

# Static, 2D, and time-resolved vibrational spectroscopy in bulk and at interfaces

Ellen Backus

University of Vienna and Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research Mainz

# Part I

## Interface specific vibrational spectroscopy

# Introduction

Surfaces important for:

- Catalysis
- Electrochemistry
- Biochemistry
- ...

# Introduction

- How does the surface look like?
- What is the interaction of adsorbates with surface?
- How strongly are molecules bound?
- What is the reaction mechanism?

Required: molecular specific information at an interface

Solution: sum frequency generation spectroscopy  
(as will be shown in this lecture)

# Introduction

Required: molecular specific information at an interface

Two ingredients:

1. Molecular specificity
2. Surface sensitivity

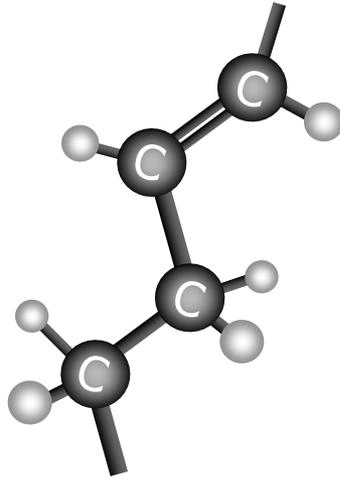
# Approach

The wiggling and jiggling of molecules is very specific

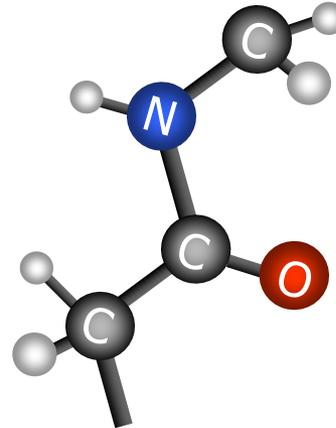
Water



Lipids



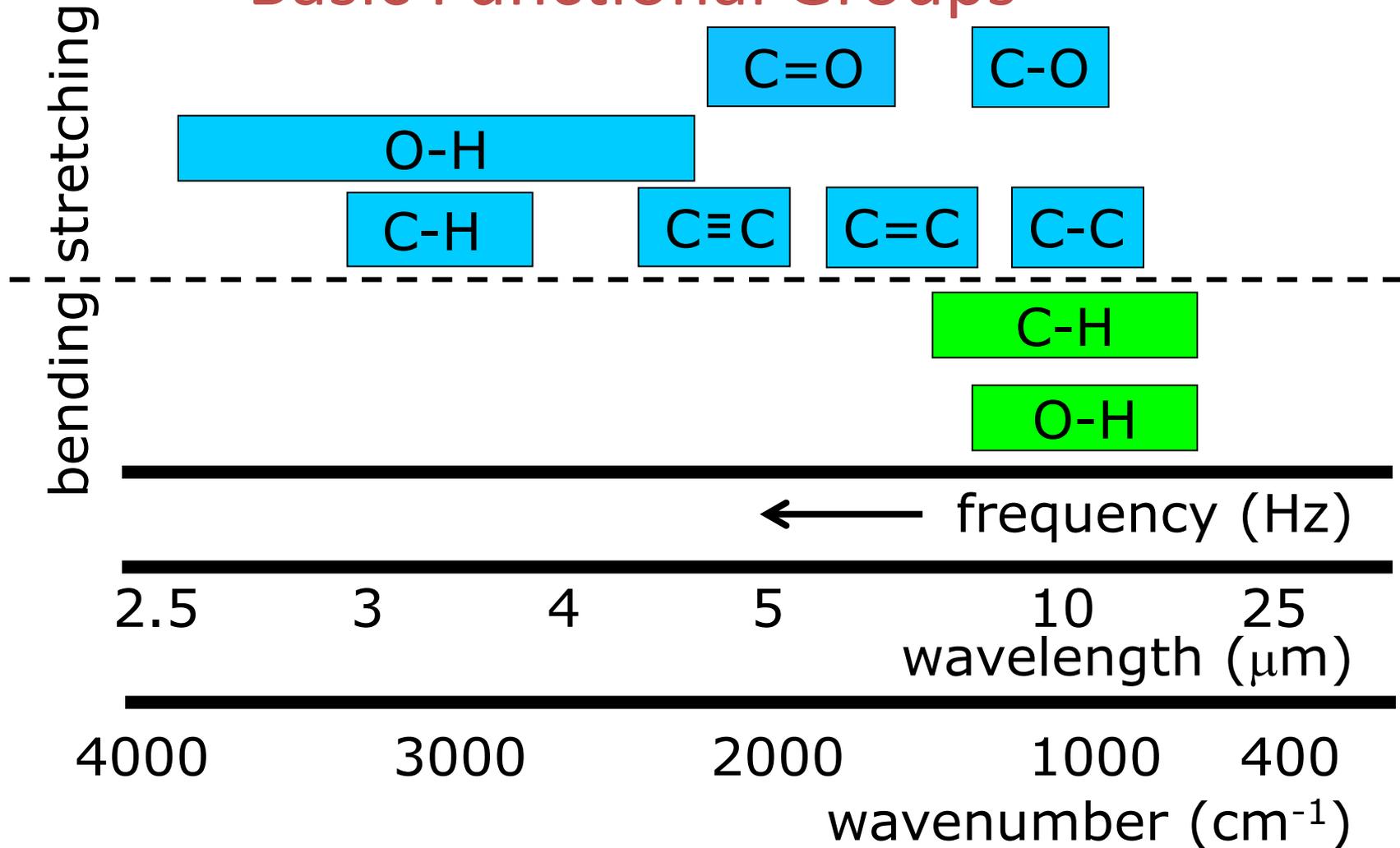
Proteins



A chemical bond is just like a spring: the oscillation frequency is given by the strength of the chemical bond and the masses of the atoms involved.

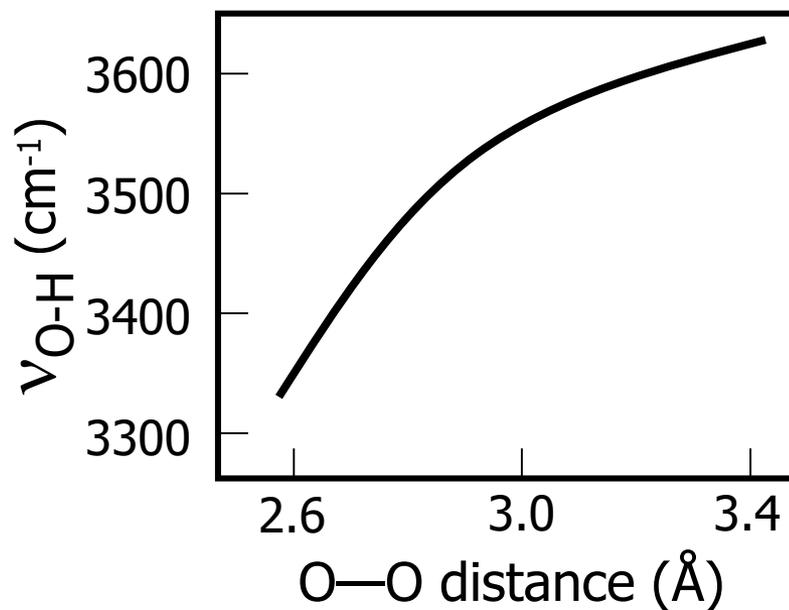
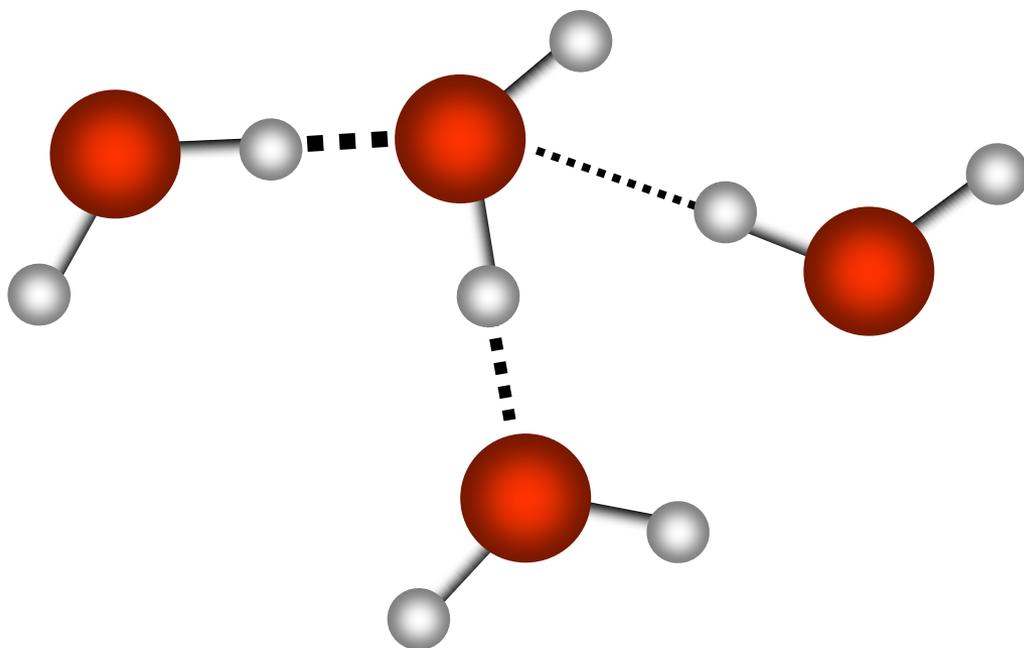
# Vibrational frequencies

## Basic Functional Groups



# Sensitivity to environment

Water displays strong variation in H-bond strengths, which affect O—H stretch vibration



O—H stretch vibration is a marker of local water environment

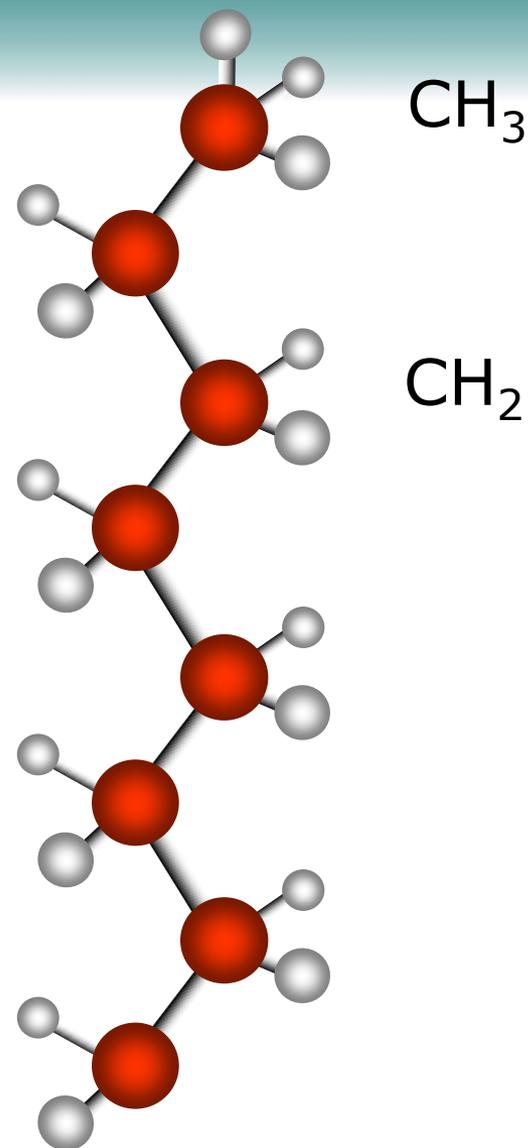
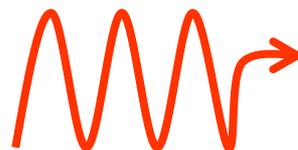
# Approach

The vibration can be 'switched on' with infrared (IR) light

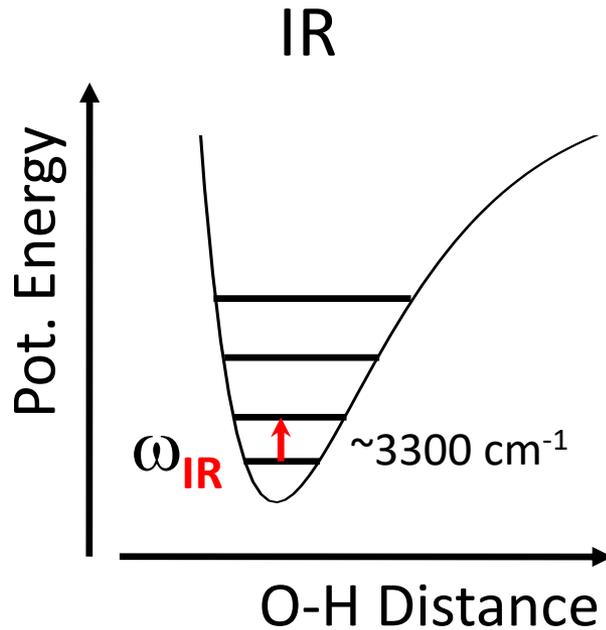


Compare IR light without and with sample

Infrared light



# Vibrational infrared spectroscopy

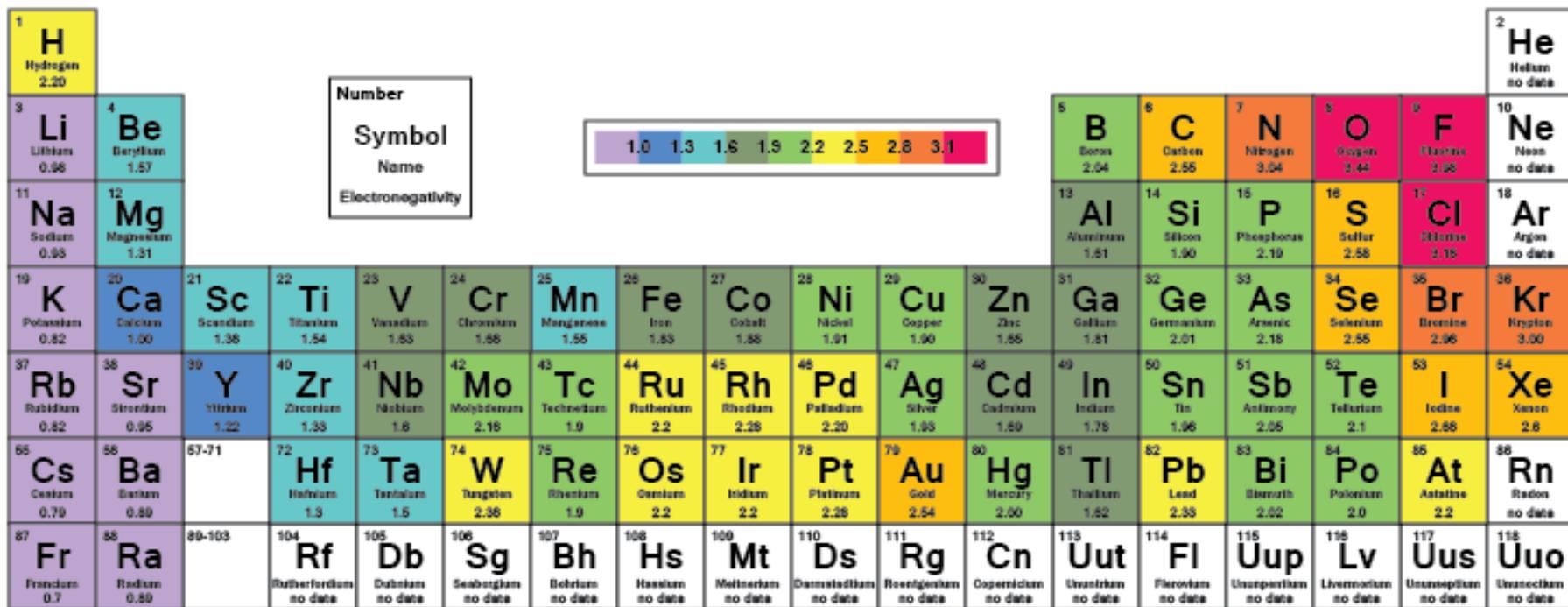


## Selection rule

dipole moment of molecule  
should change during vibration

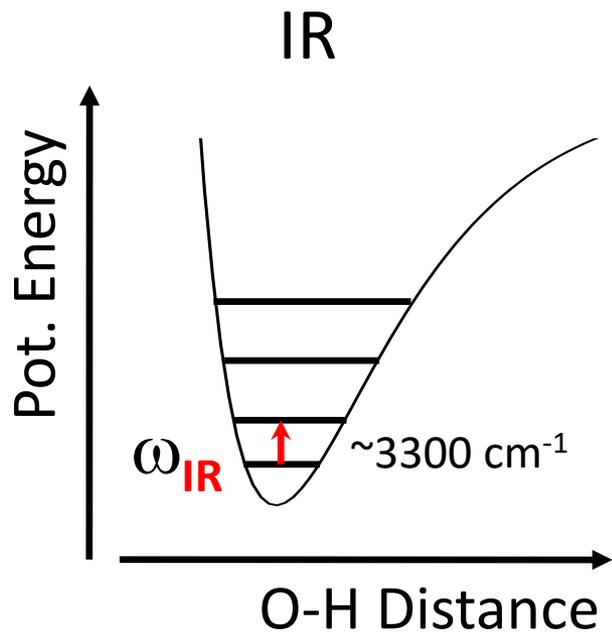
- With background, IR detection
- Not sensitive
- Not surface specific

# Electronegativity



<b>Lanthanide Series</b>	57 <b>La</b> Lanthanum 1.10	58 <b>Ce</b> Cerium 1.12	59 <b>Pr</b> Praseodymium 1.13	60 <b>Nd</b> Neodymium 1.14	61 <b>Pm</b> Promethium 1.15	62 <b>Sm</b> Samarium 1.17	63 <b>Eu</b> Europium 1.2	64 <b>Gd</b> Gadolinium 1.2	65 <b>Tb</b> Terbium 1.22	66 <b>Dy</b> Dysprosium 1.23	67 <b>Ho</b> Holmium 1.24	68 <b>Er</b> Erbium 1.24	69 <b>Tm</b> Thulium 1.25	70 <b>Yb</b> Ytterbium 1.1	71 <b>Lu</b> Lutetium 1.27
<b>Actinide Series</b>	89 <b>Ac</b> Actinium 1.1	90 <b>Th</b> Thorium 1.3	91 <b>Pa</b> Protactinium 1.5	92 <b>U</b> Uranium 1.38	93 <b>Np</b> Neptunium 1.36	94 <b>Pu</b> Plutonium 1.28	95 <b>Am</b> Americium 1.3	96 <b>Cm</b> Curium 1.3	97 <b>Bk</b> Berkelium 1.3	98 <b>Cf</b> Californium 1.3	99 <b>Es</b> Einsteinium 1.3	100 <b>Fm</b> Fermium 1.3	101 <b>Md</b> Mendelevium 1.3	102 <b>No</b> Nobelium 1.3	103 <b>Lr</b> Lawrencium no data

# Vibrational infrared spectroscopy

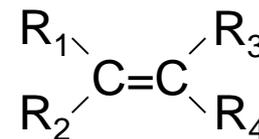
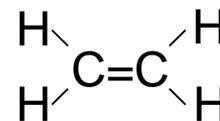


- With background, IR detection
- Not sensitive
- Not surface specific

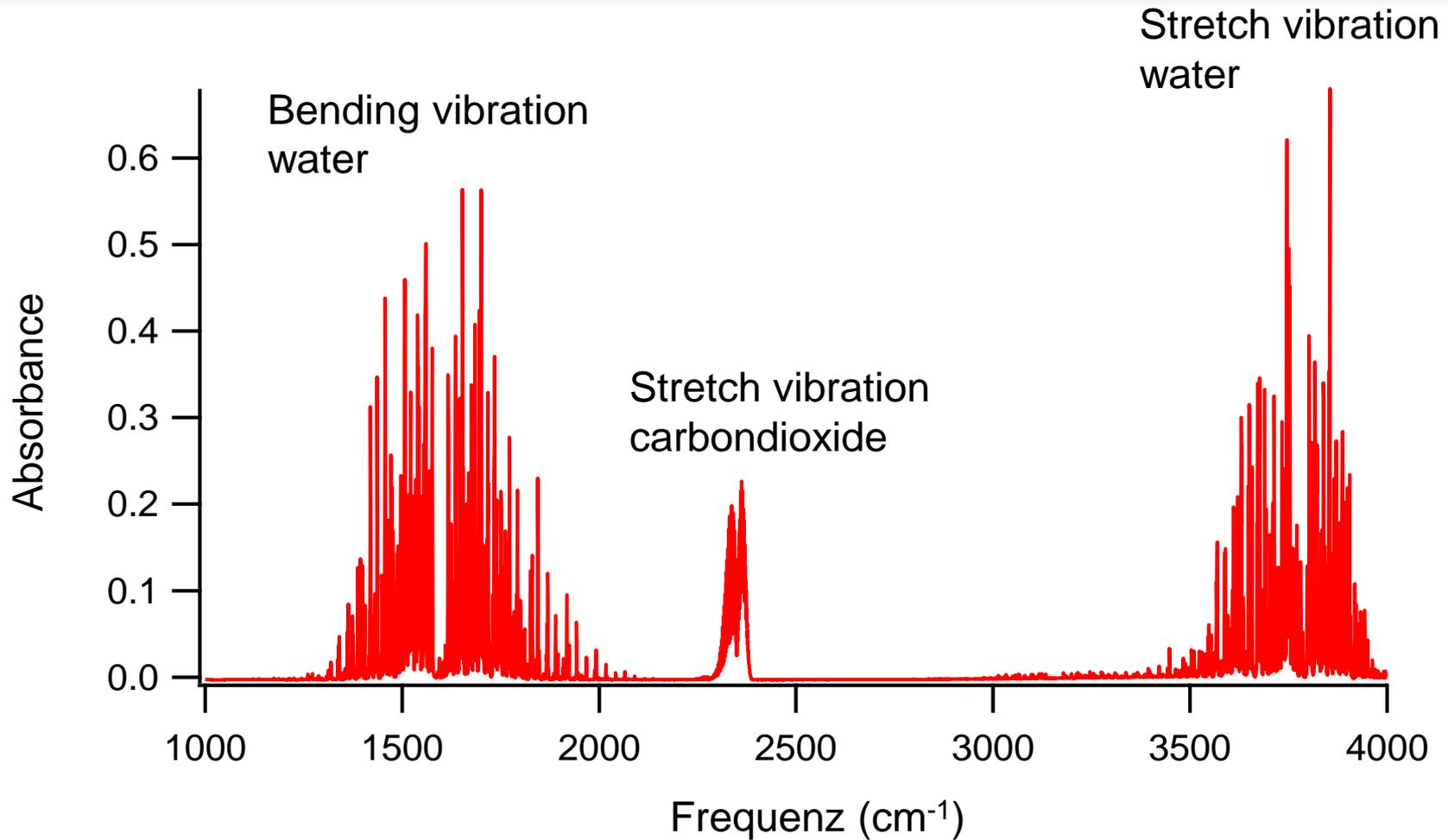
## Selection rule

dipole moment of molecule  
should change during vibration

Which molecules are infrared  
active?

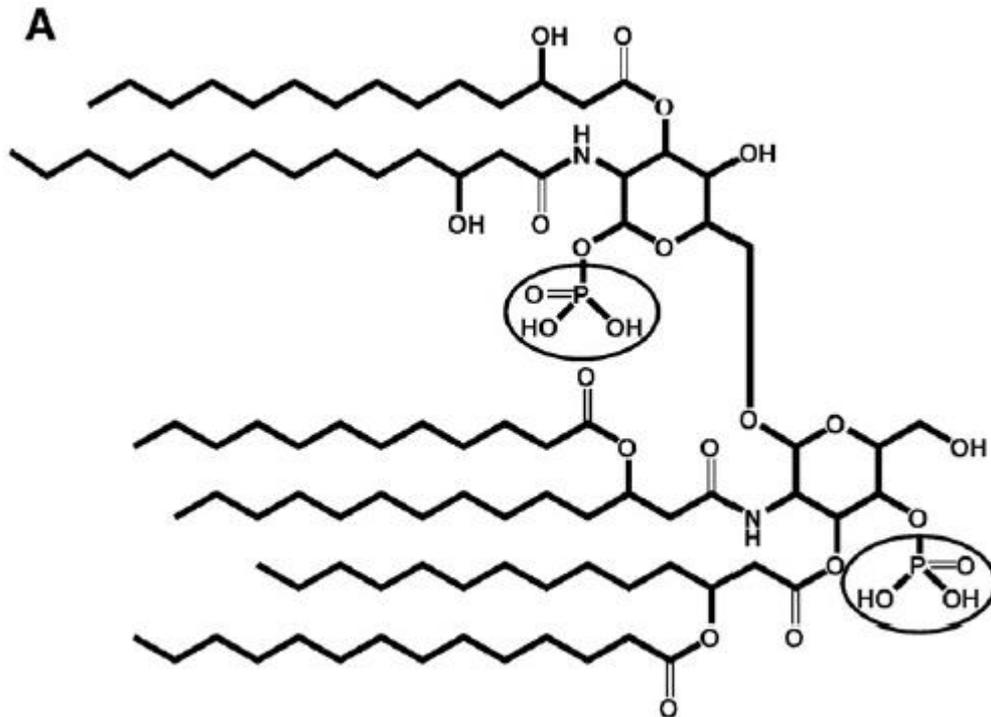


# IR spectrum air



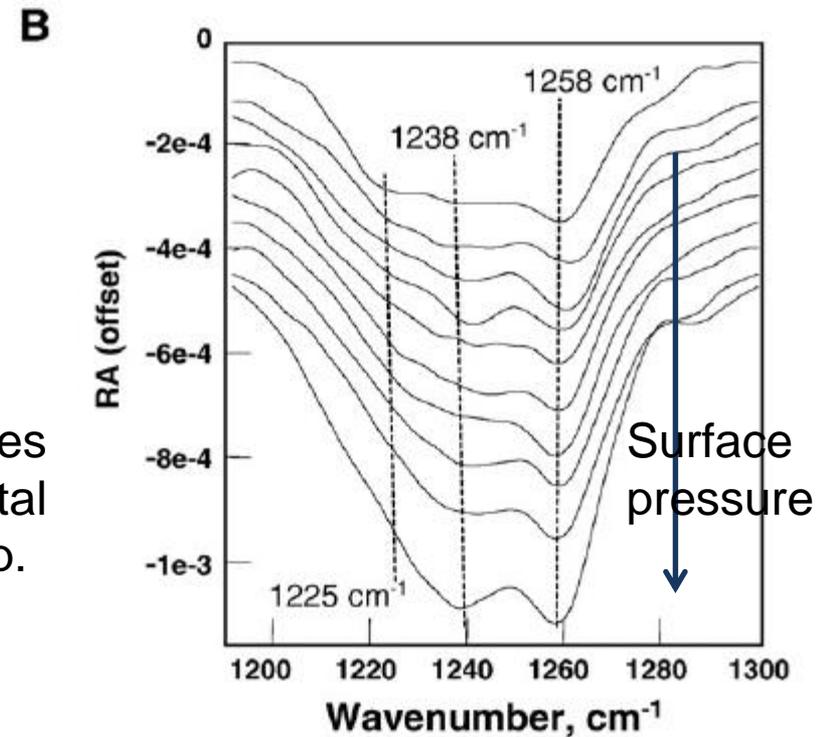
Rotational transitions on top of the vibrations

# IRRAS water-lipid monolayer



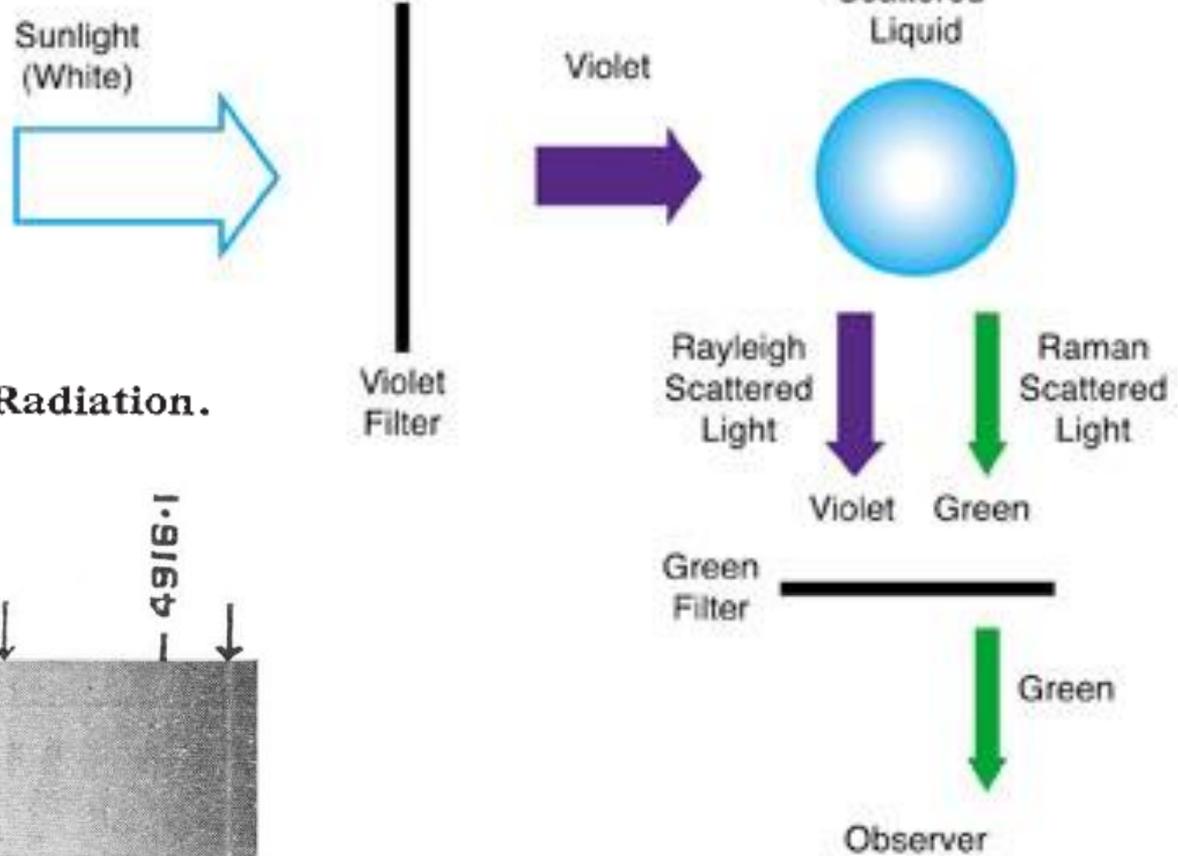
Upon compression, relative peak intensities changes, revealing a structural or environmental change in the vicinity of the lipid polar head group.

Phosphate vibrations  
1258  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : unhydrated  
1238  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : monohydrated  
1225  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : dihydrated



# Scattering experiment

Raman und Krishnan



The Negative Absorption of Radiation.

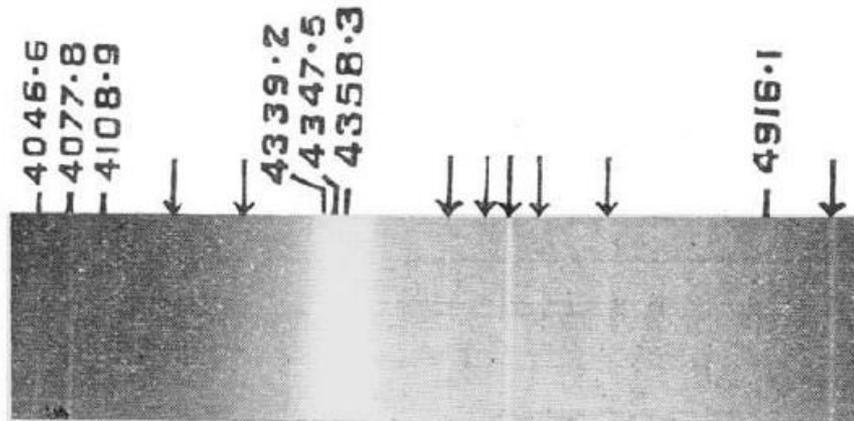
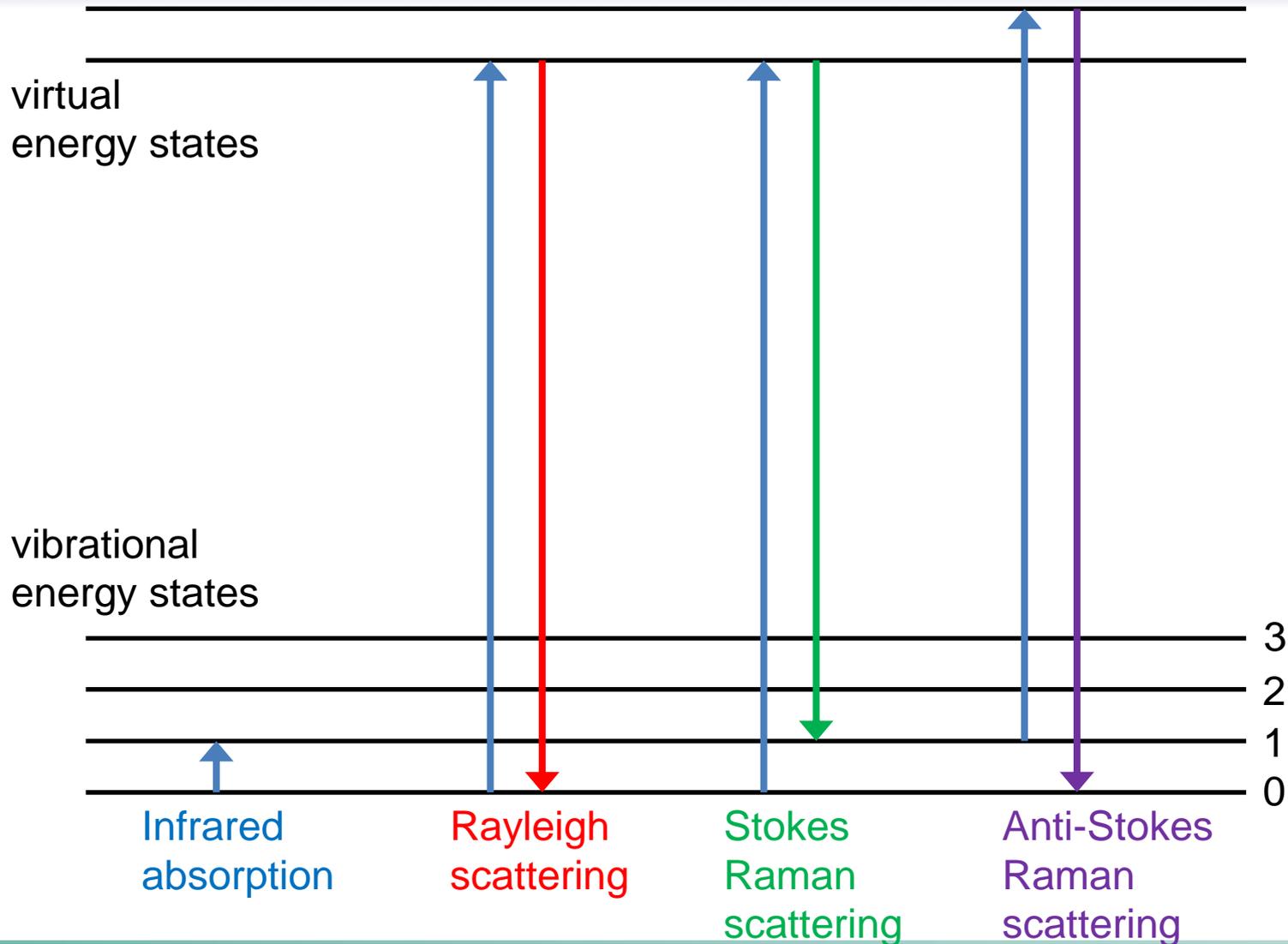
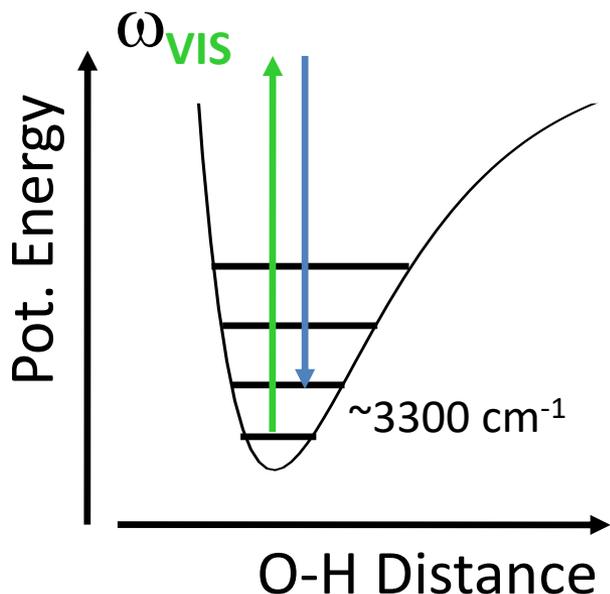


FIG. 1.

# Raman energy-level diagram



# Vibrational Raman spectroscopy

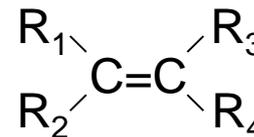
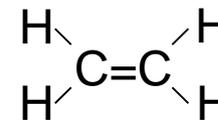


- With background, VIS detection
- Not sensitive
- Not surface specific
- Suited for microscopy

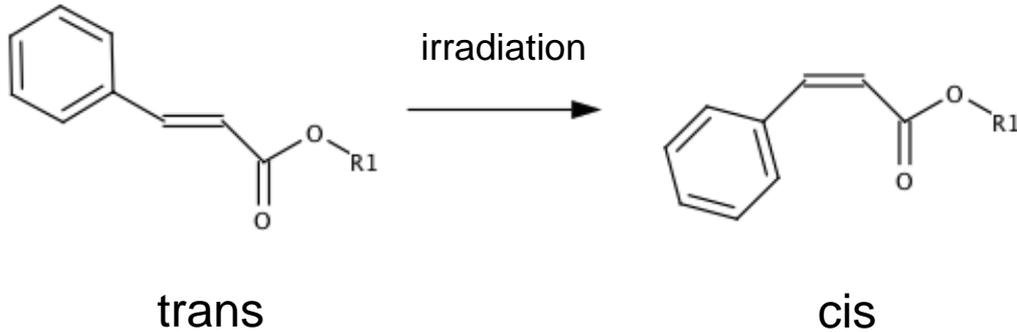
## Selection rule

polarizability (tendency of charge distribution to be distorted by external electromagnetic field) of molecule should change during vibration

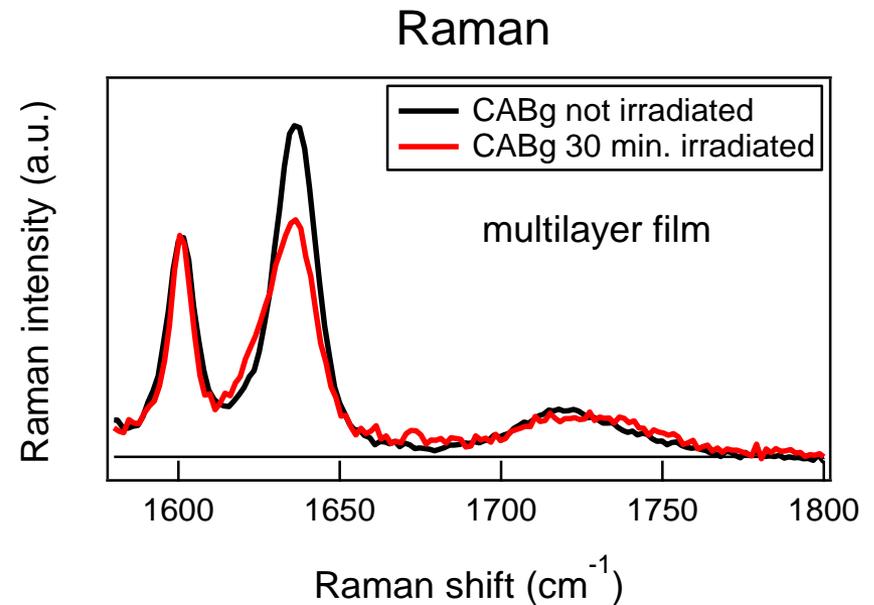
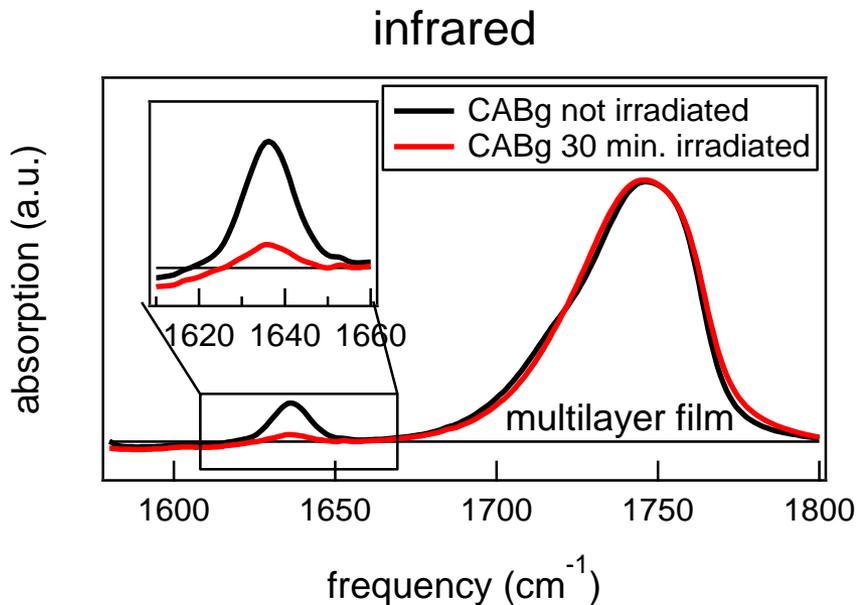
Which molecules are Raman active?



# Compare IR and Raman



1600: C=C stretch benzene  
1640: C=C stretch  
1750: C=O stretch



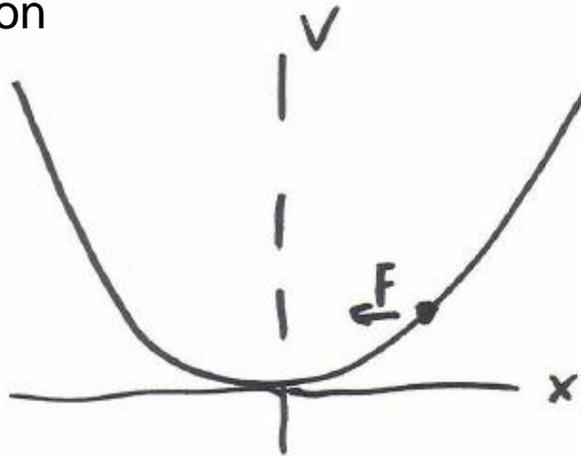
# Vibrational spectroscopy

- Identification of functional groups on a molecule:  
label-free molecular info
- Shape and frequency of spectral response reflects local  
molecular environment
- Absorbance follows Beer's Law:  
$$\text{Abs} = \text{extinction coefficient} * \text{concentration} * \text{pathlength}$$
  
 $\Rightarrow$  can do quantitative analysis
- But..... need advanced methods to investigate  
surfaces/interfaces

# Linear optics

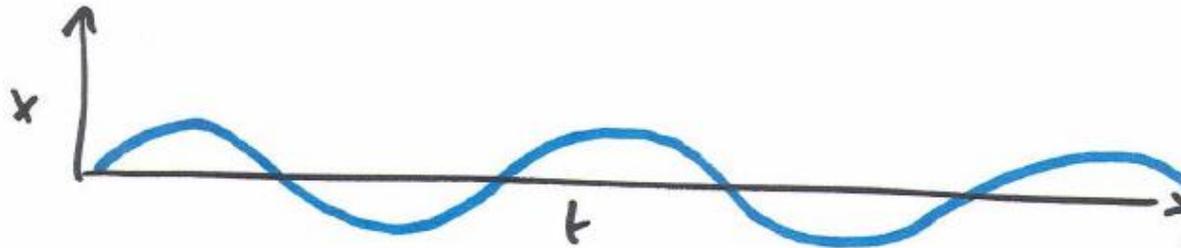
Polarization P:  
non-equilibrium  
charge distribution  
created by E

$$P(\omega) = \epsilon_0 \chi(\omega) E(\omega) \quad \text{with } \chi = \chi^{(1)}$$



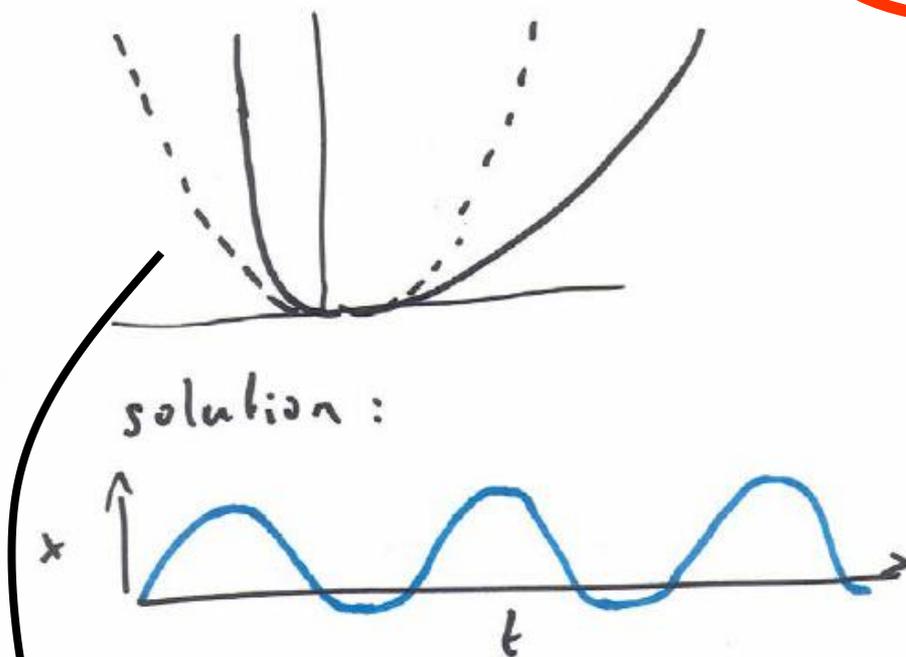
$$V \propto x^2$$
$$F \propto -x$$

solution:



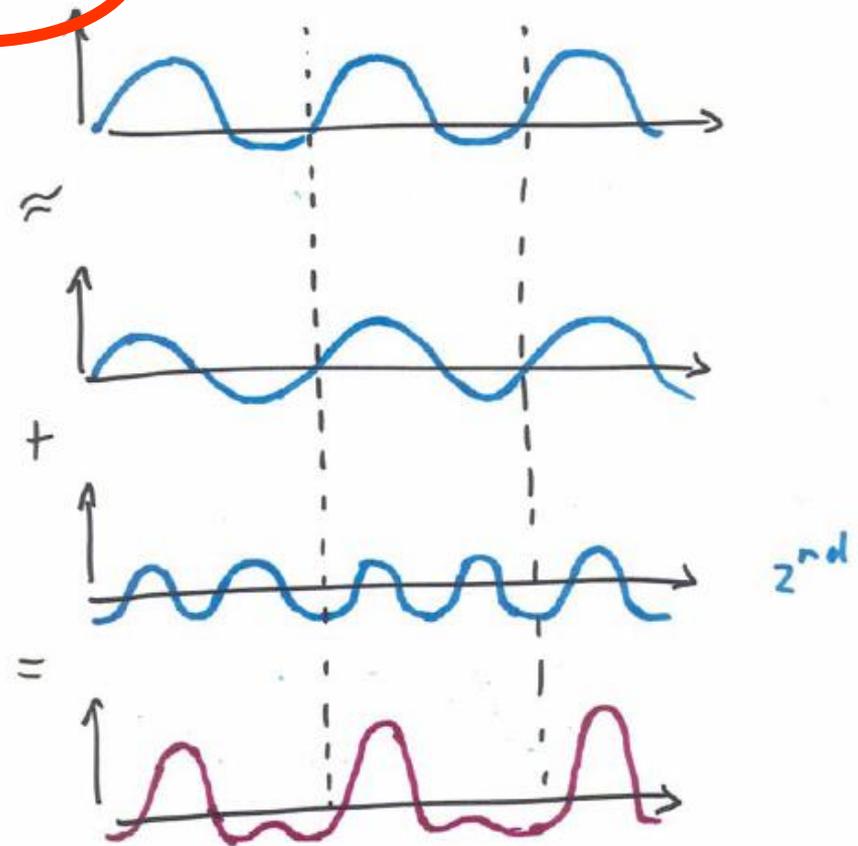
# Nonlinear optics

$$P(t) \propto \chi^{(1)} E(t) + \chi^{(2)} E^2(t) + \chi^{(3)} E^3(t) + \dots$$



Result: **rectified oscillation**

Typical for environment  
with broken symmetry:  
Surface / interface



# First second harmonic experiment

1961, 694 nm light on quartz plate

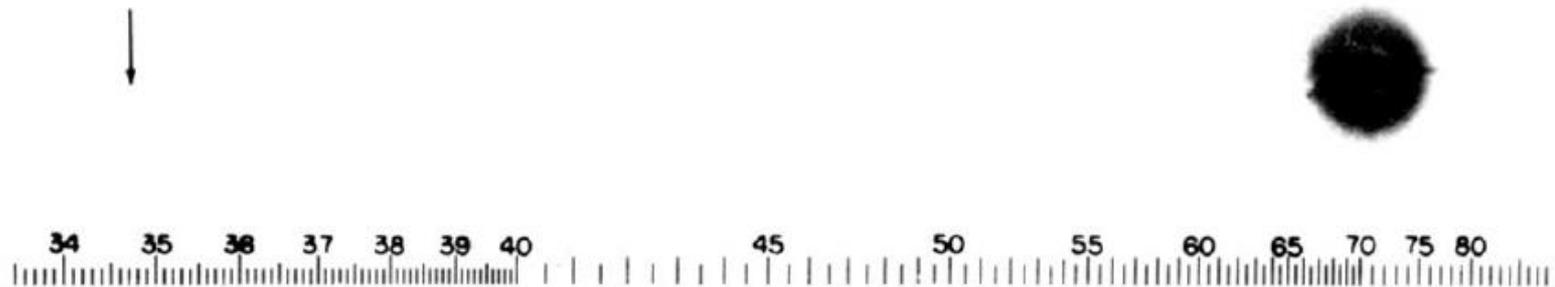


FIG. 1. A direct reproduction of the first plate in which there was an indication of second harmonic. The wavelength scale is in units of 100 Å. The arrow at 3472 Å indicates the small but dense image produced by the second harmonic. The image of the primary beam at 6943 Å is very large due to halation.

# Theory: nonlinear optics

The electric field of a light wave propagating through a medium exerts a force on the electrons of the molecules. Low intensity light, then

$$\mu = \underbrace{\mu_0}_{\text{static permanent dipole}} + \underbrace{\alpha E}_{\text{polarisability of molecular electrons}}$$

The sum of the molecular electric dipoles gives rise to a bulk polarisation:

$$P = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E \quad (\text{considering only the induced polarisation})$$

$\chi^{(1)}$  is average of  $\alpha$

By increasing field strength, non-linearity terms become important:

$$\mu = \mu_0 + \alpha E + \underbrace{\beta E^2}_{\text{first order hyperpolarisability}} + \underbrace{\gamma E^3}_{\text{second order hyperpolarisability}} + \dots$$

# Theory: nonlinear optics

$$P(t) \propto \chi E(t)$$
$$\propto \chi^{(1)} E(t) + \chi^{(2)} E(t)^2 + \chi^{(3)} E(t)^3 + \dots$$

# Theory: nonlinear optics

$$P(t) \propto \chi E(t)$$
$$\propto \chi^{(1)} E(t) + \chi^{(2)} E(t)^2 + \chi^{(3)} E(t)^3 + \dots$$

Second Harmonic Generation

Optical Rectification

$$P^{(2)}(t) \propto \chi^{(2)} \left( \begin{array}{l} E_1^2 (\cos(2\omega_1 t) + \cos((\omega_1 - \omega_1)t)) + \\ E_2^2 (\cos(2\omega_2 t) + \cos((\omega_2 - \omega_2)t)) + \\ 2E_1 E_2 (\cos((\omega_1 + \omega_2)t) + \cos((\omega_1 - \omega_2)t)) \end{array} \right)$$

Sum Frequency Generation    Difference Frequency Generation

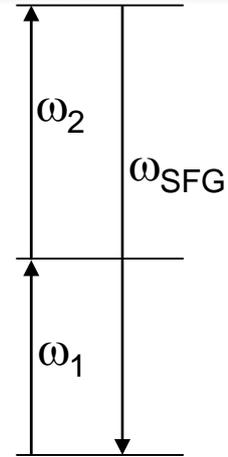
Topic of this lecture

# Theory: nonlinear optics

$$P^{(2)} \propto \chi^{(2)} E_1 E_2$$

$$\mu = \mu_0 + \alpha E + \beta E^2 + \gamma E^3 + \dots$$

$$\chi_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{(2)} \propto N \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \beta_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$$



$\chi^{(2)}$  has molecular information and is thus the interesting observable to obtain in an experiment

$$E_{\text{SFG}}(\omega_{\text{SFG}}) \propto P^{(2)}(\omega_{\text{SFG}})$$

$$I_{\text{SFG}}(\omega_{\text{SFG}}) = |E_{\text{SFG}}(\omega_{\text{SFG}})|^2$$

$$I_{\text{SFG}}(\omega_{\text{SFG}}) \propto |\chi^{(2)}(\omega)|^2 I(\omega_1) I(\omega_2)$$

$\chi^{(2)}$  obtained by measuring the intensity of the SFG signal

# Prove of SFG forbidden in centrosymmetric media

Perform a 'gedanken' experiment:

$$P^{(2)} \propto \chi^{(2)} EE$$

Apply inversion symmetry operation

$$P^{(2)} = -P^{(2)}, E = -E, \chi^{(2)} = \chi_{\text{inverted}}^{(2)} \quad \text{for centrosymmetric medium}$$

$$-P^{(2)} \propto \chi^{(2)} (-E)(-E) = \chi^{(2)} EE$$

$$\Rightarrow \chi^{(2)} = 0$$

At surface symmetry is broken

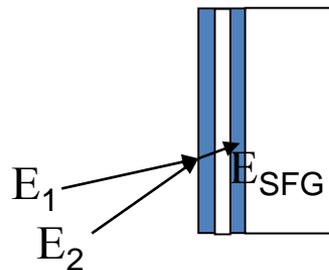
$\Rightarrow$  SFG allowed at surface, but forbidden in bulk

# Theory: nonlinear optics

Two requirements to obtain SFG signal from bulk materials:

1. phase matching condition

signal from every slab has to interfere positively



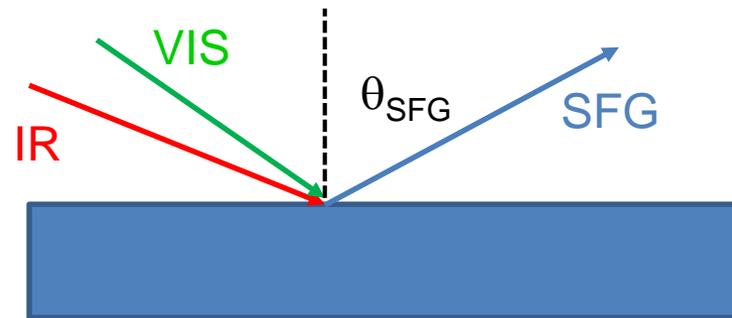
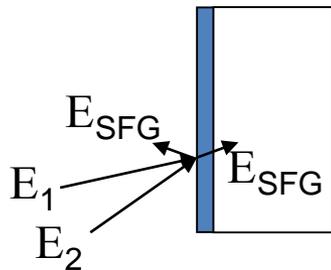
2. material should have a nonzero second-order susceptibility  
which is not the case for a centrosymmetric medium

At surface symmetry is broken

⇒ SFG allowed at surface, but forbidden in bulk

# Theory: nonlinear optics

At surface symmetry is broken for a thin region (~one molecular diameter in thickness) and therefore SFG signal can be generated in reflection and transmission geometry.



Phase matching: conservation of momentum parallel to surface

$$n_{SFG}\omega_{SFG} \sin \theta_{SFG} = n_{IR}\omega_{IR} \sin \theta_{IR} + n_{VIS}\omega_{VIS} \sin \theta_{VIS}$$

How to obtain molecular information?

# Sum frequency generation

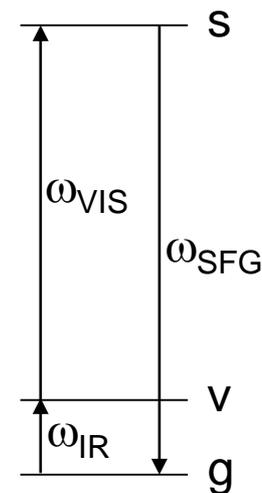
- Infrared spectroscopy molecular specific
- Second-order nonlinear process, like SFG, surface specific

⇒ vibrational sum-frequency generation spectroscopy gives molecular information of an interface

$\omega_{\text{IR}}$ : resonant with molecular vibration

$\omega_{\text{VIS}}$ : in general nonresonant

$\omega_{\text{SFG}}$ : in visible region ⇒ “easy” to detect



# Theory: nonlinear optics

$$P^{(2)} \propto \chi^{(2)} E_1 E_2$$

$$\chi_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{(2)} \propto N \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \beta_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$$

$$\beta_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \frac{1}{2\hbar} \frac{M_{\alpha\beta} A_{\gamma}}{(\omega_v - \omega_{IR} - i\Gamma)}$$

———— s

———— v

———— g

$$M_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_s \left[ \frac{\langle g | \mu_{\alpha} | s \rangle \langle s | \mu_{\beta} | v \rangle}{\hbar(\omega_{SF} - \omega_{sg})} - \frac{\langle g | \mu_{\beta} | s \rangle \langle s | \mu_{\alpha} | v \rangle}{\hbar(\omega_{VIS} + \omega_{sg})} \right] \text{ Raman transition moment}$$

$$A_{\gamma} = \langle v | \mu_{\gamma} | g \rangle \text{ Infrared transition moment}$$

# Theory summary

$$P^{(2)}(\omega_{\text{SFG}}) \propto \chi^{(2)}(\omega) E(\omega_{\text{VIS}}) E(\omega_{\text{IR}})$$

$$E_{\text{SFG}}(\omega_{\text{SFG}}) \propto P^{(2)}(\omega_{\text{SFG}})$$

$$I_{\text{SFG}}(\omega_{\text{SFG}}) = |E_{\text{SFG}}(\omega_{\text{SFG}})|^2$$

$$I_{\text{SFG}}(\omega_{\text{SFG}}) \propto |\chi^{(2)}(\omega)|^2 I(\omega_{\text{VIS}}) I(\omega_{\text{IR}})$$

Molecular characteristics are present in  $\chi^{(2)}$

$$\chi = \chi_{\text{NR}} + \chi_{\text{R}}$$

$$\chi_{\text{R}} = \sum_n \frac{N_n M_n A_n}{\omega_{\text{IR}} - \omega_n + i\Gamma_n}$$

N: number of molecules

M: polarizability (Raman)

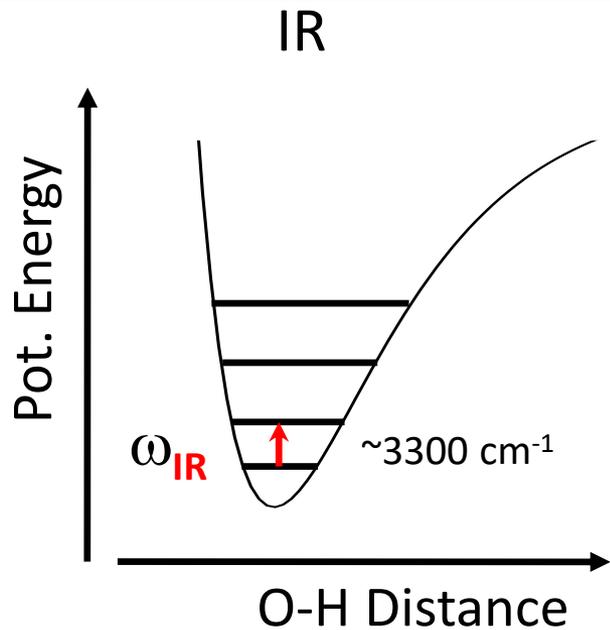
A: dipole moment (infrared)

$\omega$ : frequency

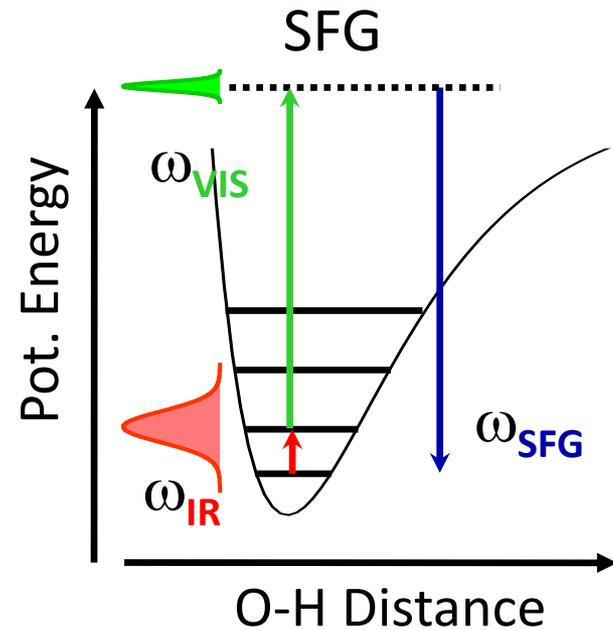
$\Gamma$ : linewidth

For SFG a vibration has to be both IR and Raman active!  
Large signal if  $\omega_{\text{IR}} = \omega_n$ , i.e. on resonance

# Sum-frequency generation



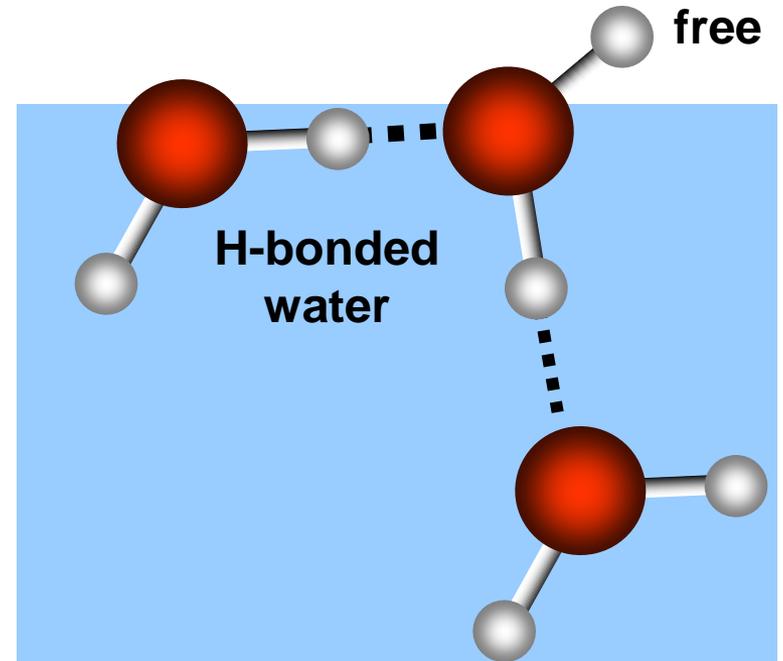
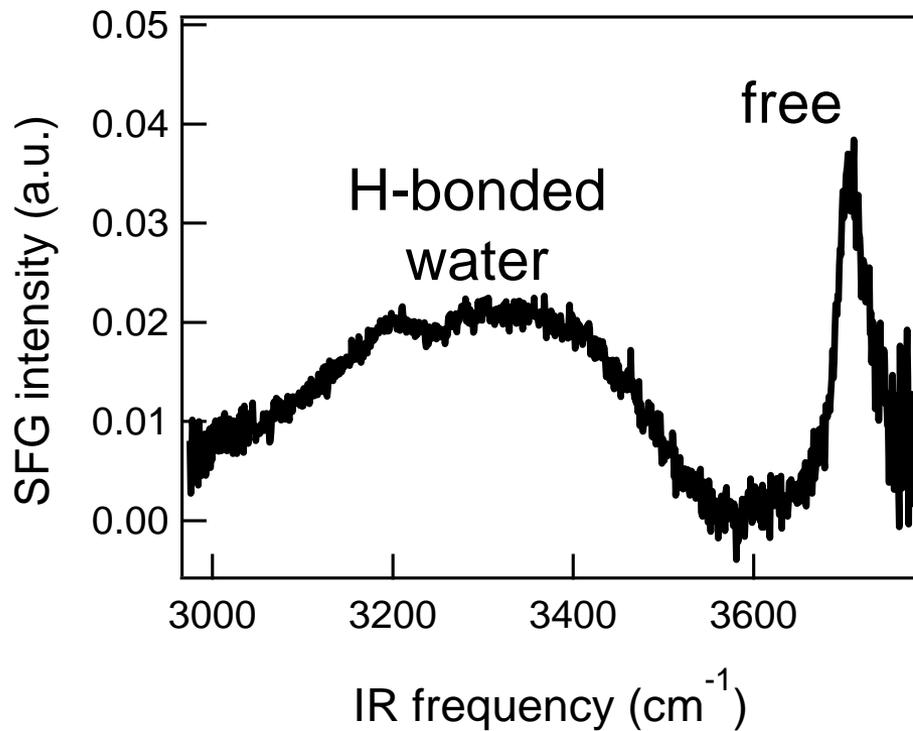
- With background, IR detection
- Not sensitive
- Not surface specific
- Ill-suited for microscopy



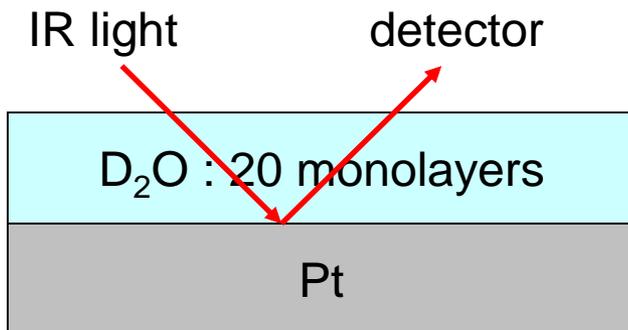
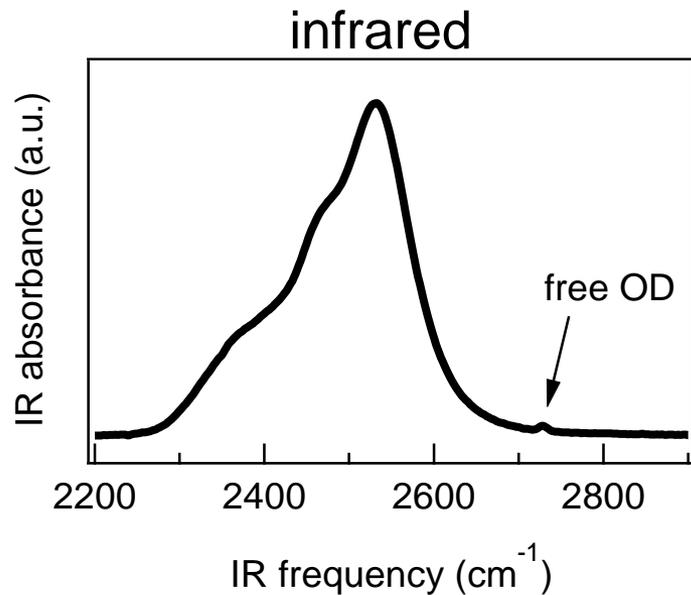
- Background-free, visible detection
- Sensitivity:  $10^{-3}$  ML
- Surface specific, because  $I_{\text{SFG}} \sim \chi^{(2)}$  for inversion symmetry:  $\chi^{(2)}=0$

Obtain *molecular* surface picture: Spatially unresolved, but surface specific

# Water-air SFG spectrum



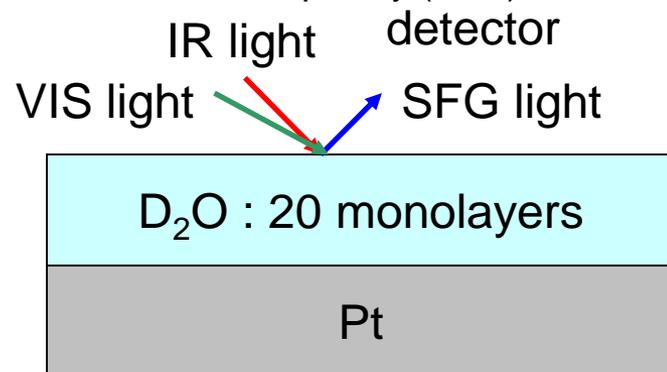
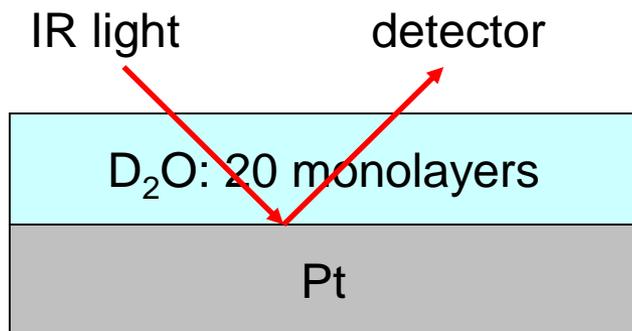
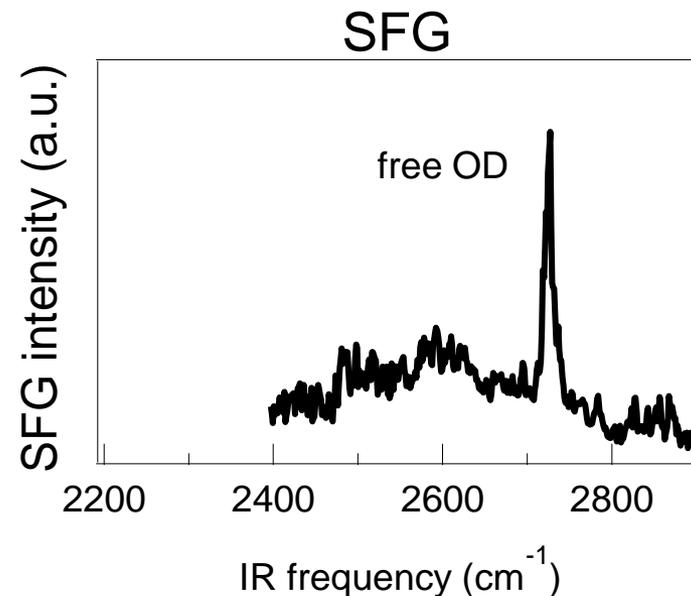
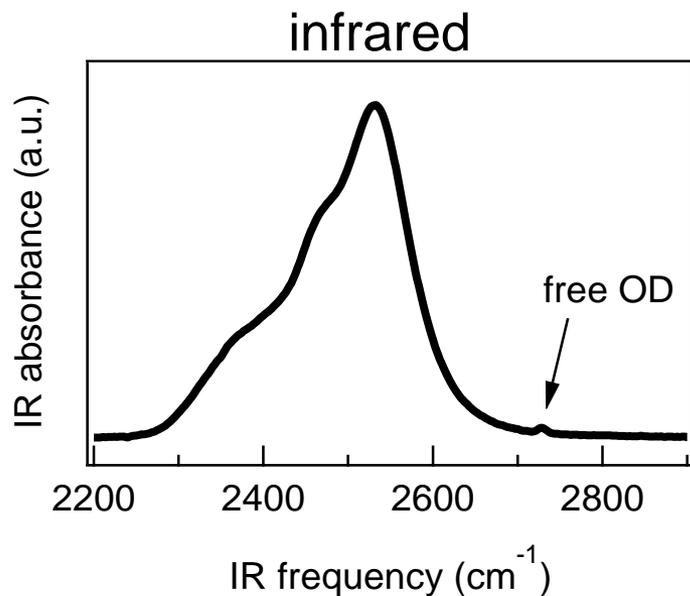
# Illustration: surface specificity



SFG

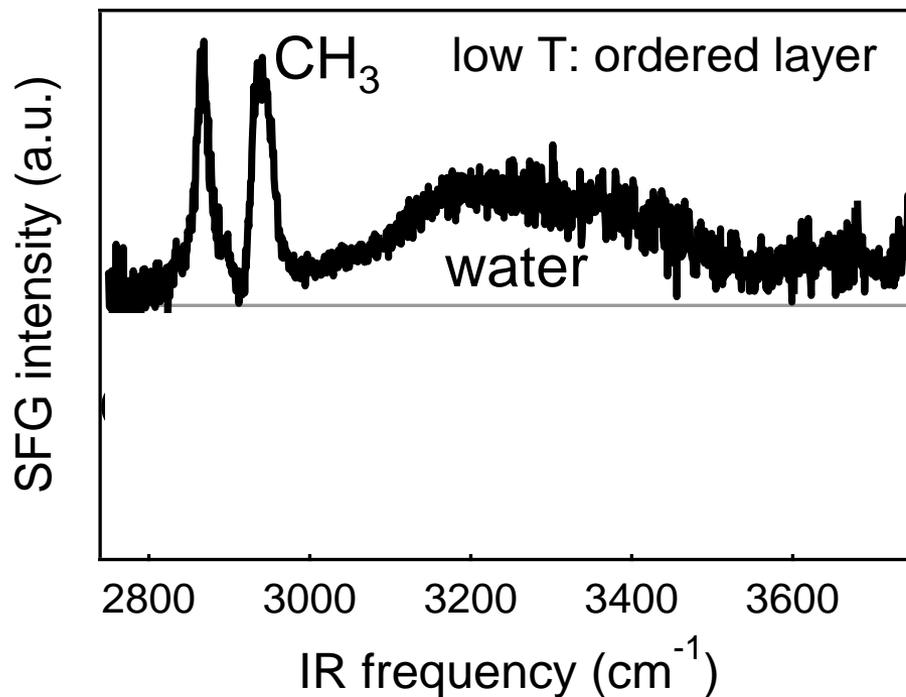
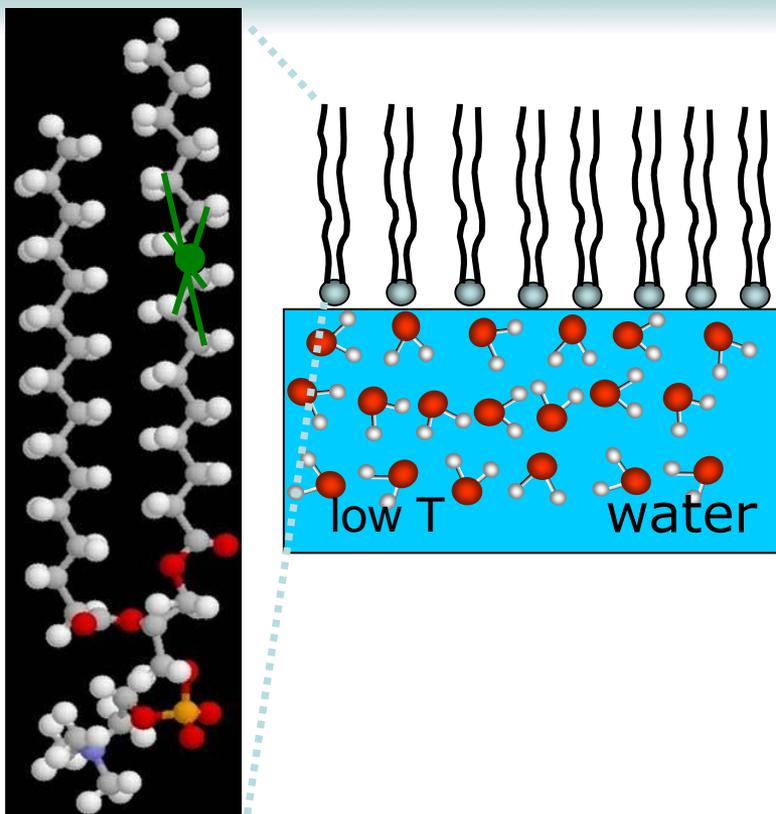


# Illustration: surface specificity

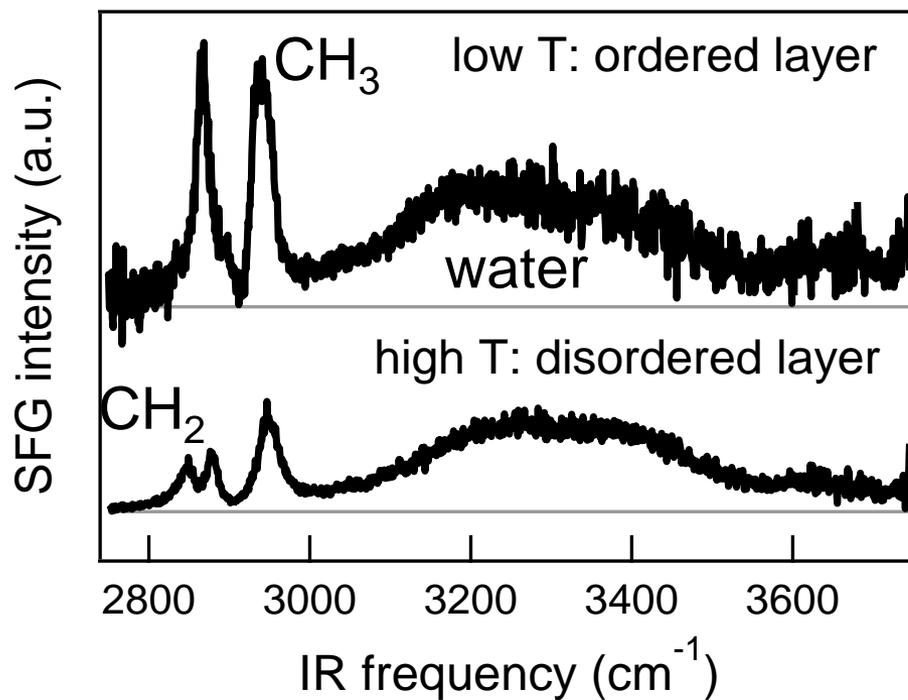
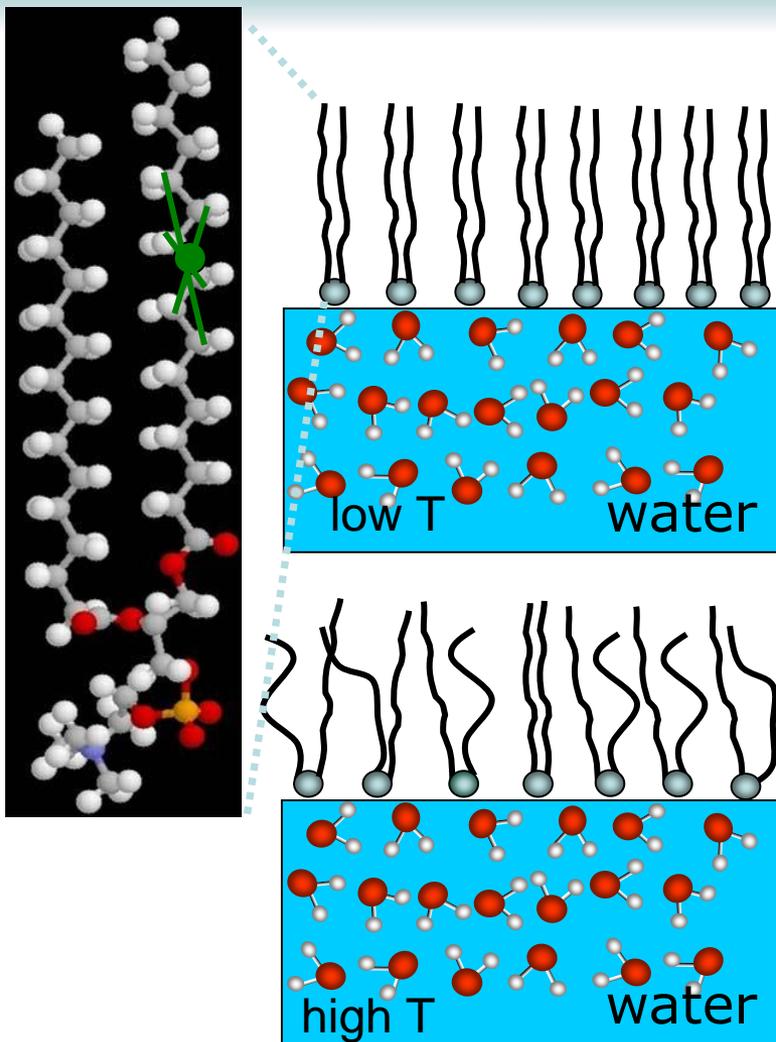


SFG: surface specific

# SFG forbidden by centrosymmetry



# SFG forbidden by centrosymmetry



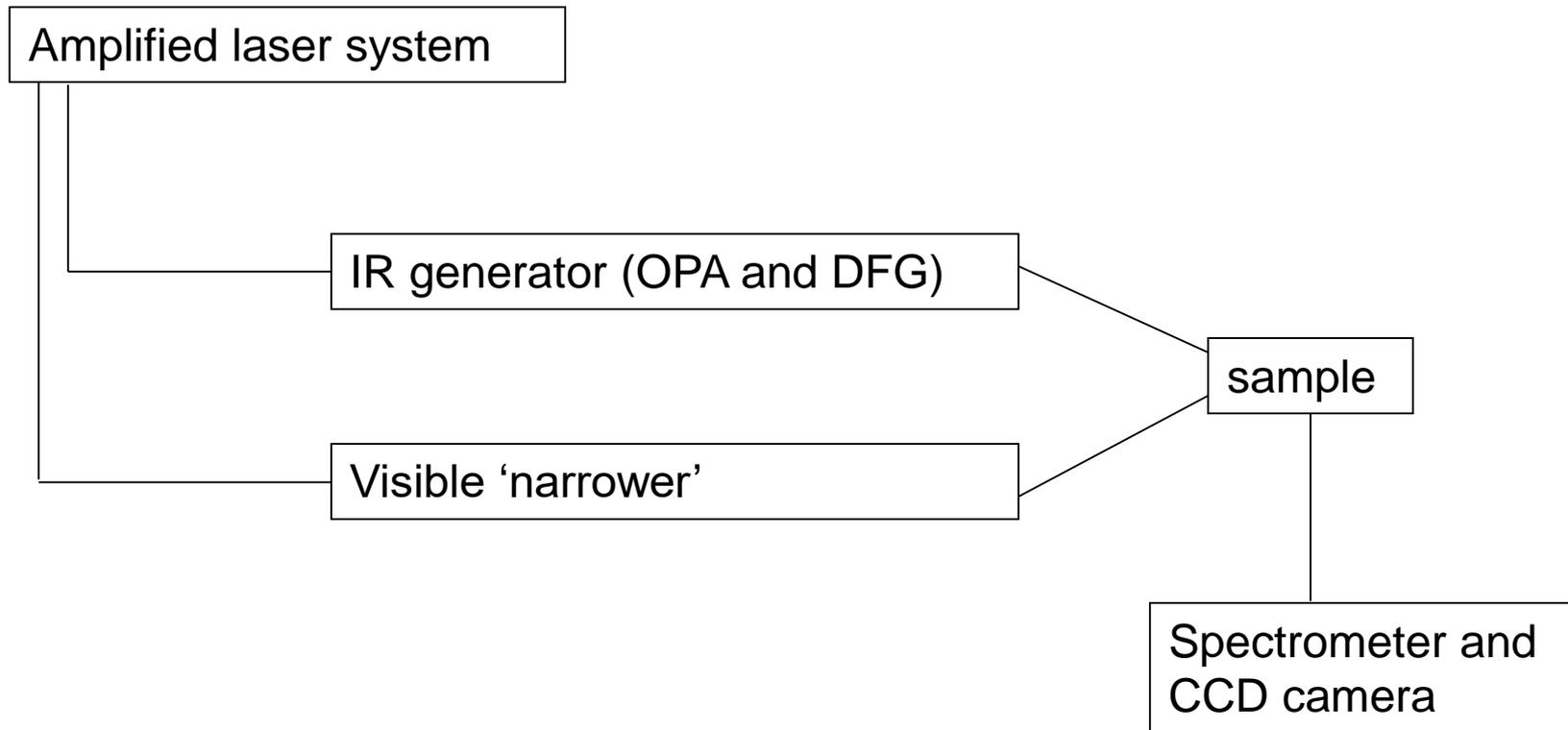
⇒ SFG forbidden in centrosymmetric media and therefore sensitive to order in the tails

# SFG: what can we learn?

SFG 'selection rules':

- Forbidden in centrosymmetric media
- Surface specific
- Vibrational mode has to be Raman and IR active

# Layout femtosecond SFG setup



# ps- vs fs-SFG setup

## picosecond-SFG setup

### Pro

- High frequency resolution

### Contra

- Scan the IR frequency

## femtosecond-SFG setup

### Pro

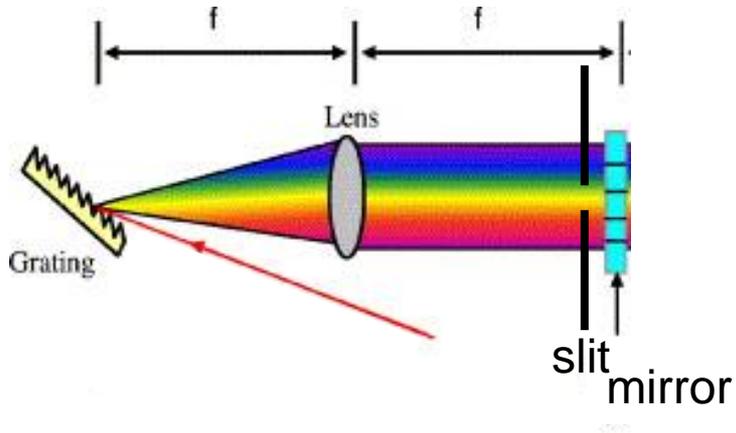
- All frequencies in once
- High time resolution for pump-probe experiments

### Contra

- Additional optics needed to generate narrowband visible

# Pulseshaper and etalon

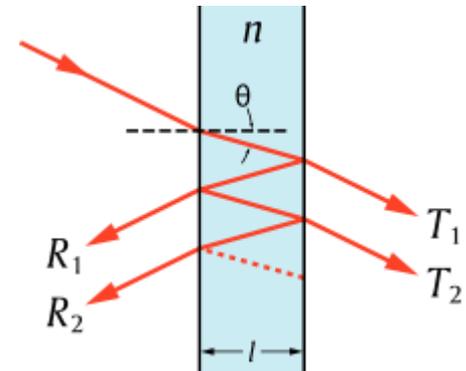
## Pulseshaper



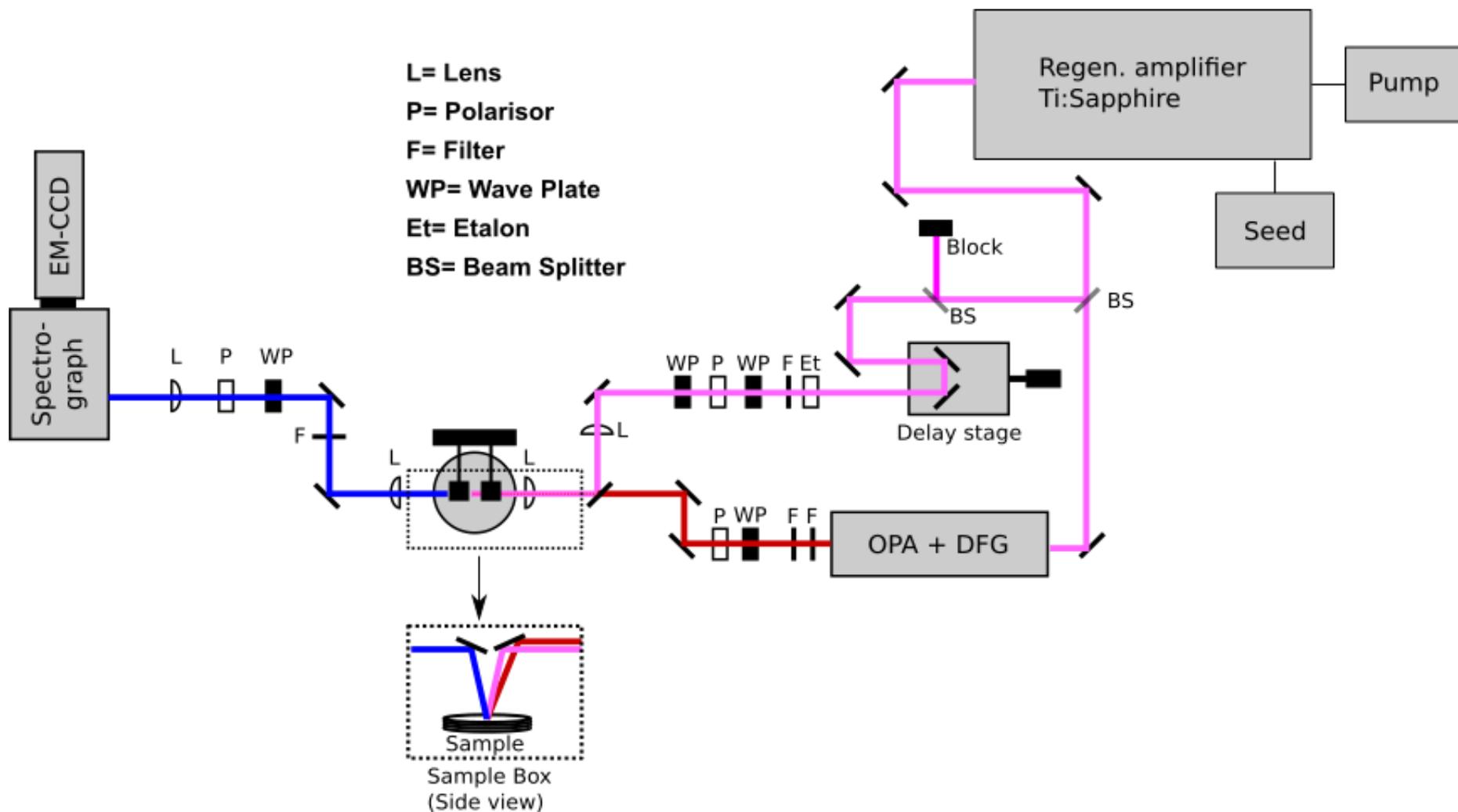
Phase shift between two succeeding reflections:

$$\delta = \left( \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \right) 2nl \cos \theta$$

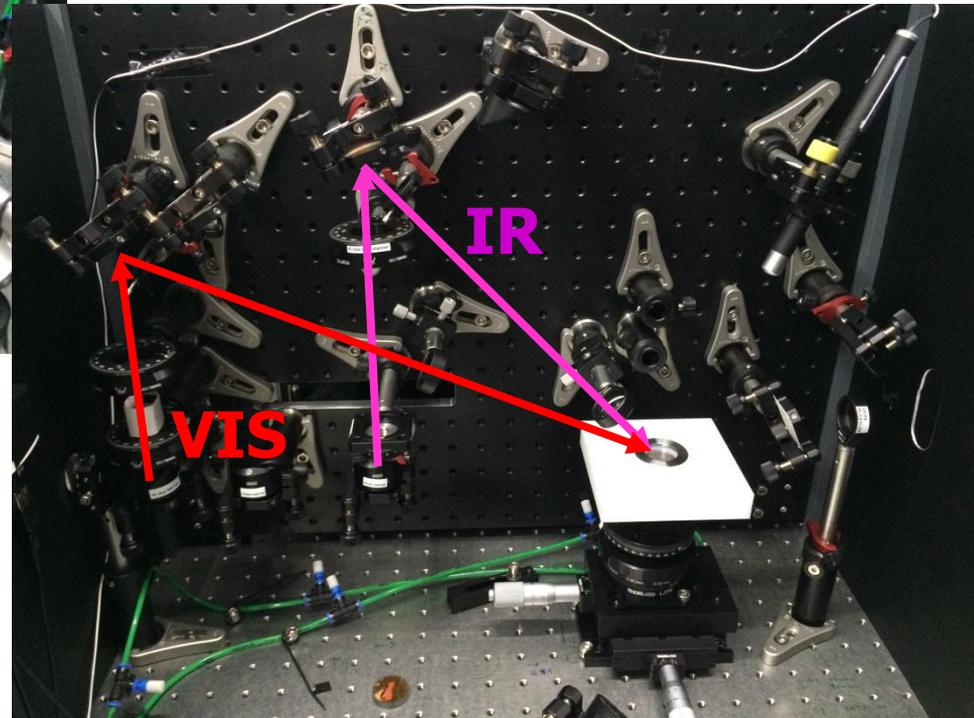
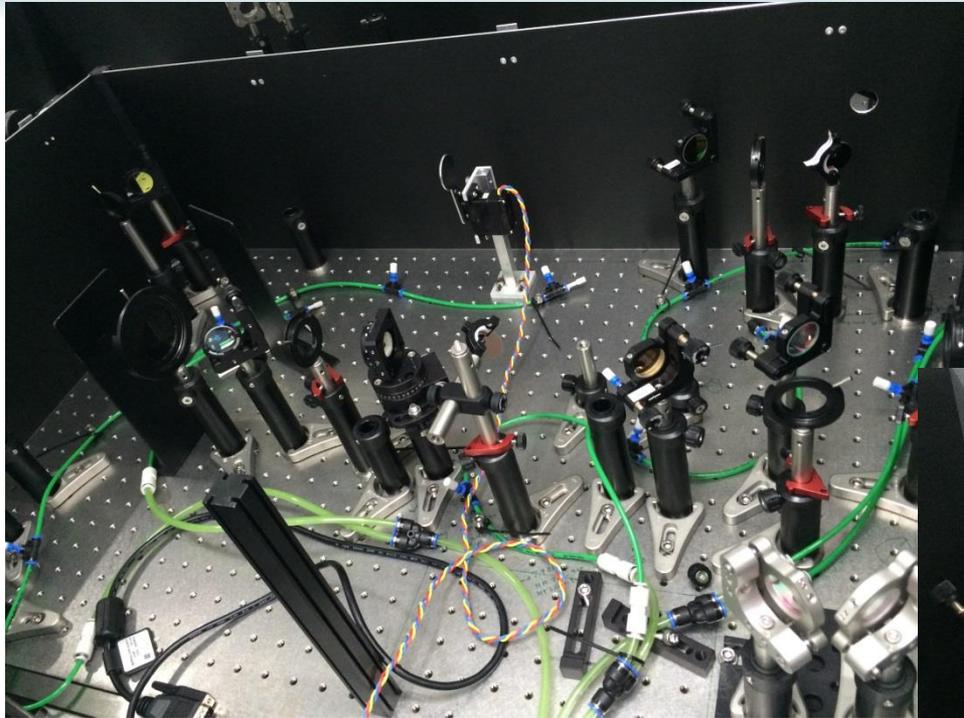
## Etalon



# SFG setup



# SFG setup



# Summary I

- SFG sensitive to surfaces
- Molecular information can be obtained: i.e. ordering of tails, angle, structure (e.g.  $\alpha$ -helix or  $\beta$ -sheet)
- Femtosecond laser used to have broad bandwidth to have spectrum all in once

# Part II

## 2D-IR spectroscopy

# Two coupled vibrational oscillators

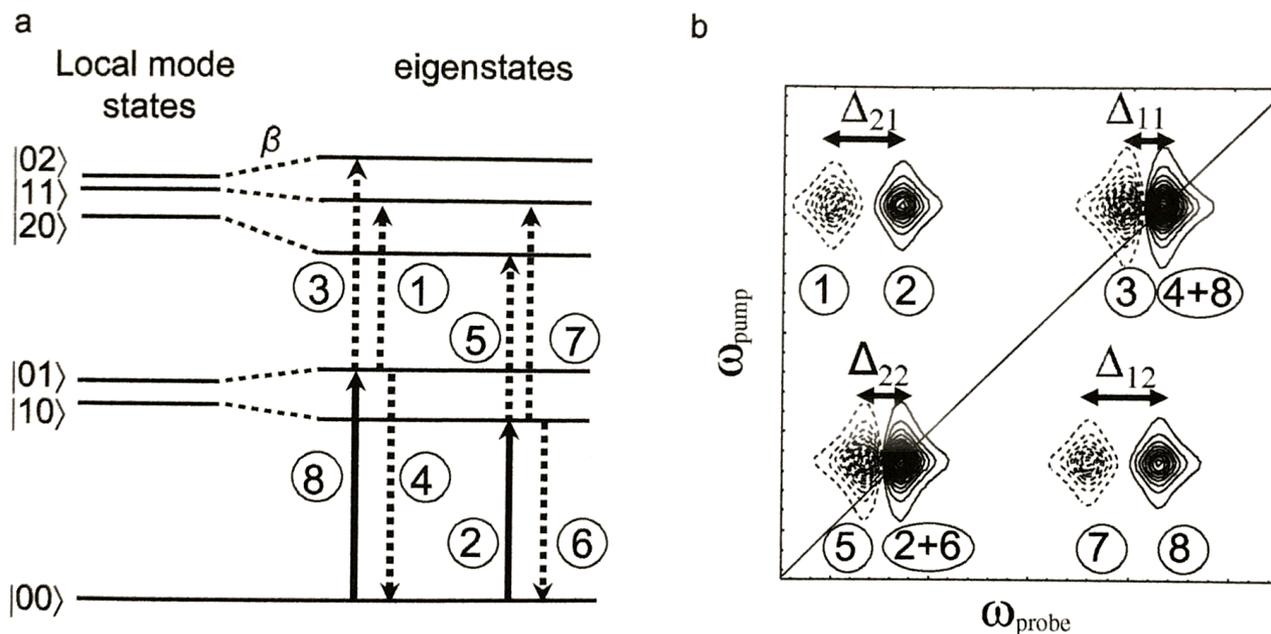
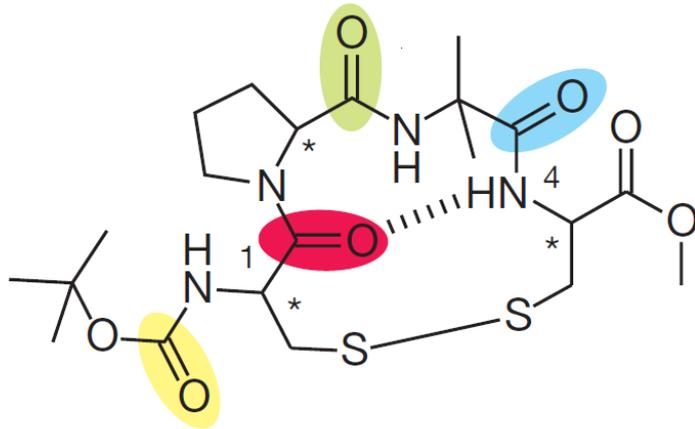
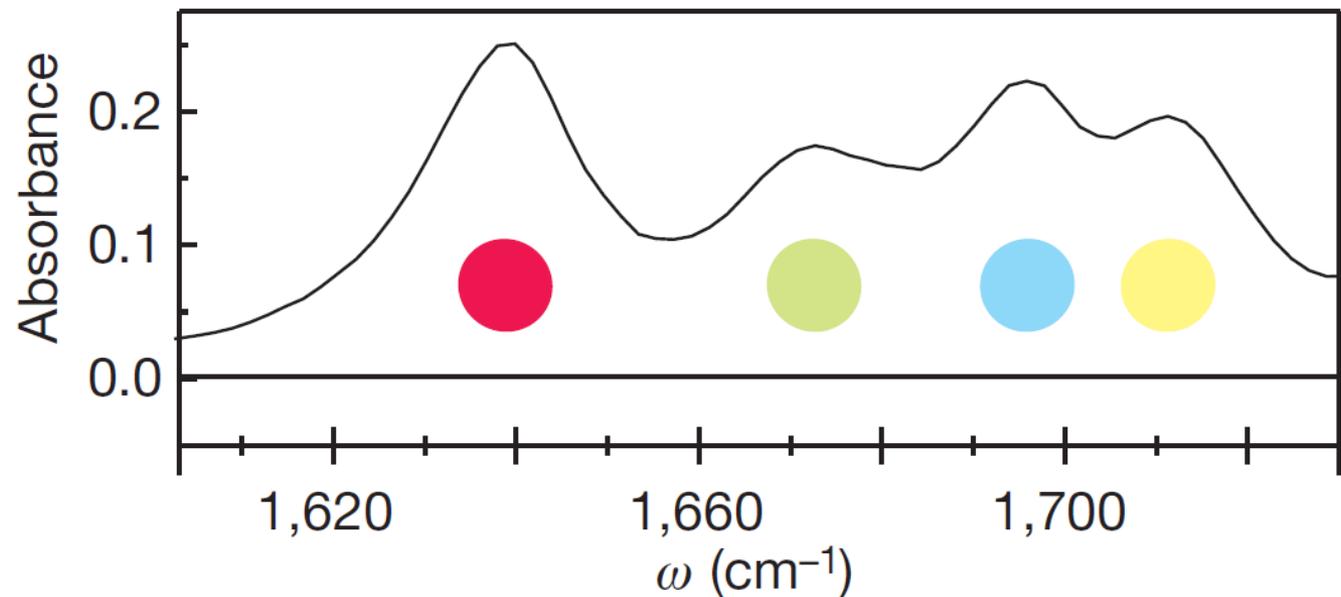


Figure 1.5 (a) Level scheme of two coupled oscillators before coupling (local modes) and after coupling (eigenstates). The dipole-allowed transitions are depicted. The solid arrows represent the pump process, the dotted arrows the probe process. (b) Resulting 2D IR spectrum. Solid contour lines represent negative response (bleach and stimulated emission), dotted contour lines positive response (excited state absorption). The labels (1)–(8) relate each peak in the 2D IR spectrum to the corresponding transition in the level scheme.

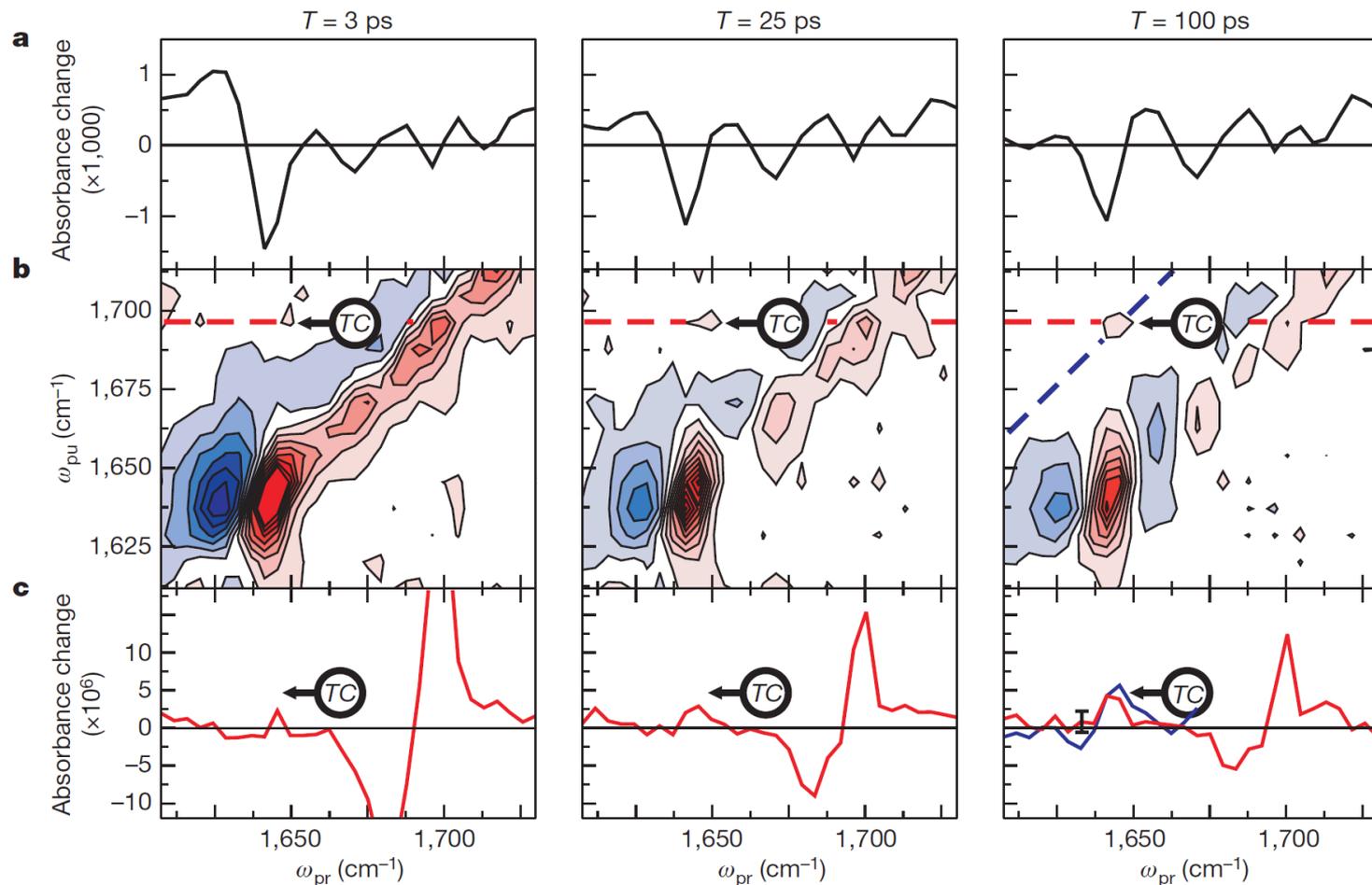
# Transient 2D-IR of peptide



Photolysis of the S-S bond with laser results in partly unfolding of peptide

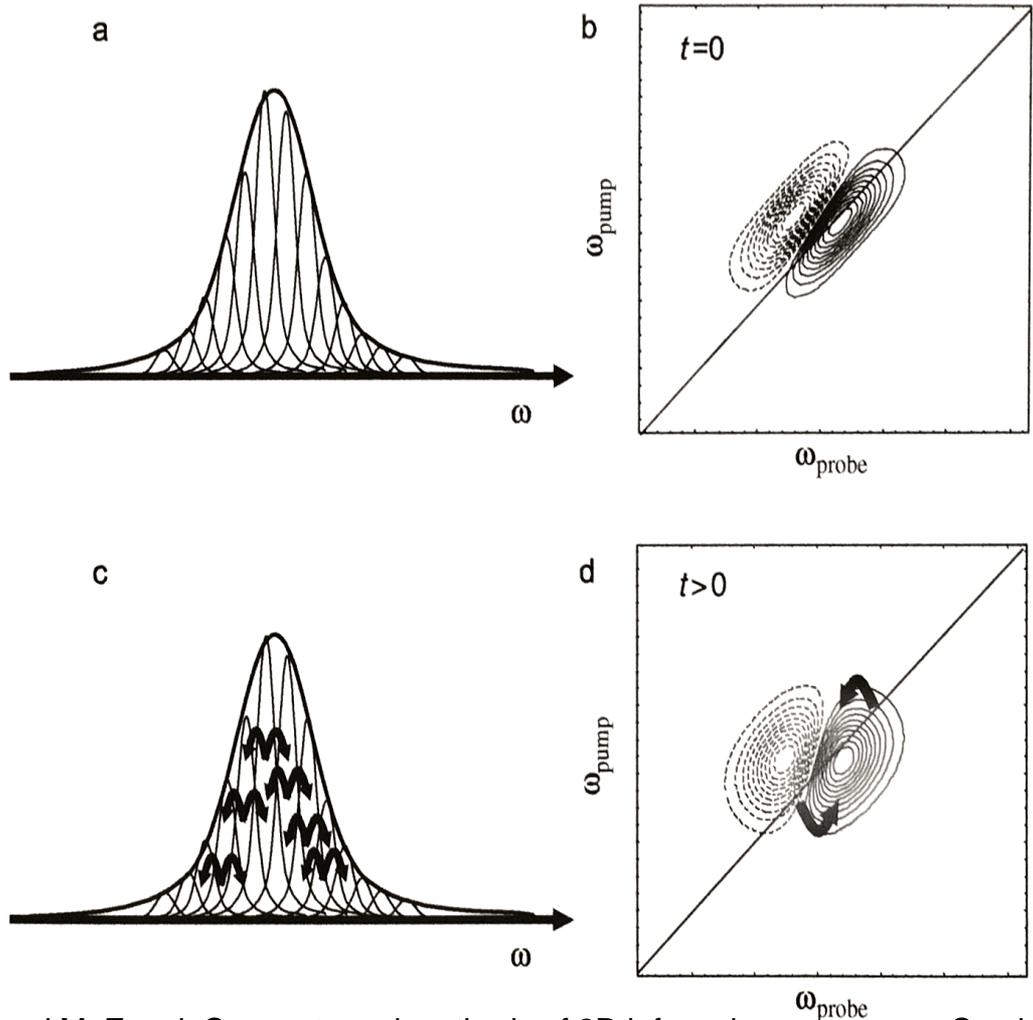


# Transient 2D-IR of peptide



TC: transient cross peak between 1640 and 1700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  peak increasing in time due to partially unfolding of peptide

# Line broadening



Inhomogeneously  
broadened transition

At early times

At later times

# Line broadening

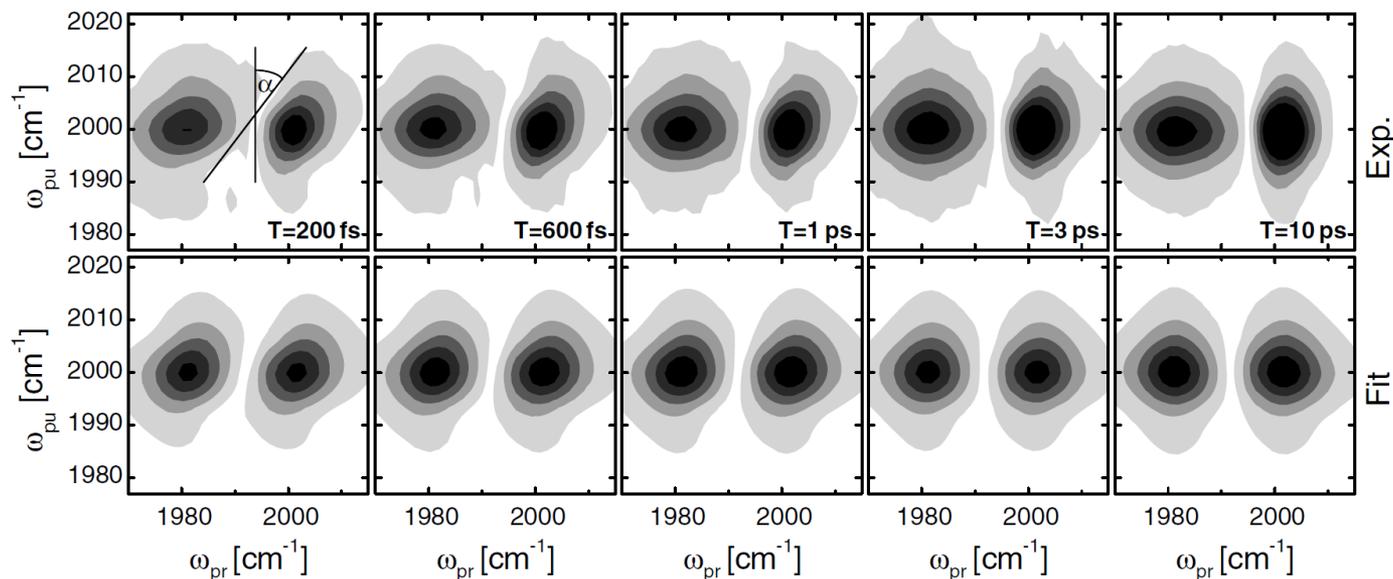


Fig. 2. Top: experimental 2D-IR spectra of  $^{13}\text{C}^{15}\text{N}^-$  dissolved in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  for population times  $T = 200$  fs, 600 fs, 1 ps, 3 ps and 10 ps, respectively. The negative peak is due to bleach/stimulated emission of the 0–1 transition, the positive peak due to 1–2 excited state absorption. Bottom: global fit of the experimental data, using Eq. (1) as model for the frequency fluctuation correlation function, and revealing the parameters in Table 1 as result. Contour levels are linearly spaced and symmetric around zero. In the top-left panel, the definition of the tilt angle plotted in Fig. 3 is indicated.

# Chemical exchange

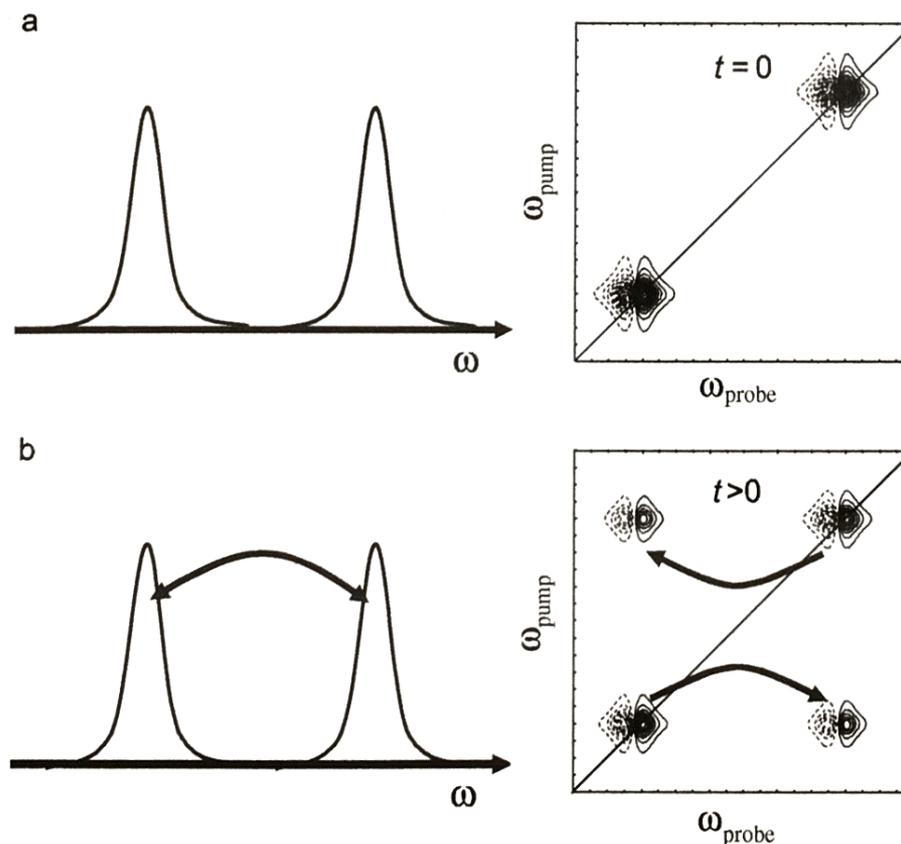
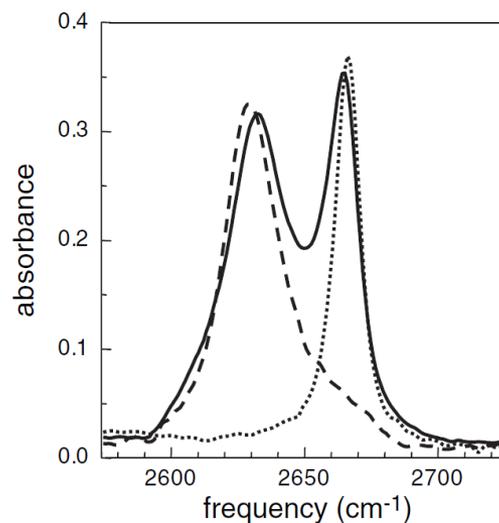


Figure 1.8 2D IR spectrum of a system undergoing chemical exchange with (a) no pump-probe delay and (b) a delay that is roughly that of the exchange.

# Chemical exchange



**Fig. 2.** FT-IR absorption spectra of the OD stretch of phenol-OD (hydroxyl H replaced with D) in  $\text{CCl}_4$  (free phenol, dotted curve), phenol in benzene (benzene-phenol complex, dashed curve), and phenol in the mixed benzene- $\text{CCl}_4$  solvent (2:5 molar ratio), which displays absorptions of both free and complexed phenol (solid curve).

