



# Lecture #11 of 12

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# Photophysical Processes

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# Today's Critical Guiding Question

*What continuity/conservation laws are most important for photophysical processes like absorption and emission of photons... for real this time, again: Part 5?*

# Photophysical Processes

- Blackbody radiation, Photon properties, Light–Matter interactions, Conservation laws, **Einstein coefficients**
- Jablonski diagram, Spin multiplicity, Internal conversion, Intersystem crossing, Thexi state, Kasha–Vavilov rule, Stokes shift, PL
- Born–Oppenheimer approximation, Franck–Condon principle, Transition dipole moment operator, Franck–Condon factors, Beer–Lambert law, Absorption coefficient, **Oscillator strength, Absorptance**
- Luminescence processes, Selection rules, Charge-transfer transitions, Spin–Orbit coupling, Heavy-atom effect,  $E$ – $k$  diagrams, Jortner energy gap law, **Conical intersections**, Energy transfer, Exciplex/Excimer
- **Photoluminescence spectrometer, Emission/Excitation spectra, Inner filter effects, Anisotropy, Excited-state lifetime, Emission quantum yield**

# Absorption Coefficient & Beer–Lambert Law

To describe attenuation of light intensity/power through matter due to absorption only... one writes

$$\frac{\partial I_\nu}{\partial z} = -\alpha_\nu I_\nu \dots \text{ where } \alpha_\nu \text{ is the linear Napierian absorption coefficient (cm}^{-1}\text{)}$$

Rearranging to  $\frac{\partial I_\nu}{I_\nu} = -\alpha_\nu \partial z$ , and integrating from  $I_{\nu,\text{front}}$  to  $I_{\nu,\text{back}}$  over  $\ell$  leads to...

$$\ln\left(\frac{I_{\nu,\text{back}}}{I_{\nu,\text{front}}}\right) = -\alpha_\nu \ell \dots \text{ or } I_\nu = I_{\nu,0} e^{-\alpha_\nu \ell}, \text{ where } I_\nu = I_{\nu,\text{back}} \text{ and } I_{\nu,0} = I_{\nu,\text{front}}$$

$$\dots \text{ where } T_\nu = \frac{I_\nu}{I_{\nu,0}} \text{ (transmittance) and } A_\nu = -\log(T_\nu) = \log\left(\frac{I_{\nu,0}}{I_\nu}\right) \text{ (absorbance)}$$

... but the **absorption coefficient** can take on many forms/units... sorry...

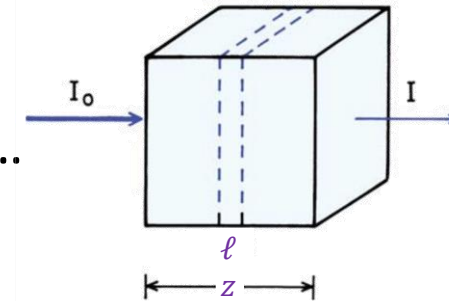
$$\log\left(\frac{I_\nu}{I_{\nu,0}}\right) = -a_\nu \ell \dots \text{ where } a_\nu \text{ is the linear decadic absorption coefficient (cm}^{-1}\text{) [not often used]}$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{I_\nu}{I_{\nu,0}}\right) = -\kappa_\nu c \ell \dots \text{ where } \kappa_\nu \text{ is the molar Napierian absorption coefficient (M}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}\text{) [n. o. u.]}$$

... since  $\text{M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1} = \text{L mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1} = \text{dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\sigma_\nu = \frac{1000\kappa_\nu}{N_A}$  is the **absorption cross-section** ( $\text{cm}^2$ )

$$\log\left(\frac{I_\nu}{I_{\nu,0}}\right) = -\varepsilon_\nu c \ell \dots \text{ where } \varepsilon_\nu \text{ is the molar decadic absorption coefficient (M}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}\text{)... finally!}$$

... leading to the **Beer–Lambert law**...  $A_\nu = \varepsilon_\nu c \ell$ ... a succinct and well-known equation in the end



Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.52, Page 59

# Einstein Coefficients & Oscillator Strength

Oscillator strength ( $f_{12}$ ): integrated strength of an absorption band relative to a completely allowed transition

... is the rate constant for emission equal to that of absorption? ... **No way!**

... but Absorption = -Stimulated Emission... but  $\neq$  Spontaneous Emission

Spontaneous Emission

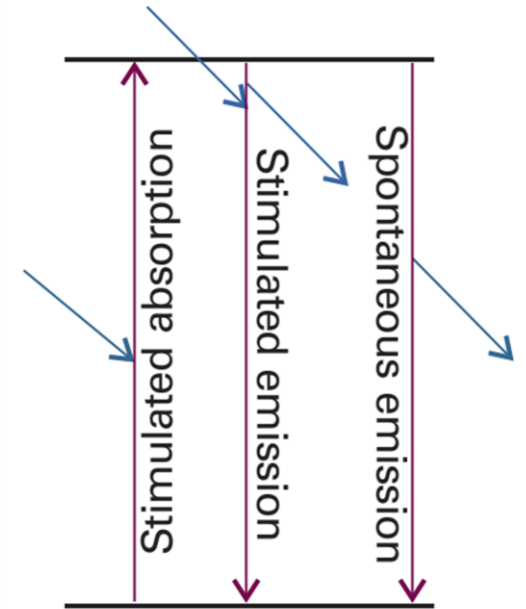
$$\frac{\partial n_1}{\partial t} = A_{21}n_2$$

Positive Absorption = Stimulated Absorption

$$\frac{\partial n_1}{\partial t} = -B_{12}n_1\rho(\nu)$$

Negative Absorption = Stimulated Emission

$$\frac{\partial n_1}{\partial t} = B_{21}n_2\rho(\nu)$$



Atkins, Chapter 13, Figure 13.5, Page 434

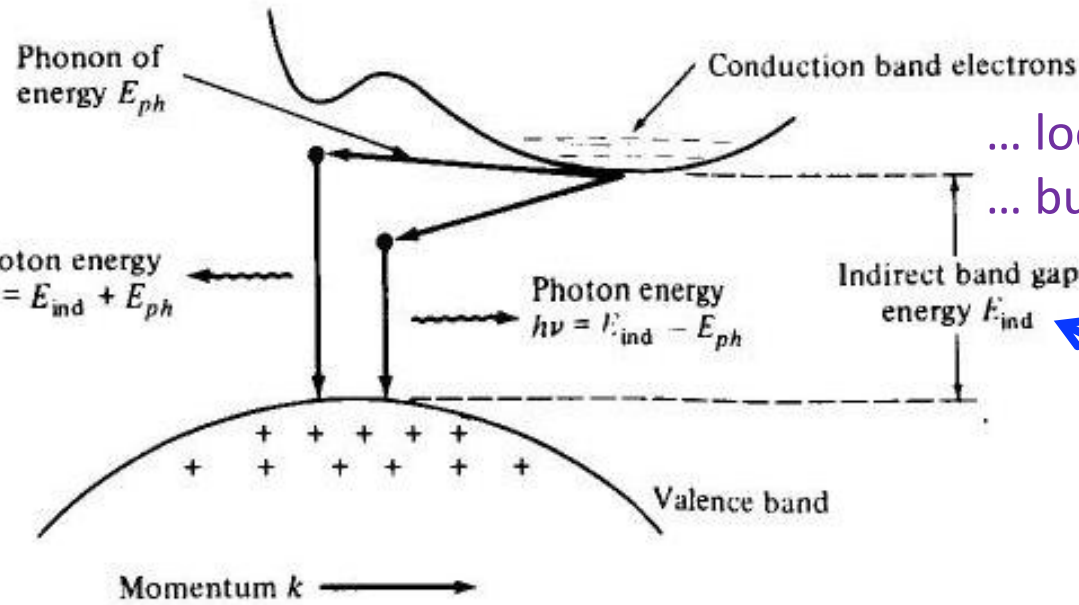
**Consider all possible reactions to be at equilibrium...**

$$\frac{\partial n_1}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial n_2}{\partial t} = 0 = A_{21}n_2 + B_{21}n_2\rho(\nu) - B_{12}n_1\rho(\nu) \dots g_1 B_{12} = g_2 B_{21} = \frac{g_1 c \sigma_{12}}{h\nu} = \frac{g_1 e^2 f_{12}}{4\epsilon_0 m_e h\nu}$$

... where  $\rho(\nu)$  is an irradiance... in units of energy per volume per frequency,  $\nu$

$$\dots A_{21} = \frac{8\pi h\nu^3}{c^3} B_{21} = \frac{16\pi^3 \nu^3 \mu_{21}^2}{3\epsilon_0 h c^3}$$

# E-k Diagrams



... looks like a Jablonski diagram...  
... but showing **linear momentum**

## Phonons

Particle Type: Boson

Mass: 0

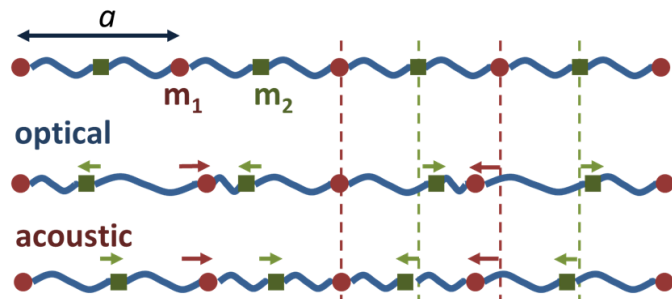
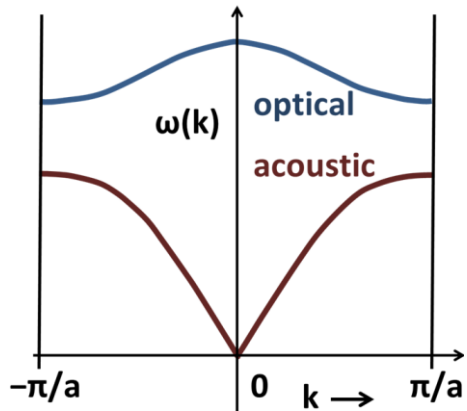
Charge: 0

Energy:  $E = h\nu = \hbar\omega$

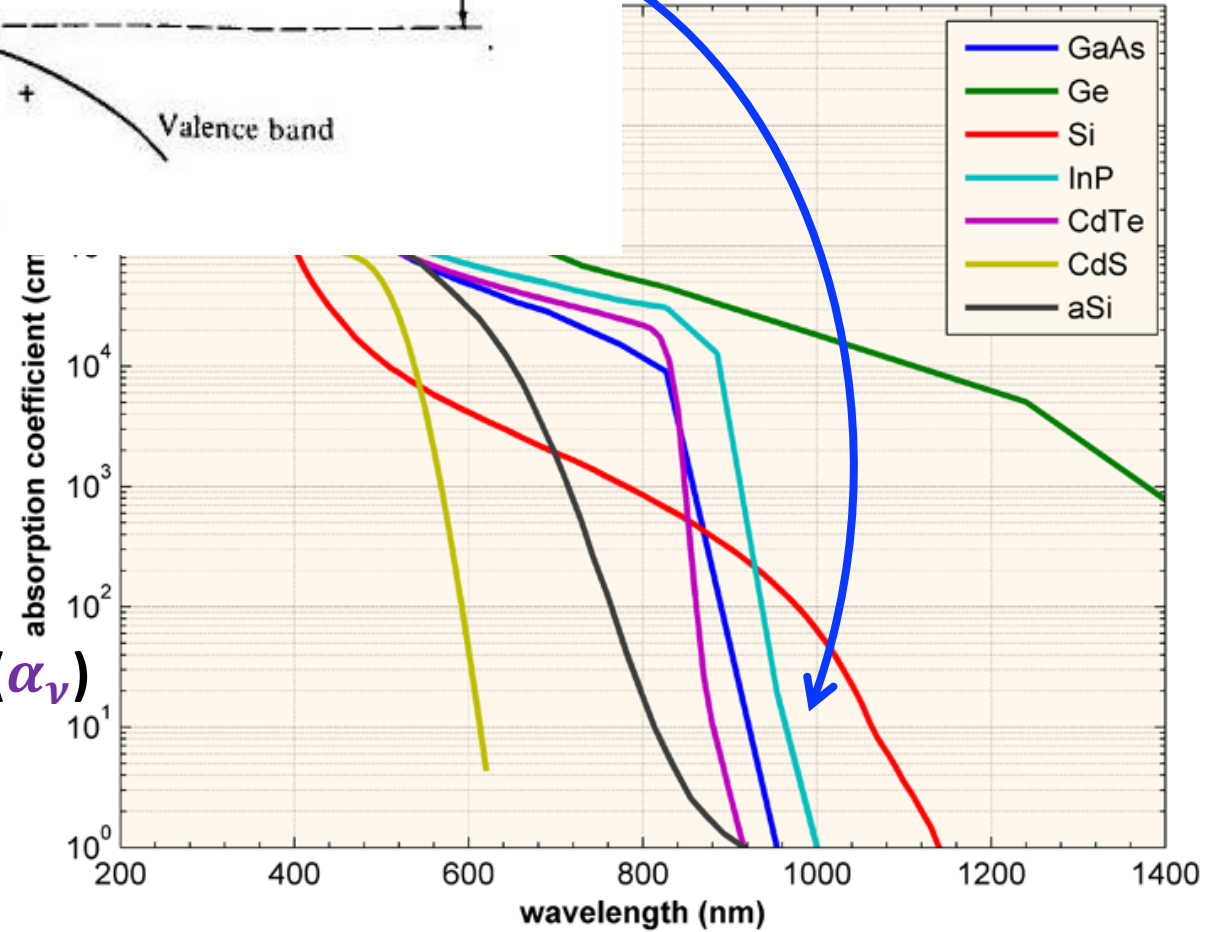
Linear Velocity:  $\frac{c}{n} = \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right) \nu = \lambda' \nu$

Linear Momentum:  $\mathbf{p} = \frac{h}{\lambda'} = \frac{nh\nu}{c} = h\bar{\nu} = \hbar\mathbf{k}$

z Angular Momentum / Spin:  $\pm \hbar = \pm \frac{h}{2\pi}$



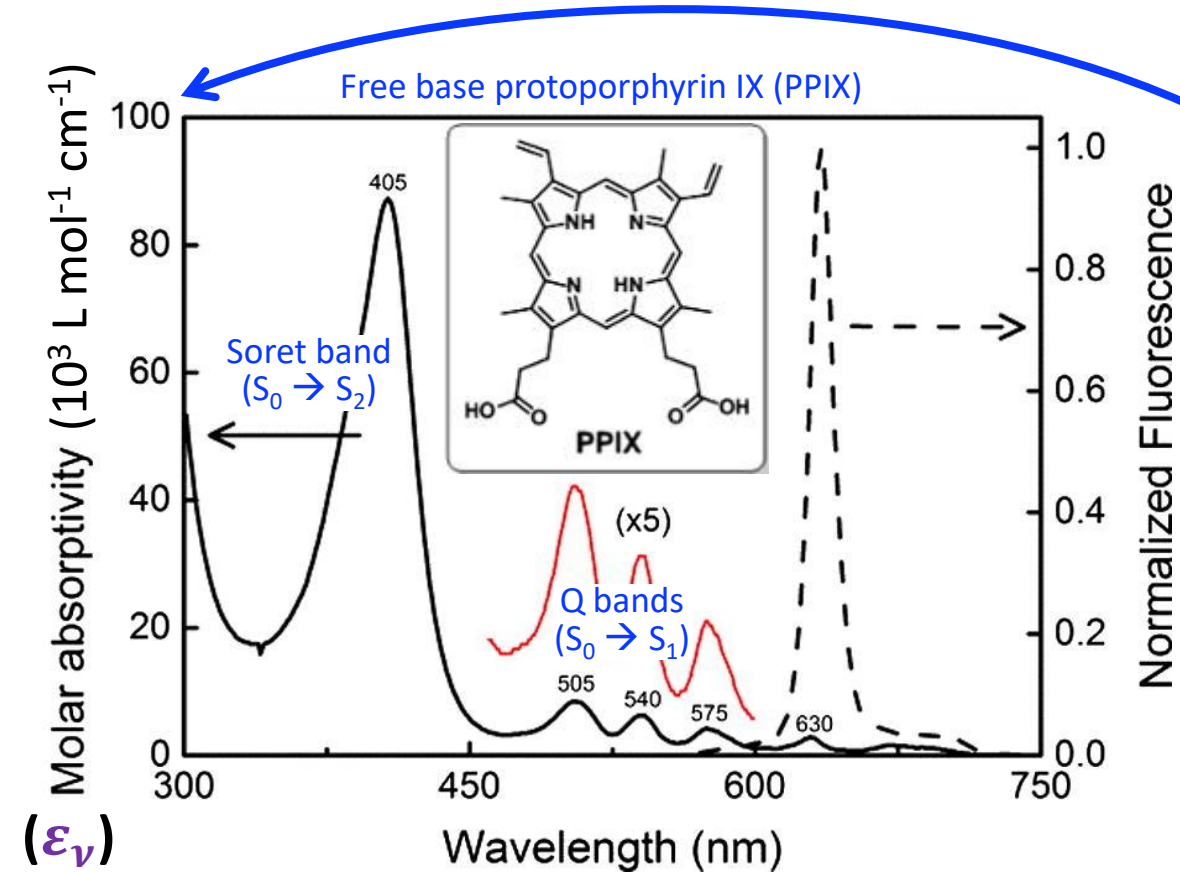
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phonon>



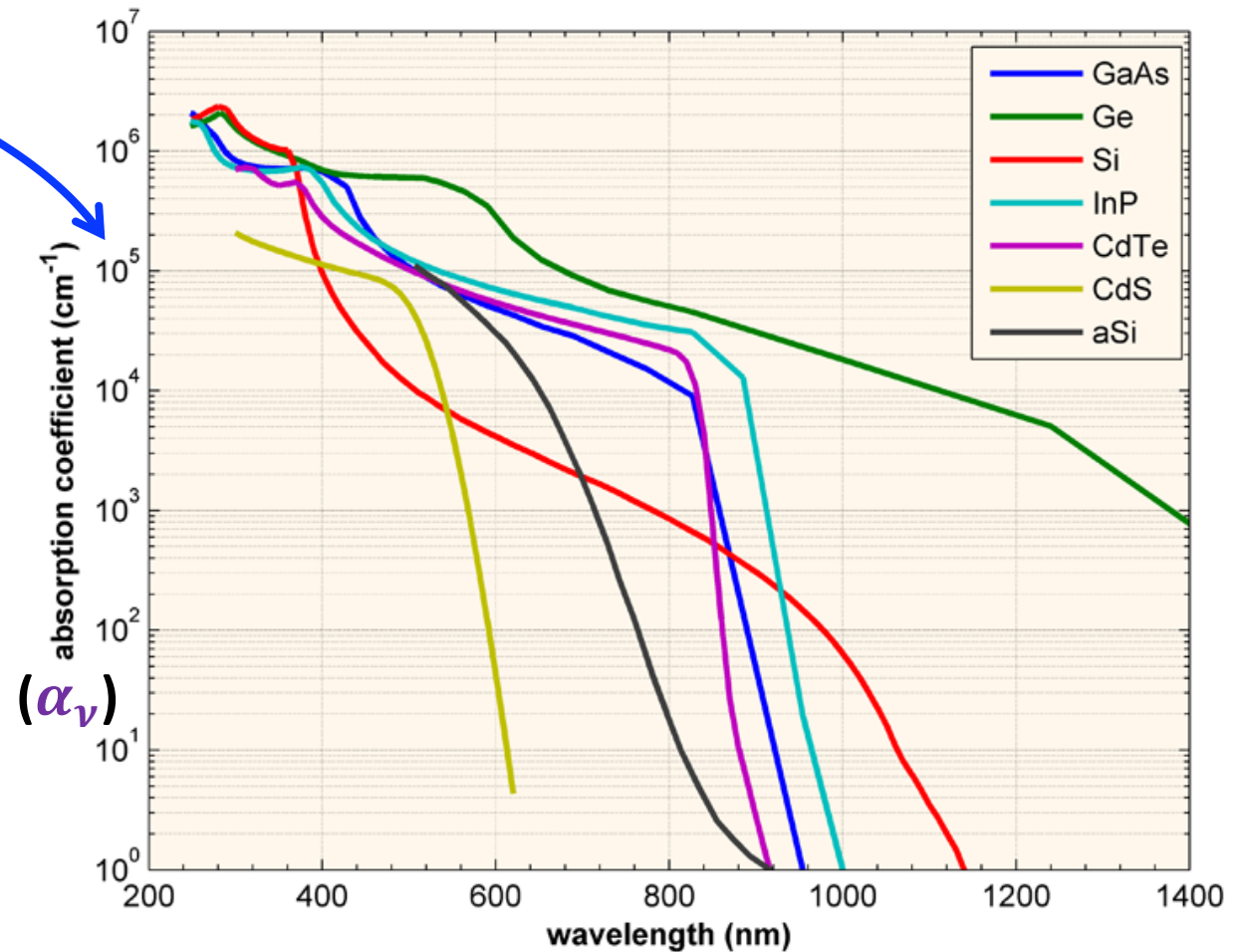
<https://www.pveducation.org/pvcdrom/pn-junctions/absorption-coefficient>

# Absorption Coefficient

... what is the name of each absorption coefficient?... and how do we compare them?  
 ... well, what is the concentration in a metal?... Maybe 1 M-ish?



<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0009261417301756>



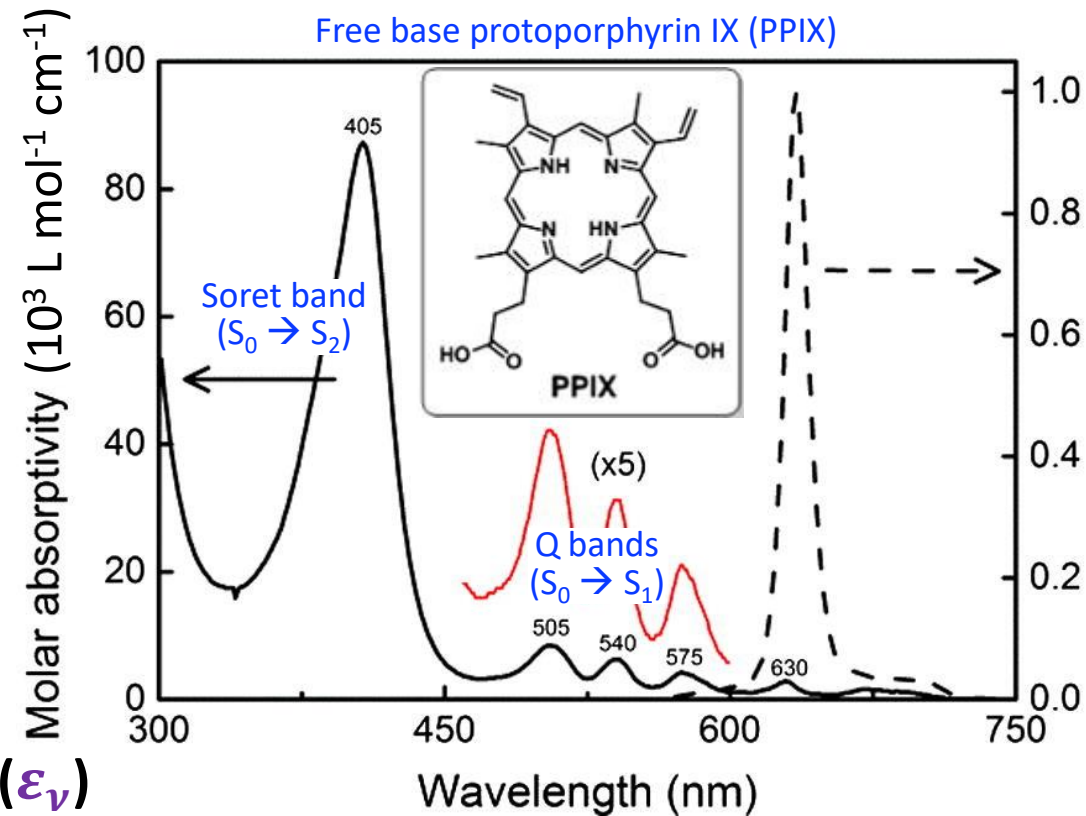
<https://www.pveducation.org/pvcdrom/pn-junctions/absorption-coefficient>



# Absorption vs Absorbance vs Absorptance

... let's use each in a sentence, okay?

... For example, "I do not understand the difference between A., A., and A.?"... Ha! j/k



... "This plot displays an absorption spectrum"

... "The ordinate is often absorbance, which is dimensionless... and definitely not "a.u.""

... "Absorbance,  $A$ , is directly related to concentration... and so its range is  $[0, \infty)$ "

... "Absorptance,  $\alpha$ , is the fraction (or percentage) of light absorbed... it goes well with  $T$  (or  $\%T$ )"

... "Photochemists must know **concentrations** (via Abs,  $A$ ) and **amount of light absorbed** (as Abt,  $\alpha$ )"

... assuming  $\%R_{v,i} = 0$ ,  $\%A_v = 100\% - \%T_v$

$$\frac{\%A_v}{100\%} = 1 - 10^{-\epsilon_v c l} = \alpha \text{ (dimensionless)}$$

$$\alpha = 1 - 10^{-A}$$

$$\%R_v = \left( \frac{n_2 - n_1}{n_2 + n_1} \right)^2$$

$$\%T_v = (100\% - \%R_{v,front}) 10^{-\epsilon_v c l} - \%R_{v,back}$$

$$\%T_v = (100\% - \%R_{v,front}) e^{-\alpha_v l} - \%R_{v,back}$$

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0009261417301756>

... and based on the Fresnel equations, for light with normal incidence...  $\%A_v + \%T_v + \%R_{v,total} = 100\%$

# Huang–Rhys Factor

## Marcus–Hush (1950s–1960s)

theoretical (semiclassical) rate constant equation

$$k_{\text{ET}} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |H_{\text{DA}}|^2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi\lambda_{\text{AB}}kT}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta G_{\text{AB}}^{\ddagger}}{kT}\right)$$

$$= \nu_{\text{n}}(r) \kappa_{\text{el}}(r) \kappa_{\text{n}}(r)$$

$$= \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \langle \psi'_{\text{el}} | \hat{H} | \psi_{\text{el}} \rangle^2 \langle \psi'_{\text{vib}} | \psi_{\text{vib}} \rangle^2 \delta(E' - E)$$

... separable due to the Born–Oppenheimer approximation

If  $\hbar\omega_j \gg k_{\text{B}}T$ , only  $v_j = 0$  is appreciably populated and

$$\langle \chi_{v_j'} | \chi_{v_j=0} \rangle^2 = \exp(-S_j) \frac{S_j^{v_j'}}{v_j'!} \quad (22)$$

## Fermi's Golden Rule

time-dependent perturbation theory

With one coupled medium- or high-frequency mode (or averaged mode), only the  $v = 0$  vibrational level is appreciably populated at room temperature ( $\hbar\omega \gg k_{\text{B}}T$ ), and<sup>8,43,112,115,131</sup>

$$k_{\text{ET}} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \frac{H_{\text{DA}}^2}{(4\pi\lambda_0 RT)^{1/2}} \sum_v \exp(-S) \frac{S^v}{v!} \exp[-[(\Delta G^\circ + v\hbar\omega + \lambda_0)^2/4\lambda_0 RT]] \quad (25)$$

In this limit the coupled vibration does not contribute to the temperature dependence since the only contributing reaction channels originate from  $v = 0$ .

$S_j$  is the electron-vibrational coupling constant, or Huang–Rhys factor:<sup>99,105</sup>

$$S_j = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{M_j \omega_j}{\hbar} \right) (\Delta Q_{e,j})^2 \quad (19)$$

$M_j$  is the reduced mass. The physical significance of the vibrational overlap integrals is that they give the extent to which the final and initial states coincide along the normal coordinate.

# Jortner Energy Gap Law

## Jortner Energy Gap Law (1960s–1970s)

theoretical non-radiative rate constant equation

$$W = \frac{C^2 \sqrt{(2\pi)}}{\hbar \sqrt{(\hbar\omega_M \Delta E)}} \exp(-\gamma \Delta E / \hbar\omega_M)$$

## Fermi's Golden Rule

time-dependent perturbation theory

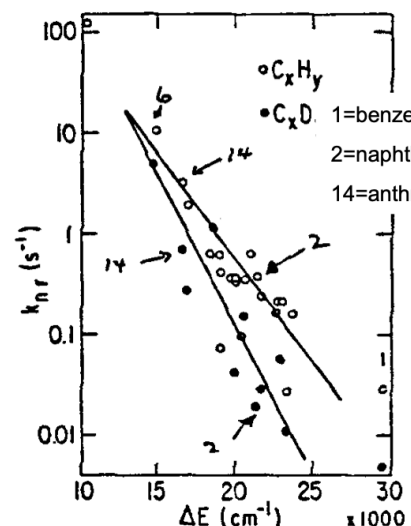
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$$k_{ET} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \frac{H_{DA}^2}{(4\pi\lambda_0 RT)^{1/2}} \sum_{\nu} \exp(-S) \frac{S^{\nu}}{\nu!} \exp[-[(\Delta G^{\circ} + \nu\hbar\omega + \lambda_0)^2 / 4\lambda_0 RT]] \quad (25)$$

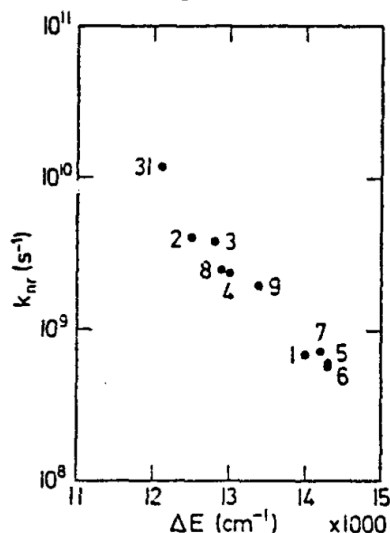
In this limit the coupled vibration does not contribute to the temperature dependence since the only contributing reaction channels originate from  $\nu = 0$ .

... also due to weak coupling...  
... in the low-temperature limit

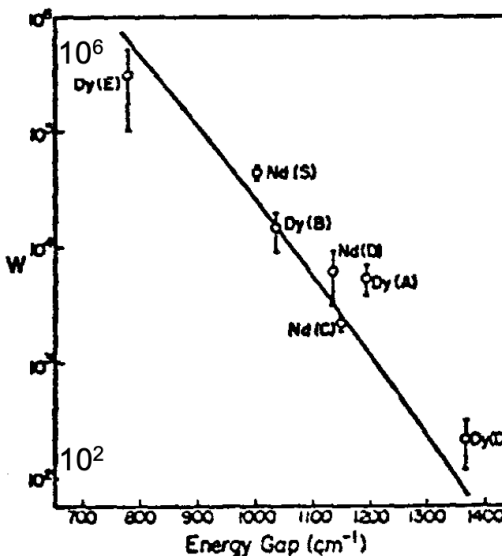
### Energy gap law data in condensed phase



Decrease of S-T rate constant with energy in aromatics in solid solution at 77K. **Note H-D difference**



S<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>1</sub> Rate in azulene derivatives  
1 = azulene, 8 = Me-A, 2 = Cl-A



Rare in rare earth ions, LaCl<sub>3</sub>

<https://i.stack.imgur.com/NG6Lt.png>

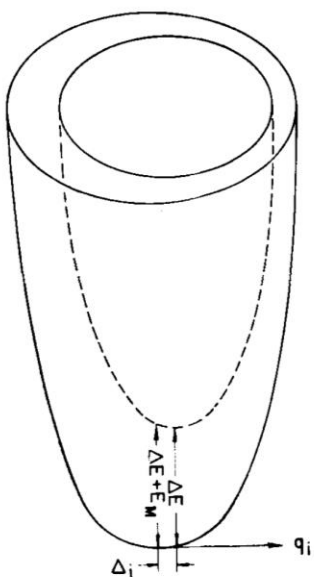
# Conical Intersection Curve Crossing

## Jortner Energy Gap Law (1960s–1970s)

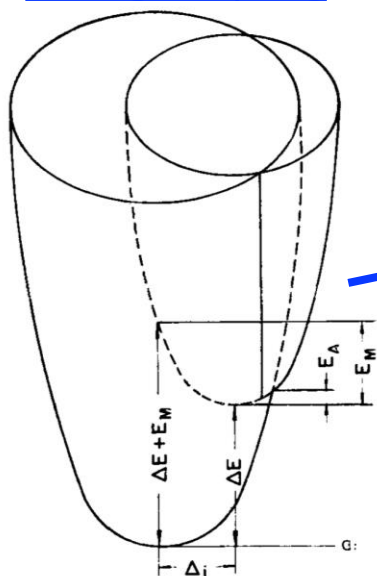
theoretical non-radiative rate constant equation

$$W = \frac{C^2 \sqrt{(2\pi)}}{\hbar \sqrt{(\hbar \omega_M \Delta E)}} \exp(-\gamma \Delta E / \hbar \omega_M)$$

weak coupling

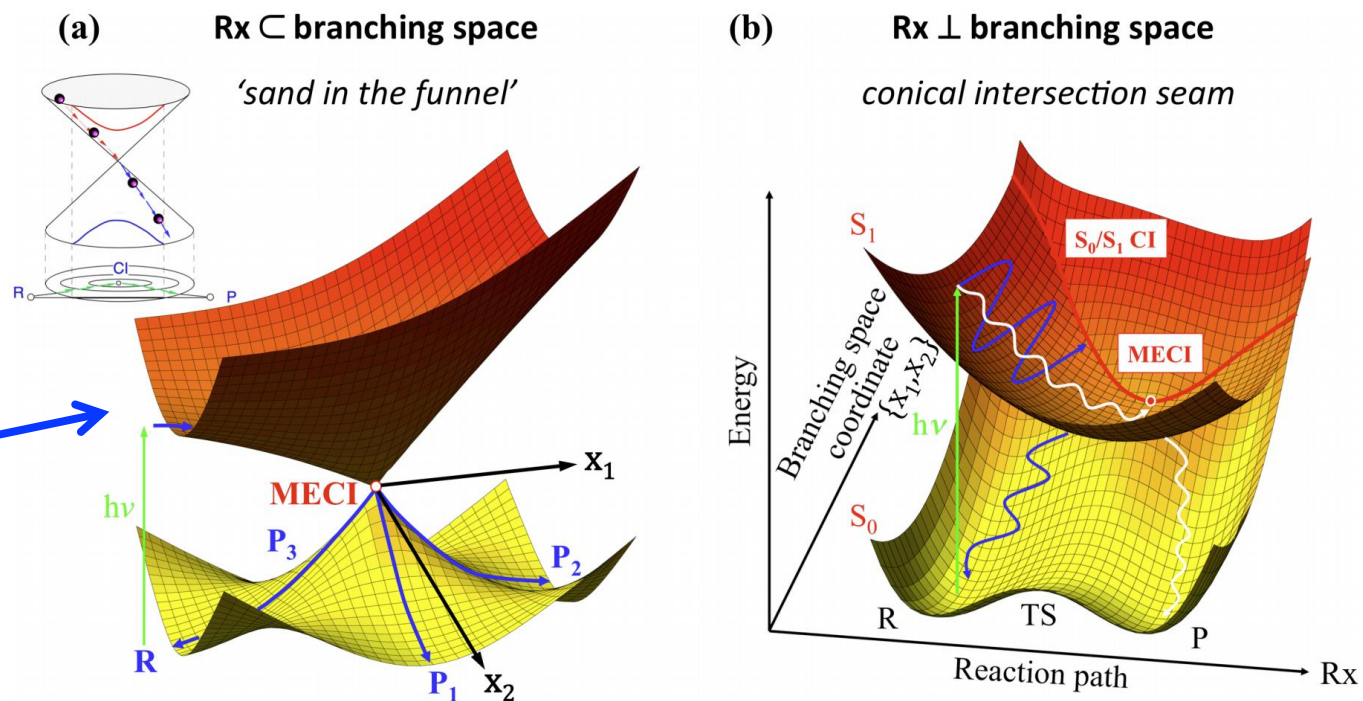


strong coupling



## Conical Intersection

breakdown of the B–O approximation

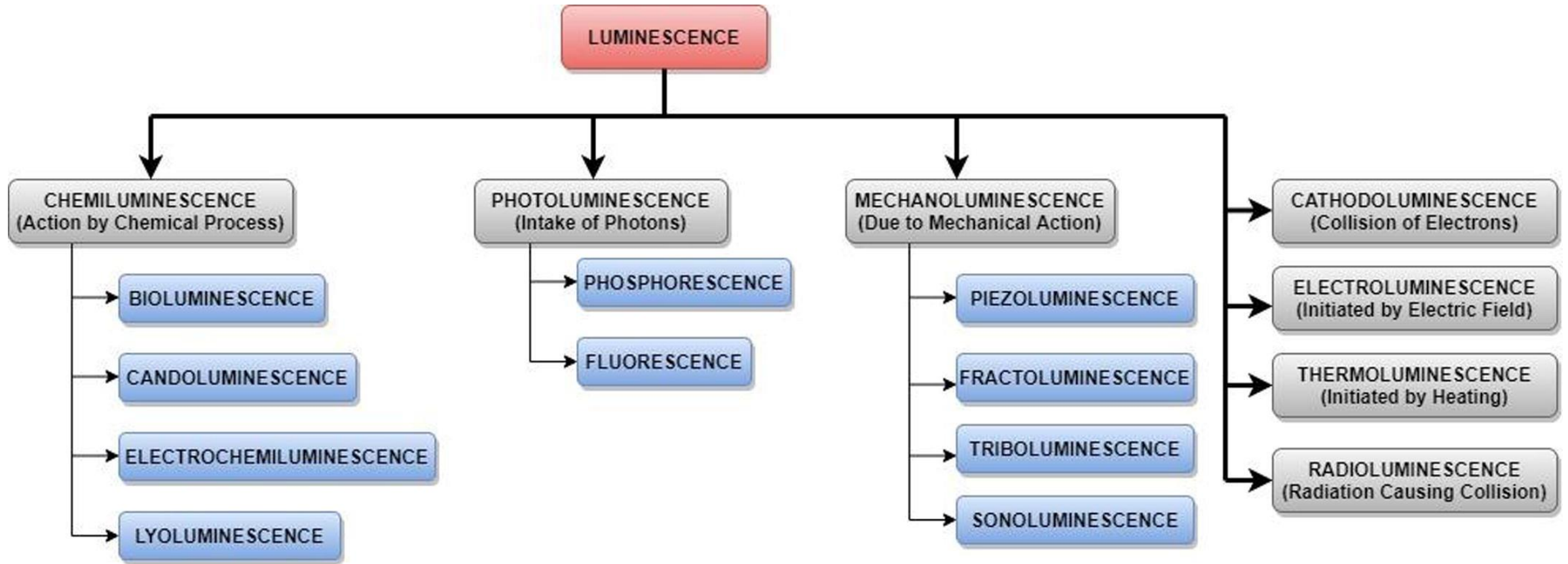


[https://tel.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-01184241/file/hdr\\_boggio\\_final.pdf](https://tel.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-01184241/file/hdr_boggio_final.pdf)

... a conical intersection leads to rapid excited-state deactivation... on the timescale of a bond vibration  
 ... diatomic species with  $\Delta m_s = 0$  obey the non-crossing "rule"... where  $H_{DA} \neq 0$ , and Jortner is relevant

# Luminescence Processes

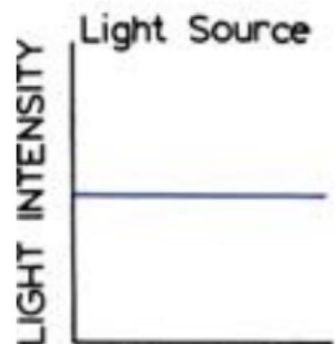
... Photo... and Chemi... and Mechano... Oh My!



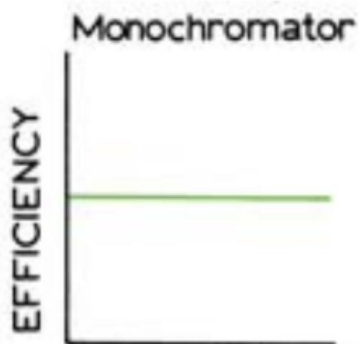
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214785321017272>

... well I guess it makes sense... it's just conservation of energy... and momentum, of course...

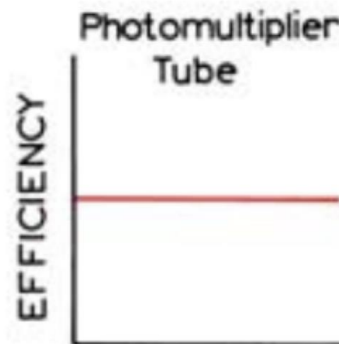
# Photoluminescence Spectrometer



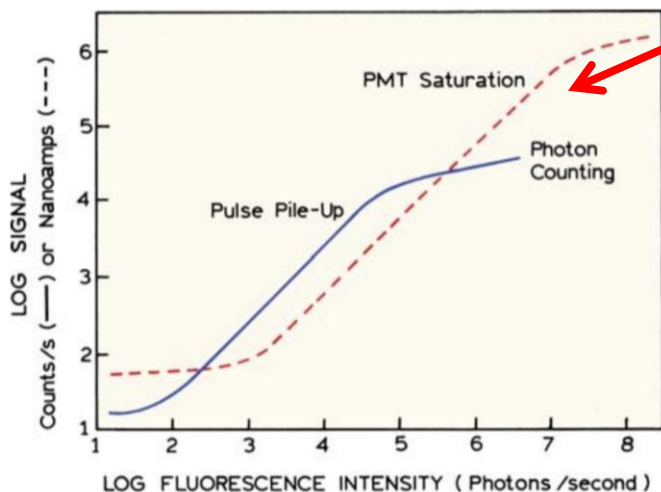
WAVELENGTH  
or POLARIZATION  
or TIME



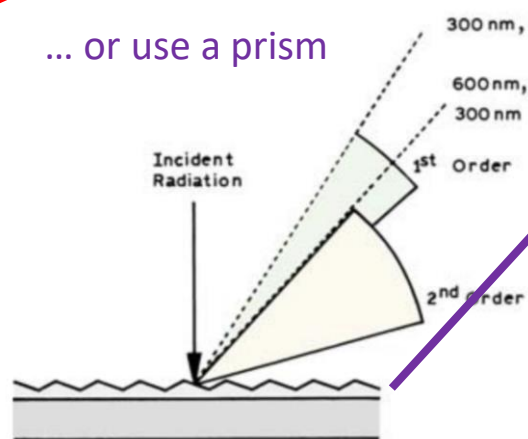
WAVELENGTH  
or POLARIZATION  
or TIME  
or LIGHT INTENSITY



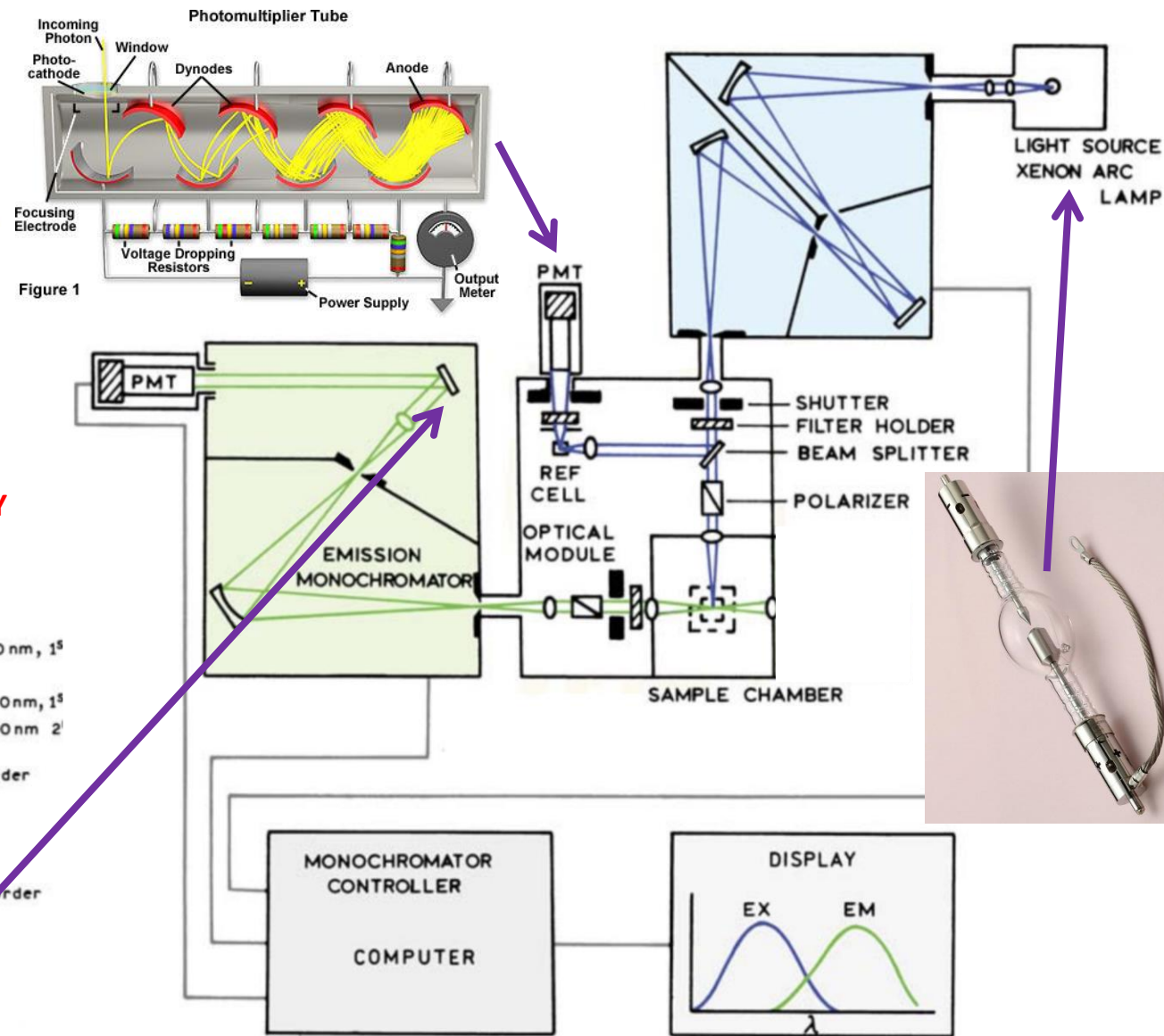
WAVELENGTH  
or POLARIZATION  
or TIME  
or LIGHT INTENSITY



Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.36, Page 48



Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.16, Page 37

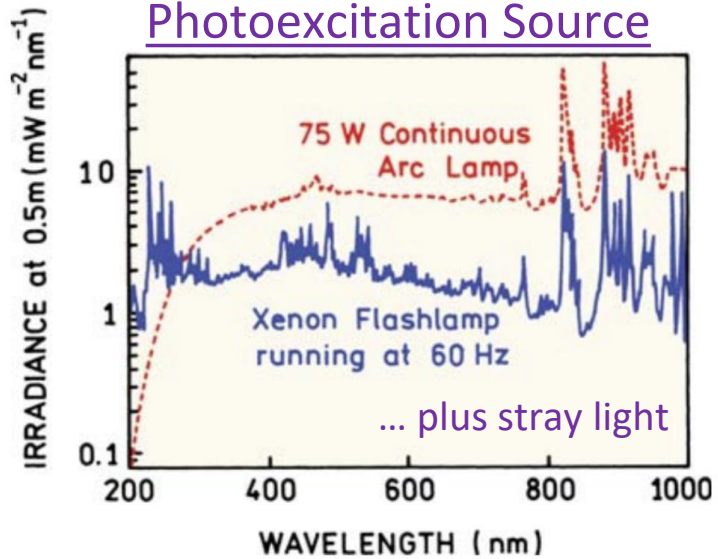


Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.1, Page 28



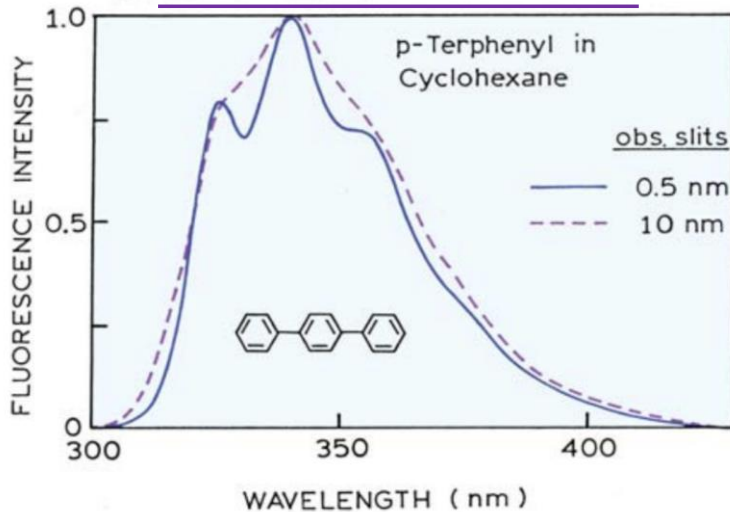
# Photoluminescence Spectrometer

## Photoexcitation Source



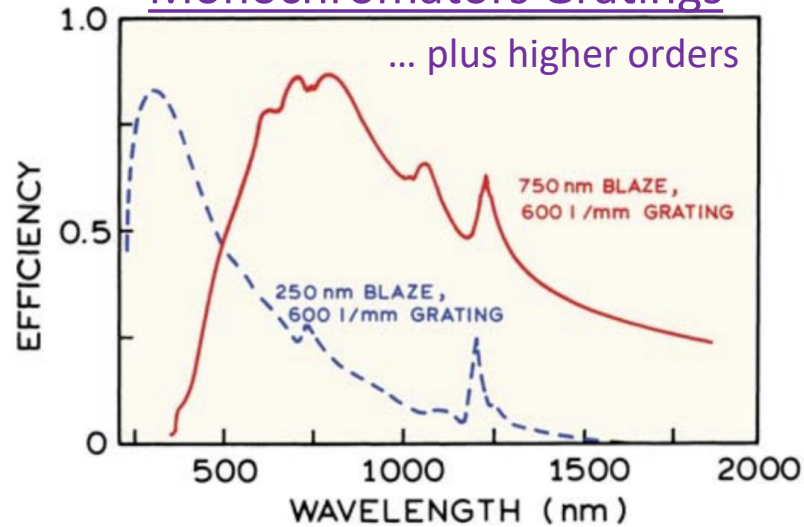
Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.5, Page 31

## Monochromators Slits



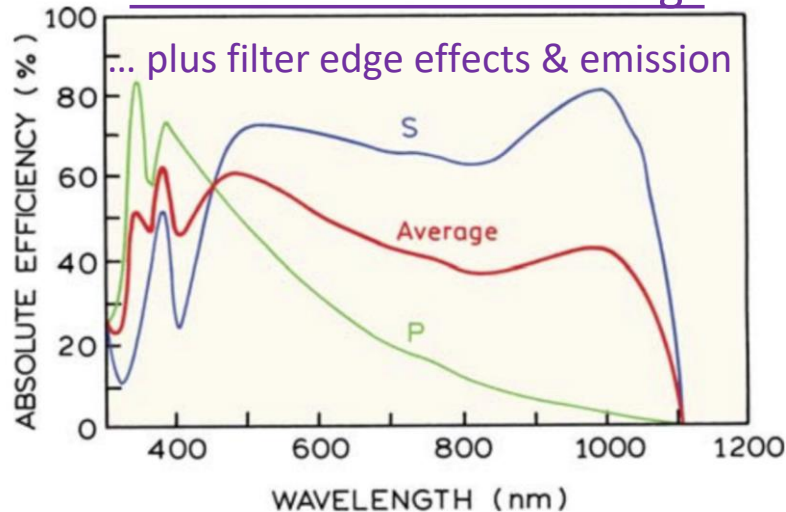
Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.13, Page 35

## Monochromators Gratings



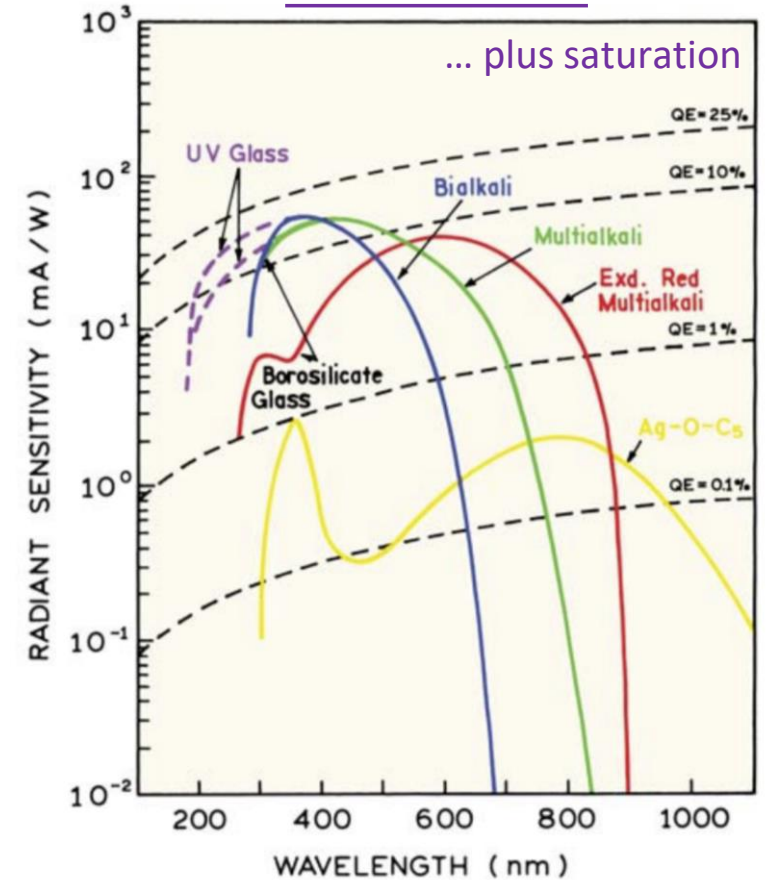
Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.12, Page 35

## Monochromators Gratings



Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.14, Page 36

## PMT Detector

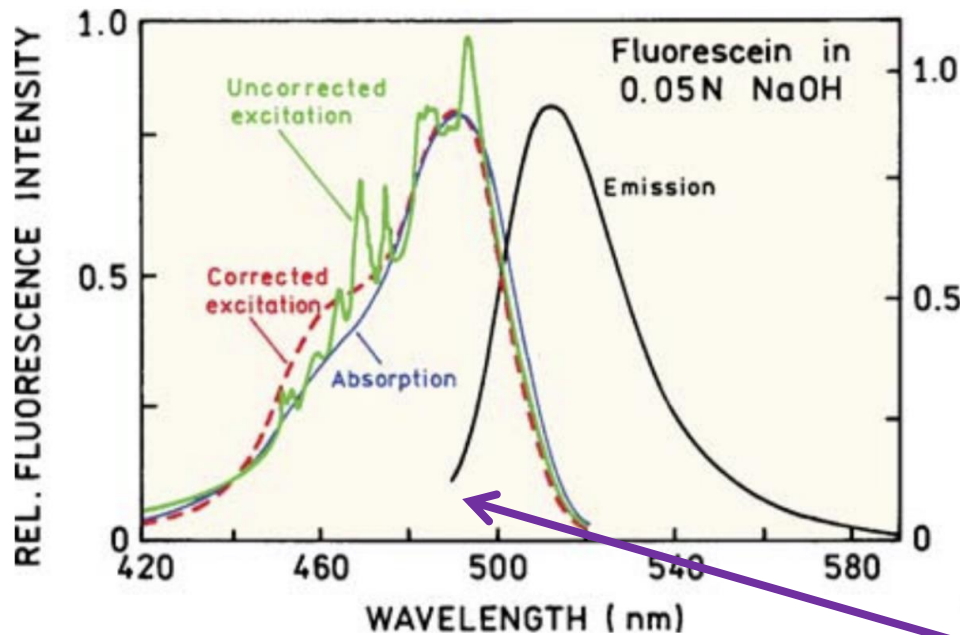


Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.31, Page 45

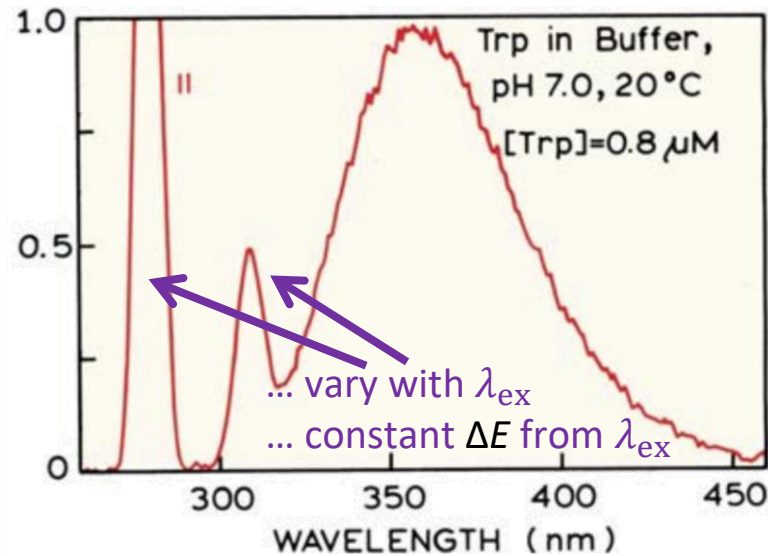
... measured PL spectra are effectively multiplied by all of these!... Ugh!

# Emission & Excitation Spectra

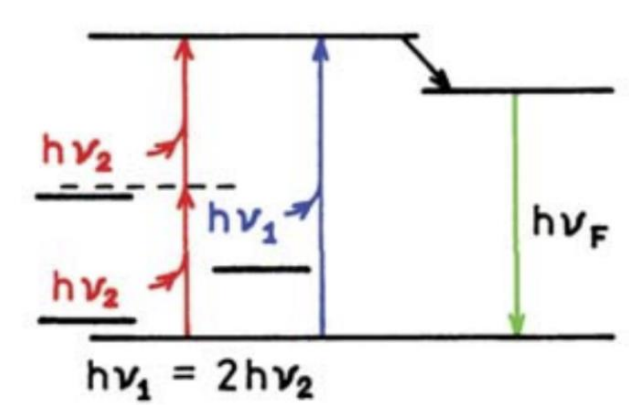
Multi(n)-photon excitation (nPE)



Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.6, Page 31



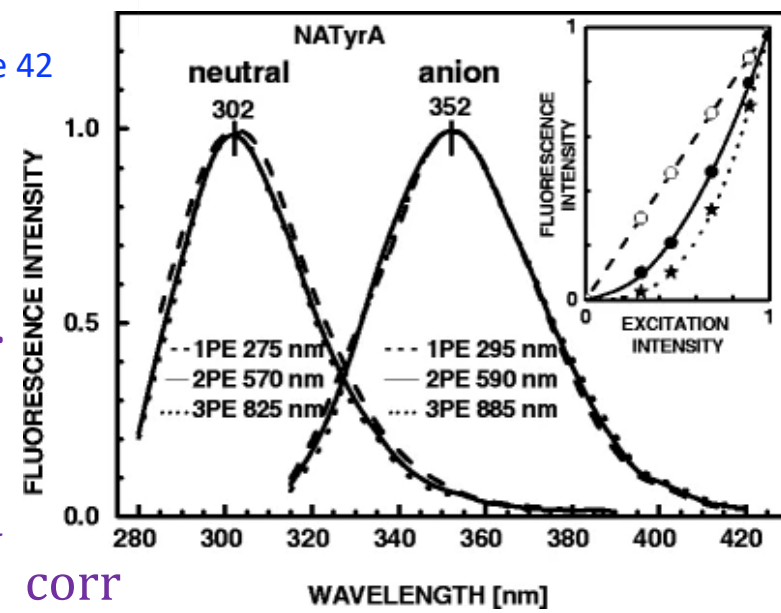
Lakowicz, Chapter 2, Figure 2.26, Page 42



Lakowicz, Chapter 1, Figure 1.29, Page 21

Photoluminescence intensity (PLI) requires  $\lambda$ -dependent correction factors... which differs from absorbance, where division cancels out all these issues

... why is emission cut-off?  
 ... in this other plot, it is not...  
 ... what causes those peaks?  
 ... Note:  $I(\bar{\nu}) = \lambda^2 I(\lambda)$



B. Kierdaszuk, *J. Fluorescence*, 2013, 23, 339–347

$$Abs_{\nu} = -\log(T_{\nu}) = \log\left(\frac{I_{\nu,0}}{I_{\nu}}\right) = \epsilon_{\nu} c \ell$$

$$PLI_{\nu} = I_{\nu,0} \times Abt_{\nu} \times QY_{em} \times \prod_j corr$$



# Today's Critical Guiding Question

*What continuity/conservation laws are most important for photophysical processes like absorption and emission of photons... for real this time, again: Part 5?*

# Photophysical Processes

- Blackbody radiation, Photon properties, Light–Matter interactions, Conservation laws, Einstein coefficients
- Jablonski diagram, Spin multiplicity, Internal conversion, Intersystem crossing, Thexi state, Kasha–Vavilov rule, Stokes shift, PL
- Born–Oppenheimer approximation, Franck–Condon principle, Transition dipole moment operator, Franck–Condon factors, Beer–Lambert law, Absorption coefficient, Oscillator strength, Absorptance
- Luminescence processes, Selection rules, Charge-transfer transitions, Spin–Orbit coupling, Heavy-atom effect,  $E$ – $k$  diagrams, Jortner energy gap law, Conical intersections, Energy transfer, Exciplex/Excimer
- Photoluminescence spectrometer, Emission/Excitation spectra, Inner filter effects, Anisotropy, Excited-state lifetime, Emission quantum yield