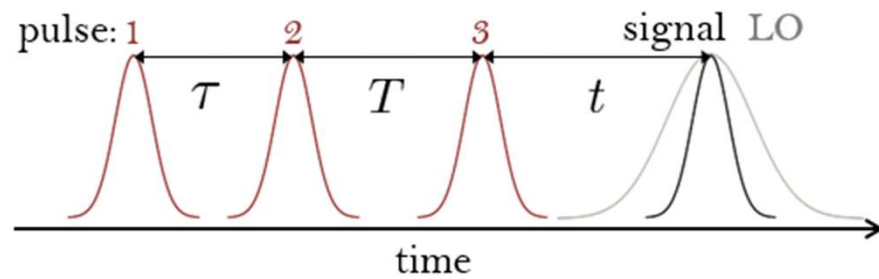
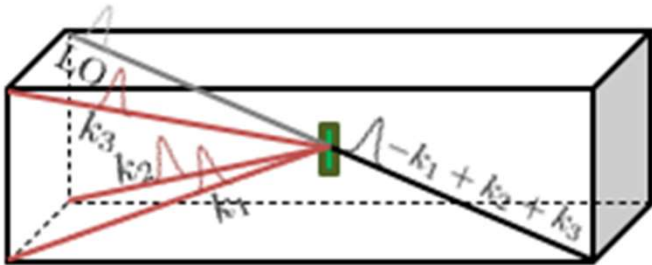
Prof Tjaart Krüger (University of Pretoria) and Dr Towan Nöthling
(University of Pretoria)

Attend online: Wed 7, 14, 21 & 28 August 2024 @ 14h00-15h00 SAST **1:08:56**

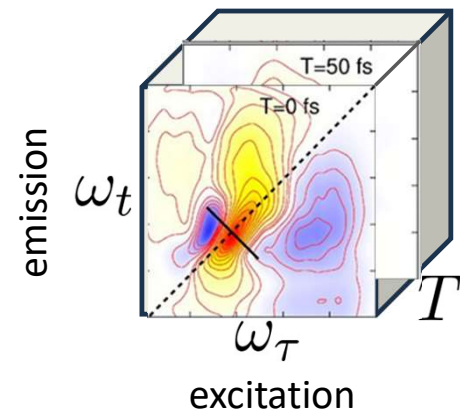


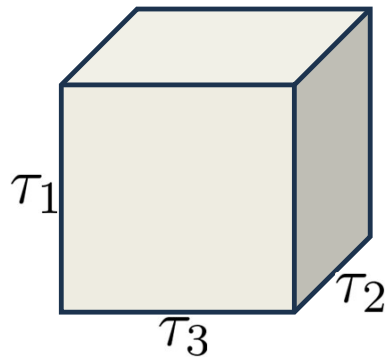
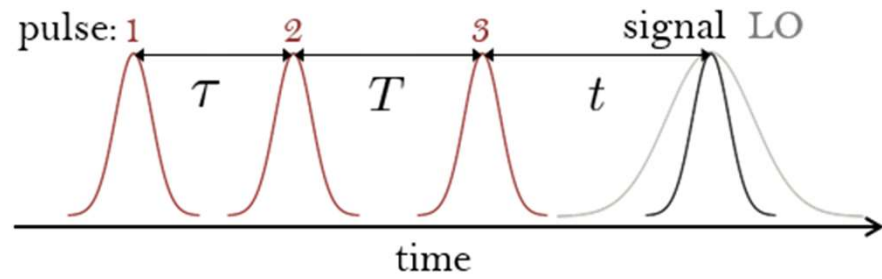
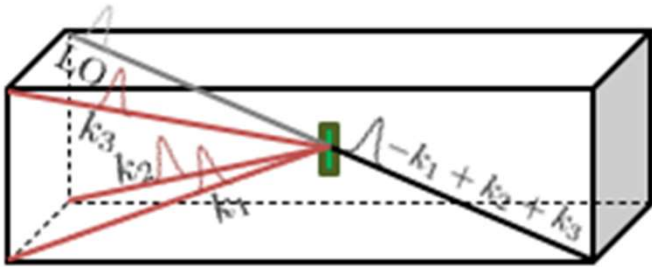
2D-electronic spectroscopy

(third order linear spectroscopy)

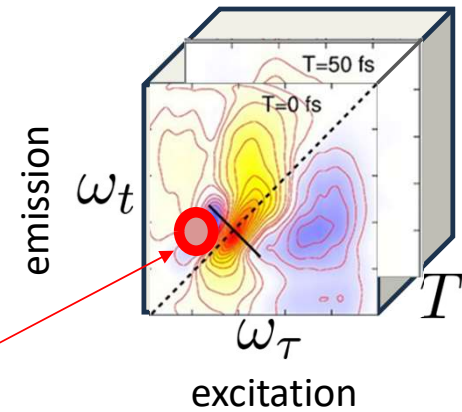


FT over τ and t 

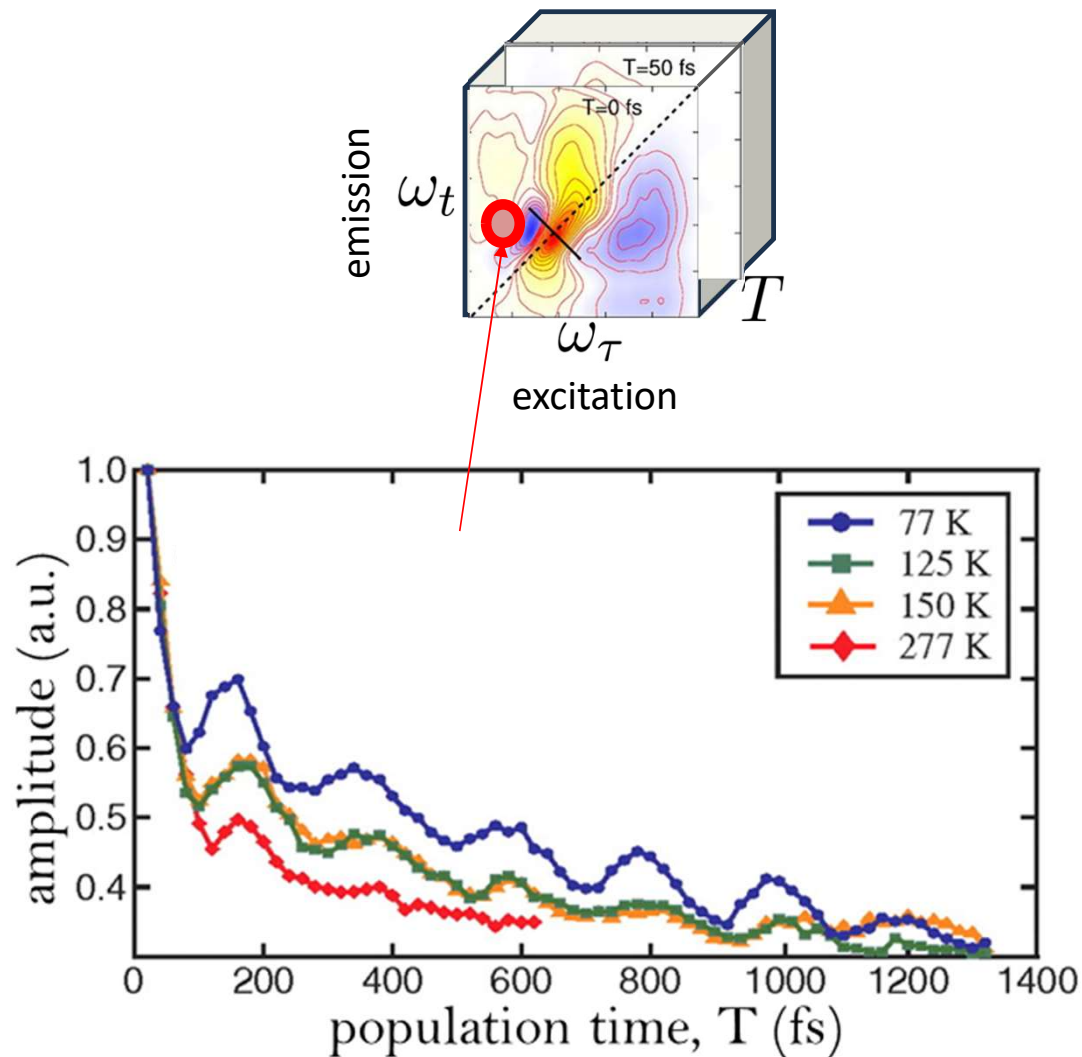




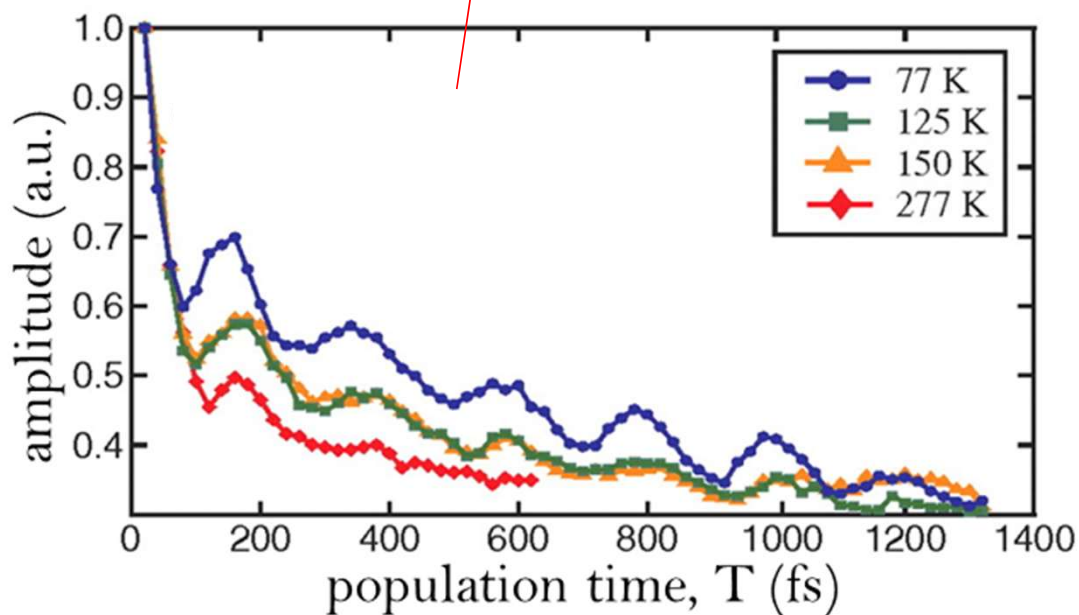
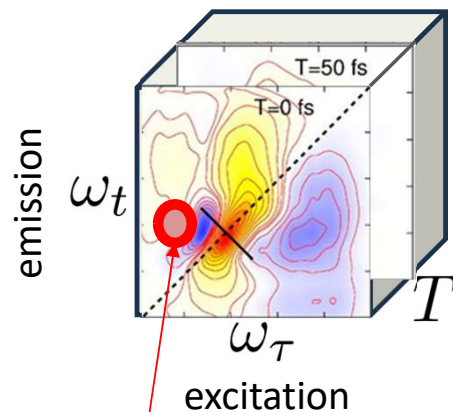
FT over τ and t



coherence between
different exciton states

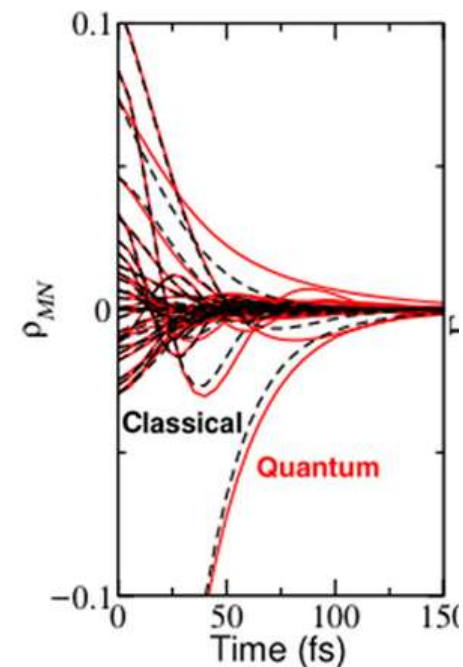


coherence last for longer than what is expected for electronic coherence between exciton states .

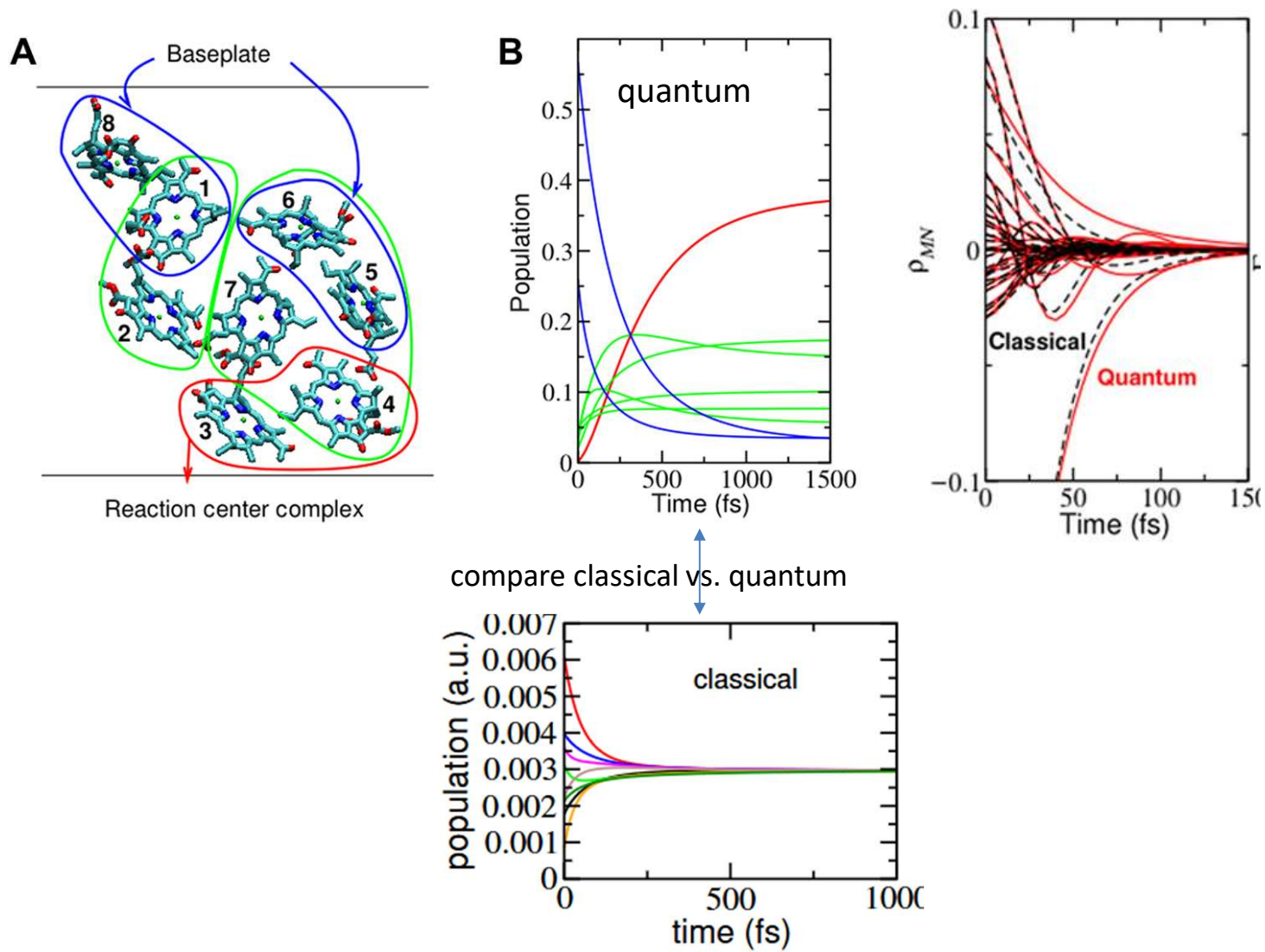


Panitchayangkoon *et al.* Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 107(29). PNAS licence

coherence last for longer than what is expected from simulations.



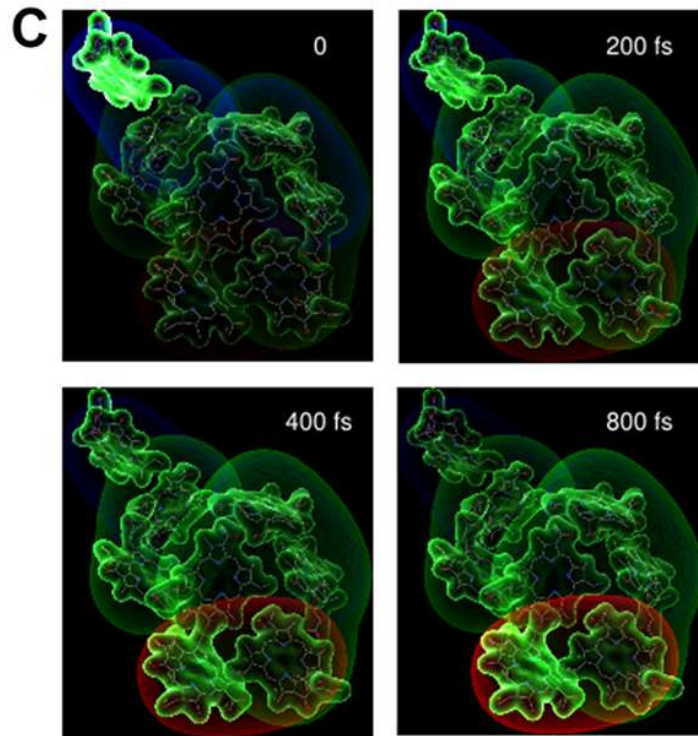
Cao *et al.* 2020. *Science Advances* 6(14) CC BY-NC 4.0.



Figures from Cao *et al.* 2020. *Science Advances* 6(14). CC BY-NC 4.0.

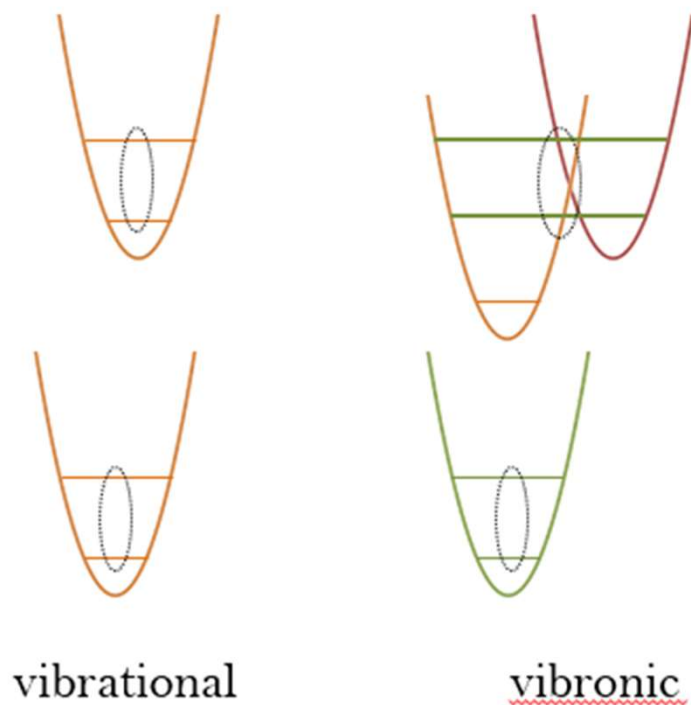


Cao *et al.* 2020. *Science Advances* 6(14). CC BY-NC 4.0.



In photosynthesis, the interaction between pigments and the coupling to the bath is fine-tuned.

Reviews: Cao *et al.* 2020. *Science Advances* 6(14)
Fleming *et al.* 2012. *Faraday Discuss* 155.



Dephasing of coherence in these models are slow, because the two vibrational levels are **on the same pigment** and therefore couple to the same bath.

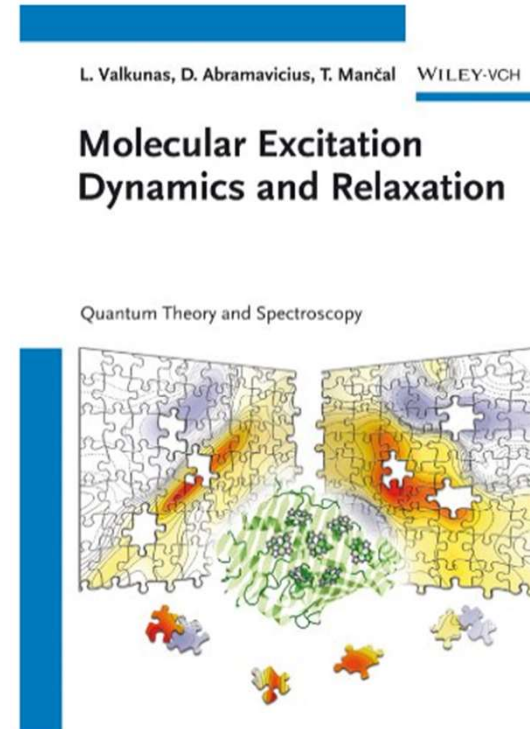
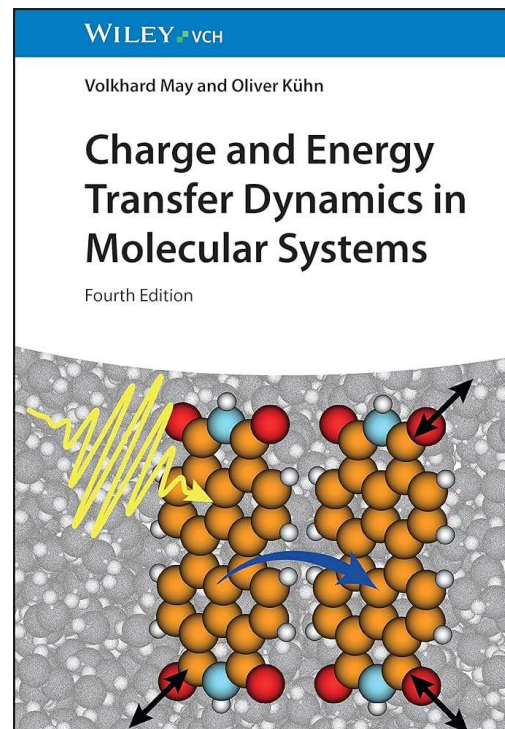
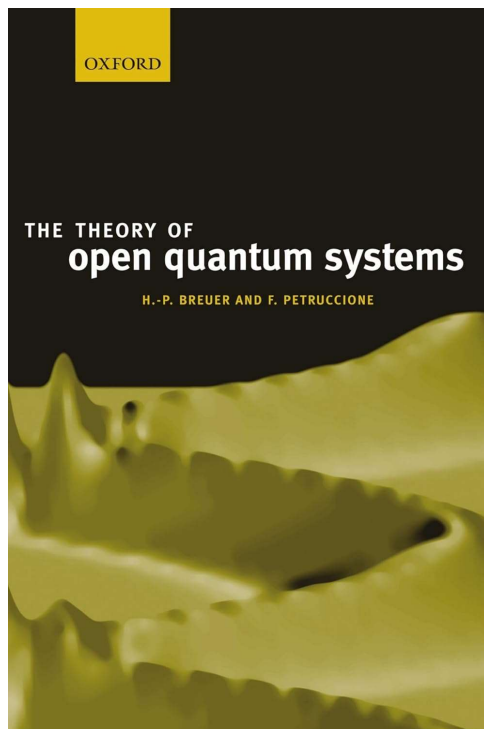
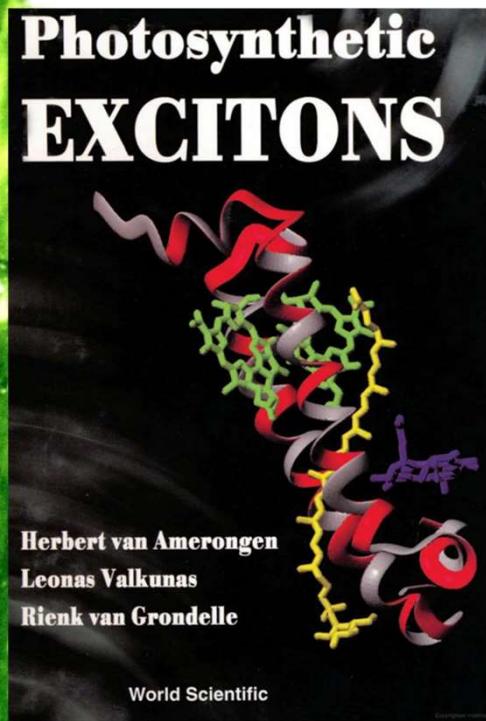
ground-state vibrations

{ Maiuri *et al.* 2018. *Nat. Chem.* 10(2)

Vibronic states and role of resonant vibrations in LHCs

{ Malý *et al.* 2016. *ChemPhysChem*, 17(9)
Dean *et al.* 2016, *Chem*, 1(6)

Resources



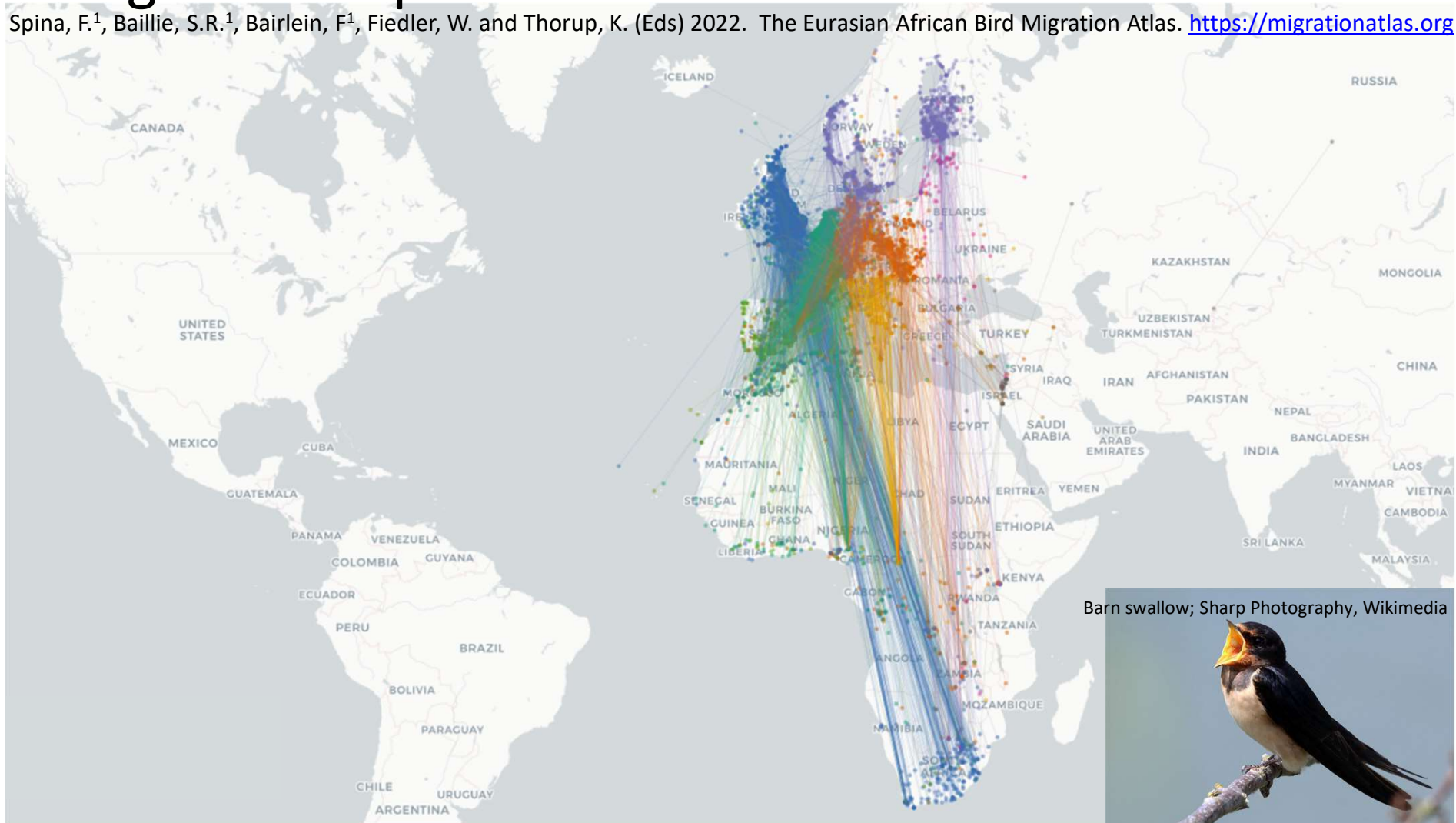


- How birds (may) know where to go
- How we (may) smell
- How our enzymes (may) keep us alive
- How we (may) think

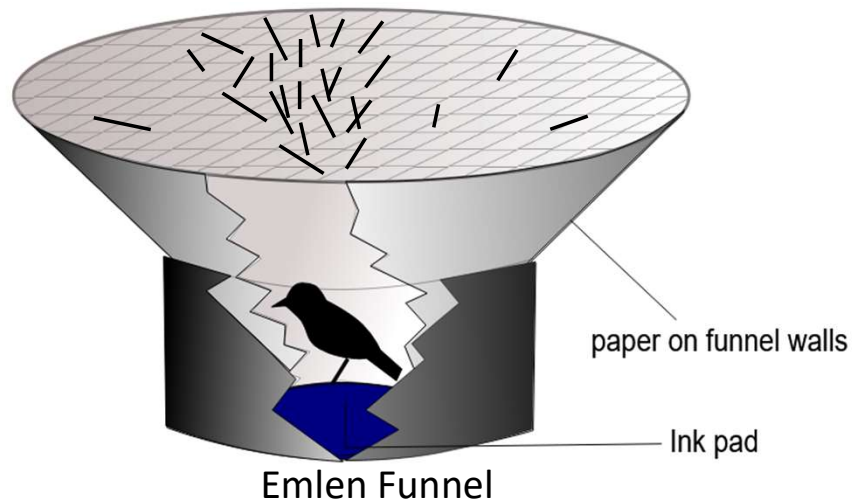
or maybe not...

Magnetoreception in Birds

Spina, F.¹, Baillie, S.R.¹, Bairlein, F.¹, Fiedler, W. and Thorup, K. (Eds) 2022. The Eurasian African Bird Migration Atlas. <https://migrationatlas.org>



Magnetoreception in Birds



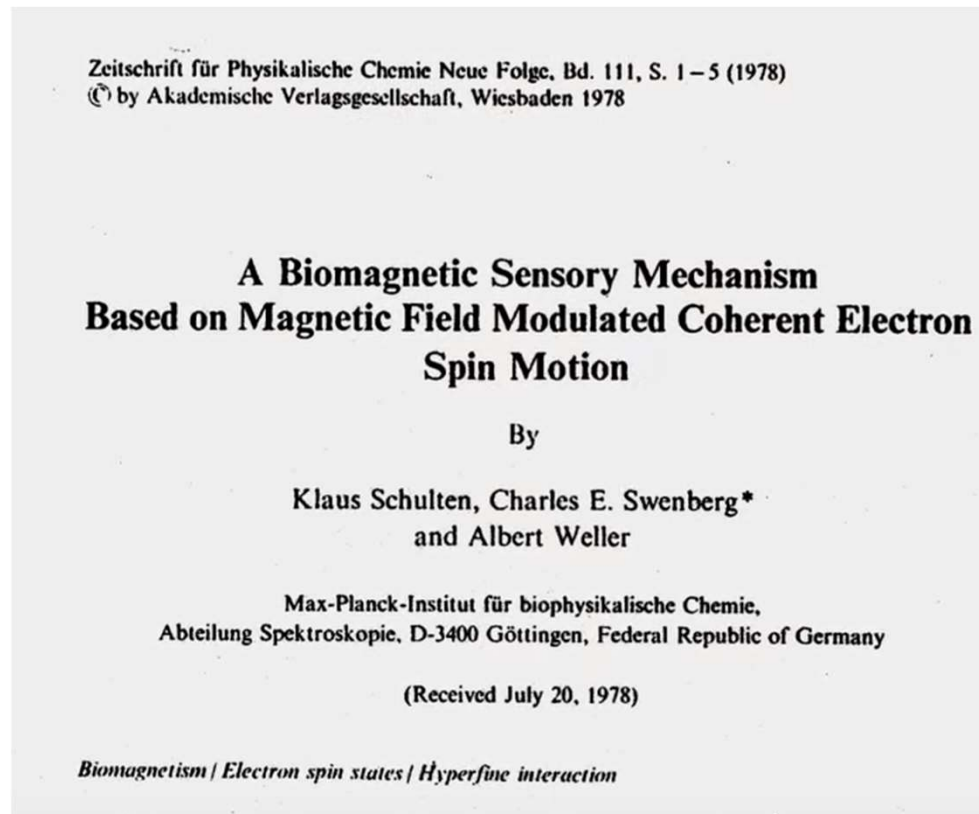
Poor sense of direction



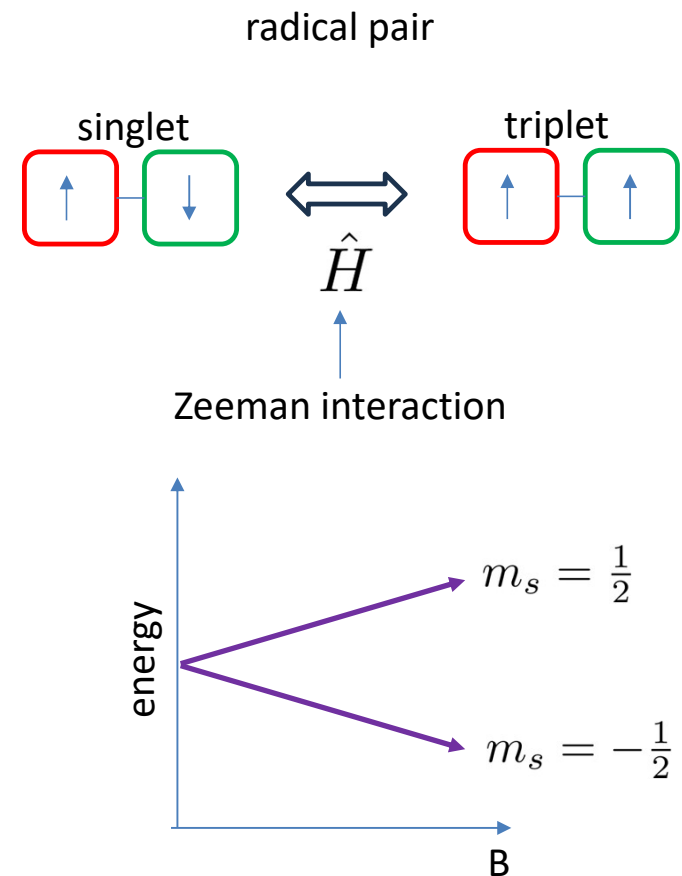
Good sense of direction

Engels, S. *et al.* Nature 509. 2014

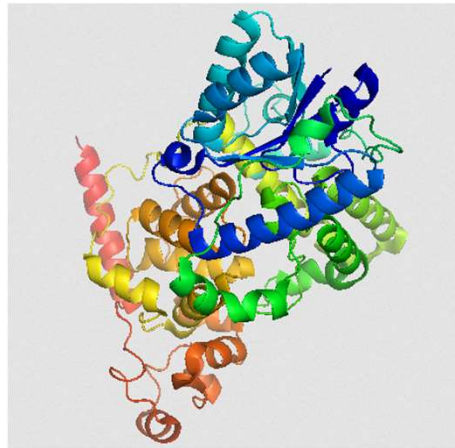
Magnetoreception in Birds



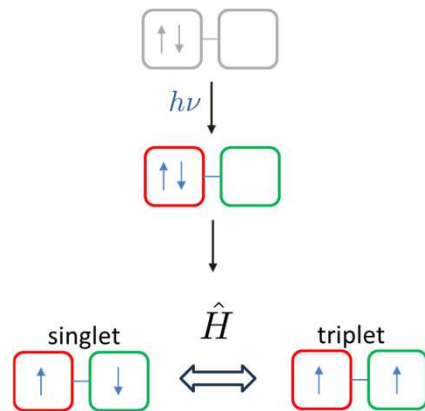
Review: Wiltschko *et al.* *J. R. Soc. Interface* 16. 2019



Magnetoreception in Birds



Cryptochrome 4 (CRY4)



Article

Magnetic sensitivity of cryptochrome 4 from a migratory songbird

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03618-9>

Received: 17 July 2019

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Published online: 23 June 2021

Check for updates

Jingjing Xu¹, Lauren E. Jarocho², Tilo Zollitsch², Marcin Konowalczyk³, Kevin B. Henbest^{2,3}, Sabine Richert⁴, Matthew J. Golesworthy³, Jessica Schmidt¹, Victoire Déjean³, Daniel J. C. Sowood², Marco Bassetto^{1,2}, Jiatae Luo², Jessica R. Walton², Jessica Fleming², Yujing Wei², Tommy L. Pitcher³, Gabriel Moise³, Maike Herrmann¹, Hang Yin⁵, Haijia Wu⁶, Rabea Bartölke¹, Stefanie J. Käsehagen¹, Simon Horst¹, Glen Dautaj¹, Patrick D. F. Murton², Angela S. Gehrckens², Yogarany Chelliah^{7,8}, Joseph S. Takahashi^{7,8}, Karl-Wilhelm Koch^{6,9}, Stefan Weber⁴, Ilia A. Solov'yov^{9,10}, Can Xie^{11,12}, Stuart R. Mackenzie², Christiane R. Timmel^{3,13}, Henrik Mouritsen^{1,9} & P. J. Hore²

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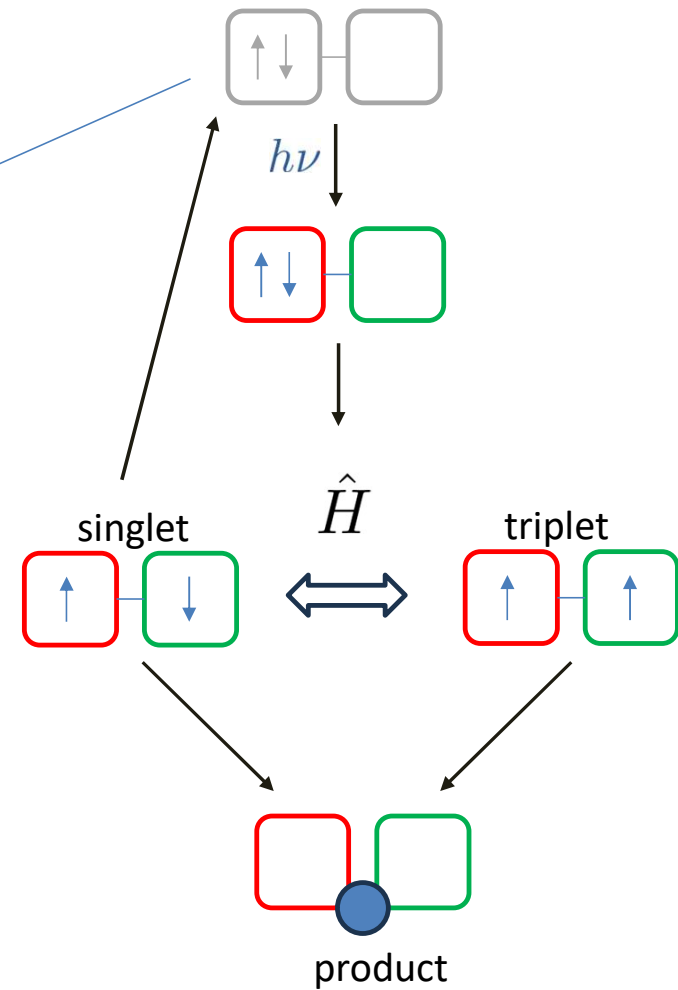
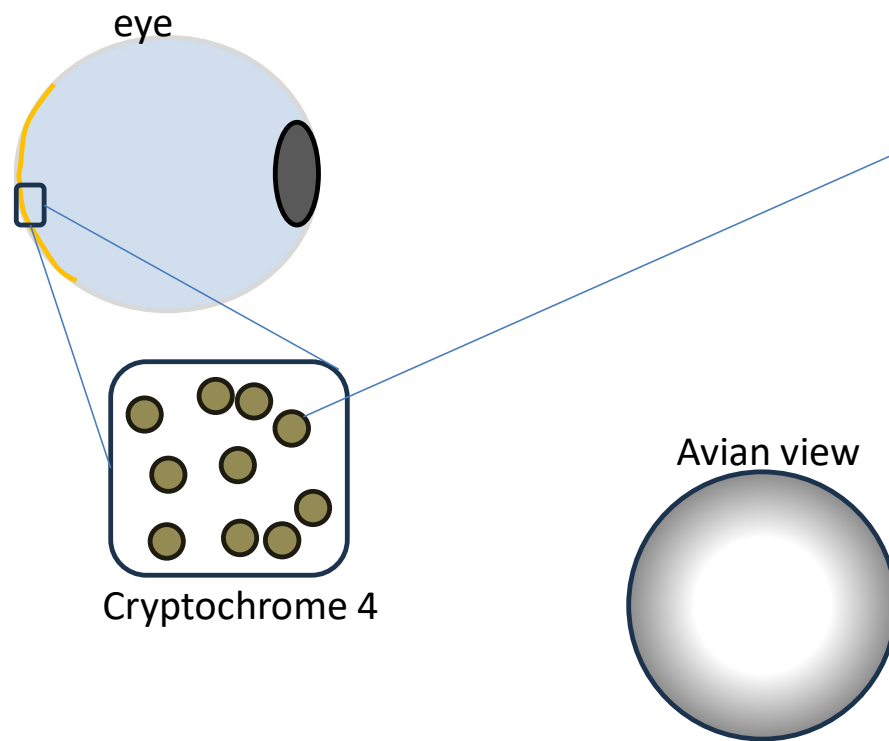
(CRY4) sensitive



(CRY4) less sensitive

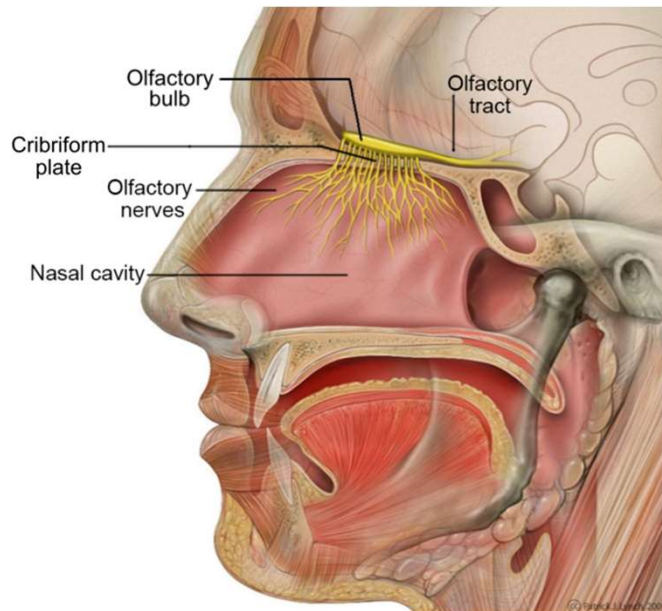
Review: Wiltschko *et al.* *J. R. Soc. Interface* 16. 2019

Magnetoreception in Birds



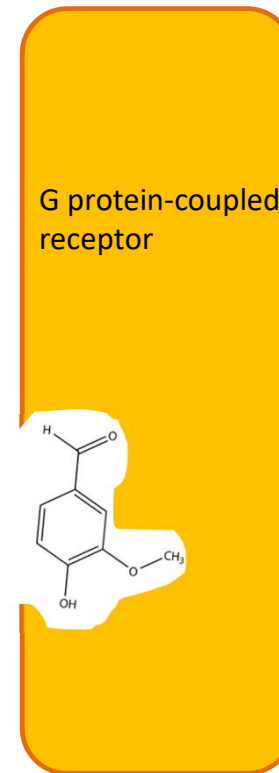
Review: Wiltschko *et al.* *J. R. Soc. Interface* 16. 2019

Olfaction



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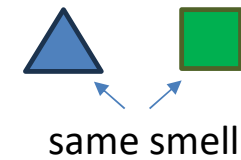
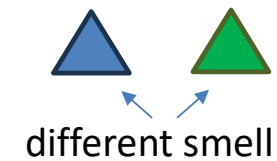
lock and key model
of olfaction



G protein

Problem:

- ~390 types of receptors
- we can smell ~10 000 smells!



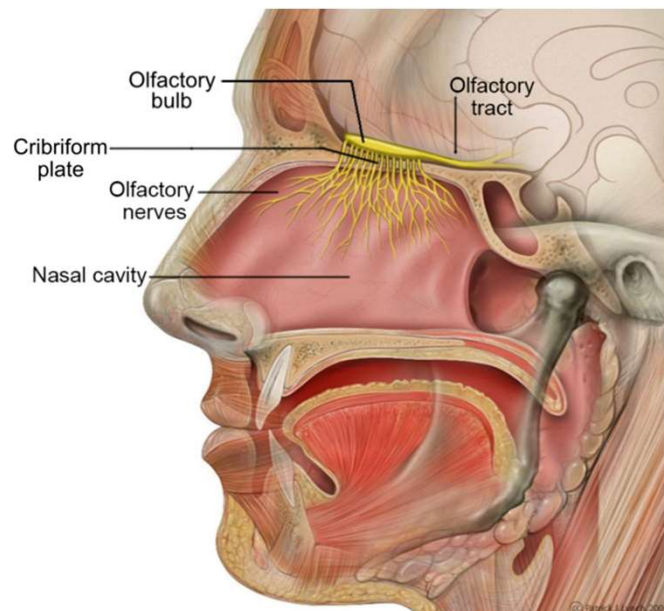
You Use Quantum Physics to Smell



Domain of Science ✓
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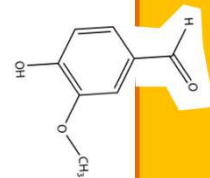
Olfaction



Patrick J. Lynch CC

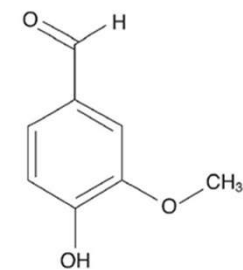
partial lock and key
model

G protein-coupled
receptor

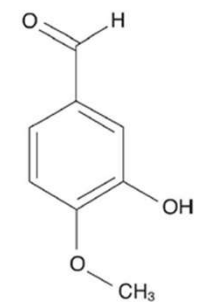


Problem:

- Different arrangements of functional groups smell differently

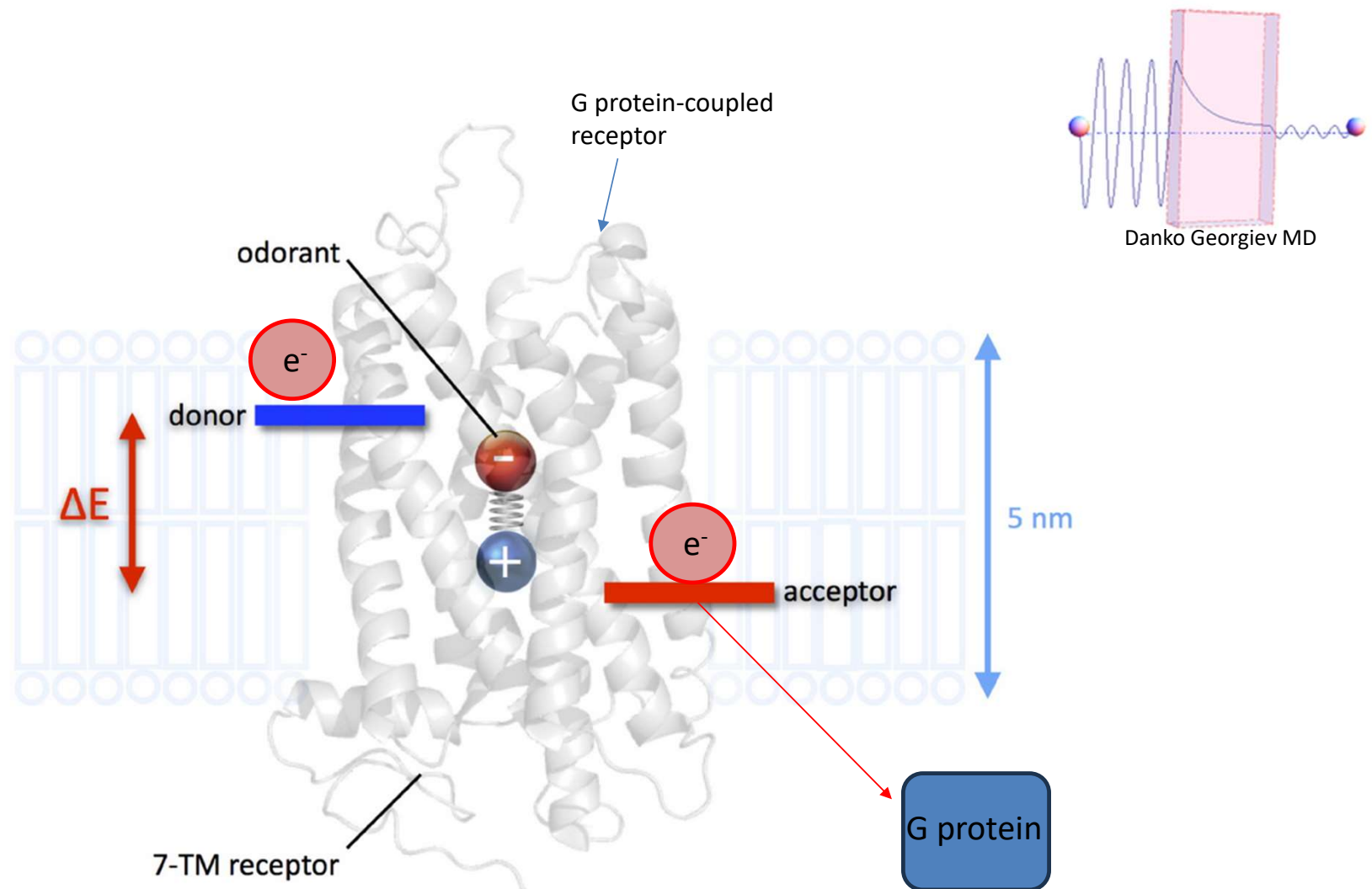


Vanillin



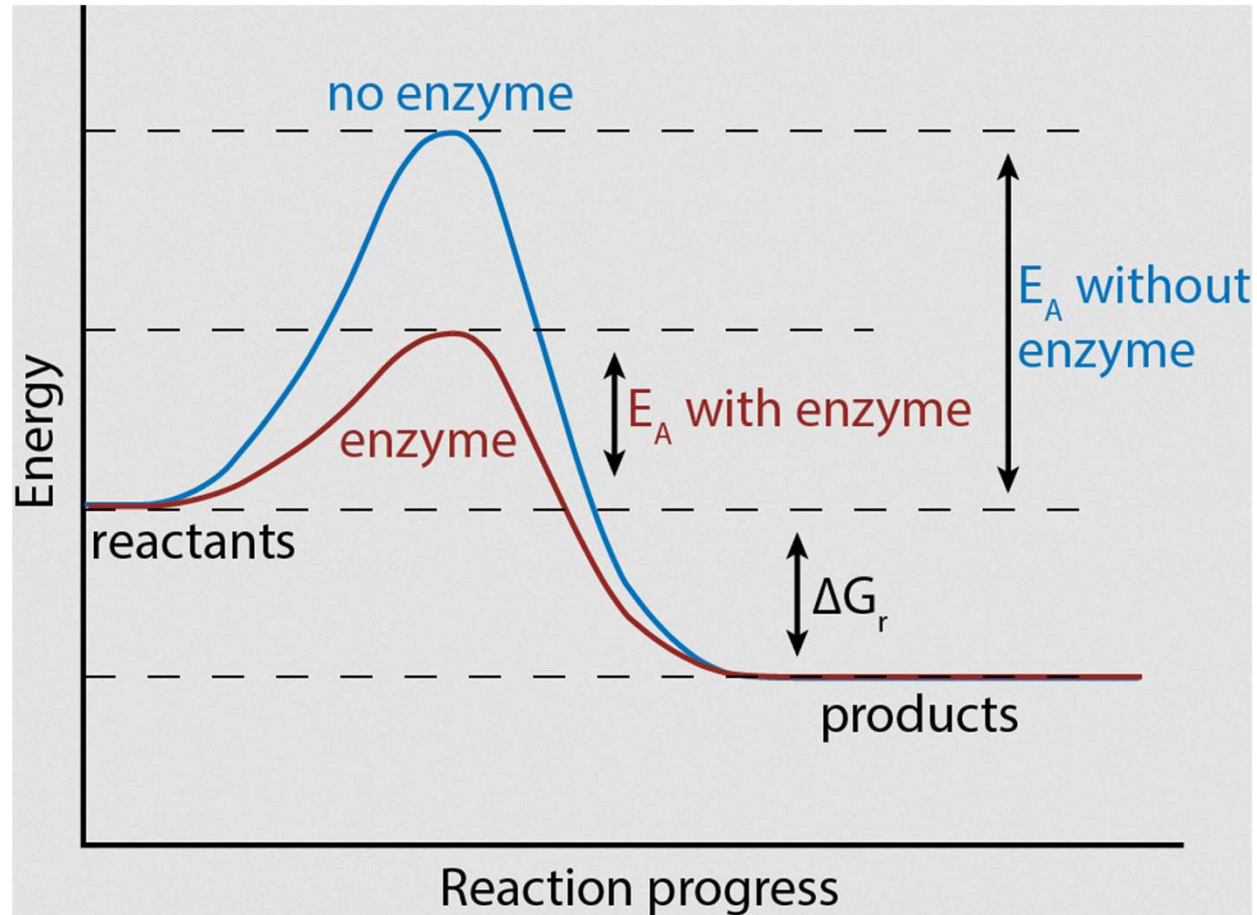
Isovanillin

Olfaction



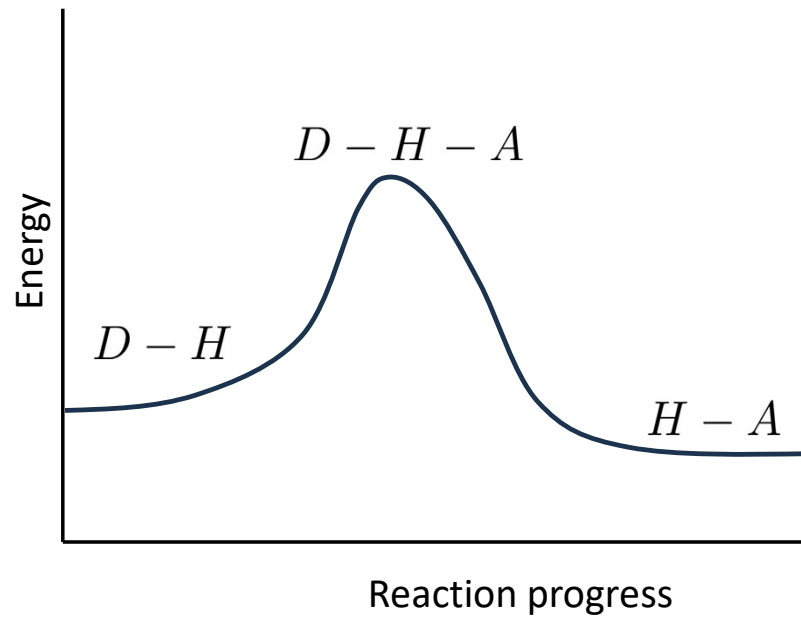
Adapted from Horsfield *et al. Advances in Physics: X*. 2017.

Enzyme function



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Enzyme function

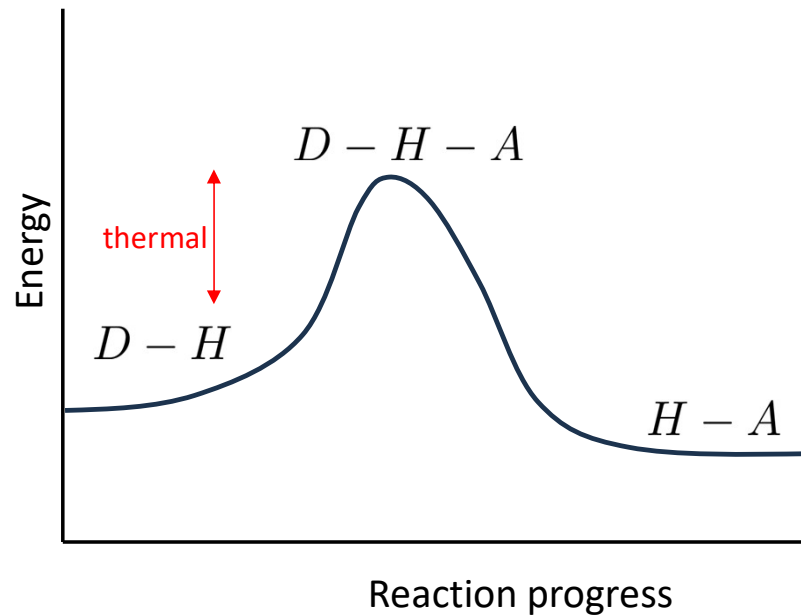


Hydrogen-transfer enzymes

- Replacing hydrogen with deuterium slows the reaction down much more than would be expected classically.

Review of H-tunnelling in enzymes: Klinman and Kohen. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013.

Enzyme function

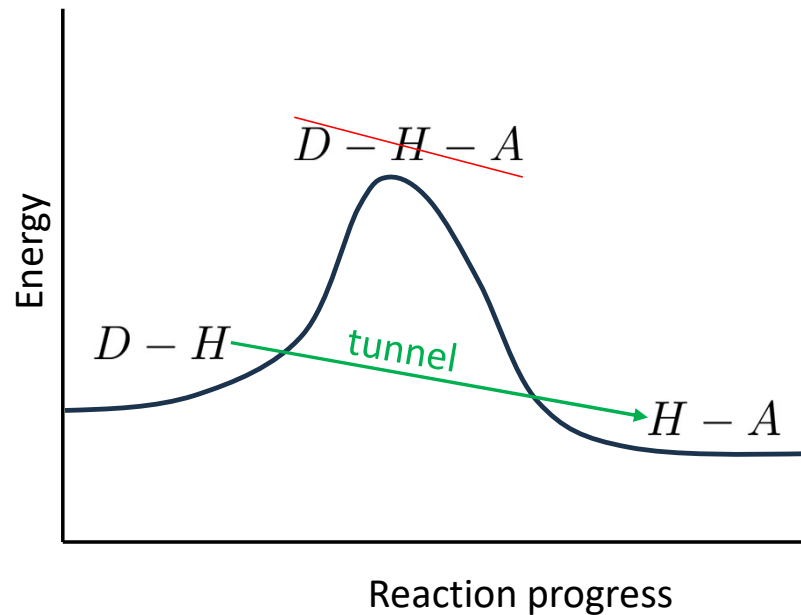


Hydrogen-transfer enzymes

- Replacing hydrogen with deuterium slows the reaction down much more than would be expected classically.
- At very low temperatures, the reaction still takes place. Thermal energy can therefore not be the only way to cross the energy barrier.

Review of H-tunnelling in enzymes: Klinman and Kohen. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013.

Enzyme function



Hydrogen-transfer enzymes

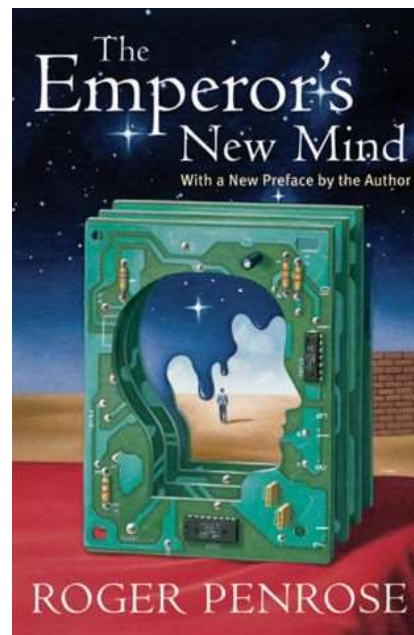
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Review of H-tunnelling in enzymes: Klinman and Kohen. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013.

QM in brain

Orchestrated Objective Reduction (Orch-OR) theory

Developed by Roger Penrose and Stuart Hameroff



1989

Review: Hameroff and Penrose. *Physics of Life Reviews* 11(1). 2014.



QM in brain

Orchestrated Objective Reduction (Orch-OR) theory

Developed by Roger Penrose and Stuart Hameroff

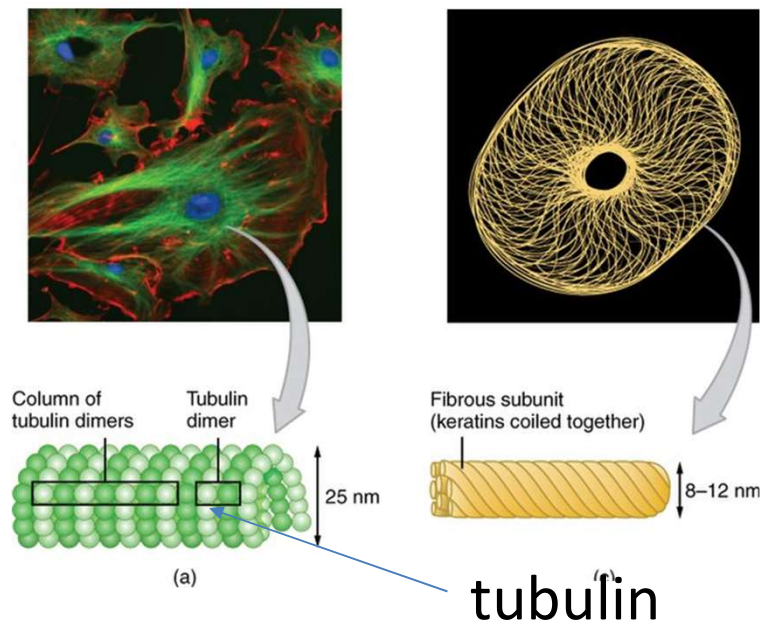
- Based on the believe that Gödel's incompleteness theorems imply that the human brain is not just a sophisticated computer, i.e., consciousness is not purely computational.
- They suggest that quantum collapse (which cannot be predicted with certainty) are integral to consciousness.
- Quantum processes in the brain are orchestrated by structures in the neurons

Review: Hameroff and Penrose. *Physics of Life Reviews* 11(1). 2014.

QM in brain

Orchestrated Objective Reduction (Orch-OR) theory

OpenStax, CC BY SA 4.0, wikimedia



- Tubulin proteins can be in different configurations (like qubits).
- Quantum coherence exist between different tubulin proteins and lasts long enough for quantum computation.
- Quantum collapse is objective and the brain can control how and when it occurs (e.g., when enough mass or energy is involved).

Review: Hameroff and Penrose. *Physics of Life Reviews* 11(1). 2014.

QM in brain

Article

Testing the Conjecture That Quantum Processes Create Conscious Experience

Hartmut Neven ^{1,*}, Adam Zalcman ¹, Peter Read ², Kenneth S. Kosik ³, Tjitse van der Molen ³, Dirk Bouwmeester ^{4,5}, Eve Bodnia ⁴, Luca Turin ⁶ and Christof Koch ⁷

¹ Google Quantum AI, Los Angeles, CA 90291, USA; viathor@google.com

² Read Family Foundation, Penn HP10 8LL, UK

³ Neuroscience Research Institute, Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, USA; kosik@lifesci.ucsb.edu (K.S.K.); tjtse@ucsb.edu (T.v.d.M.)

⁴ Department of Physics, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, USA; bouwmeester@ucsb.edu (D.B.); ebodnia@ucsb.edu (E.B.)

⁵ Huygens-Kamerlingh Onnes Laboratory, Leiden University, 2311 EZ Leiden, The Netherlands

⁶ Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences | Biomedical Research, University of Buckingham, Buckingham MK18 1EG, UK; luca.turin@buckingham.ac.uk

⁷ Allen Institute, Seattle, WA 98109, USA; christofk@alleninstitute.org

* Correspondence: neven@google.com

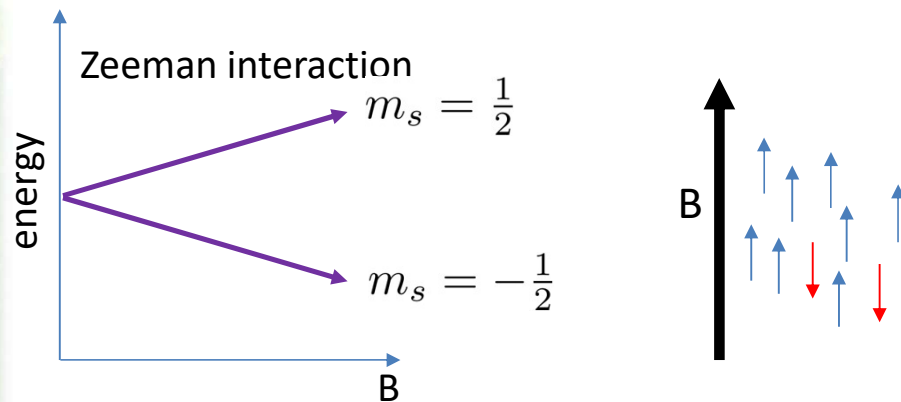


Using quantum mechanics to probe biological systems

Medical imaging

MRI

Discovered by Felix Bloch and Edward Mills Purcell (Nobel prize 1952)



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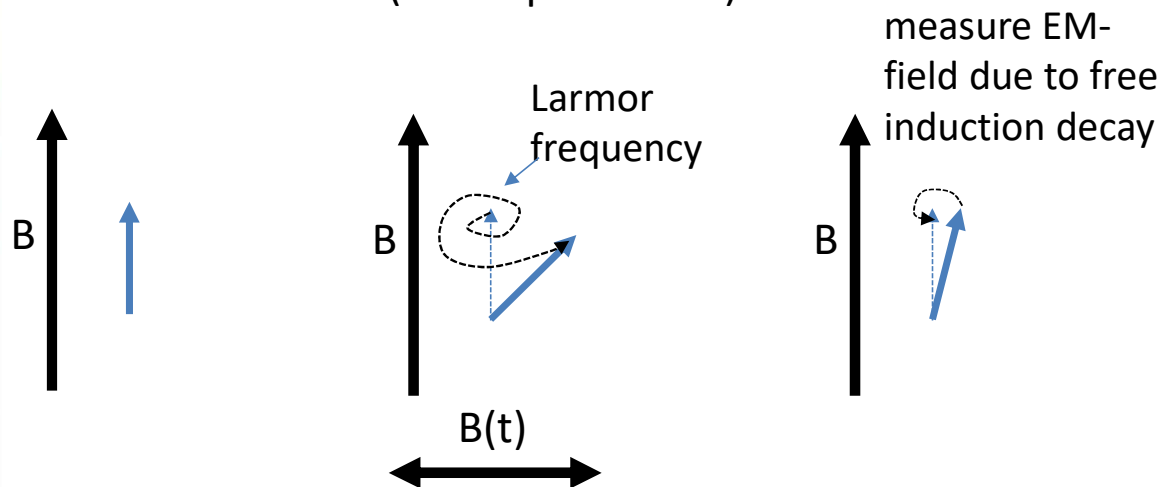


Review: Grover *et al.* J. 2015. *Clin. Exp. Hepatol* 5(3)

Medical imaging

MRI

Discovered by Felix Bloch and Edward Mills Purcell (Nobel prize 1952)



spin-lattice relaxation (T_1)
spin-spin relaxation (T_2)

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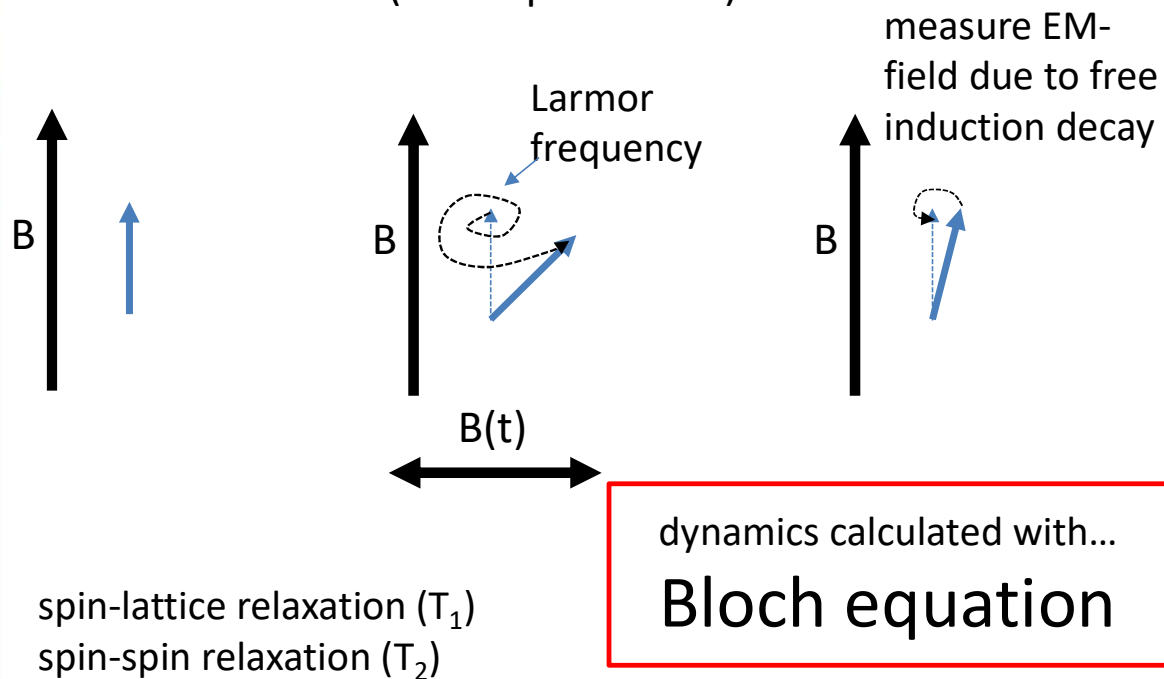


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Medical imaging

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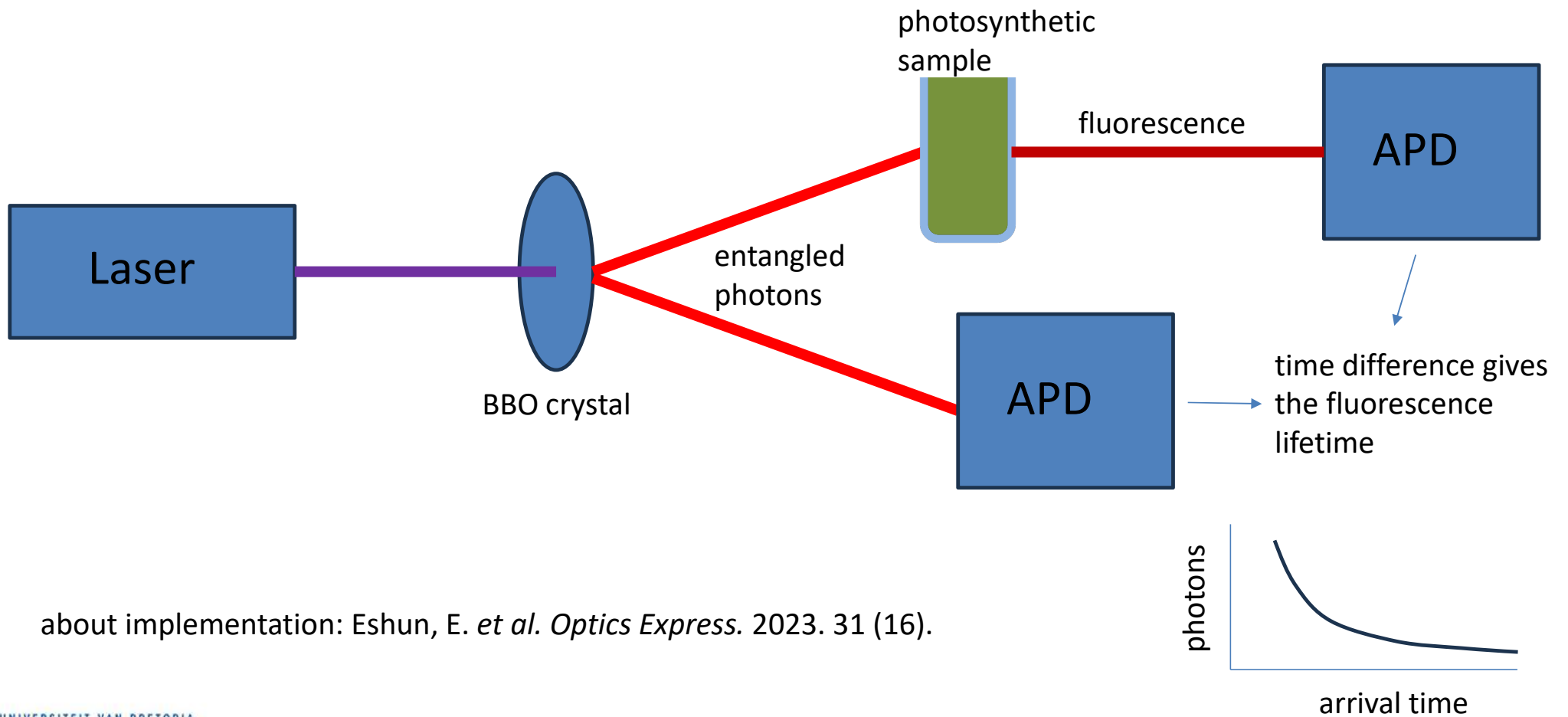


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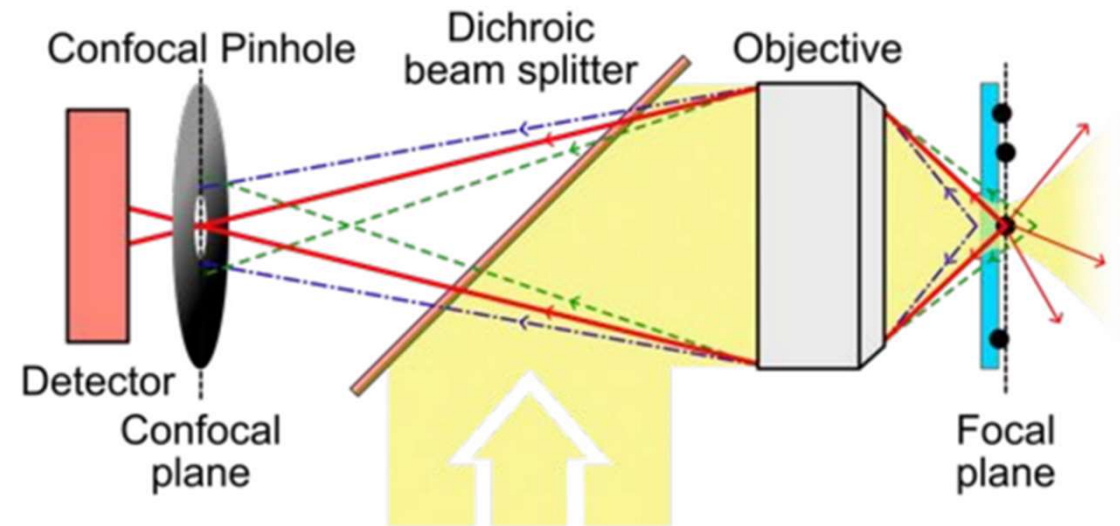
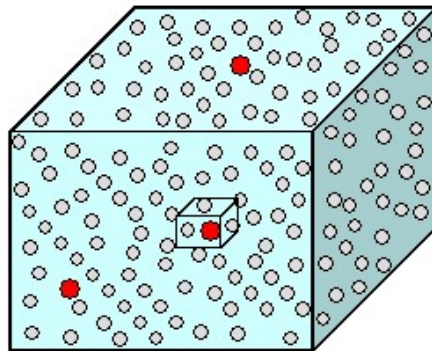


Review: Grover *et al.* J. 2015. Clin. Exp. Hepatol 5(3)

using entangled photons to measure fluorescence lifetimes



Single-molecule spectroscopy

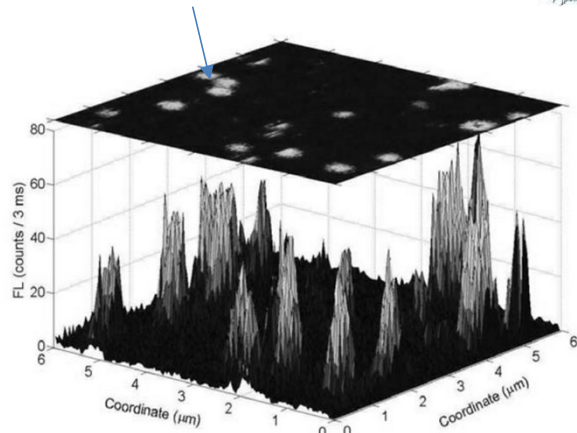
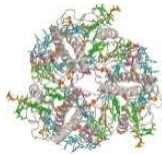


Joshua Botha, MSc. thesis

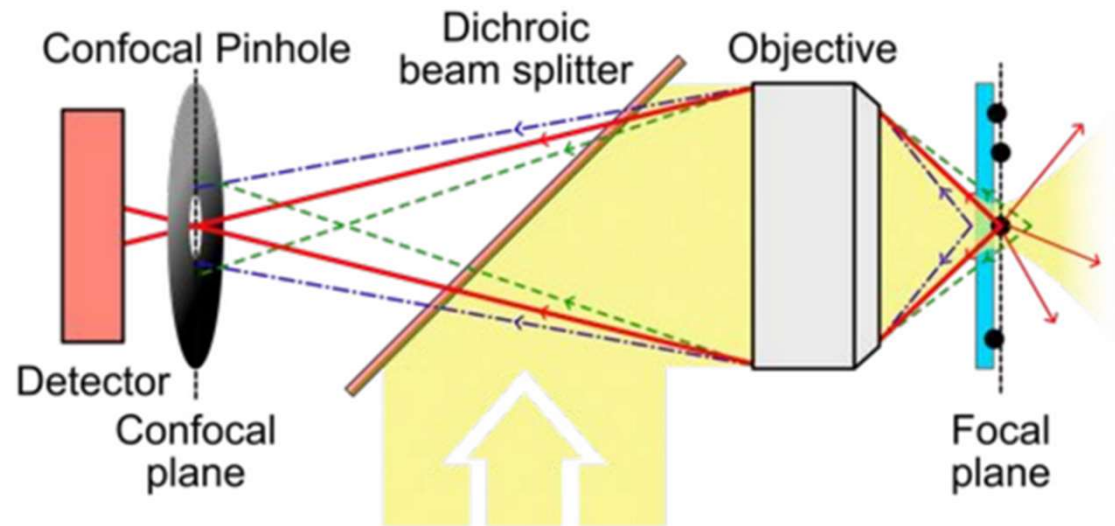
Reviews: Faraday Discuss., 2015, 184, 9
Malý *et al. Sci. Rep.* 6(1). 2016
T.P.J. Krüger, R. van Grondelle, *Physica B.* 2015

Single-molecule spectroscopy

single macromolecule (LHCII)



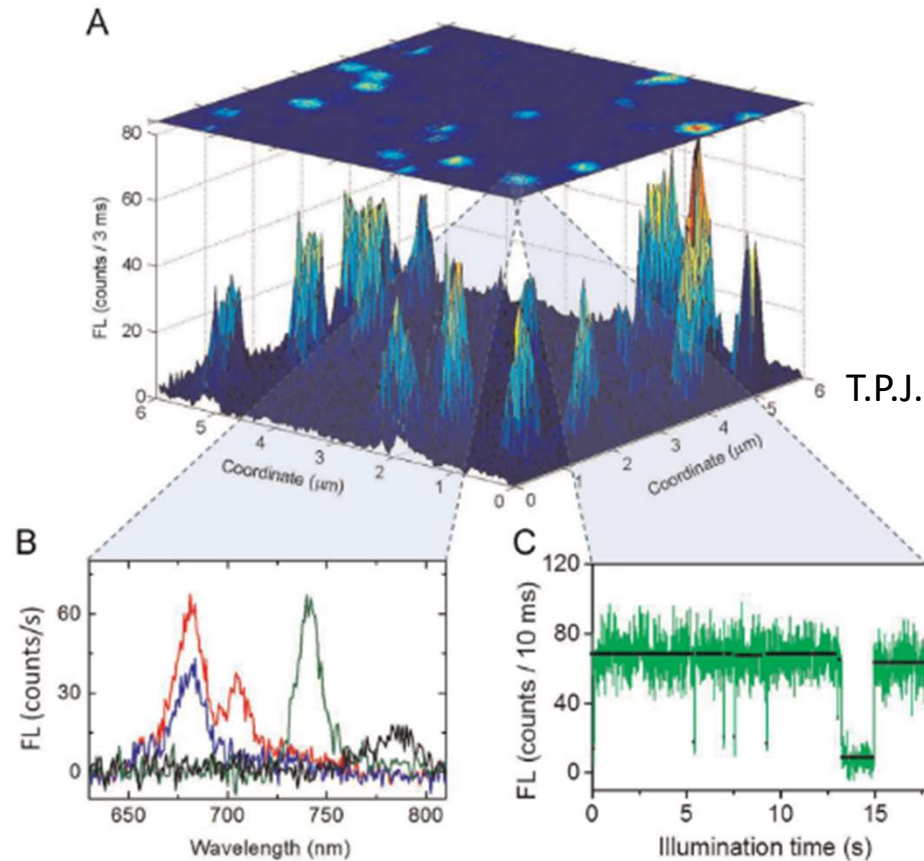
Tjaart Krüger, PhD. thesis



Joshua Botha, MSc. thesis

Reviews: Faraday Discuss., 2015, 184, 9
Malý *et al. Sci. Rep.* 6(1). 2016
T.P.J. Krüger, R. van Grondelle, *Physica B.* 2015

Single-molecule spectroscopy



T.P.J. Krüger, R. van Grondelle, *Physica B* (2015),

Reviews: *Faraday Discuss.*, 2015, 184, 9

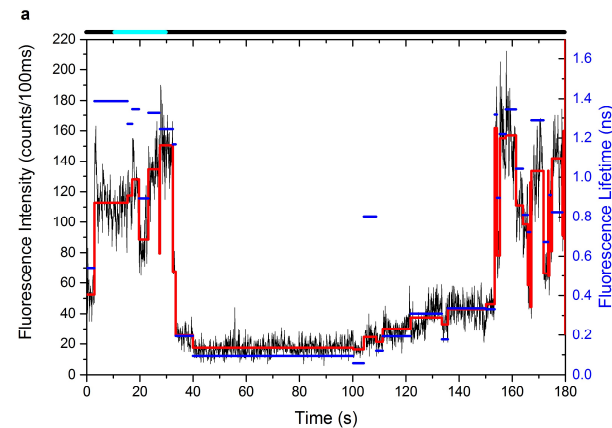
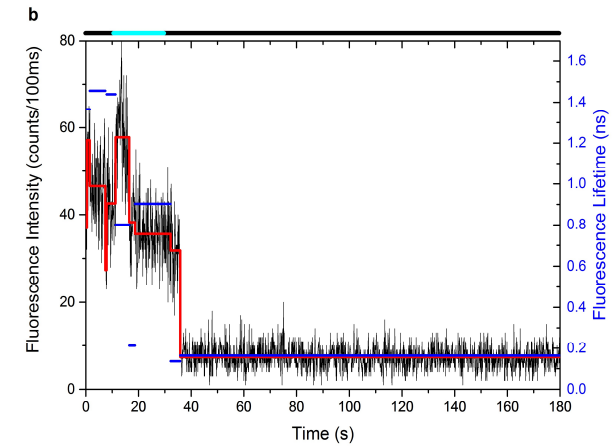
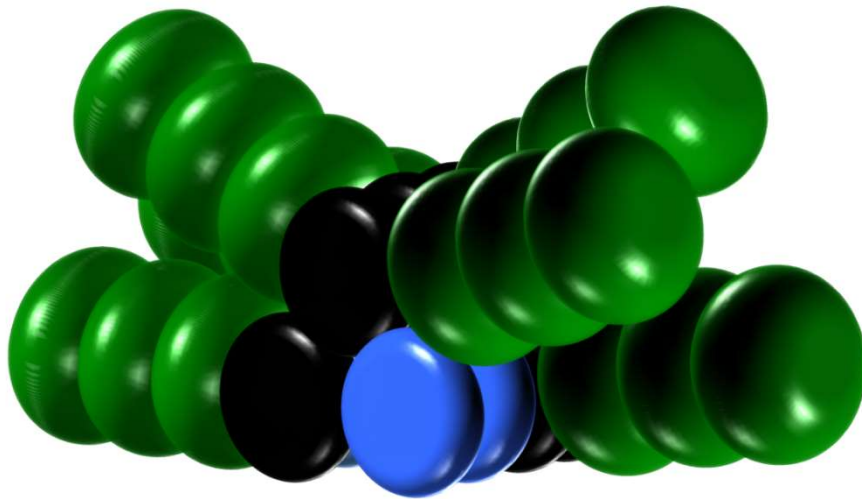
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Single-molecule spectroscopy



Phycobilisome



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